

## Main St. Coordinator let go



By Caitlyn May  
cmay@cgsentinel.com

Five months ago, Carlene Giroud said she was taking her new position as Main St. Coordinator "one day at a time." Her last day was Dec. 15.

"The board of directors for the Cottage Grove Main Street Program has made the difficult decision to dismiss the Main Street Coordinator," a press release read. It went on to say, "Our immediate plan is to re-assess the needs of the coordinator position so the Main Street Program will continue to grow and be well positioned for new opportunities and partnerships with relevant local organizations. The Cottage Grove Main Street Program (CGMS) is committed to creating high-quality places and to building stronger communities through preservation-based economic development."

The Cottage Grove Main St. Program is part of a national organization that focuses on main streets in communities by revitalizing historic downtown areas while supporting local businesses. Giroud was hired in a transitional role. Prior to her arrival, the coordinator was not a direct employee of the city. That changed. Giroud worked under city planner Amanda Ferguson, was paid by EBID and worked on addressing downtown businesses' concerns and attempt to facilitate relationships.

It's a job Giroud almost didn't get. "I read the newspaper every week. Every page," she said. "I was going through and I saw the ad for the job and my first thought was, 'That sounds like fun.'" But Giroud wasn't convinced she had the necessary skill set and so she left the ad pinned to the wall in her office until an urgency filled her days before the application deadline.

She was eventually hired and tasked with first creating a newsletter to introduce herself to the community. She also placed new flowers in planters and hanging baskets on Main St.

Cottage Grove Main St. Chair Ruth Linoz confirmed Giroud's list of accomplishments stopped there. The board is now waiting to hear on funding that would turn the main street coordinator into a full-time position. An answer is expected by March.

Until Giroud's position is filled, businesses can contact Linoz with questions or concerns about the Main St. Program at (541) 315-5276 or through the organization's website contact email at mainstreet-cottagegrove.com by following the "About Us" link.

## Lane County tops recycling

The latest report from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) places Lane County in the lead for waste recovery efforts. In 2016, Lane County households and businesses recycled 258,370 tons – another 258,041 tons of waste ended up in the landfill.

"Our residents and businesses should be proud that their efforts to recycle put us in the top spot," said Dan Hurley, Lane County Waste Management division manager. "We need everyone to understand the importance of recycling and make it a part of how they operate in

order to protect the wonderful and healthy quality of life we have here in Lane County."

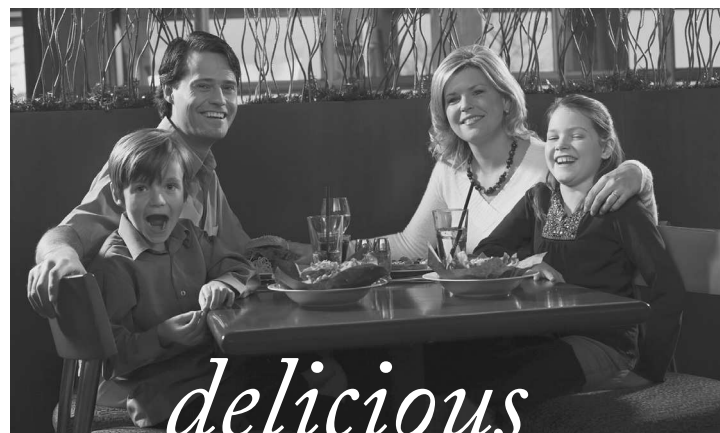
The 258,370 tons that Lane County households and businesses recycled effectively avoided the need for mining, transporting, and processing raw resources for that many more tons of product and packaging. Together, we reduced global greenhouse gases by 740,749 metric tons of carbon dioxide. This is equivalent to preventing annual emissions from 155,947 passenger vehicles, or conserving 83 million gallons of gasoline, or 3,972

railway cars of coal.

In 2016, the per-capita rate of recycled waste was 1,412 pounds with another 1,410 pounds ending up in the landfill. This is an increase of about 90 landfilled-pounds per person over 2015. Lane County recovered a higher percentage of waste than the Portland Metro Region (47.8 percent) and Marion County (49.4 percent). Lane County last held the lead recovery rate in 2011.

Last year, Lane County set a new goal of achieving a 63-percent recovery rate by 2025.

About the calculation: Each year, the DEQ compiles data on post-consumer recycling. A survey is sent to all collection service providers and private recycling companies. The survey requests detailed information regarding materials collected and marketed for recycling, composting or energy recovery. This survey data is combined and compared with data gathered from disposal sites in order to calculate the recovery rates for each county.



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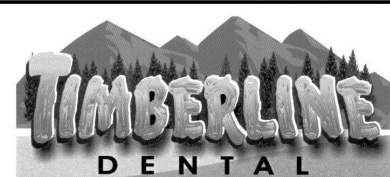
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