

On The Record

OR 99 construction planned for Cottage Grove

A new project in Cottage Grove will improve safety and traffic flow for all users on OR 99 from Woodson Place to the Coast Fork Willamette River, a short section of road that connects homes to shopping and services.

The existing four-lane section will be redesigned

to have one vehicle travel lane in each direction, with a center turn lane.

Sidewalks with ADA ramps, bike lanes, and a crosswalk with a rapid flashing beacon will be added.

Planning is underway, with construction scheduled for fall 2021.

Jan. 9 and 10, crews will be boring in the travel lanes, gathering samples to examine the condition of the existing road. Most other pre-construction work will be done away from the

road.

This project is in partnership with the city of Cottage Grove and is included in the Transportation System Plan.

DEATH NOTICE

SEYMOUR—Dorothy Ann Seymour, 89, of Cottage Grove, Ore., passed away Jan. 2, 2020.

Arrangements in the care of Smith Lund Mills Funeral Chapel of Cottage Grove.

George Landon (Lanny) Olson November 27, 2019



Know all the passing of George Landon (Lanny) Olson, November 27, 2019, father, husband, grandfather and friend. He reunites in eternity with his wife of 58 years, our adored mother, Patt Bush Olson (June 16, 2018). Lanny and Patt respectively hailed from Minnesota via Iowa and Alabama via Alaska. In 1960, they met and married in Menlo Park, CA. He was a deputy sheriff, she worked at Hewlett

Packard. In 1970, they and their four boys changed their lives forever when they moved to the Kris Kringle Christmas Tree Farm on Martin Creek Road, south of Cottage Grove. The farm steered the family and made all of them who they were and are. Friends to many, Lanny & Patt cherished all those they loved and befriended. Together they now lay at peace, joining our beloved eldest brother David Bruce Hunt (November 6, 2013). Lanny and Patt are survived by sons, James, Eric, and John, daughters in law, Sheri, Kimberly, Claire and Stephanie, 10 wonderful grandchildren and a beautiful great grandchild. Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Peace is the cornerstone.

Berde JoAnn Slaughter-Glass 1962-2019



Berde JoAnn Slaughter-Glass, age 57 of Cottage Grove, OR, passed away Monday, December 30, 2019. She was born November 16, 1962 in Huntington Park, California to James P. Slaughter and Eula Mae (Sheets) Gordon. She worked many years as a preschool teacher and then later on for both Walmart and Plaid Pantry before leaving the workforce to stay home with her grandchildren. Her favorite thing to do in the world was spending time with her two grandchildren and her loving

family. Those who knew JoAnn knew that family was the most important thing to her and she valued any chance she had to spend time with them. In her spare time, she also loved watching Food Network, playing casino games on her phone and connecting with friends and family far and wide on Facebook. JoAnn is survived by her Daughter, Erika Reyes, Son In-Law, Marcelino Reyes and two grandchildren Noah and Gabriella Reyes of Cottage Grove, OR; Brother, Perry J. Slaughter of Lincoln, AR; Sisters, Brenda J. Slaughter and Patsy A. Slaughter of Cottage Grove, OR. She is preceded in death by her Father, James P. Slaughter, Mother, Eula Mae (Sheets) Gordon, Step Father, Henry "Bud" Gordon and Sister Lorena Cameron. A desert potluck celebration of life will be Saturday, January 11th at 11:00 A.M. at the Dorena Grange.

Richard (Dick Ware)



Richard (Dick Ware) passed away, December 26, 2019. Richard lived at Magnolia Gardens in Cottage Grove, Oregon. Dick was a career Navy man, loved John Wayne, hunting, fishing and was a man's man

who loved to laugh. He had a very distinct chuckle. Dick was a single dad of three girls, Linda, Terry, Dean and one son, Ricky. Dick especially appreciated his brothers and family visiting with him regularly. Dick, Donald, Roger, Gerald, Dale and Randy were great friends throughout their lives, as well as brothers. He had beaten colon cancer four times over the past four decades, proving that he could overcome many things. His daughter, Linda, preceded his death and his family knows that there will be a sweet reunion in heaven. Arrangements in the care of Smith Lund Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove, OR.

Suzette Straker Cunningham 1929-2020



She was born in Attleboro, Massachusetts on March 7th, 1929, but throughout much of her early life she lived and in Crescent City, Florida. After graduating from high school, she received her Registered Nurse diploma from Sturdy Memorial Hospital. During the Korean War Suzette joined the United States Air Force and served two years as a Flight Nurse at Ladd Air Force Base in Fairbanks, Alaska, as a First Lieutenant. There she met her future husband J. David Cunningham, who was also serving in the Air Force in Alaska. They were married in Crescent City in June of 1953, and resided in Texas, Washington, and South Dakota before settling in Oregon.

Throughout her long civilian career, Suzette specialized in high-risk obstetric nursing at Sacred Heart Hospital in

Eugene, Oregon; Columbia Hospital for Women and Children in Washington D.C.; and Geisinger Medical Center in Danville, Pennsylvania.

Upon retirement in 1992, Suzette and J. David returned to Oregon, taking up residence Salem. Her retirement dream was to learn to do "two new things well." Those goals were achieved in spades when she earned her Master Gardener's Certification, through the Oregon State University Extension Program, and also volunteered as a wood carver for Salem's Riverfront Carousel. Suzette remained very active with both organizations well into the second decade of the 21st century.

Suzette Cunningham is survived by her four children: James Everett Cunningham, of Boca Raton, Florida; Elyse Marie Wheeler, of Mesa, Arizona; David Patrick Cunningham, of Oakland, California; and, Michael Edward Cunningham of Cottage Grove, Oregon; as well as seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Contributions, in lieu of flowers, can be made to the Salem's Riverfront Carousel, Salem, Oregon. Arrangements in the care of Smith Lund Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove, OR.

Janet Valeriani 1948-2020



Janet Valeriani of Springfield, OR formerly of Cave Junction, OR passed away January 1, 2020 at the age of 94. She was born in Revere, Massachusetts to parents Frank and Angelina (DeStasio) Belmonte. Janet married Albert P. Valeriani August 8, 1948 in Revere, MA, they celebrated 44 years until his passing in 1992. She was a housewife and stay at home mom her entire married life. Janet's family was her most important aspect of her life. She enjoyed cooking big Italian dinners for everyone. She was

known for her incredible meatballs. Janet loved her home in the country and her cat. After losing her husband, she remained in her home on 11 acres in Cave Junction, OR, enjoying many visits from family and friends. She was "Nana" to everyone. Janet was a member of the St. Patrick of the Forest Catholic Church, Cave Junction, OR. She is survived by her daughter Donna Mansfield, of Cottage Grove, OR; son Gary Valeriani of Sherwood, OR; daughter Patrice Tucker of Cottage Grove, OR; brother Frank Belmonte of Revere, MA; sister Evelyn Hearn of E. Longmeadow's, MA; 5 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Janet is preceded in death by her husband Albert "Pat" Valeriani. There will be a private celebration of life at a later date. Arrangements in the care of Smith-Lund-Mills Funeral Chapel, Cottage Grove, OR.

John Reuben Patterson 1928-2020



John Reuben Patterson, known to his friends and family as Pat, died on January 2, 2020 surrounded by his family. He was 91 years old.

Pat was born on April 20, 1928 in Glendale, California to J.W. Patterson and Peggy McCall. He was their only child. His parents divorced when he was 5-years old. Pat had two half-brothers from J.W.'s second marriage.

Pat was raised by his mother in Los Angeles where she worked in public relations for 20th Century Fox and as a freelance writer for newspapers and magazines. It was through his mother's connections at Fox Studios that Pat began to do extras work in Hollywood movies. He rarely had speaking roles and all of his work was uncredited, but he can be seen in many movies from 1935 to 1942, if you know where to look, including the Shirley Temple movie Littlest Rebel (1935), crowd scenes in Gone with the Wind (1939), several of the Our Gang comedies and as Boy's stunt double in Tarzan Finds a Son (1939). He said did not get a role in Wizard of Oz (1939) because he was too tall to be a munchkin.

He went to school at the Mar-Ken Professional School for show business children and later Hollywood High School which was also a school for children in the movie business. He attended L.A. City College on a Football Scholarship and joined the Naval Reserve with the intent of going to Navy Flight School. When flight school did not work out for him, he finished his reserve obligations fighting forest fires for the USFS. He joined the Navy in 1950, spending two years stationed in Key West, FL.

After his discharge from the Navy, he drifted north, landing in Tillamook, OR where he worked for the Oregon Department of Forestry as foreman of a clean-up crew, then found

work with the Bonneville Power Administration. This led to a job with Pacific Power and Light in 1956. He continued to work for PP&L until his retirement in 1990, living first in Portland, then Tillamook, Junction City and finally Cottage Grove. It was while living in Portland, in 1956, that Pat met and married his wife, Colleen Elizabeth Mohr.

Pat was active in his community. He was a member of the Cottage Grove Planning Commission from 1972 to 1981 and was a member of the Cottage Grove City Council from 1985 to 2008. He was instrumental in establishing the Cottage Grove Youth Peer Court and the Youth Advisory Council.

There is a Youth Advisory Council Scholarship in his name. He was also active in civic organizations including the Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Masons.

Pat will, no doubt be best remembered for his work with the Boy Scouts of America, beginning with Sea Scout and Explorer Posts in Los Angeles and Tillamook, then with the Oregon Trail Council of the Boy Scouts beginning in Junction City and Cottage Grove, then finally with the National organization.

He was Camp Director for Camp Melakwa, was a member of the National Jamboree staff for many years and a member of the Advisory Council for Order of the Arrow. He was a recipient of Vigil Honor in Order of the Arrow and received the Silver Beaver Honor for his years of dedicated service.

Pat is survived by his wife of 63 years, Colleen, son and daughter-in-law Mike and Teresa Patterson, daughters Robin and Molly Patterson, daughter-in-law Jeanie Patterson, his grandchildren and in-laws Brendan and Laura Patterson, Jeffery and Nikki Patterson, Riley Patterson and Michelle Patterson as well as great-grandchildren Chase, Anneva, Reuben, Piper, and Tirzah. Pat was preceded in death by his son P.J. Patterson.

Those who wish to honor Pat may do so by making a donation to the Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council Scholarship, Cascade Raptor Center or the Oregon Trail Boy Scout Council.

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