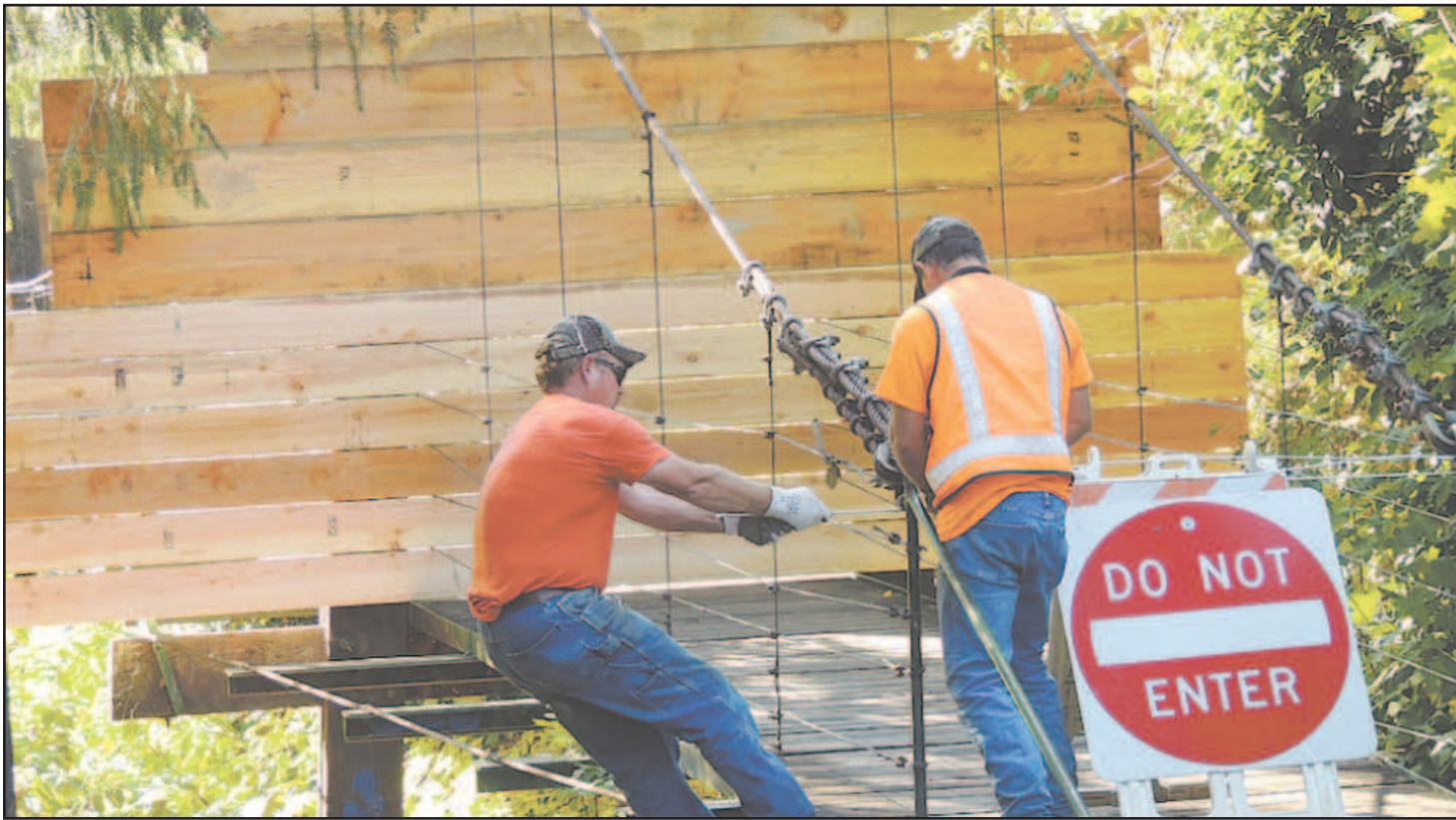


# Swinging Bridge benefit planned



SENTINEL FILE PHOTO

City crews close-off access to the Swinging Bridge late last year after a report from the city's engineer detailed disrepair, making the bridge unsafe for public use. A benefit will be held on March 24 to raise funds for the bridge's repair.

By Caitlyn May  
cmay@cgsentinel.com

It's been more than a year since the city closed the iconic Swinging Bridge due to a report from the city engineer that the structure was no longer safe for public use. And while various fundraising and grant-writing efforts have been underway for nearly as long, the Friends of the Cottage Grove Swinging Bridge have upped the ante.

The group will be hosting a benefit on Saturday, March 24 from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the armory to raise awareness of the

bridge's disrepair and possibilities for a replacement.

The city has estimated the cost of a new bridge to be around \$250,000. In October, the city learned that it had not been selected for a grant through the state's park commission which would have earned between \$135,000 and \$150,000 for the bridge's repair. Three different options for a replacement have been presented to the board and several other ideas for designs have since been added to the list.

The event on Saturday will allow donations. Also on the schedule: local bands

Flies with Honey, the Huckleberrys and Rock 'n Reveleers. Community members will also be invited to share their memories of the Swinging Bridge, write letters in support of additional grant efforts by the city and view a display created by the Cottage Grove Historical society on the bridge's history in the community.

Advanced tickets (\$10) are available at the BookMine. A sliding scale price for tickets at the door will be observed. No one will be turned away due to a lack of funds.

For more information, contact Dana Merryday at dana\_merryday@yahoo.com

# TEAM COTTAGE GROVE TURNS 4

By Caitlyn May  
cmay@cgsentinel.com

It started in 1990.

Non-profit organizations were prevalent in Cottage Grove but had no way of keeping track of one another or utilizing the band of volunteers within the city. Fast-forward to 2014 and TEAM Cottage Grove.

It stands for Together Everyone Achieves More and embodies the group's mission: to bring volunteers together to more practically serve the community while lending support to non-profit and community organizations dedicated to improving life in Cottage Grove. To accomplish this, TEAM Cottage Grove established three goals. The first is to work with the state of Oregon to pinpoint how many non-profit groups work in the city and create a data base that is updated annually. The second is to be a resource for the non-profit community and the third is to spearhead an outreach effort which includes a weekly newsletter and as of last year, a gathering.

Gathering in the Grove brought together non-profits from around the community to a standing-room only event. It provided the groups a networking opportunity and for TEAM Cottage Grove, an insight into what these organizations need to move forward.

Now in its fourth year, TEAM Cottage Grove intends to continue putting on Gathering in the Grove but has moved away from an annual schedule. Instead, the group will move to a biannual schedule and host workshops on off years.

The first workshop will be held on March 7 and center around the art of communication.

"It's going to be half a day at the Healing Matrix and we're looking to have a full house," said Cindy Weeldreyer, a TEAM Cottage Grove board member and editor of the group's weekly newsletter, Around the Grove.

The Non-Profit Association of Oregon is providing a facilitator for the event which will also feature a meal and continued networking opportunities. Registration is \$15 at the door and the group asks that those planning to attend, reach out prior to the event.

Those who attend the event will be given the running list of volunteers available in the community; a move TEAM Cottage Grove says will help organizations garner the help they need during events.

Several events have had issues collecting enough volunteers including Bohemia Mining Days—a four-day festival held at the end of July each year. The festival board visited the Cottage Grove City Council last year ahead of the event pleading for volunteers to help erect the props for the event as well as other tasks related to Bohemia Mining Days.

"I was willing to give one non profit two to three hours on their project if they were willing to give me two to three hours on my project," said TEAM Cottage Grove's Jon Rudolph.

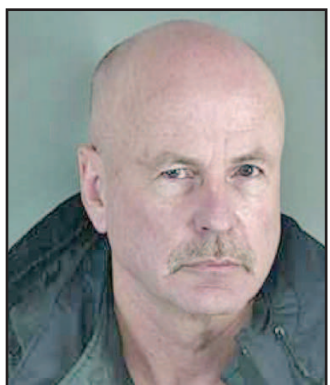
Likewise, board member Don Williams noted that volunteers did not need to be married to one particular cause in the city.

"When Habitat for Humanity isn't building a house, maybe some of those nail-drivers would be willing to help on other things," he said.

As for celebrating the fourth anniversary of the group, Weeldreyer said those who attend the workshop on March 7 may find some cake.

For more information or to RSVP for the TEAM Cottage Grove workshop, please contact the group at teamcottagegrove@gmail.com or Weeldreyer at (541) 942-2360.

# Police ask for public's help in search



Randal Jernigan-Wynn

Just after 5 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 24, local law enforcement agencies issued a search warrant on the 100 block of N. 2nd St. in Creswell. According to a statement released by the Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO), authorities were searching for Randal Jernigan-Wynn, 58.

Jernigan-Wynn is a person of interest in multiple investigations by various law enforcement jurisdictions. He was not located

at the residence in Creswell Saturday night.

"...evidence indicates he was in the area shortly before the arrival of law enforcement," the sheriff's office reported. "The Special Response Team was used to execute the search warrant due to information Jernigan-Wynn has access to firearms and has threatened to have an armed confrontation with law enforcement."

According to county records, Jernigan-Wynn has previously been charged with illegal possession of heroin and methamphetamine.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is requesting the public's assistance in locating Jernigan-Wynn. If anyone has information about his whereabouts, they are asked to contact their local law enforcement agency or the LCSO tipping at (541) 682-4167.

Due to the nature of this case, it is possible Jernigan-Wynn has been captured prior to The Sentinel hitting stands. As of Monday, Feb. 26, he was still at large and LCSO still requested the public's assistance.

For up-to-date information on this case, visit cgsentinel.com throughout the week where the latest details will be posted.

**Last Chance**  
**STILL RUNNING OUT TO FETCH THE PAPER?**



Subscribe to home delivery, and we'll deliver it to your mailbox!

**SUBSCRIBE**  
At the 2017 Rate and Save!

Subscribe before February 28, 2018 to take advantage of the 2017 rate of \$37.65.

Cottage Grove  
**Sentinel**

541-942-3325  
www.cgsentinel.com

\*This offer is not transferable and the offer is available those who have not subscribed in the last 31 days. Special introductory offers are limited to no more than two special subscriptions in a twelve month period and must be paid in advance to qualify for special rate. Once the above discounted period ends, you will be billed at the regular subscription rates.



Subscribe today for local news, sports and event coverage

Another dental visit? Turns out, you have better things to do with your time.



**CEREC**  
One-visit dentistry

We know your time is valuable. That's why we've invested in CEREC technology that allows for a faster experience when you need crowns, fillings or veneers. With CEREC, there's usually no need for a temporary and return visit. Everything is done in one visit, in about an hour - leaving more time for whatever is important to you.

**Implants • Teeth Whitening • New State-of-the-Art Building**

**Dr. Brent Bitner, DDS**  
350 Washington, Cottage Grove  
(behind Better Bodies)

**942-7934**

CEREC® is a registered trademark of Sirona Dental Systems.