

Local Kiwanis Clubs merge to expand services

Two of our local Kiwanis Clubs have recently agreed to combine their resources and merge into a single area club in order to increase service to the youth in our South Willamette Valley area.

In the coming months, the Kiwanis Club of Cottage Grove and the Kiwanis Club of Creswell will combine to form a new club to be named the Kiwanis Club of the Coast Fork. The combined clubs will continue their established focus on serving the needs of our youth in the area.

Each of the existing clubs has 12 to 16 members and both clubs have historically met on Wednesdays for lunch. It's anticipated the new club will continue meeting on Wednesdays under a schedule that is yet to be finalized.

The Kiwanis Club of Cot-

tage Grove was formed in 1970 under a Kiwanis International Charter and has operated for nearly 50 years helping the youth and community in and around Cottage Grove.

The Kiwanis Club of Creswell was organized more recently in 1992. The Creswell club was the newest of the existing nine clubs within Kiwanis Division 74 in Lane and Douglas counties. The nine clubs of Division 74 are organized within the Pacific NW District under charter by Kiwanis International.

The newly formed Coast Fork Kiwanis Club is presumed to remain in Division 74.

Cottage Grove has been the home of two Kiwanis clubs over several decades and the other existing club, the Bohemia Sunrisers will continue their activities and programs in service to the community.

Historically, the Sunrisers have regularly met for breakfast on Wednesdays at the Koffee Kup.

All three of these existing clubs have developed considerable good will within their respective community and they each regularly conduct several activities and fundraisers every year.

The two "noon" clubs intend to combine their funding and membership and leverage those resources to achieve even greater levels of service to the youth in our South valley area.

Kiwanis International is a global community of local clubs, members and partners dedicated to improving the lives of children in their community. Membership includes thousands of youth formed in Junior High through college age clubs. Creswell and Cottage Grove High Schools both

have an active youth club.

Every community has different needs, and Kiwanis empowers members to pursue creative ways to serve the needs of children, such as fighting hunger, improving literacy and offering guidance. Over the past 50 years these two merging Kiwanis clubs have raised and reinvested well more than \$500,000 back in to the South valley area.

Local Kiwanis Clubs are always seeking additional members to help in their activities and programs and guests at their lunch meetings are always welcome.

Watch *The Sentinel* for new details on meeting times and places for the Coast Fork Kiwanis Club.

For more information, contact Don Ehrich at dwehrich@mail.com.

Pet tips 'N' tales

By Mary Ellen "Angel Scribe"



RCMP canines 'Always get their man'

Looking for a dog to detect narcotics, explosives and money, plus work avalanche rescue and missing person and/or cadaver rescue? Take a drive to Innisfail, Alberta, Canada, where the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Dog Services train German Shepherds for Specialty Detection teams. The six-month program teaches K9's how to protect their handlers and themselves, how to understand commands and how to apprehend and search.

Each summer the RCMP holds public shows demonstrating what their dogs learned. One of the dogs' skills is sniff-searching a car in three minutes.

Canines born at the facility begin training at 12-18 months and about 30 dogs graduate each year. The others are adopted out to families or assigned to other duties with other agencies. The dogs retire between seven and nine years of age.

"Through their incredible sense of smell, our police service dogs have located drugs in schools, bus and train station lockers, and in luggage. They've also found them hidden behind false walls, stashed in automatic washers and dryers, buried beneath ground; and concealed in various areas of automobiles, boats and airplanes," said Staff Sergeant Gary Creed, Senior Trainer at the RCMP Police Dog Service Training Centre. "Criminals' creativity to hide drugs is not a problem for our dogs. If there are drugs, our dogs find them."

Following are examples of our K9 duties paw-formed by their graduates.

Cpl. Danforth and his dog, Shado, were searching a department store for a burglar. They started in the basement and were on the second floor when Shado began pacing, indicating that he had detected someone. The area was searched but no one was found. Shado remained paws-istant. Even if the humans could not find the intruder he knew there was one, so he stood up pushing his paws against some drapes revealing a false wall with a door. The door was opened and the area visually searched.



Royal Canadian Mountain Police puppies playing in the snow outside the RCMP Police Dog Service Training Centre in Alberta, Canada (Photo credit: RCMP-GRC 2018)

South Lane School district names 'Employees of the Year'

South Lane School District announced the 2018 SLS/D/Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce Certified and Classified Employees of The Year on Wednesday, Jan. 9.

The Certified Employee of the Year is Cottage Grove High School (CGHS) teacher Michele Hilton. CGHS Lead Custodian Brian Anderson was named the Classified Employee of the Year.

Hilton, who started working in South Lane in 1995, works tirelessly with English Language Learners (ELL). With a growing ELL student population, Hilton has been pushed to do more than ever before in her career, ac-



Michele Hilton

cording to a district release on the awards.

Without exception, the release said, Hilton has answered the call. She is the primary contact for all services that ELL students and families look to if they are in need.

She makes sure that all of the students' needs are met



Brian Anderson

before she thinks about her own needs. The South Lane School District would not be the same without her selflessness, the district said.

Hired in 2005, Anderson is the rock of Cottage Grove High School. He arrives before anyone else and creates a home like environment for everyone that arrives later.

He welcomes students and staff as they arrive with a smile and a good morning.

During his day, he works with students that need his loving support, and he always gives it to others. As the lead custodian, he is always looking for ways to improve our school operation and is willing to voice his opinion.

Both Hilton and Anderson will be honored at the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce's annual Awards and Installation Banquet, Saturday, Jan. 19, at 5 p.m., at the Cottage Grove Armory.

Gold Diggers announce winners at annual Sourdough Banquet

At the Prospectors and Gold Diggers 60th Sourdough Banquet last Saturday at Stacy's Covered Bridge Restaurant, the Club announced its annual award winners.

The awards recognize club members and community

organizations that made significant contributions to the club and to the community in the previous year

The club member award winners were: Purple Garter: Sara Smith, George Award: Bruce McDonald, and President's Award: Jeff

Cook.

The Civic Award winners were: Friends of the Cottage Grove Carousel and Friends of the Swinging Bridge

The Committee of Seven functions as the club's executive committee.

The 2019 officers and

members are: President Tom Munroe, Vice President Ken Schwieger, Secretary Sara Smith, Treasurer Connie Green, Ellen Hogue, Charlie Green and Perry Thiede.

LORANE NEWS

- The Winter Concert has been rescheduled to Feb. 4 at 7 p.m.
- Our Cougar Youth Wrestling team has competed in Eugene tournaments and come home with first, second and third places, dominating their opponents.

Congrats to all of the team and to their coach, Troy Jentzsch.

- Next CAL School Board meeting is Thursday, Jan. 17 in the Applegate Elementary's new board room at 7 p.m.
- Lorane Grange meets on Jan. 17 at 7 p.m. Their next

spaghetti and bingo evening is Saturday, Jan. 26, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Remember, the progressive blackout amount has continued to grow. Bring your friends and neighbors for a fun evening.

You could be the BIG win-

ner!

- Tuesday, Jan. 22 is the opening of Applegate Elementary's new entrance. It'll be the first-time students enter through the newly constructed entrance.

6-day weather forecast

THURSDAY 50° 41° Rain	FRIDAY 49° 43° Rain
SATURDAY 58° 42° Rain	SUNDAY 49° 38° Rain
MONDAY 49° 37° Cloudy	TUESDAY 52° 38° Cloudy

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HIT THAT
LIKE
BUTTON!

Empty! Un-paw-turbed Shado entered and found the hiding culprit.

Good job!

Cpl. Gillette and his dog, Pax, were "hunting" for a missing hunter after snow covered all visible tracks. Almost immediately, Pax picked up a trail following the confused hunter who was wandering in circles. After an hour that covered three miles of almost impassable terrain, Pax got his man! The grateful-injured hunter said he'd been in the bush for 12 hours, so Pax finding him so quickly paws-ibly saved his life.

Cpl. Barter and Major II were chasing an escaped convict. Major quickly picked up a track that followed a river bank. The escapee was darting in and out of the woods, but he was no match for Major. Major had been trailing the convict for six hours when the terrain became steep, so he was let off leash.

That paw-sistant K9 had climbed from the river's bank to an elevation of 1,300 feet when he veered across a field, entered the woods and disappeared from view.

A few seconds later, he let out a loud yelp. Then silence. Cpl. Barter commanded his dog to return, but Major did not respond. Sprinting forward, the Corporal saw the escapee flee into a densely wooded area and he found Major bleeding on the ground. Then the RCMP dog stood up, turned and now profusely bleeding from a life-threatening stab wound to his left front shoulder and chest surprised the officer by resuming his pursuit of the suspect.

Shortly after, following Major's blood trail, Cpl. Barter found Major standing guard over the escapee. A helicopter was radioed and to airlift the gravely wounded dog to a Veterinary Hospital. The exam revealed a 3-inch-deep knife wound which had severed Major's jugular vein and a large throat nerve.

How this dedicated dog stood after the attack and continued to "get his man" is a miracle because his chances of survival were slight. Amazingly, after a successful operation, he returned to duty two weeks later.

Yup. Police dogs, anywhere in the world, are amazing!

TIPS:

If a police dog is after you, STOP! Respect its training, dedication to its job, and sharp teeth!

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