

Cottage Grove Retrospective

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

Changes, traditions headline 1987 happenings

Hearings on the Iran-Contra affair and the summit talks between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev headed the national news scene in 1987.

Locally, Cottage Grove's centennial, and the way residents celebrated it, was perhaps the biggest story of the year.

Cottage Grove's 100th year brought its share of change to the community. A 33-year-old Christmas basket program was deemed obsolete and was cancelled. The "Goose," a train that has run in town since 1970, fell on hard financial times and faces an uncertain future.

While some traditions were altered, 1987 also was a time of new happenings. The city took substantial steps toward developing its North Regional Park, a project that could change the community substantially. The first ever music festival capped off the centennial celebration. The festival may become an annual event.

The following is a list of stories the Sentinel staff deemed most important in 1987. They appear in no particular order of impor-

tance.

City celebrates 100 years

Cottage Grove was incorporated as a city on Feb. 11, 1887. The town began its eight-moth celebration of its centennial in February. Several events were part of that celebration. One ceremony involved burying a time capsule near city hall.

First music festival a success

Coiner Park was the site of Cottage Grove's first music festival. The event was originally planned to cap off the town's centennial celebration. A total of 12 different groups and artists performed at the two-day event last September.

Organizers discussed the possibility of making the music festival an annual event. Several people involved with the festival voiced opinions that a better facility was needed to host the event.

Youngest person receives new heart

Jeremy Koertje, son of Mary and Howard Koertje of Curtin, underwent a heart transplant in April. At 21 months old, he was the youngest person and one of only 50 children in the world to receive a new heart.

The operation was performed at Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland. The family, including Cory, 5, and Joshua, 4, have since moved to Hillsboro, where Jeremy, now 2, has been watched by doctors at Doernbecher Children's Hospital.

Teen found guilty of murder

In April, a jury found Daniel Edward Buchholz, 17, guilty of felony murder in the death of 91-year-old George Small of London on Oct. 30 1986.

Small had a fractured skull after he had been struck on his head with his own cane. A rifle and \$60-70 in cash were taken from his home.

Buchholz's co-defendant, Russel Dwayn Cooper of Cottage Grove, testified that Buchholz suggested the idea of robbing Small so the two could buy some more marijuana.

Both teens were remanded to adult court. Buchholz faces a mandatory sentence of life in prison with a minimum term of 10 to 25 years.

Cooper faces a maximum of 20 years for the manslaughter conviction.

Tidbits from 1977, SLSD, Animal House

When Cottage Grove rang in the new year in 1977, local children had no idea when their holiday vacation from school might end. Until a fifth try to win voter approval of the South Lane School District's budget levy could be held Jan. 11, no one was willing to guess when schools would open again.

The levy was approved at the January election, but school finance, administration and curriculum remained topics of great local interest through the year.

TA brief review of some of the year's events follows:

January:

As the result of a Jan. 11 election victory for a trimmed version of the South Lane School District's budget local schools

opened on Jan. 14. They had been closed since before Thanksgiving.

February

Darrell Langevin, principal of Cottage Grove High School, resigned to take a similar job in Jefferson, citing the unstable South Lane school situation. Vice-principal Tom Turnbull was named interim acting principal.

March:

City manager Phillip Kushlan told the city council that Cottage Grove was showing signs of becoming a genuine boom town and advised councilmen to examine the situation and set a growth management policy without delay. Mr. Kushlan cited applications for 300 new living units that had come be-

fore the planning commission in just two months as evidence of this rapid growth. Mr. Kushlan noted that such a growth rate projected over the year should be 16.5 percent, compared to the city's previous high of 3 percent.

April

The school district budget committee approved a \$5.6 million budget for 1977-78, a 1.8 increase over the previous year's.

May

The board of "Cottage Grove's own fair," the Western Oregon Exposition, appealed to the community for help after fire heavily damaged its main building.

June

City budget committee mem-

bers had a unique experience - consideration of a balanced budget, thanks to a three-year serial levy approved by voters the year before.

July

The annual Bohemia Mining days celebration was pronounced a success, including a brand new features such as a muzzle-loading exhibition and a 13-mile footrace.

August

The school board voted unanimously not to renew Superintendent Mullen's contract at the end of the year.

September

South Lane students and teachers went back to school after a short summer vacation, and the hospital narrowly averted a nurses' strike.

POLICE BLOTTER

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

December 18

A woman on 2nd St. reported that when she woke up she found two bikes in her yard that do not belong to her.

A business owner on Hwy. 99 observed an individual prowling in the parking lot and then stealing a bag of cans from a donation bin.

A woman on N. River reported a suspicious subject after that dogs began barking when an individual was looking through her window.

December 19

The Douglas County Sheriff's Office called the police department at 3:32 a.m. to report that there had been three vending machines burned at the Holiday Inn in Roseburg.

A hit and run was reported on Pennoyer Ave. when an individual struck a car's mirror. Approximately \$200 in damage was done.







A disorderly subject was reported on Main St. when an individual was seen swinging a stick at passing vehicles.

A dentist office on 4th St. reported that someone cut down all of their decorative bushes on the back of their property.

December 20


A man on Birch St. reported harassment after he was followed around town being yelled and accused of things that he did not do.

6-day weather forecast

| | |
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| THURSDAY Dec. 28 42° 35°  Mostly Cloudy | FRIDAY Dec. 29 46° 36°  Showers |
| SATURDAY Dec. 30 44° 34°  Showers | SUNDAY Dec. 31 45° 34°  Showers |
| MONDAY Jan. 1 46° 40°  Showers | TUESDAY Jan. 2 41° 37°  Showers |

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National Beat

News from the state and around the nation

From around the state

Family-Care President Jeff

Heatherington said the state's second-largest Medicaid carrier will shut down after failing to come to an agreement on a contract for 2018. Oregon will have to move more than 100,000 children and adults to another provider.

- Oregon was named the ninth fastest growing state according to new Census estimates released last week. The population grew by 1.4 percent, bringing the state's population to a little over four million. Idaho was ranked the fastest growing state.
- The St. Helen's police department arrested the abominable snowman on Monday. The "arrest" was part of a communication education program to crack down on drunk driving during the holidays. Abominable T. Snowman was arrested on DUI charges as well as reckless driving.

From around the nation

Congress passed a sweeping

tax reform bill last week that will give eight in 10 Americans a tax cut for the next 10 years while corporations will receive a permanent cut of more than 10 percent.

- The U.N. voted to make the Trump Administration's declaration that Jerusalem was Israel's capital as "null and void." More than 100 countries took part in the vote.
- The Centers for Disease Control reported that the life expectancy in America went down for the second year in a row. According to the data, drug overdoses contributed to opioid use was a major factor.
- Vice President made an unannounced trip to speak to troops in Afghanistan ahead of the holiday weekend.
- Thomas Cabrera, of Pembroke Pines, Florida, was charged with attempted murder after dragging a police officer for half a mile in his car. Officer Jon Cusack was attempting to answer a call for a possible drug overdose when he approached Cabrera's car. The body camera footage shows Cabrera wake up, roll up the window and step on the gas with Cusack holding onto the car door while the car reached speeds up to 60 miles per hour. Cabrera was taken into custody after leading law enforcement on a chase with top speeds of over 100 miles per hour. Cusack is expected to make a full recovery.

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

Senator Ron Wyden
911 NE 11th Ave., Suite 630
Portland, OR, 97232
tel (503) 326-7525

Senator Jeff Merkley
(202) 224-3753
313 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510