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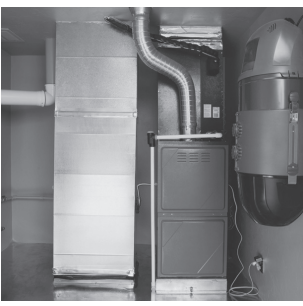
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6-day weather forecast

| | |
|--|--|
| FRIDAY 52° 45° Rain | SATURDAY 50° 41° Showers |
| SUNDAY 46° 39° Rain | MONDAY 46° 39° Rain |
| TUESDAY 46° 37° Showers | WEDNESDAY 46° 37° Showers |

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YIR from A1

Community gathers to remember local 'Rosie'

(Feb. 13)

Pews of the United Methodist Church filled Feb. 8 as the community gathered to honor and remember Opal Marie Nelson, who passed away Jan. 15.

Nelson, a decades-long resident of the area, was recognized as an energetic community organizer and one of few remaining "Rosie the Riveter" members in Cottage Grove.

"She could captivate an audience of any age with her energy and sense of humor," said Yvonne Falsold, past national president of the American Rosie the Riveter Association (ARRA).

Saturday's service, officiated by Pastor James Markus of the Trinity Lutheran Church, incorporated prayer, scriptural readings and music separately performed

by Cascade Chorus and bagpiper Steve Allely.

"Opal was a neighbor of mine as well as a friend," said Markus. "She was a blessing to me every time I saw her. She always brought me joy."

Gov. Brown: 'Stay home, save lives'

(March 26)

Gov. Kate Brown issued Executive Order 20-12 on March 23, ordering Oregonians to stay at home to the maximum extent possible and added more businesses to a growing list of establishments that must remain closed to stem the spread of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 in Oregon.

The move comes as the state's count of coronavirus cases continues to rise, totaling 209 confirmed cases as of press time, which includes five positive tests and one death in Lane County.

"This order is designed to flatten the curve over the coming weeks, preserving scarce hospital

space and equipment. It will also ensure that any place of business that remains operational does its part to enforce social distancing rules," said Brown. "It is designed to be more sustainable over time, to allow Oregonians to keep their jobs when their work does not add to the growth of COVID-19 in Oregon."

The order is effective immediately and remains in effect until ended by the governor.

BMD canceled due to financial, public health uncertainty

(April 23)

Summer in Cottage Grove this year will proceed without its biggest and longest-running attraction.

On April 15, the Bohemia Mining Days (BMD) board of directors voted to cancel the 61st annual BMD festival scheduled for July 16-18 due to concerns related to COVID-19.

In the same meeting, the board accepted the resignation of board president Cathy Simmons and voted in Don Williams as the board's new president.

"I'm honored to step back into the presidency of this community organization that brings so much pleasure to thousands of people each summer," said Williams, who had previously served as BMD President from 1979-1984. "Our decision to cancel BMD 2020 came after much soul searching and examining the facts with a cloudy crystal ball."

Due to uncertainty surrounding the length of the state's social distancing orders issued by Gov. Kate Brown on March 24 and the financial impact of the public health crisis on local businesses who would normally support the festival, the board stated that holding the event this year would be "financially impossible."

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The Grove loses iconic councilor, community member

(May 14)

Cottage Grove lost a city councilor and committed community member with the passing of Bob Ehler on May 10 at age 67 due to complications related to cancer.

"My brother Bob was the kind of person who was so much involved in helping others that he didn't have time to take care of himself," said Ehler's sister Shelly Duncan. "He will be missed by all who came into contact with him."

Brothers fondly remembered motorcycle trips with Ehler while other family members recalled his love for the outdoors.

"Our dad was an 'enjoy the open road' type of guy," said daughters Adriana Morgan and Sabrina Ehler. "He loved it when we would call him and tell him we were picking him up to go on a drive. We never knew where we'd end up next, just that we needed a coffee, some old country music and the open road — even if he'd fall asleep every time. If we weren't going to the coast, driving through Wildlife Safari, or taking a random back road, then we would be at his favorite fishing spot or watching a movie together. We were lucky enough get to spend our time with him outdoors where he loved it the most."

SLCFR fire chief reinstated, board VP resigns

(June 25)

A majority of South Lane County Fire and Rescue board members voted to return Fire Chief John Wooten to full duty without disciplinary action last

See **SLCFR 6A**

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South Lane Mental Health

"Alas"

South Lane Mental Health, located in Cottage Grove, Oregon, is now providing mental health services for Spanish speaking individuals. Our program, Alas, serves children and adults, individuals, couples, and families. Our services include case management, group therapy, individual therapy and peer support services. We offer in-person services or remote services via telehealth. We can assist with your computer needs if you prefer Telehealth services. For more information and/or to make an appointment, please call 541-942-3939

South Lane Mental Health, ubicado en Cottage Grove, Oregon, ahora ofrece servicios para gente hispanohablante. Nuestro programa, Alas, apoya a jóvenes, individuos, parejas y familias. Nuestros servicios incluyen el manejo de casos (navegación de recursos y educación comunitaria), terapia de grupo y terapia para individuos. Ofrecemos servicios en persona, por teléfono y por video. Nosotros podemos ayudar con sus necesidades de tecnología si prefiere recibir servicios por teléfono o video. Para más información o para hacer cita, por favor llame a 541-942-3939.

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