

Cottage Grove Retrospective

A look back at Sentinel stories from 30 and 60 years ago

Pay station tango: Nov. 4, 1987

By Pete Malliris
Sentinel Staff Writer '87

Karen Boyd has spent the last several weeks

bidding fond and tearful farewells to the customers who have used her pay station during the past 12 years.

Now the cheeks on her smiling face will no doubt blush when she finally tells those people that her pay station located in the Greyhound bus depot on North 8th St. in Cottage Grove will run business as usual.

In September, Boyd announced plans to either sell the pay station or close it because Pacific Northwest Bell, her primary source of revenue, said it would no longer compensate pay stations for handling its bills.

Katherine "Kitty" Slack, owner of Cottage Grove Answering Service, recently announced plans to buy the station and move the bus depot to Adams Ave. behind the post

office.

Boyd decided not to sell the business after PNB reversed its policy and said it will compensate pay stations for handling cash payments. However, PNB will not pay agents for payments made by check, as it did in the past.

PNB Community Affairs Manager Bruce Hall said the company's most recent move came in response to concerns raised by pay station agents and customers. Hall said PNB originally planned to discontinue compensating pay station agents because it would save the company about \$1 million annually in Oregon and Washington. Hall said about half PNB's customers who pay phone bills through pay stations use cash. That means the company will save about half of what it originally planned on saving.

"Even making a few dollars will make a

difference," Boyd said. Her business also handles bills for other utilities and Falcon Cable, and houses Western Union. Boyd hopes the additional revenue from PNB will be enough to keep her business going.

"I'll just have to talk real hard to get everybody to pay in cash," she said laughing.

Boyd said she is happy to have her station back but there are problems she must deal with. "I feel relieved it is over," Boyd said. "I at least know what to tell my customers."

It could take some time for all Boyd's customers to get the message that she is still open. Furthermore, she is now competing with two other stations in Cottage Grove.

When PNB announced its original plan to discontinue compensating pay station agents, it began negotiating with other local stores to open new pay stations.



News from the state and around the nation

From around the state

Lisette Medrano-Perez, 25, and her four children were killed after a drunk

driver with previous convictions for the offense, hit their car head-on. The children ranged in age from eight to two; all pronounced dead at the scene. Favian Garcia, 27, pled guilty to driving under the influence in 2011 and was arrested on suspicion of driving under the influence in July of this year. He is currently facing manslaughter charges. The Sunday, October 8 crash occurred in Salem.

University of Oregon students staged a protest, forcing president Michael Schill to postpone his "state of the university address" where he was expected to announce a \$50 million gift to the university. Students walked onto the stage chanting, "nothing about us without us" and refused to leave.

Oregon will begin distributing the \$85 million in tax revenue collected from the legal marijuana operations throughout the state. The money has been held from state agencies until the Oregon Liquor Control Commission refunded the administrative costs of setting up the legal marijuana program. The law dictates that 40 percent of the funds go to the Common School Fund, 20 to mental health, drug and alcohol treatment, 15 to Oregon State Police, 10 to cities for local law enforcement, 10 to counties for local law enforcement and five to the Oregon Health Authority.

From around the nation

Vice President Mike Pence left a Colts football game on Sunday, sparking

reports. The Colts have routinely kneeled during the national anthem since the protests began earlier this year. However, Pence attended the game and left shortly after citing the team's kneeling. President Donald Trump tweeted his appreciation a short time later.

Electricity has not been restored to Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria hit the island. The Department of Homeland Security announced on Monday that it would not renew the temporary waiver of the Jones Act for the island. The law stops the island from receiving good carried on ships that are built in other nations—the lack of a waiver will reportedly double the cost of imports to the island including food and water.

At least one person is dead as wildfires continue to sweep through Northern California. 15,000 buildings have been destroyed and 20,000 people evacuated as fires rage in eight counties including Napa, Sonoma, Lake, Mendocino, Yuba, Nevada, Calaveras and Butte. Governor Jerry Brown has issued a state of emergency.

POLICE BLOTTER

Cottage Grove Police Department 24-Hour Anonymous Tip Line: 767-0504

October 2

A 61-year-old man was arrested for public urination/defecation at Walmart.

An individual on 8th St. reported a drug deal going down next door to him.

A female was seen walking into traffic acting like a mime.

October 3

There were two reports within half an hour, one on Quincy Ave. and one on 10th St., of a man stealing purses. The first reported that the man climbed through her living room window. The second reported that a man broke down her door and stole her purse.

A suspicious subject was reported when an individual reported seeing a man slowly riding around Fairview Loop. Looking at driveways and vehicles.

An individual on River Rd. reported that a neighbor had hung up a stuffed animal from a light fixture and they were hoping the police would get it down.

October 4

An intoxicated subject was reportedly passed out in front of apartments on 6th St.

A car was broken into and had multiple items stolen from it on Harrison Ave.

October 6

A man on Douglas St. woke up and found someone in his house.

A bag of white powder substance was found in Walmart and was reported so it could be disposed of.

October 8

An individual reported that a man threw a bike him near the golf course.

An animal abuse was reported after a woman reported that her and her

boyfriend were at her sister's house when her boyfriend and sister got in a fight. During the fight the boyfriend grew angry and then stabbed a dog with a knife.

A man and woman were seen messing with the lock on the front of the Cottage Grove Market in the early hours of the morning.

A man and woman were having a verbal dispute on Madison St. An individual reported that items were being thrown and that kids live at the location.

October 9

A woman reported that she received a scam call from a man who threatened her safety. After she declined to give him her credit card information for her supposed winnings, he said he was on her way to her residence with a gun and would be there in 45 minutes.

Two used syringes that were laying on the sidewalk on Main St. were called to be picked up by the police.

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6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY Oct. 12

54° | 42°



Mostly Cloudy

FRIDAY Oct. 13

53° | 34°



Showers

SATURDAY Oct. 14

59° | 37°



Sunny

SUNDAY Oct. 15

64° | 39°



Sunny

MONDAY Oct. 16

67° | 43°



Sunny

TUESDAY Oct. 17

63° | 43°



Showers

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State Representatives

Senator Floyd Prozanski

District 4 State Senator

PO Box 11511

Eugene, OR 97440

Phone: (541)342-2447

E-Mail : sen.floydprozanski@state.or.us

Rep. Cedric Hayden, Republican

District 7 State Representative

900 Court St. NE

Salem, OR 97301

Phone: (503) 986-1407

Website: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/hayden>

E-Mail : rep.cedrichayden@state.or.us



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