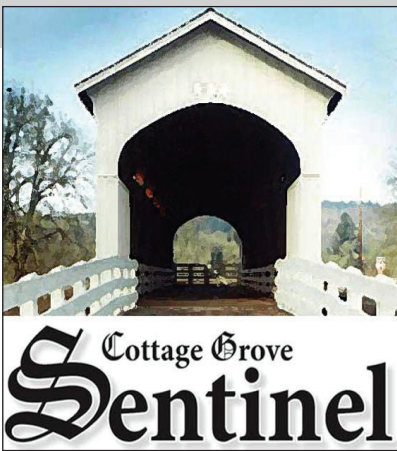




ODFW RECREATION AND FISHING REPORT

www.dfw.state.or.us/RR

BEST FISHING BETS FOR BEATING THE HEAT

The summer heat can make fishing tough in places. But if you're flexible about where you fish and what you fish for, there is still plenty of opportunity:

- Trout**
- Target lakes and reservoirs at higher elevations where the water stays cooler – think Fish Lake, Fourmile Lake, Timothy Lake, Harriet Lake, Lost Lake (Mt. Hood), Laurance Lake, Antelope Flat Reservoir, Anthony Lake and Grande Ronde Lake.
 - Oregon's hike-in lakes stay cool during the summer and can offer good fishing until the snow flies. Learn more about how to find and fish these lakes.
 - Almost all coastal rivers and streams have resident populations of cutthroat trout. Fishing will be best in the upper reaches where streamside vegetation shades both the water and the angler.
- Salmon/steelhead**
- Summer steelhead fishing is picking up on the Nestucca, Siletz and Wilson rivers. Water levels are low so use light lines and small lures, and be stealthy.
 - Anglers are catching Chinook in the Nestucca and Rogue river bays.
 - A few summer steelhead and half-pounders have arrived on the Rogue.
- Bass and warmwater**
- On north and mid-coast lakes, Anglers should turn their attention from trout to warmwater fish, where the season is in full swing.
 - Smallmouth bass fishing has been excellent on the South Umpqua and Coquille rivers.
 - Lost Creek, Lake Selmac and Lake of the Woods all have good warmwater fishing.
 - Even little Taylor Lake near The Dalles puts out some surprisingly big largemouth bass.
- 3 places to fish for trout this week:**
- Hebo Lake on Mount Hebo should still be cool enough to keep trout active, and being as it was stocked late this spring there should still be fish available. 7/22/20
 - Big Creek Reservoirs continue to produce trout in the Newport area and are great places to be outside catching some nice trout. There are also several warmwater species present in the Big Creek Reservoirs. 7/15/20
 - Cleawox Reservoir in the Florence area will offer good trout fishing into the summer months as well as several warmwater species. 7/15/20

Warmwater fisheries are in full swing with water temperatures finally coming up on the lower elevation lakes. Many north coast lakes can get weedy during the summer, but a quick internet search of "weedless bass rigs" should give you plenty of options to keep fishing.

Warmwater fisheries are in full swing on the mid-coast. Water temperatures have warmed up and fish activity is increasing. Many of the lakes in the Florence area provide great warmwater fishing opportunities.

Volunteers have local students covered

By Nick Snyder
nsnyder@cg sentinel.com

South Lane School District (SLSD) recently finalized a plan that would see students begin the 2020-21 school year with distance learning. When students can safely return to school grounds, however, they shouldn't be wanting for masks.

A group of local volunteers that have been sewing personal protective equipment for Grovers in need since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak has be-

gun an initiative to keep all SLSD member schools stocked with additional supplies of cloth masks.

Cottage Grove Oregon Mask Makers is a Facebook group spearheaded by Cottage Grove resident and retired Bethel School District teacher Lynda Hardwick. With over 180 members — and approximately 50 individual mask-sewers — the group has already made over 1,000 masks since beginning their work over three months ago.

"When we started the group, I didn't want it to be a group that sells masks," Hardwick said. "I

didn't want that to be an avenue because I didn't want competition. It was just that we need to access our frontline workers. We need to support them. We need to make them masks. That's how it all started."

Under the banner of community and civic responsibility, members got to work and delivered their first batch to Middlefield Oaks Assisted Living and Memory Care and the movement has evolved from there.

"[Community] was the impetus," Hardwick added. "We needed

to get together and get organized and it was about the first part of April that I made the private Facebook group and I'm not that active in Facebook. I have to ask my kids, 'Now, how do I do this? How do I make a Facebook group?'"

The movement has continued to grow and Hardwick now has the opportunity to continue her dedication to area students in her retirement as she and her fellow mask makers begin making custom, school-color masks for all

See MASKS 2B

Get on your bikes and ride!



PHOTOS BY NICK SNYDER AND DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Around 90 riders set out from downtown Cottage Grove last Saturday to take part in the Oregon Gran Fondo. Staggered start times were set to provide ample social distancing for participants.

By Nick Snyder
nsnyder@cg sentinel.com

Though some residents may have missed it due to ample safety measures in place, there was an honest to goodness, real life sporting event in Cottage Grove last weekend.

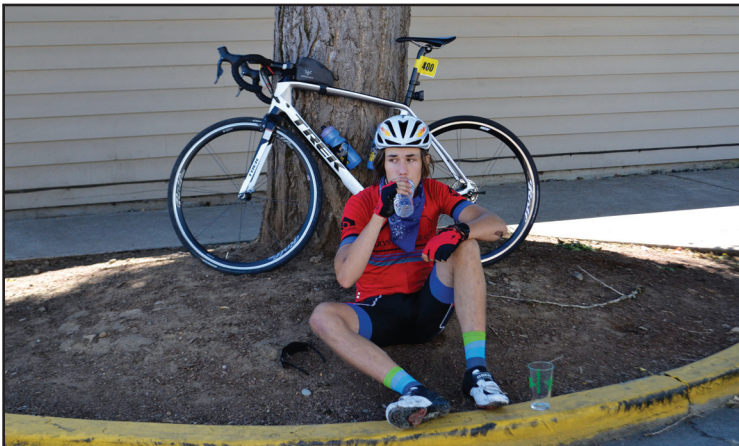
On Saturday, Jul. 25 Cottage Grove hosted the Oregon Gran Fondo, an annual summer cycling event put on by Mudslinger Events.

Participants had a choice between a 25-, 71- or 117-mile course that stretched west out of Cottage Grove before looping back to the finish line downtown. While numbers were

unsurprisingly down from previous years, around 90 total riders took part in the event and city manager Richard Meyers was effusive in his praise for Mike Ripley — race organizer and owner of Mudslinger Events — and the efforts made to make the event as safe as possible.

"The plan and safety protocols that Mudslinger put together are a model for other events," Meyers said after the race. "[Mike] went well above what needed to be done and followed all of the guidelines. The cyclists did as well."

Indeed, the event looked quite different



this year compared to previous iterations. The Gran Fondo typically sees around 300 riders sign up and, in the past, has shut down parts of Main Street in order to set up a festive finish line that includes participation from many area businesses.

This year, however, Ripley and the rest of the Mudslinger team needed to create a mitigation plan to make sure the event was conducted safely under the threat of COVID-19. With the help of the City of Cottage Grove, South Lane Fire, Cottage Grove Police, Cot-

See FONDO 2B

OSAA sketches out options, concerns for fall school sports

The Oregon School Activities Association (OSAA) Executive Board met in a closed work session July 20 and 22 to discuss the latest updates on the Coronavirus pandemic as it relates to OSAA member schools and the upcoming school year. During the two-day meeting, the board had lengthy discussions about several topics related to school reopening and school sports and activities.

"The OSAA Executive Board

remains committed to providing school sports and activities opportunities for students this Fall provided it's safe to do so and within parameters set by the Governor's Office, Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and the Oregon Department of Education (ODE)," said OSAA Executive Director Peter Weber. "The OSAA, with its more than 290 member schools is bound to work within these parameters."

Weber explained that, during the past few weeks and months, the OSAA board has received countless emails advocating for the safe return of school sports and activities.

"The OSAA Executive Board and staff share the passion and desire expressed by this communication and have been advocating with the Governor's office accordingly," Weber said. "Just as schools will not look the same in the fall of 2020, it's clear that school sports and activities will not either. It's important to remember that any participation that can be done safely is a positive step forward for the physi-

cal health and mental well-being of students and their communities."

The OSAA Executive Board will meet again the week of Aug. 3, when additional information is expected to be available regarding reopening plans by schools, along with guidance from the state pertaining to school sports and activities.

At its work sessions, the OSAA Executive Board discussed the following topics and made decisions in accordance with current guidance and directives from the Governor's office, Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and Oregon Department of Education (ODE). During Governor Brown's most recent press conference last week, she stated that additional guidance regarding face coverings, health metrics and school reopenings is coming soon. That guidance will impact ongoing OSAA decisions for school sports and activities during this evolving situation.

Fall Sports:

With the uncertainty of school reopening plans in many parts of the state and the timeframe related to those decisions, the OSAA Executive Board has decided to delay the first contest date for cross country, volleyball and soccer until Wednesday, Sept. 23. The previous date had been set for Aug. 27.

Given their full-contact status under the guidance of the Governor's office and OHA, football, cheerleading, dance/drill are all currently prohibited.

For other fall sports, the original first fall practice date of Aug. 17 remains unchanged for now. New guidance from the state requiring face coverings even when exercising indoors will require additional consideration regarding guidance for indoor activities.

"These currently proposed dates by the OSAA allow for local school control regarding fall practice schedules while enabling them to focus on their primary objective of reopening to students," said Weber. "Decisions schools are making regarding their instructional models — whether it be on-site, hybrid or distance learning — are still being discussed locally."

That being said, the dates currently in place for the start of practices and contests — and an individual school's ability to participate — could be impacted by its instructional model, along with any new health metrics set forth by the Governor's office and OHA.

"Additional guidance for fall contest protocols, including multi-team events, spectator policies and regional scheduling considerations will be forthcoming," said Weber. "The OSAA Executive Board understands that if fall end dates are not extended, then contest limitations, playoff structures and championship events will need to be altered."

No definitive date has been established by the state for a review of the prohibition of football. However, based on strategies provided by

See OSAA 2B

Yard of the Week

brought to you by:
Cottage Grove Sentinel
116 N. 6th • (541) 942-3325



Week of July 31st Winner is: 1141 North 16th
Yards will be selected each week by nominations.
To nominate a yard you can call City Hall (942-5501) or Chamber of Commerce (942-2411)