

Full shelves at food pantry



COURTESY PHOTO

Following reporting of the challenges faced by the Creswell Food Pantry in its front-page story "Increased Demand Puts Strain on Creswell Pantry" (Dec. 5), *The Sentinel* was contacted to inform us that the pantry had received an anonymous donation of 2,200 pounds of canned and packaged foods on Dec. 10, helping fill the shelves right before the holidays. Our thanks to the anonymous community member or organization that helped fill the pantry shelves for those in need.

Cottage Theatre awarded \$75,000 grant

On Dec. 8, Oregon Community Foundation volunteer Jackie Lester presented Cottage Theatre (CT) with a \$75,000 grant in support of the theatre's ACT III Theatre Expansion project. The presentation was made prior to the theatre's matinee performance of Lionel Bart's "Oliver!," the final production of Cottage Theatre's 37th season, which continues on stage through Dec. 22.

This grant will help Cottage Theatre remodel its facility to add 50 additional seats and make technical and safety improvements in the building.

"We are extremely grateful for this generous investment by the Oregon Community Foundation," said Cottage Theatre Executive Director Susan Goes. "The ACT III Project will enable CT to serve a larger audience, as well as improve the theatre-going experience for our patrons and volunteers. This is an exciting and ambitious project for a small organization like CT, and we deeply appreciate OCF's support of our efforts."

The entire ACT III project is expected to cost approximately \$2.5 million, with a target completion date of 2021. Cottage Theatre began work in the summer of 2019 by replacing its existing seats (which were more than 40 years old), repainting backstage spaces, and installing some fire sprinkler piping. The bulk of the planned improvements have been deferred until 2021 to allow CT time to raise additional funds

after the cost of the project jumped unexpectedly from \$1.5 to \$2.5 million this past spring. Once the remodel is complete, the 50 added seats will allow CT to serve 4,000 more patrons each year.

This grant comes from the Fred W. Fields Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation, which was established in 2012 with a \$150 million gift from the estate of Fred W. Fields.

The gift, given to support education and the arts, is the largest single gift in the history of Oregon Community Foundation. Born in Alexandria, Ind., Fields studied engineering at Indiana University and Purdue University.

After getting a job at the Coe Manufacturing Company in 1947, Fields worked his way up until he purchased the company

in 1976. Fields headed the company until 2000, when he sold it and retired.

Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) puts donated money to work in Oregon — more than \$100 million in grants and scholarships support Oregonians annually. For nearly 45 years, OCF grantmaking, research, advocacy and community-advised solutions have helped individuals, families, businesses and organizations create charitable funds to improve lives for all Oregonians. Impactful giving — time, talent and resources from many generous Oregonians — creates measurable change.

The Foundation makes grants through an application process that involves local citizens in the review and evaluation of requests for funds. Application materials are available through

the Foundation's Portland office. Individuals or businesses interested in establishing a fund may contact the Eugene OCF office, 440 East Broadway, Suite 160, Eugene OR 97401, 541-431-7099, or visit www.oregoncf.org.

Cottage Theatre, founded in 1982, is a community theatre that presents a year-round schedule of plays and musicals and offers summer theatre camps for children.



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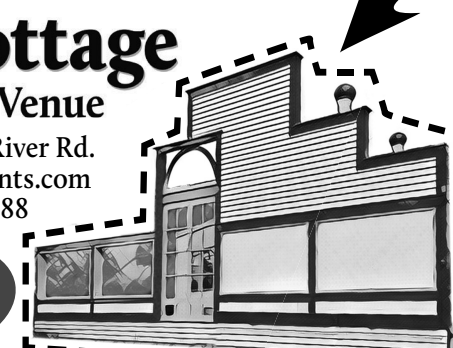
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