

# CHAMBER NEWSLETTER

**March Business after Hours** - Hosted this month by Friends of the Cottage Grove Carousel. Join us King Estate Bottling Plant, 1780 Carnegie Way (Industrial Park) for Business after Hours on **Thursday, March 21** from 5:30 – 7:00pm. Bring your business card to enter the door prize drawing, make new connections, and have some fun! Cottage Grove and Creswell Chamber Members are encouraged to attend this classic, fun networking event. Many thanks to those who support our efforts by attending this Chamber program.

**Next month's Business After Hours:**

April – CASA of Lane County

**Welcome New Member!**

Eileen Machida

Individual Chamber Supporter

**Thank You Renewing Members!**

5 Flying Monkeys, Best Little Printhouse in Town, Blackstone, Inc. - Windermere Real Estate, Bohemia Sunrisers Kiwanis, Carousel House B&B & Catering, Cottage Grove Safe Haven, Inc., Lane Families for Farms & Forests, Lily of the Field, Shampoo Dolls Salon, Torero's Family Mexican Restaurant, The Espresso Bar'n, William J. Welt, Inc.

The chamber's number one goal is to create a strong local economy. All of the programs and benefits supported by a chamber membership investment go toward achieving that goal. Membership in the chamber is also a commitment to the entire community and a pledge of support for the economic growth and vitality of the Cottage Grove area. We thank each of you for your **New** and **Renewed** commitment to the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce and your support of contributions through volunteered time and service to the Chamber. We look forward to a bright and successful year! Join us in supporting Chamber member businesses and our local economy and **"Shop Chamber Members first"**!

**Cottage Grove Business Challenge** - Up to \$10,000 in Prize Money, Networking and Mentorship Opportunities, Chance to Pitch to Local Investors

In 2017, a local resident and business owner walked into the Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce office with an idea about how to encourage entrepreneurship, create new jobs and give back to the community that contributed to his own success. Harold Frazier of New Breed Seed Company donated \$10,000 and said he simply wanted it to go to someone with a great business plan that would create new jobs in the Cottage Grove area.

The Chamber of Commerce, Cottage Grove Community Development Corporation and RAIN Eugene joined for several months of meeting, and in those meetings the Cottage Grove Business Challenge was born. Twenty-four hopeful entrepreneurs took the challenge and three were chosen to receive funds to help start/expand their businesses.

This year entrepreneurs are invited once again, to take the challenge and submit their business plan ideas for a chance to win up to \$10,000 in start-up funding. Please see 'Participant Information' on the website ([www.cgbizplan.com](http://www.cgbizplan.com)) for details. Those who accept the challenge will have access to a series of classes through Lane Community College and the Lane Small Business Development Center, Liveplan business plan writing software will be provided by Palo Alto, as well as mentor support from seasoned business leaders. Classes begin March 20, 2019.

**Plan to attend the kickoff event on**

**Wednesday, March 13, 2019 from 6:00 – 8:00pm at the Brewstation to learn more. Submissions for the Cottage Grove Business Challenge are due May, 1st 2019 (emailed to [contactme@cgbizplan.com](mailto:contactme@cgbizplan.com)).**

**What do the Website Statistics Mean to Member Business?**

**Business Directory Searches:** This number reflects how the chamber website has been used to search for business in Cottage Grove.

**Member Page Views:** This number indicates the number of times chamber member information pages have been viewed on the chamber website.

**Event Searches:** This number reflects how the chamber website has been used to search for events.

**Event Page Viewed:** This number indicates how many times event pages have been viewed

**Hot Deal Searches:** Hot Deals are coupons created by chamber members and posted on the website. These numbers reflect how coupons are being searched for.

**Job Searches:** Chamber members can post job openings on the website. This number reflects how many times the website has been used to search for job posting.

Visitor Center Stats	1.30 thru 2.28	YTD
Phone calls:	145	292
Walk-In Visitors:	306	733
Relocate Requests:	2	3
Visitor Requests:	2	2
Referrals to Chamber Members:	57	149
<b>Website Stats</b>		
Business Directory Searches Total Listed:	381	2,316
Member Page Views:	399	1,475
Event Searches:	1,086	2,469
Events Viewed:	890	1,956
Hot Deal Searches:	18	40
Job Searches:	43	94

**Chamber Calendar**

If you have an event you want published on our website calendar, please, please, please submit it to:

Go to [www.cgchamber.com](http://www.cgchamber.com)

Click on "Event Calendar"

Click on "submit new event"

Fill in the blanks and submit

Once your event is approved, it will appear on the community calendar.

For more details on the events listed below, visit the Event Calendar on our website at [www.cgchamber.com](http://www.cgchamber.com).

**(Chamber events in bold)**

\*Bingo every Friday night at the American Legion Hall

**March**

13 Cottage Grove Toast People (future Toastmasters Group)

14 **Greeters Committee**

14 Startup Coffee Meetup

18 **Promotions/Events/Tourism Committee**

19 Rhythmic Drums with Candi Davis

19 Third Tuesday Poetry Night at Axe & Fiddle, hosted by Kalapuya Books

21 **Business After Hours – Friends of the Carousel @ King Estate Bottling Plant**

25 Discover Exoplanets Costume Making Workshop

25 Regular City Council Meeting

26 Jazz Jam at The Cottage

27 Cottage Grove Toast People (future Toastmasters Group)

28 **Greeters Committee**

**April**

4/5 The Sound of Music Opening @ CT

4/6 Discover Exoplanets Family Fun Day

4/8 Discover Exoplanets Costume Making Workshop

4/8 Regular City Council Meeting

4/10 Cottage Grove Toast People (future Toastmasters Group)

4/11 **Greeters Committee**

4/11 **Promotions/Events/Tourism Committee**

4/11 Startup Coffee Meetup

4/13 All Ages Space Dance

4/16 Third Tuesday Poetry Night at Axe & Fiddle, hosted by Kalapuya Books

4/18 **Business After Hours – April**

4/21 Easter

4/22 Regular City Council Meeting

4/23 Jazz Jam @ The Cottage

4/24 Cottage Grove Toast People (future Toastmasters Group)

4/24 **Training, Education & Membership Committee Meeting**

4/25 **Greeters Committee**

## COTTAGE GROVE Business Challenge 2019



**THE BREWSTATION**  
106 S 6TH ST.  
WEDNESDAY

**MARCH 13, 2019 6-8PM**

**KICKOFF  
NETWORKING  
EVENT!**

**REGISTER FOR BUSINESS PLAN CLASSES TODAY!**



**MORE INFORMATION & CHALLENGE REGISTRATION:**

[WWW.CGBIZPLAN.COM](http://WWW.CGBIZPLAN.COM)

[CONTACTME@CGBIZPLAN.COM](mailto:CONTACTME@CGBIZPLAN.COM)