

Cottage Grove Retrospective

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

Santa comes to town in 1987



It was the night before Christmas and all though the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.

Enter St. Nicholas, alias Tom Carver of Cottage Grove.

He bent under the Christmas tree and arranged presents with care as the children stood watching with wide-eyed stares.

That was the scene about four years ago when Carver made one of his house calls. All the adults in the family were supposedly sleeping and the children knew it. They watched in awe as Santa Clause (who else could it be?) delivered their presents.

One child gasped; the other drew his finger to his lips, "Shhh." Carver remembers that evening with delight. He began playing Santa at Montgomery Ward when the original Santa got sick 16 years ago. He liked the job so much that he ordered his own suit-for a mere \$289. Since then, he has worked for various businesses and he wages have compensated for the cost of the suit.

In about 1976, he began the ever-important Santa responsibilities—making house calls on the holidays.

Three years ago, he made 17 house calls on Christmas Eve. At a rate of \$5 for 30 minutes, he made about \$150. The amount of time he spent at each house varied so he made about \$1 a minute. He didn't mind the extra cash, he says. The money helps him buy gifts for his own children.

POLICE BLOTTER

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

December 1

A citizen reported that a male subject holding a large stick was yelling at himself and others as he was walking through the area. Was not striking anything or menacing anyone with the stick.

Complaint of illegal dumping of elk carcass in the alley to the rear of a residence. Officers contacted residents at location. Carcass was found to be on private property. Husband will dispose of it appropriately.

Resident requested officer contact to report his son had possession of MJ and had been using it, also has drug paraphernalia at location.

Juveniles reportedly gave a wallet to a man thinking it was his. It was not his. They reported finding it in front of the Dollar Tree days prior.

Reports of shots fired. Complaint that a neighbor was shooting a shotgun in the intersection.

December 2

Two juveniles were reported standing on the tracks and throwing rocks at passing cars.

Small sports car doing cookies in the parking lot.

Couple appeared under the influence. The female reportedly rolling around on the ground. Talking loudly and sometimes yelling.

Male riding his skateboard up and down the street. Complainant thinks he is looking to steal something.

Complaint that a male was upset about someone parking in his space. Slapped his phone out of his hand and punched him in the face.

Assistance required to get a large bale of hay off roadway. Right hand lane. Not bale, but large hot tub.

Theft of three miscellaneous frozen items. Detained in the manager's office. Cooperative.

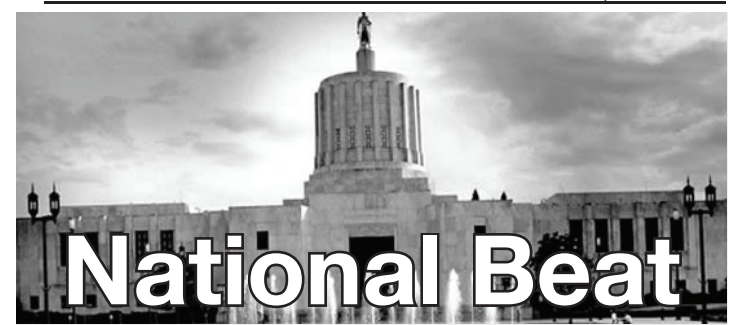
December 3

Report received of vehicle entered sometime overnight. No suspect information. Wifi router (\$129) Garmin GPS (\$149) Apple iPod shuffle (\$60) Loss valued at \$338. No serial numbers on property.

Complaint of disturbance. Ex-husband and father pounding on the front door, neither supposed to be at location. Suspects they may be under the influence of meth. Has been "blowing up" her phone since applying for restraining order.

Male in possession of meth, lighting pipe or similar. Late 30s. Area check conducted.

Male reported riding up the driveway as complainants arrived home. Confronted, he said he was visiting the neighbor. Neighbor was sleeping. Suspect left on a bike.



News from the state and around the nation

From around the state

- Expect more wardrobe changes for the Ducks next season. It was reported last week that the University of Oregon has reached a tentative new sponsorship deal with Nike for \$88 million in cash, gear and equipment.
- The state of Oregon released a report earlier this month that shows Native American students in Oregon are being outpaced by their peers and graduating at a lower rate. The state's overall graduation rate is 74.8 percent. The rate for Native Americans is 56 percent. The report notes a lack of Native American instructors, culturally-relative material and a slew of obstacles that face the Native community.
- A Porsche stolen in 1979 turned up on a cliff in Oregon last week. The Jackson County Sheriff's Office reported that a man discovered the vehicle while walking along a rural road off Abbott Prairie Rd. in Trail. No human remains were found in the area. The owner has yet to be notified while local authorities investigate how to extract the car from the cliff.
- Authorities announced on Dec. 1 that the Eagle Creek fire that set the Columbia George ablaze was 100 percent contained.

From around the nation

- Former national security adviser, Michael Flynn pled guilty last week to lying to the FBI concerning conversations with Russian officials during the 2016 presidential campaign. Federal prosecutors reportedly note Flynn was instructed to contact the Russian ambassador by a "very senior member" of President Trump's transitional team. The report comes as the latest in the investigation by special counsel Robert Mueller.
- Today Show host Matt Lauer was terminated after NBC became aware of sexual harassment accusations against the journalist. Lauer reportedly had a button under his desk to automatically lock his door and allegedly exposed himself to female co-workers.
- On Friday, Dec. 1 Congress scheduled a vote on the GOP tax bill hours after representatives were given the nearly 500-page document which reportedly included handwritten amendments in the margins. The bill passed the Senate and is scheduled to move to the House.

State Representatives

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6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY Dec. 7 38° 43° Mostly Cloudy	FRIDAY Dec. 8 39° 47° Showers
SATURDAY Dec. 9 37° 45° Showers	SUNDAY Dec. 10 37° 44° Showers
MONDAY Dec. 11 40° 46° Showers	TUESDAY Dec. 12 39° 47° Showers

60% of small businesses close their doors within 6 months following a cyber-attack.

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