

Community News

County Sheriff investigating drowning of Creswell teen

On Thursday, June 13, at 4:03 p.m., the Lane County Sheriff's Office received a report of a 15-year-old male juvenile from the Creswell area who had gone under water while swimming in a pond in Creswell and did not resurface. Lane County Sheriff's Office Marine deputies, patrol deputies, Search and Rescue divers, Creswell contract deputies and South Lane Fire responded to the area. The male was located in the

water by deputies and divers after having been under water for several minutes. The Lane County Sheriff's Office is investigating the death along with the Lane County Medical Examiner's Office. The Lane County Medical Examiner's Office will determine the cause and manner of death. The juvenile's parents have been notified, and it has been asked that their privacy be respected.

Fire danger puts early end to outdoor burning season

Friday, June 14, marked the last day for outdoor burning for most Lane County residents until October. The season closed one day early this year due to elevated fire danger; the season will re-open Oct. 1 pending the end of wildfire season. During the closed season, yard debris can be disposed of at one of several local debris collection or recycling centers, such as Lane Forest Products, Rexius or Lane County's transfer stations and dump sites. Composting and chipping are

always encouraged. Residents who burn during the closed season are subject to violations ranging from \$50 to \$2,500 or more. The Lane County Fire Defense Board will decide if the season will open on time on the first of October or delay opening due to high fire risks. People can check on the season's status by going online at www.lrapa.org or calling the LRA-PA daily open burning advisory line at 541-726-3976. Coastal residents can call 541-997-1757.

Chamber to Chamber chat



COURTESY PHOTO

On Thursday, Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Travis Palmer was the guest presenter at the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce's annual meeting to install its 2019-20 board of directors. Florence Chamber Executive Director Bettina Hannigan called Palmer "a hero," citing his nine-year history as chamber director and his commitment to economic development. In his presentation, Palmer spoke about the importance of partnerships in keeping momentum going for chambers of commerce. "We engage in countless partnerships in the community," he said and detailed several projects. Palmer talked about Yard of the Week, which benefits weekly winners, entire neighborhoods and the chamber itself as it partners with the City of Cottage Grove. He also talked about the importance of other chambers and economic partners for events like the Cottage Grove Business Challenge, which encourages the growth of new and existing businesses. "I encourage you to leverage partnerships like that. Don't always count on someone else coming in, ... but think about what you can create through partnerships," he said.

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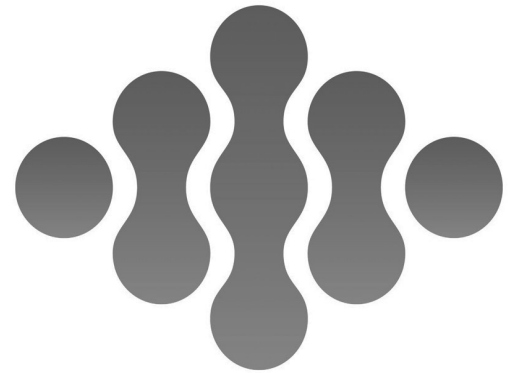
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