

# Film festival coming to Cottage Grove this weekend

By Caitlyn May  
cmay@cgsentinel.com

Utah has Park City. After this weekend, Oregon can say it has Cottage Grove.

Park City, of course being the home of the famous Sundance Film Festival that draws thousands to the small town of 8,000. It served as a source of ambition for Len Blackstone when he decided Cottage Grove needed a little something.

Enter, the Bohemian Film Festival.

It's three days of movie screenings selected from more than 100 entries from 18 countries — including entries from award-winning filmmakers.

"Three years ago, I asked, 'What can I do to help Cottage Grove?'" Blackstone said. He's been a resident of the city for 33 years and has acted, most recently, as a real estate bro-

ker, responsible for the sale and subsequent revival of the Stewart Building on Main Street earlier this year. "So, I met with Mike Dilley at the Axe and Fiddle," he said. "It was supposed to be a 30-minute meeting. It ended up being three hours."

An idea had been hatched at that meeting. Why couldn't Cottage Grove host a film festival?

"We're not trying to be Park City, Utah but I do see potential," Blackstone said of the little town that adds to its population 10 times over each winter for a few days.

The Bohemian Film Festival will already have a head-start on attendance by combining its efforts with the local chamber of commerce's 40th anniversary celebration of "Animal House," a film made popular in the 1970s that has maintained a following given the local ties to Oregon — it was filmed at

the University of Oregon with some select-few scenes filmed in Cottage Grove as well.

The Healing Matrix, community center and the Opal Center will become hubs of cinema beginning on Aug. 17.

A nearly non-stop schedule has films showing at all three locations with a break on Saturday for a showing of "Animal House."

"We have filmmakers from 18 different countries," Blackstone said. "Bobbi Jo Hart, do you know who that is? She is a graduate of Cottage Grove High School in the 1980s. Her film will be shown."

The film, "I Am Not a Rockstar," follows a Juilliard-trained pianist through the United States, Canada and Europe as she comes of age. It's been the recipient of two Canadian Screen Awards since its release in 2013.

Hart's film made the cut from more than 100 entries.

A volunteer group of approximately 20 people screened all of the films that were submitted before narrowing the field down to 62.

"All of the judges were regular people," Blackstone said. "No movie critics, that was important."

Movie-goers can choose from feature-length films to films that fit into the timespan of a coffee break.

At the end of the three-day festival, there will be a winner in each category and an overall winner who will take home a \$3,000 prize.

"It's not the best time of the year to hold a film festival," Blackstone said. "But we'll see what happens, we'll see how it goes."

Tickets (ranging from \$8 to \$49) can be purchased at bohemianfestival.com. A schedule of movies as well as trailers for the films are also available on the site.

# Pet tips 'N' tales

By Mary Ellen  
"Angel Scribe"



## Preying on Pets

It is a dangerous myth that having your pet beside you protects it from coyotes. My Gig Harbor neighbor was gardening with her cat beside her when a coyote grabbed her cat and ran away.

One Vancouver neighbor was leash-walking his two dogs when a coyote grabbed the smaller one and ran off. My Seattle friend's two cats disappeared when a coyote moved into her neighborhood. She learned that none of her neighbors knew that a predator was stalking pets and 20 cats and two small dogs were missing.

Then there is Denise's horrific experience at a paw-pular park.

"I turned off the engine and heard screaming," said Denise. "I left my dogs in the car and ran towards the screams. A non-English speaking woman was clutching her leashed dog to her chest as a coyote held fast to her dog's hind quarters. I grabbed the coyote by the scruff of the neck, wound up my fist and round-house punched his jaw. I heard a popping noise and he released his grip on the poor dog. I shoved the woman back, grabbed the stunned coyote by its scruff and rear end, and tossed it into the bushes. All the while yelling like a banshee with my arms wildly swinging.

"I had once heard what to do, but never in a hundred years thought that I would have to employ the technique. I took the distraught woman to my car and we used my 'pet first-aid kit' on her dog. I could not understand a word of what she said, but the look on her face and gestures said it all."

Denise is a bone-a-fide dog-hero, but what she did in the heat of the moment is not recommended.

Besides coyotes, pet parents also fear birds of prey. These birds are capable of picking up and flying away with squirrels, rabbits, chickens and small pets. One friend watched an owl fly off with his small cat. Armed with this information, when Miss Wings, my 5-pound cat, was outside, I kept a watchful eye

## 'Animal House' anniversary celebration draws original bands

By Caitlyn May  
cmay@cgsentinel.com

On Aug. 18, everyone will be trying to grab onto the past for a few hours.

The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce will be hosting an effort to reach back in time and reclaim the title the city once held: rights to the world's largest toga party.

And while more than 3,000 residents attempt to crowd

into Bohemia Park wearing sheets in varying degrees of toga cosplay, special guests will be setting the 1970's mood.

The Kingsmen will strap on their guitars and play the song that has been carrying them to the charts and from gig-to-gig for 30 years, "Louie, Louie."

"Well, they used our song in the movie," said Mike Mitchell, a guitarist in the band, when asked what he remembers of the band's role in the film.

At the time, the band was living in California when a phone call came in from a friend.

"Katherine (Wilson) is a friend of the band and we used to play the university before we shot the movie there and she was involved in the casting for the movie," Mitchell said.

Wilson, an Oregon native, made a name for herself in Oregon cinema, becoming a liaison for the governor's office for "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." She went on work on other films shot in Oregon including "Stand by Me" and "Animal House."

The relationship between the band and Wilson has continued through the years, culminating in the band's appearance at the last celebration in Cottage Grove that marked the film's presence there.

This year, the band will join The Cry and Otis Day for the attempt to win back the world record and celebrate the film's 40th anniversary.

The day will start with a parade down Main St., mirroring the parade in the film which is Cottage Grove's main claim to fame. It will continue with a screening including a

showing of "Animal House" at 1 p.m. in the armory followed by the film "Animal House of Blues" at 3 p.m.

Just prior to the last film, the gates to Bohemia Park will open and the mad count will begin. Guinness requires certifiable head counts to be considered for the world record and so each toga-donning individual has to be counted when the gates open at 2 p.m.

An hour later, the beer mile will take place with individuals running one lap around the track, stopping to drink a beer at each quarter mile. The Blues Sisters will play at 4:30, followed by John Swan and the Revelators at 5:30 and at 6:30, the world record attempt will be made.

Mitchell and his band will close the event out along with Otis Day and The Cry beginning at 7:15 p.m.

"It's just a lot of fun. We became a band that would come down and play for this and it's a big party for the whole town," Mitchell, a band member for 55 years, said. "I'll keep doing it as long as I can lift my guitar and jump up and down, I guess."



### LOW COST

Local & Metro Weekday Trips  
Professional Caring Staff



Your Regional Public Transportation Service

No eligibility requirements.  
**541-942-0456**  
southlanetransit.com

## 6-day weather forecast

<b>THURSDAY</b> 88°   54° Partly Cloudy	<b>FRIDAY</b> 86°   54° Sunny
<b>SATURDAY</b> 89°   55° Sunny	<b>SUNDAY</b> 93°   58° Sunny
<b>MONDAY</b> 96°   59° Sunny	<b>TUESDAY</b> 96°   59° Sunny

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

Call today (541) 942-0555.  
PayneWest.com/Cottage-Grove

Your Family Deserves The **BEST** Technology... Value... TV!...

**\$59.99** MONTH for 24 months  
190 Channels

Upgrade to the Hopper<sup>3</sup> Smart HD DVR  
• Watch and record 16 shows at once  
• Get built-in Netflix and YouTube  
• Watch TV on your mobile devices  
Hopper upgrade fee \$5/mo.

Add High Speed Internet **\$14.95**/mo.  
Subject to availability. Restrictions apply. Internet not provided by DSH and will be billed separately.

CALL TODAY Save 20%! **1-866-373-9175**

## Transmissions Plus & AUTOMOTIVE SPECIALTIES

PRACTICING THE ART OF TRANSMISSION REPAIR SERVICE SINCE 1991

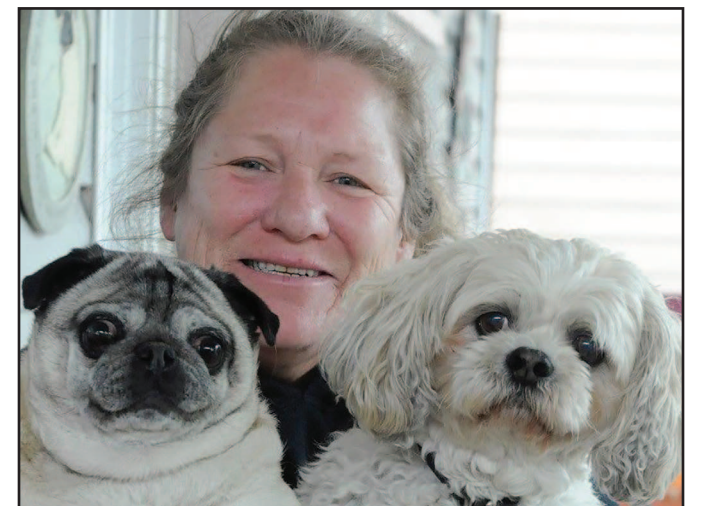
- ✓ Manual & Automatic Transmission Repair
- ✓ Tune ups
- ✓ 30-60-90K Services
- ✓ Brakes, belts, hoses and cooling system services
- ✓ Mufflers & Custom Exhaust
- ✓ All makes and models.

**MAINTAINING YOUR VEHICLE AFFORDABLY**

**WE LIVE IN THE SAME TOWN WE WORK IN "WE MAKE SHIFT HAPPEN!"**

**www.automotivespecialties.biz**

DUSTIN TULLAR & RUSS OWENS  
541-942-8022 • COTTAGE GROVE



Denise's dogs, Maggie and Gizmo, are proud of their hero who single "hand"edly saved a dog from a coyote's grip.

out for hawks. When San Diego residents Paul and Pamela Mott's beloved dog, Buffy, was stolen from beside them by a coyote, they were determined to purr-vent the nightmare from happening to others. So, they invented an answered to our prayers to protect pets from preying animals.

Paul designed a cat/dog armored vest that withstands a life-threatening attack. The DuPont Kevlar fabric is teeth stab resistant. The measured for a purr-fect fit vests are comfortable, light weight, water resistant, easy snap-on and have two rows of 1-inch spikes running down them like sharp skunk strips. Spikes also circle the neck collar, and running down the middle of the vest are 8-inch stiff broom-like plastic bristles for poking predator's eyes.

"Our police department tested the vest with an attack K9 and it passed with flying colors. To date, thousands of dogs and cats wearing our vests pur-oved that it is 100 percent effective against coyotes, aggressive dogs and birds of prey attacks with no reported injuries," said Pamela. "The vests are endorsed by veterinarians world-wide. If we can help save one life, we have made a difference."

Jamie in California writes, "One night, I considered not putting Lola's vest on thinking we would be quick. Thank goodness I put her in it because minutes later, two coyotes quietly approached us and one was less than a foot from Lola!"

"My stomping and yelling scared them away, but I can still picture that bewildered coyote's eyes as he contemplated attacking the weird creature covered in spikes and plastic whiskers. I am one hundred percent sure that if Lola was not wearing her vest, she would have been gone."

**TIPS:** Protect small dogs in dog parks with a coyote vest. Transform them into a cute-colorful armored animal. TV footage: [www.coyotevest.com/pages/videos](http://www.coyotevest.com/pages/videos)

When a coyote attacked an Oregon City dog, its owner saved it with CPR and mouth to snout breaths: [www.oregonlive.com/oregon-city/index.ssf/2011/07/portland\\_woman\\_rescues\\_tiny\\_dog\\_caught\\_by\\_coyote\\_near\\_oregon\\_city.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/oregon-city/index.ssf/2011/07/portland_woman_rescues_tiny_dog_caught_by_coyote_near_oregon_city.html)

Department of Fish and Wildlife on coyote cautions: [www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living\\_with/coyotes.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/living_with/coyotes.asp)

Share your fun, amazing or crazing pet tips and tales at [angelscribe@msn.com](mailto:angelscribe@msn.com) or Follow Pet Tips 'n' Tales on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/PetTipsandTales](http://www.facebook.com/PetTipsandTales). Adopt loving pets online at [www.PetFinder.com](http://www.PetFinder.com). For spay or neutering, call the Humane Society at 541-942-2789.