

Cottage Grove *Est. 1889* Sentinel

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Coronavirus Coverage
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WEATHER

Partly cloudy skies with a high of 78 and a low tonight of 51.
Full forecast on A5

BETTY KAISER

Cook's Corner
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OUTDOORS

Gran Fondo returns Saturday
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Local volunteers take donations for BMD festival

By DAMIEN SHERWOOD
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Bohemia Mining Days (BMD) staff and volunteers turned out in Coiner Park last week during what would have been the festival's 61st celebration to take donations from the community.

"We're out here raising money for Bohemia Mining Days," said Cottage Grove High School student volunteer Mikayla Carr. "Because of COVID-19, we can't do it this year, so we're making money for next year."

"Because of COVID-19, we can't do it this year, so we're making money for next year."
—Cottage Grove High School student volunteer Mikayla Carr.

Carr. "Because of COVID-19, we can't do it this year, so we're making money for next year." Public health officials have prohibited large gatherings due to the spread of the novel coronavirus and financial un-

From July 16–19, festival supporters had a chance to drop by Coiner Park and donate to the cause.

Youth volunteers set up in front of a "Bohemia City" façade near along Main Street, waving signs and accepting cash donations while other volunteers elsewhere in the park sold collectible gold coins and distributed BMD keepsake

See **BMD 7A**



PHOTOS BY DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL
Coast Fork Brewing and Feed Store owners Emily Rinck (left) and Dale Smith keep business running while wearing face shields.

Local businesses work to maintain safety amid spike

By DAMIEN SHERWOOD
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As Oregon COVID-19 cases spike, local businesses have continued to adapt to a changing landscape of health mandates while trying to maintain a welcoming environment for clientele.

"Many of us don't just want to meet the requirement, but exceed the requirement," said Coast Fork Brewing and Feed Store co-owner Dale Smith.



"That is what really drives us to stay on our toes." While masks were already required in public indoor places,



starting July 15, Oregon began requiring people to wear face coverings outdoors when they cannot maintain a six-foot dis-

Covered Bridge Brewing Group co-owner David Barclay (left) and staff at the Axe and Fiddle continue serving while keeping in compliance with new state mandates.

tance from people outside their households.

Though Oregon also now has a ban on indoor social gatherings of more than 10 people, the limit on indoor gatherings does not apply to houses of worship and businesses.

The new mandates came

See **SAFETY 8A**

Drain City Council considers ordinance restricting 'adult entertainment'

By DAMIEN SHERWOOD
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A small-town controversy made movement toward its next chapter on July 13 as the Drain City Council continued work on a draft ordinance and considered business licenses in response to the opening of Top of the Bowl, a local nightclub which includes nude entertainment.

Councilor Jo Barker expressed her displeasure with the establishment, which she said "causes great concern" for vulnerable members of the community as nude entertainment would attract "unsavory elements" to the town.

Top of the Bowl, which opened last month, caused a stir in the community when locals became aware of its inclusion of nude dancers.

The business has billed itself as a bar and restaurant with "special events," which are to include sports viewing parties, poker tournaments, live music, burlesque shows and both male and female topless dancing.

At a June 8 Drain City Council meeting, a large turnout of community members denounced the business variously as sinful, corrupting of youth and likely to bring illicit activ-

ity such as drugs and sex trafficking to the community.

Protesting voices were particularly critical of the establishment's location — the second floor of a building immediately adjacent to Gateway Family Fellowship church.

"We are obviously opposed to any kind of adult or sexually-oriented business or activity going on anywhere near our

See **DRAIN 9A**

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