

New coordinator hits Main Street

By Caitlyn May
cmay@cg sentinel.com



COURTESY PHOTO

New Main Street coordinator Jared Sidman started last week.

Jared Sidman has been to Costa Rica and Thailand. He's spent time in Mexico, Canada and the Micronesian Islands. He's seen 43 of the 50 states and now he's settling in at his desk in Cottage Grove as the city's latest Main Street Coordinator.

"Let's see, I recently finished a contract with the Peace Corps and they have an affiliation with the University of Oregon — so yeah, I basically found out about the position through UO," Sidman said in recalling his introduction to Cottage Grove and the Main Street Program.

The position of coordinator is a function of the broader Main Street Program, a network of programs led by grassroots efforts dedicated to improving the quality of life at the local level.

In Cottage Grove, the Main Street Coordinator has taken on several responsibilities, depending on the individual coordinator, and all tied to the goal of acting as a liaison between Main Street businesses and the city.

It's a goal Sidman has worked into the center of his plans just a week after accepting the position.

"Basically, I'm working with the Main Street board and getting my feet under me and learning the town,"

weight behind the annual Christmas celebration that sees caroling in All-America Park and an appearance by Santa Claus via South Lane County Fire and Rescue's fire truck.

"I'm also working with the board on an upcoming spring fundraiser," he said. Aside from lending a hand for community events, Sidman will apply his computer science and teaching degrees to working with businesses on future issues, like construction.

Earlier this year, the city applied for a \$10 million grant to help fund the refinement plan — a yet-to-be finalized upgrade for downtown featuring new sidewalks, street signs and lighting.

The grant is expected to be awarded in December of this year and if Cottage Grove receives the funds, construction could become part of the everyday on Main Street.

"The other big piece I'm working on," Sidman said, "is what we'll call the business tool kit. They'll be construction in 2021 on Main Street and the details of this we'll put out later but we'll need to work with the busi-

nesses to make sure they can stay open when Main Street is under construction."

Sidman is the second coordinator in almost as many years. He's replacing Carlene Giroud who was let go in Dec. of last year after she was hired in a transitional role, replacing longtime coordinator Shauna Neigh who resigned her post.

Prior to Giroud's arrival, the coordinator was not a direct employee of the city.

That changed. Giroud worked under city planner Amanda Ferguson, was paid by the Economic and Business Improvement District (EBID) and worked on addressing downtown businesses' concerns and attempt to facilitate relationships. The position has since changed again and morphed into a full-time position thanks to added funding from the RARE Program or Resource Assistance for Rural Environments. According to city manager Richard Meyers, Sidman's full-time position is paid for by RARE funds as well as the city and EBID. When asked what he would like residents and businesses to know, Sidman said, "My door's open. I have a lot to learn and I'm not going to be perfect but I think the big thing is I'm here full time and open to working with people and hearing their ideas and getting that to the board to get everyone on the same page."

OUT WITH CABLE. IN WITH SAVINGS.

Get a \$100 AT&T Visa® Reward Card* when you sign up for DIRECTV SELECT™ Package or above.

W/ 24-mo. agreement. Redemption req'd.

ASK ME HOW TO BUNDLE AND SAVE. CALL TODAY!

IV SUPPORT HOLDINGS LLC
855-502-2578

AT&T Preferred Dealer

Dr. Daniel McMaster, DMD

CHAMBERS BRIDGE DENTAL

914 S 4th Street, Cottage Grove
(541) 942-1559
chambersbridgedental.com

Everything for Your Eyes Only

Comprehensive family, medical eyecare and optical services. We provide exams for Cataracts, Glaucoma, Diabetic and Lasik Serving Cottage Grove since 2006

Book an appointment today!
Medical, vision and flexible spending plans welcome.

Pacific ClearVision INSTITUTE

Mon-Thurs 9M-5PM
FRI 9AM-4PM
257 N. 8th St 541-942-5000
www.PCVI.com



EVERY CHILD HAS A CHANCE—IT'S YOU.®

Learn more at casa-lane.org

Volunteer as a Court Appointed Special Advocate.
A rewarding, professional volunteer opportunity in 10-15 hours a month helping foster children stay safe and healthy.

The next training class starts in January with applications due by December 7th.

For more information visit casa-lane.org or call 541.868.3087.

CASA
Court Appointed Special Advocates FOR CHILDREN
LANE COUNTY

A powerful voice for abused and neglected children across Lane County

Students invited to 'Voice of Democracy'

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veteran's of Foreign Wars (VFW) scholarship program.

This program provides high school students, from 9th grade to 12th grade, the opportunity to write and record a broadcast script on a patriotic theme selected by the VFW each year.

Competition begins at the local post level. A winner goes to the district level to compete with students selected by other posts. Those winners advance to the state level and on to the national level.

State winners receive an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. and the top national scholarship prize is \$30,000.

The 2018-19 theme is "Why My Vote Matters."

Patriot's Pen is open to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students.

This VFW-sponsored youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on democracy. All entries are at post level with students advancing through regional, then state levels to national level.

First place award at national level is currently \$5,000 plus an all expense paid trip to Washington D.C. for the winner and a parent or guardian.

The 2018-19 theme is "Why I Honor the American Flag."

Have your entries to the VFW Post at 3160 Hillside Dr. by Oct. 31.

For more information, call 541-942-7099.

sears
HOMETOWN STORE
LOCALLY OWNED AND OPERATED

END OF SUMMER CLEARANCE EVENT

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH THRU SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22ND

GET AN EXTRA 10% OFF

ALL CLEARANCE, CLOSEOUT, RECONDITIONED AND ONE OF A KIND MERCHANDISE

CLEARANCE OFFER: (1) While quantities last. Exclusions apply. Offer good 9/20 thru 9/22/18. Excludes consumer electronics. Valid on in-store merchandise only. (2) Reconditioned product is a classification for all products other than new in a box. This condition includes returned product that has been thoroughly tested and certified to operate like new. It also includes floor models and new products out of their original box. Product may have some cosmetic damage. New Full Product warranty still applies.

LOOK FOR BIG SAVINGS THROUGHOUT THE STORE!

Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-6:00pm,
Sat 9am-6pm, Sun 11am-4pm
118 Gateway Blvd., Cottage Grove (Next to Bi-Mart) • 541-942-7377

Harvest Tasting & Garlic Forum

September 22nd 11AM-2:30PM

Join us for our **FREE Garlic Growing Forum** beginning at 11AM, where you'll learn all about the different types of garlic, and how to grow and harvest this delicious, nutritious crop.

Stay to savor the flavor of our summer crops from 12:30-2:30PM. We'll be offering free tasting samples of melons, carrots, squash, onions, tomatoes, peppers and roasted garlic.

Take advantage of a money-saving, 15% off store-wide sale all day!

TERRITORIAL
SEED COMPANY STORE
20 Palmer Ave. Cottage Grove, OR

