



Cottage Grove Sentinel

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WEATHER

Partly cloudy with a high of 67 and a low tonight of 44.

Full forecast on A5

COMMUNITY



Oregon's Poet Laureate visits LES
A5

SPORTS — B



Derrick tosses no-hitter for NDHS
B1

- **RECORDS**
Obituaries
Police Logs
Births
A2
- **LORANE NEWS**
A5
- **CLASSIFIEDS**
Listings and public notices
B8-B9

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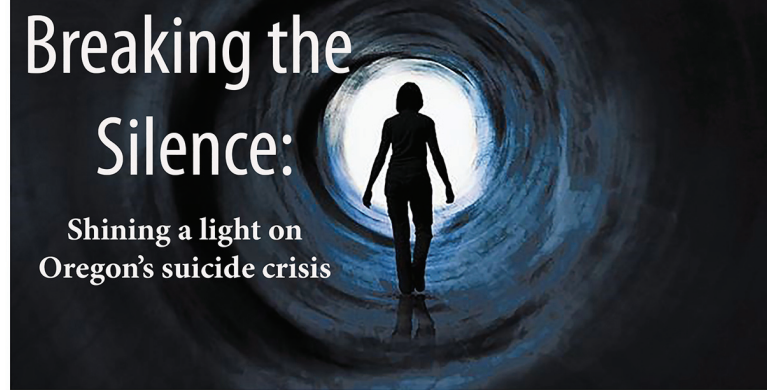
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Breaking the silence of suicide

The impacts of suicide in the words of those left behind, and those who have tried

Editor's note: This is the last in a four-part special collaboration between the Cottage Grove Sentinel, The Creswell Chronicle, the Siuslaw News and Newport News-Times focusing on the rising suicide rate in Oregon. Each week in April, the four newspapers in this collaboration contributed a part to the series and published them together — the hope being that, by sharing our resources and readerships, we can begin establishing a dialogue within each of our communities about this important subject.

Special 4-part series



A collaborative series between the Cottage Grove Sentinel, The Creswell Chronicle, Siuslaw News and Newport News-Times

BY ERIN TIERNEY
THE CRESWELL CHRONICLE
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Aaron was 28 when he died by suicide in May 2017, leaving behind two kids, Cora, 10, and Gabe, 6.

"I wish I knew how to describe how I feel," he wrote in his final Facebook post. "These past few weeks and days have left me feeling pretty (screwed) up mentally, emotionally and physically. I'm losing faith, but at the same time I'm not,

See SERIES 6A

It's (almost) showtime



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Seniors Riley Hutchins and Lucas Davey rehearse a skit for the teen pageant show.

CGHS pageant raises funds for children

BY DAMIEN SHERWOOD
COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Cottage Grove High School seniors will compete on stage this Saturday in the school's annual Lion Pride Pageant, a fundraiser for sick and injured children at PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center at River-Bend in Springfield.

"This year the theme is Lion Pride Pageant - The Musical," said Lorri Hanson, pageant co-advisor. "Each of the contestants will be dressed as a character from a different musical."

The pageant, a part of the Kids Helping Kids program, will raise funding for Children's Miracle Network, a non-profit program of the PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center Foundation dedicated to providing medical services and treatments to children.

The fundraising concept originated more than two decades



COURTESY ALEXANDRA GALBREATH PHOTOGRAPHY

Cottage Grove High School student contestants and pageant coordinators.

ago with a young Eugene student who, after getting in trouble on the school bus, was penalized by having to come up with a way he could give back to the community. Though his plan initially began as a coin drive, the idea gradually expanded.

In the 1992-1993 school year, Sheldon High School staged the first pageant, its success and pop-

ularity soon spreading to other schools in the area.

"It's become part of the culture at a lot of these schools and part of their legacy, which I think is really neat," said Alexa Sharps, the Foundation's pediatric program director

See PAGEANT 9A

'Fashion Funk' takes runway at Trashion Show

BY DAMIEN SHERWOOD
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It's not every fashion show one might find a post-apocalyptic, steam-punk cyborg emceeding the event. Then again, not every fashion show creatively covers its models in garbage.

Opal Theater's 2019 Trashion Show put reusable, fashionable rubbish on display Saturday night to a sold-out house.



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL
Charles Mattoon charges up the audience with this year's version of Sal the Cyborg at Saturday's Trashion Show in Opal Theater.

The two-hour show exhibited the talents of 10 designers' garbage-infused lines. A total of 21 models in 33 different outfits strutted the catwalk and sashayed past front-row audience members in a night of thought-provoking entertainment.

Putting on the show right before Earth Day was no coincidence. This year's theme was "Junk, Gunk, Fashion Funk."

"We're really trying to highlight the junk and gunk part — the amount of the trash that is out there," said Michele Rose, show producer and designer of her own line. "We're trying to focus on the plastics and things that are not recyclable and to heighten awareness in our community. We're making an educational statement, but making it fun at the

See TRASHION 11A

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