

CHAMBER NEWSLETTER

The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce promotes economic vitality through advocacy and collaboration with its members and the larger community.



Shauna Neigh
CEO/President

Jersey (8.9 million) is more than double the population of Oregon (4.3 million). Also New Jersey is 8,729 square miles vs. Oregon at 98,466 square miles. It seems distance is the key.

After everything that I've seen and heard while here, in my opinion, Oregon is doing what we need to do. Before my travel out east, I thought there was lack of consideration for areas that have had small or no spread of infection. In areas where there are small numbers, why not reopen quicker? But since being here I've realized, it isn't a matter of numbers, it's a matter of respecting those around you and maintaining social distancing. I know everyone is eager to get everything started and create the 'new normal'. I say, yes, let's create a reopening plan but we have to make sure we are planning the safest way possible. Stay safe Cottage Grove, be patient and stay home for now.

The **Gift Certificate Program** is a Member Benefit Highlight. As a chamber we strive to educate the community of the value of supporting our local merchants the Gift Certificate Program is one way we encourage shopping local. **Purpose:** 1. Promote shopping at CG Chamber Member businesses. 2. Support chamber members with dollars spent in Cottage Grove. This program makes gift giving easy while supporting local merchants and it promotes **"Shop Chamber Members First."** To become a participating business, contact the Chamber at 541-942-2411.

Participating businesses to date are:

- Ambrose Collectibles
- Apothecaria
- Bochetto Day Spa
- Books on Main
- Cascade Home Center
- D & D Automotive
- Dirtcheapcopies.com
- El Tapatio
- Emerald Fitness Club
- Jack Sprats, LLC
- Lavender Field Embroidery
- Pinocchio's Pizza
- Quality Inn Cottage Grove
- Sanity Chocolate
- Shoppe Free Rein
- South Lane Wheels
- Stacy's Covered Bridge
- Sweet Springs Family Farm
- Territorial Seed Company
- The Bookmine
- The Cottage Bowl
- The Espresso Bar'n
- The Flower Basket
- The UPS Store
- Wal-Mart

The **Oregon Employment Department** would like your help to provide this information to as many local and small businesses as possible, especially the self-employed, and those with independent contractors.

This morning the Employment Department sent the attached news release announcing the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) program. This is the most recent in a series of agency activities to get more unemployment benefits to the greatest number of workers affected by COVID-19 business closures.

Oregonians who are eligible for this program include individuals who do not qualify for or cannot collect benefits on a regular unemployment insurance claim. This includes Oregonians who:

- are self-employed and not subject to unemployment insurance tax;
- perform work as an independent contractor;
- perform work not subject to unemployment insurance tax, such as agricultural workers;
- did not earn enough in wages or work enough hours to qualify for regular unemployment benefits;
- exhausted regular unemployment benefits, and are not eligible for another extension.

The PUA program provides unemployment benefits to a group of workers who have never before been eligible for benefits, using processes and tax and other documentation the Employment Department has never worked with before now. The agency has recruited and trained staff to process PUA claims. Still, we know this program will be met with tremendous need. The PUA process can take as little as one week or several weeks, depending on the claim complexity.

These benefits are retroactive to the first week a worker was impacted by a qualifying COVID-19 reason, potentially from the week starting February 2, 2020 through the week ending December 26, 2020. The news release and our agency's CARES Act page (<https://govstatus.egov.com/ui-benefits/CARES>) provide detailed information for filing PUA claims.

Lane County Survey

Lane County would like to know more about our stakeholders' recovery priorities to inform recovery strategies and support. By participating in this survey you will support and encourage an inclusive recovery process, engage traditional and non-traditional community partners, and provide a strategic local approach to coordinate recovery efforts while increasing the resilience of our communities. The six recovery areas that are being covered are: Economic Recovery; Health and Social Services; Housing; Infrastructure Systems; Community Planning and Capacity Building; and Natural/Cultural Resources.

Please participate in this survey: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/257d53de8da047d28c3cec74fb4b980b>

Safely Support Campaign

The Safely Support promotion coordinated by the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Program, was to encourage community members to support the local restaurants in Cottage Grove. In this promotion, participants were asked to take photos or selfies of their carry-out meal from any of the 36 local restaurants and post it to the Chamber of Commerce's FB page. From April 10 to April 30, there were 139 participants. From those, ten winners were chosen to receive a \$25 gift certificates from one of 36 local restaurants. We are so appreciative of the ongoing support of these restaurants through these challenging and uncertain times.

Congratulations to the winners!

The winners and the businesses they won gift certificates to:
 Kelsey Burrell - BaDooBaz Espresso
 Meagan McNary - Chalerm Thai
 Erica Dunbar - Dutch Bros Coffee
 Jenn Simons - Spice of India
 Joelene Piper - Village Green
 Julleanna Sickler - Buster's Main Street Cafe
 Anna Coop - Dominos
 Tiffany Howell - Tiffaniee's
 Birdella Colburn Taddei - McDonalds
 Ginny Smythe - Toreros Mexican Restaurant



THE CHAMBER'S NUMBER ONE GOAL is to create a strong local economy. This is a difficult time for all of us. As we learn more about COVID-19, I know businesses and the individuals they employ may be overwhelmed by feelings of uncertainty and fear. But we should be confident that our community will come together and recover from this unprecedented time. The Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce is committed to support the entire business community during this time of need. We hope you consider us a resource. Once this is over, please remember the benefits of being a Chamber Member and continue to support our efforts for the years to come.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

The chamber's number one goal is to create a strong local economy. All of the programs and benefits supported by a chamber membership investment go toward achieving that goal. Membership in the chamber is also a commitment to the entire community and a pledge of support for the economic growth and vitality of the Cottage Grove area. Join us in supporting Chamber member businesses and our local economy and "Shop Chamber Members first"!

Jim Downing Realty - Valerie Nash, Broker

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 Real Estate

Nova Health

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 marketing@novahealth.com
 Health Care

2020 Chamber Board of Directors, Advisors and Staff:

Thank you for your hours upon hours of volunteer time, commitment, and service!

OFFICERS

Chair	Danny Solesbee, 5 Flying Monkeys
Vice Chair	Len Blackstone, Blackstone, Inc. - Windermere Real Estate
Secretary	Ruth Linoz, South Lane Wheels
Treasurer	Gary Manly, Cottage Grove Sentinel
Past Chair	Candace Solesbee, Shampoo Dolls Salon

DIRECTORS

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Alyssa Gomez	Sweet Springs Family Farm
Brent Hoover	The Grove Café & Lounge
James Kline	The Espresso Bar'n
Shane May	Emerald Fitness Club
Cameron Reiten	KNND
Dale Smith	Coast Fork Feed Company
Judd Van Gorder	Carousel House B&B & Catering
Tiffanie Williams	PayneWest Insurance

ADVISORS

Richard Meyers	City Manager
Candace Solebee	Cottage Grove City Council
Tim Herrmann	PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center
Dr. Yvonne Curtis	South Lane School District
Ryan Gifford	Gifford & Gifford Attorneys at Law
Molly Murai	Main Street Program

Visitor Center Volunteers:

Heidi Abbott, Sarah Heuser, Suzanne Huebner-Sannes, Tara Sue Hughart, Susan Jeppesen, Rebecca Lane, Marie Longfellow, Judd Van Gorder, Sharon Van Gorder, Penny Westling, Sherry Bricher-Wendt.

Staff:

Shauna Neight, CEO/President
 Beth Martin, Office Manager
 Mavis Bradsby, Bookkeeper

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Special Thanks
to our 2020
Enhanced Members

PLATINUM PLUS
Cottage Grove Sentinel

GOLD
Pacific Power

SILVER
Banner Bank
City of Cottage Grove
Emerald People's Utility District
Lane Community College - Cottage Grove Center
Lane Electric Cooperative
Northwest Natural
PeaceHealth Cottage Grove Community Medical Center
Walmart
Weyerhaeuser