

Oregon Legislature approves funding for Cottage Theatre expansion

One of the bills passed during the Oregon Legislature’s final jam-packed weekend of the 2019 session was HB 5050, a 43-page bill that includes some good news for Cottage Grove. Under section 39 of this bill, Cottage Theatre’s Theatre Expansion project was approved for \$375,000 in state lottery bond funding during the upcoming biennium.

Cottage Theatre will be expanding its facility to add 50 additional seats, remodeling all public spaces and upgrading technical capabilities.

“We are absolutely thrilled to receive this strong support from

the state,” said Cottage Theatre Executive Director Susan Goes. “Our ‘ACT III’ project will make a significant economic impact on our community, and we are exceedingly grateful to partner with the State of Oregon to make this project a reality. We send thanks to all of the many legislators who helped get this bill passed, especially Senator Floyd Prozanski, who worked throughout several legislative sessions to secure funding for this project.”

Cottage Theatre is beginning work on the remodel this summer, with planned completion in 2021.

“Originally, we had planned to do the entire project in 2019,” said Cottage Theatre Board Treasurer Mark Allen. “However, this spring the total project costs unexpectedly jumped from \$1.5 million a year ago to \$2.5 million due to the current Lane County construction environment. So, we will be implementing the project in phases while we continue to raise the needed funds.”

Cottage Theatre, founded in 1982, produces a year-round season of plays and musicals and offers summer theatre camps for children.

A member of the American As-

sociation of Community Theatre (AACT), Cottage Theatre was one of just six theatres in the nation selected to give a world premiere as part of the AACT 2018 NewPlayFest. The theatre offers 80 public performances each year and serves an annual audience of 11,000 patrons. The ACT III expansion will allow for 4,000 more patron visits annually.

Additional funding for Cottage Theatre’s remodeling project has come from the Oregon Cultural Trust, Faye & Lucille Stewart Foundation, Travel Oregon, Autzen Foundation, Chambers Family Foundation, Mildred

Baker Fund, and especially from individual donors. Cottage Theatre is selling seat sponsorships to help raise the necessary funds to complete the project. More information is available from Cottage Theatre at www.cottagetheatre.org or by calling 541-942-8001.

The theatre is closed this summer for the first phase of the ACT III remodeling. It will reopen and continue its 2019 season in October with “The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [Revised],” a zany romp through 37 plays in 97 minutes.

Tickets will go on sale Sept. 11.

Community input being sought for Wildfire Protection Plan update

Do you live in or near a forested area? Are you concerned about the growing risk of wildfire?

Do you want a voice in decisions addressing wildfire risk?

Lane County and its partners want to hear from you. Lane County, Oregon Department of Forestry and other partners are updating the community wildfire protection plan to better reflect communities

and resources at risk of wildfire.

The electronic survey aims to gather residents’ perceptions of wildfire risk, what type of help is needed and ways to fund the work. Lane County residents in the wildland-urban interface are encouraged to take the survey at www.lane-county.org/fireplan.

Results from the survey will help local officials better prioritize where to put

scarce resources. The existing community wildfire protection plan was first developed in 2005.

That plan identified which places were most at risk for wildfire and helped direct grants and community-funded fuel reduction projects to lower wildfire risk around homes and property.

“We continue to experience hotter, drier and longer fire seasons across

much of the Pacific Northwest,” said Lane County Emergency Manager Patience Winningham. “Most of Lane County is forested. The updated plan will prioritize where work to reduce wildfire risk should occur and survey responses will help us understand how to get the most bang for our buck.”

The survey will be available through July and August. Residents living in

the wildland-urban interface (typically in unincorporated Lane County) are encouraged to respond to the online survey.

Printed copies of the survey are available by contacting Lane County Emergency Management at 541-682-6999.

An updated CWPP is a requirement for receiving federal funds to reduce wildfire risk. A collaborative partnership among

Lane County Emergency Management, Lane County Land Management Division, Oregon Department of Forestry, Lane County Fire Defense Board, Oregon State University Extension Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service is working together to update the plan.

Learn more at www.lane-county.org/fireplan.

New Life Church gives ‘new life’ to students with college debt

New Life Church of the Nazarene of Medford raised and donated \$30,000 to RIP Medical Debt, a charity based in Rye, N.Y., enabling the congregation to free more than 1,200 Oregonians from medical debt.

Historically, as a part of its commitment to the com-

munity, New Life’s congregation engages in an annual fundraising project that begins with the Christmas season and is completed by Easter. Money raised is then used to help those most in need, locally and sometimes farther afield.

New Life’s pastor, Dale

Schaeffer, learned of RIP’s work in abolishing medical debt a few years ago and recently read an article about a church in North Texas that partnered with RIP to abolish \$10 million in medical debt.

New Life committed to this new campaign and set

about raising some \$30,000, directing RIP to use \$20,000 of the campaign to locate, purchase and abolish the medical debt that was available on the Oregon market.

Any funds remaining were used to search for veteran and military medical debt radiating outward

from Oregon – an additional one million dollars.

Thirty-two of Oregon’s 36 counties had at least one resident whose medical debt was erased. In Lane County, 162 residents owed a total of \$346,756 in medical debt that was in collections. Each resident

received a letter from RIP informing him or her that their medical debt had been erased through the donation of New Life Church and the charity of RIP Medical Debt.

The average debt per individual in Oregon was \$1,677.

Mark Your Calendars!

AUGUST

AUGUST 2019 Calendar

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF WEEKLY EVENTS VISIT THE CALENDAR CHOICES PAGE NEXT TO THE COMICS PAGE.

1 - THURSDAY

9am Ukulele Morning Jam Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

1pm Thursday Crafternoon Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

2 - FRIDAY

5pm American Legion BINGO! 826 W. Main Street

For additional info call Jerry Kerns at 541-942-0234

3 - SATURDAY

1pm Saturday Crafternoon Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

10am 41st Annual Jim Wright Memorial Stearman Fly In Oregon Aviation History Center 2475 Jim Wright Way, Cottage Grove

4 - SUNDAY

5 - MONDAY

5pm LEGO Club for Big People [ages 13 and up] Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

6:30pm Bilingual Family Storytime The Axe & Fiddle 657 E Main Street Cottage Grove

6 - TUESDAY

5pm Board Game Tuesdays Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

5pm History Pub (Partners in History) The Axe & Fiddle 657 E Main Street, Cottage Grove

7 - WEDNESDAY

10:30am Preschool Story Time Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

2:30pm Lego Club Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

6:30pm Concerts in the Park – Gumbo Groove Bohemia Park Amphitheater

8 - THURSDAY

9am Ukulele Morning Jam Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

1pm Thursday Crafternoon Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

9 - FRIDAY

5pm American Legion BINGO! 826 W. Main Street

For additional info call Jerry Kerns at 541-942-0234

6:30pm Cottage Grove Toast People (future

10 - SATURDAY

11am Party in the Park/Emergency Preparedness Fair Coiner Park 1319 E. Main

1pm Saturday Crafternoon Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

11 - SUNDAY

12 - MONDAY

6pm The Lovely Bones (Great American Read Book Club) Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

6:30pm Bilingual Family Storytime Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

13 - TUESDAY

5pm Board Game Tuesdays Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

14 - WEDNESDAY

10:30am Preschool Story Time Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

6:30pm Concerts in the Park – Windy Ridge Bohemia Park Amphitheater

15 - THURSDAY

9am Ukulele Morning Jam Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

4pm Bohemia Mining Days Festival Coiner Park

1pm Thursday Crafternoon Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

16 - FRIDAY

8:30 Breakfast Club Cottage Events Venue 2915 Row River Road. For more information call the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce

5pm American Legion BINGO! 826 W. Main Street

For additional info call Jerry Kerns at 541-942-0234

ALL DAY - W.O.E. Family Fair & Lumberjack Show Western Oregon Exposition Fairgrounds 2000 N. Douglas

17 - SATURDAY

ALL DAY - W.O.E. Family Fair & Lumberjack Show Western Oregon Exposition Fairgrounds 2000 N. Douglas

9am Coast Fork Community River Project August Work Party Silk Creek Park located at Old Mill Pl. & South River Rd., Cottage Grove (near the Old Mill farm store)

1pm Saturday Crafternoon Cottage Grove

18 - SUNDAY

ALL DAY - W.O.E. Family Fair & Lumberjack Show Western Oregon Exposition Fairgrounds 2000 N. Douglas

19 - MONDAY

6:30pm Bilingual Family Storytime Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

20 - TUESDAY

5pm Board Game Tuesdays Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

7:30pm Third Tuesday Poetry Night at Axe & Fiddle, hosted by Kalapuya Books at the Axe & Fiddle Public House 657 E. Main Street

21 - WEDNESDAY

10:30am Preschool Story Time Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

2:30pm Wrap-Up Party & Stop Motion Film Fest Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

6:30pm Concerts in the Park – Gabe Schliffer and the Sugar Pine String Band Bohemia Park Amphitheater

22 - THURSDAY

9am Ukulele Morning Jam Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

1pm Thursday Crafternoon Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

5:30pm Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce Business Afterhours

23 - FRIDAY

5pm American Legion BINGO! 826 W. Main Street

24 - SATURDAY

25 - SUNDAY

4pm Carousel Benefit Concert - Men of S.U.R.F Calvary Chapel 447 N. Pacific Hwy (99)

26 - MONDAY

1:30pm Classic Movie Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

6:30pm Bilingual Family Storytime Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

27 - TUESDAY

5pm Board Game Tuesdays Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

6:30pm Jazz Jam at The Cottage - The Cottage Events Venue, 2915 Row River Rd

28 - WEDNESDAY

10:30am Preschool Story Time Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

6:30pm Alzheimer's and Dementia Support Magnolia Gardens 1425 Daugherty Ave

6:30pm Concerts in the Park – Calvary Creek Bohemia Park Amphitheater

29 - THURSDAY

1pm Thursday Crafternoon Cottage Grove Community Center 700 E. Gibbs Ave

9am Ukulele Morning Jam Cottage Grove Public Library 700 E. Gibbs Ave

30 - FRIDAY

5pm American Legion BINGO! 826 W. Main Street

For additional info call Jerry Kerns at 541-942-0234

31 - SATURDAY



Old Mill Farm Store

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