



COURTESY PHOTO

EPUD Manager Kyle Roadman (left) with Soup's On Kitchen Manager Karen Burrece. EPUD recently donated a new, energy-efficient refrigerator to the program after the previous fridge broke.

EPUD donation helps Soup's On program

Soup's On, a local nonprofit organization that provides a free dinner to any member of the community every Sunday evening at the Cottage Grove Community Center, typically serves between 50-60 diners every week and also provides a bag lunch for patrons to take.

The program is completely reliant on donations and volunteers for all aspects of its operation.

Recently, volunteers found themselves in desperate need of

a new refrigerator. Soup's On approached Emerald People's Utility District (EPUD) about possible grants or assistance to purchase a new refrigerator.

EPUD quickly responded with an offer to purchase a new, energy efficient refrigerator for the program.

The donation not only allowed the community program to continue operating "but what is even more compelling is that Soup's

On is outside of the EPUD service area," said the program's kitchen manager Karen Burrece. "After delivery of the fridge, we were delighted to be able to host two members of EPUD at our dinner on May 19."

Power Manager Kyle Roadman, who also brought his family, and EPUD Public Relations Manager Patty Jo Angelini each joined volunteers at the May 19 dinner.

Community invited to Latham Celebration Night on Friday

The community of Cottage Grove is invited to attend the Latham Elementary Community Celebration on Friday, May 31, when Latham will close its doors for the last time following the school board's decision to close the school last January.

The school has been in existence since 1853.

An open house will take place from 5 to 6 p.m., with refreshments being served. Guests will receive a passport that will take them on a guided tour of the build-

ing. Once the passport is complete, guests will receive a special commemorative gift.

Then, from 6:15 to 7 p.m., a Community Celebration will take place in the gymnasium with a guest speaker, Cottage Grove Mayor

Jeff Gowing, who is a former Latham student.

For more information about the event, contact Communications Coordinator Garrett Bridgens at 541-942-3381 or email him at garrett.bridgens@slane.k12.or.us.

Volunteers needed for upcoming Grove Tritathlon

Best in the West Events is looking for volunteers to help with the Rolf Prima Tri at the Grove Triathlon on Saturday, July 27.

This annual triathlon in Cottage Grove is a great opportunity for volunteers to spend a beautiful Saturday at Cottage Grove Lake.

Volunteers to help with the event are needed for the following shifts:

- Swim course: Anyone who has a kayak, canoe or SUP and would like help monitoring the swim course will check in at 7 a.m.

- Bike course: 12 volunteers over age 18 are needed to help direct the bikes at turns and keep them on course.

- Run course: At least 3

people are needed to man the Aid Stations to help hand our water and electrolytes to runners. This is a great place to have groups work together.

Check in is at 7:30 a.m. There are a few other odd jobs at the start/finish area as well. Fundraising money is available to non-profit groups with multiple volunteers.

Every volunteer gets a t-shirt, lunch and post-race drinks. Anyone interested in volunteering can sign up at www.runsignup.com/Race/Volunteer/OR/CottageGrove/RolfPrimaTriAtTheGrove.

For more information, email Ema Armstrong at ema@bestinthewestevents.com.

Very Little Theatre to present 'The Game's Afoot' in June

The Very Little Theatre continues its 90th season with "The Game's Afoot," a snappy, clever, drawing-room mystery by Ken Ludwig, directed by Chris Pinto.

Set in 1936, the play features fun-filled characters. Broadway star William Gillette, known for his brilliant role as Sherlock Holmes, is thrust into a real-life murder-mystery when he invites fellow cast

members to his home for the weekend. The festivities soon turn into dangerous games as Gillette resumes the role of Sherlock Holmes to solve the surprising murder.

The cast features Michael Walker as William Gillette, Carol Massahos as Martha Gillette, Paul Rhoden as Felix Geisel, Heather Hinz as Madge Geisel, Matthew Arscott as Simon Bright, Sabrina Gross as

Aggie Wheeler, Jen Ferro as Inspector Goring and Erica Towe as Daria Chase. Michael Walker designed the set and Michael Watkins is the costumer.

Performance dates are June 7-9, June 13-16 and June 20-22. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. for Sunday matinees.

Reserved seat tickets are \$21. Seniors and students are \$17.

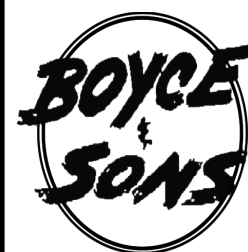
Tickets are available

online at TheVLT.com or through the box office from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday, at 541-344-7751.

An Opening Night Gala with refreshments following the show is open to all those who purchase tickets to the June 7 performance.

The VLT has 20 assisted-listening devices available on a first-come basis each night.

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Summer gardening tips offered at next Garden Club meeting

Soon, area gardeners will be easing into summer with the goal of shifting from spring to summer while keeping gardens healthy and sustainable.

On Tuesday, June 4, the Cottage Grove Garden Club will welcome Christina Bixel, who will talk about ways to keep gardens healthy. Bixel will discuss small daily, weekly and monthly tasks that will maintain optimum yield and help gardeners achieve success, growing both flowers and vegetables.

Bixel has been an OSU Extension Master Gardener since 2012, with a spe-

cialty in plant diagnostics and additional training in composting. She is the past president of the Lane County Master Gardeners Association and provides lectures throughout the county on a wide range of topics.

Bixel will present "Keeping Your Garden Healthy" at the First Presbyterian Church, 216 South Third Street (enter off the garden on Third Street).

The Garden Club's informal business meeting begins at 6 p.m., followed by the presentation at 7 p.m. Guests and visitors welcome.

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