

# Anti-hate signs pop up on Main St. businesses

By Caitlyn May  
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Last Wednesday morning Venice Mason stood talking with the Cottage Grove police outside of Wolfclan Armory on Main St. A small crowd had gathered across the street and fresh puddles dripped from the sidewalk where Mason had written "Spectacle Time" in chalk. Amy Beaton rode her red, yellow and blue bicycle through the commotion, parked it on the sidewalk and lit a bundle of papers and herbs on fire.

It marked the third demonstration against the business since it moved onto Main St. earlier this month with opponents pointing to its reported ties to white supremacy.

Wolfclan Armory's social media page contains videos promoting racist materials including books that question the Holocaust and arguments claiming Native Americans were actually Caucasian. Owner

Jeanette Laskey said those posts were published by her son, Jacob, who is currently in jail facing charges from a January stabbing. Jacob Laskey previously served 11 years in federal prison for throwing rocks through the windows of a Eugene synagogue.

The last post on the company's social media came days before Laskey's arrest in January. However, the page also promoted store merchandise and as of Monday, April 16, has not been taken down.

"That's the thing," said Alex Affinito, owner of Backstage Bakery. "I think that 'Wolfclan Armory' is tainted because of what the son did," he said. "And the Facebook page is still up."

Affinito and other businesses owners have reacted in varying degrees to Wolfclan's arrival but this week, many of the Main St. businesses ended up on the same page.

Posters that read "Cottage Grove United Against Hate" have popped up in several store windows including Backstage and Kalapuya Books where

owner Betsy Hartzell said she wanted to keep the message positive. "We stand for a warm, open, welcoming community," she said. "I hope for the best outcome for everyone's sake and that's not excluding Wolfclan. I hope the best for everyone."

Michelle Rose who also runs a business on Main St. that hung a sign in the window said she didn't think Wolfclan was a family-friendly business. "I feel hate doesn't benefit anyone," she said, noting that she had not taken part in any of the demonstrations and believed "everyone has the right to open a business."

Andrea (maiden name) Laskey who was outside of Wolfclan Armory on April 11 and identified herself as Jacob Laskey's cousin said the protests have brought her aunt to tears. "I don't like to see my family cry. It's mean," she said. "We're a family that had one criminal in our family. Almost everyone I know has a criminal in their family or a bad seed or whatever and you know, that was really in the past. My cousin grew up a lot. I don't like people associating what his views used to be with what ours are today," she said noting that the business carries apparel and survival gear. "My cousin has grown up," she said. "American Front has six people in it. That was actually the whole deal with the fight in Creswell because my cousin is trying to get away from those people... It's not a group it's just six people who are



Signs like the one above have begun appearing in the windows of Main St. businesses.

just friends.

As reported in *Eugene Weekly*, Laskey was photographed with American Front members after his release from prison. The group is recognized by the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) which tracks hate groups across the nation. According to SPLC's Lane Pickett, Oregon has a statewide chapter of American Front but that exact membership information for the groups was difficult to track.

"I'm pro-business," Affinito said. "But I'm scared of young people having a potential hate hub to hang out at."



A demonstration in front of Wolfclan Armory last week featured sidewalk chalk and sage burning.

## Cottage Village nears city phase

By Caitlyn May  
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The houses may be tiny but the amount of effort to see them to fruition has been tremendous.

The Cottage Village Coalition (CVC), charged with ushering in a project that would see 13 tiny houses on Madison Ave., has seen little progress over the last few months but is edging closer to proposing the development to the city.

Valeria Clarke is temporarily filling in for current chairman Bruce Kelsh, who replaced former chairperson Sharon Jean. She said the group is hoping to go before the city this summer.

The project, funded by a \$200,000 grant that helped to purchase the Madison property, must be completed by the end of this summer. However, Clarke said the conditions of the grant may be altered through an extension.

"There's no reason to think they (the grantors) won't extend but we'll see," she said.

Dubbed Cottage Village, the housing development was originally designed for those in danger of becoming homeless but has since evolved into low income housing. While rent has yet to be determined, earlier conversations set the price at approximately \$200-\$300 a month, taking into account the



CVC provided photo shows completed home in SquareOne's Emerald Village in Eugene.

average Social Security check amount.

Currently, CVC is searching for volunteers to staff their fund-raising events and eventually sit on a committee that would help screen rental applicants. The application process has not yet been set.

According to Clarke, the group is waiting on funding for infrastructure but has chosen models for some of the homes and has secured architects to donate their time.

"We'll have ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) models so they're accessible with a wheelchair," Clarke said. "Right now, we're just waiting for a window in the weather to mow the lawn."

CVC has written several grants for the project, with most due back with an answer on

funding in the coming months.

So far, the group has secured \$100,000 through a Presbtery-ann Church grant and \$5,000 through a Banner Bank grant. Cost estimates place the total funds needed for the project between \$800,000 and \$1 million.

CVC partnered early on with SquareOne which has completed a similar project in Eugene specifically for homeless individuals as well as its latest development, Emerald Villages.

"We're busily looking for a variety of ways to fund the project," Clarke said. The group has set up a Facebook page and is taking donations via SquareOne's website which can be found at squareonevillages.org.

# Worship Directory

**DRAIN:**  
**HOPE U.M.C.**  
131 W "A" St. Drain, OR  
541-315-1617  
Pastor: Lura Kidner-Miesen  
Fellowship & Song: 11:30am  
Potluck Lunch: 12:00pm  
Worship: 12:30pm

**COTTAGE GROVE:**  
**6th & Gibbs Church of Christ**  
195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822  
Pastor: Aaron Earlywine  
Youth & Families Pastor:  
Seth Bailey  
Service times: 9am & 10:30am  
Sunday School: 9am for all ages  
Christian Education  
Nursery for pre-k - 3rd Grade  
www.6thandgibbs.com

**Calvary Baptist Church**  
77873 S 6th St • 541-942-4290  
Pastor: Riley Hendricks  
Sunday School: 9:45am  
Worship: 11:00am  
The Journey: Sunday 5:00pm  
Praying Thru Life: Wednesday 6:00pm

**Calvary Chapel Cottage Grove**  
1447 Hwy 99 (Village Plaza)  
541-942-6842  
Pastor: Jeff Smith  
Two Services on Sun:  
9am & 10:45am  
Youth Group Bible Study  
Child Care 10:45am Service Only  
www.cgcalvary.org

**Center for Spiritual Living**  
Cottage Grove  
700 Gibbs Ave.  
(Community Center)  
Rev. Bobby Lee  
Meets Sunday 3:00 p.m.  
cslcottagegrove@gmail.com

**Church of Christ**  
420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565  
Sunday Service: 10:30am

**Cottage Grove Bible Church**  
1200 East Quincy Avenue  
541-942-4771  
Pastor: Bob Singer  
Worship 11am  
Sunday School: 9:45am  
AWANA age 3-8th Grade,  
Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm  
www.cgbible.org

**Cottage Grove Faith Center**  
33761 Row River Rd.  
541-942-4851  
Lead Pastor: Kevin Prueff  
www.cg4.tv  
Full Children's Ministry available  
Service: 10:00am

**Delight Valley**  
Church of Christ  
33087 Saginaw Rd. East  
541-942-7711  
Pastor: Bob Friend  
Two Services:  
9am - Classic in the Chapel  
10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium

**First Presbyterian Church**  
3rd and Adams St  
541-942-4479  
Pastor: Karen Hill  
Worship: 10:00am  
Sunday School: 10:00am  
www.cgpresbynews.com

**Hope In The Grove**  
700 E. Gibbs • 401-855-5668  
Pastor: Wayne Husk  
Sunday services:  
Worship: 9am  
Coffee Fellowship: 10:15am  
Bible Study: 10:30am

**Hope Fellowship**  
United Pentecostal Church  
100 S. Gateway Blvd.  
541-942-2061  
Pastor: Dave Bragg  
Worship: 11:00am Sunday  
Bible Study: 7:00pm Wednesday  
www.hopefellowshippc.com  
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**Living Faith Assembly**  
467 S. 10th St. • 541-942-2612  
Worship Services Sundays: 9a & 11a  
Youth Worship Sundays: 11a (all ages welcome)  
Mondays: 5:30p (6th-12th grades)

**Non-Denominational Church of Christ**  
1041 Pennoyer Ave  
541-942-8928  
Preacher: Tony Martin  
Sunday Bible Study: 10:00am  
Sunday Worship: 10:50am & 5:30pm  
www.pennoyervecoc.com

**Old Time Gospel Fellowship**  
103 S. 5th St. • 541-942-4999  
Pastor: Jim Edwards  
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541-942-3420  
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Sun: 10:30am  
Confession: After daily mass,  
Sat. 4-5pm or by appointment  
St. Philip Benizi, Creswell  
552 Holbrook Lane  
541-895-8686, Sunday: 8:30am

**St. Andrews Episcopal Church**  
1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050  
Rev. Lawrence Crumb  
"Church with the Flags."  
Worship: Sunday 10:30am  
All Welcome

**Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
820 South 10th Street  
541-942-5213  
Pastor: Kevin Miller  
Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am  
Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40  
Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00

**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
6th & Quincy • 541-942-2373  
Pastor: James L. Markus  
Sunday School & Adult Education 9:15am  
Sunday Worship 10:30 am  
Comm. Kitchen Free Meal Tue & Thur 5:00pm TLC Groups  
tlccg.com

**United Methodist Church**  
334 Washington • 541-942-3033  
Pastor: Lura Kidner-Miesen  
Worship: 10:30am  
Comm. Dinner (Adults \$5, Kids Free)  
1st & 3rd Monday 5-6:00pm  
umcgrove.org

**"VICTORY" Country Church**  
913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913  
Pastor: Barbara Dockery  
Worship Service: 10:00am  
Message: "WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"

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