

Creswell Chamber of Commerce offers update, seeks more volunteers

The Creswell Chamber of Commerce offered an update on its status this week, which recently included the possibility of a partial or complete temporary closure due to a lack of Chamber Board volunteers.

In a statement earlier this week, the Chamber announced it had received volunteers interested in serving on the board.

In accordance with its bylaws (Article II section 1), the Board of Direc-

tors must consist of not less than seven — and no more than 11 — directors, with four officers.

The community is reminded that there are still openings on the board available.

On April 1, the latest volunteer board members will be appointed and, on April 8, it will vote in the officers.

For anyone interested in serve the Creswell business community, this is your opportunity.

The purpose of the

chamber is to promote the advancement of the economic, industrial, professional, cultural and civic welfare of the Creswell area.

It is also established to encourage the growth of existing industries and business while giving assistance to any new firms or individuals seeking to locate in the Creswell area.

The Creswell Chamber supports all activities believed to be beneficial to the community and in

general to promote the welfare of all area citizens.

A solid board of directors is made up from all aspects of the community with various talents and abilities.

The board meets once a month. At those meetings, the board discusses the current needs of area businesses and sets action plans.

The chamber also requires a solid set of volunteers that man the various committees to put

those action plans into place.

The chamber is still currently lacking board members and volunteers.

The Creswell Chamber of Commerce board has been in contact with the Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce, which would like to help the Creswell Chamber through its transition.

Interested board members and volunteers are encouraged to look at the CG Chamber website (www.cgchamber.com)

and contact them to be added to their email list.

Anyone interesetd in becoming a board member, volunteering or wanting more infirmation can contact the Creswell Chamber via email at CreswellChamber@gmail.com

The Creswell Chamber will be meeting via zoom on both April 1, and April 8. The public is invited to attend.

Wheels from A1

dispatcher. The dispatcher will determine if there will be capacity on the bus for each leg of the requested trip.

To avoid rider insecurity, the advanced scheduling options was added.

“We wanted people who are more vulnerable in their need to get a round trip, especially to a doctor’s appointment, to feel secure that they’re going to get a ride home once they’ve gotten on board,” said Linoz. “So the days of the service that we’re operating, there can be a mix of walk-on riders

and scheduled riders and we hope that through the dispatching process we can serve both worlds.”

For advanced ride scheduling, passengers can call UPTD at 888-232-8121.

Riders are advised to be at the scheduled bus stops earlier than the stated departure time.

In a meantime, a volunteer-based transportation service run by the veteran services organization North Douglas Betterment has also been serving the rural Douglas County area in places such as Drain and Yoncalla, providing a free door-to-door service for

veterans who need access to the Roseburg VA clinic.

As the LDC and North Douglas Betterment service operate somewhat under the same banner, they complement each other as partners in the program, thus expanding rural options.

In keeping with health regulations, LDC drivers wear a mask, perform regular bus wipe-downs of interior contact surfaces and passengers are required to bring a mask to wear while onboard.

Current COVID-19 restrictions allow for only five passengers at a time, though Linoz said the pilot program is in no dan-

ger of exceeding capacity.

Despite the program starting Jan. 5 this year, it has only been used three times.

“So we know people either haven’t heard about it, or they’ve heard about it and it’s not meeting their needs right now,” said Linoz.

When in the pilot phase ends in June, Linoz nevertheless intends on keeping the service running.

The City of Cottage Grove has put in an application for Statewide Transportation Improvement Fund, which could fund the operation at five days a week with one bus.

While the current pi-

lot program is owned by UPTD, grant funding through the City of Cottage Grove could turn it into a more locally-based service, with South Lane Wheels acting as contractor.

“And if that gets approved, this could really be a very dynamic service,” said Linoz. “And it has the potential to serve different rural communities as it’s traveling north and south.”

Long-term plans for the service are also keeping in mind the potential for it to serve an upcoming community health center which is scheduled to be built at the Cottage Grove

branch of Lane Community College.

With between \$300,000 and \$400,000 potentially received through the grant, the connector could keep running for the next two years — and hopefully pick up some steam, a point which was made in the grant application.

“We understood that things got started late and it’s a very specialized service that was going to take time for it to get traction to really become a viable part of the network,” said Linoz. “And I hope they agree.”

NOMINATE NOW!

IT'S TIME TO NOMINATE YOUR FAVORITE COTTAGE GROVE AREA BUSINESSES

Go online today cottagegrovesentinel.secondstreetapp.com/Best-Of-South-Lane-County-2020/ to nominate!



TODAY THROUGH MARCH 31ST

Only the TOP FIVE in each category will move on to the voting phase

APRIL 1ST - APRIL 15th

This year we have a two-part process to determine your choices for Best of South Lane County 2020!

NOMINATION PHASE

MARCH 4 - MARCH 31, 2021

Nominate your top choices in dozens of categories. We'll tally the five with the most votes in each category.

VOTING PHASE

APRIL 1 TO APRIL 15, 2021

Readers vote for the top three from the five that received the most nominations in each category.

<p>FOOD & DINING</p> <p>Appetizer/Small Plate _____</p> <p>Asian Cuisine _____</p> <p>BBQ _____</p> <p>Best Restaurant _____</p> <p>Breakfast _____</p> <p>Burger _____</p> <p>Burrito _____</p> <p>Dessert _____</p> <p>Family Restaurant _____</p> <p>Fast Food _____</p> <p>Mexican _____</p> <p>Pizza _____</p> <p>Restaurant Atmosphere _____</p> <p>Restaurant Service _____</p> <p>Salsa _____</p> <p>Sandwiches _____</p> <p>Seafood _____</p> <p>Steak _____</p> <p>Taco _____</p> <p>Vegetarian/Vegan _____</p> <p>DRINKS</p> <p>Bar _____</p> <p>Cocktail _____</p> <p>Coffee _____</p> <p>Craft Brew _____</p> <p>Happy Hour _____</p> <p>Margarita _____</p> <p>Wine Selection _____</p> <p>HOME SERVICES</p> <p>Carpet Cleaner _____</p> <p>Contractor _____</p> <p>Electrician _____</p> <p>Handyman _____</p> <p>Landscape Service _____</p> <p>Pest Control _____</p> <p>Plumber _____</p> <p>Self Storage _____</p>	<p>PROFESSIONAL SERVICES</p> <p>Accountant/Bookkeeper _____</p> <p>Attorney _____</p> <p>Bank/Credit Union _____</p> <p>Bank Teller _____</p> <p>Computer Help/Repair _____</p> <p>Financial Planner _____</p> <p>Insurance _____</p> <p>Mortgage Lending _____</p> <p>Photography _____</p> <p>Publisher/Publishing Company _____</p> <p>Real Estate Office _____</p> <p>Real Estate Agent _____</p> <p>Tailoring/Alterations _____</p> <p>WELLNESS & BEAUTY</p> <p>Acupuncturist _____</p> <p>Barber Shop _____</p> <p>Day Spa _____</p> <p>Dental Office _____</p> <p>Dentist _____</p> <p>Hair Salon _____</p> <p>Health Club _____</p> <p>Hearing Aide Provider _____</p> <p>Manicure/Pedicure _____</p> <p>Massage Therapist _____</p> <p>Medical Facility _____</p> <p>Medical Professional _____</p> <p>Optometrist _____</p> <p>Pharmacy _____</p> <p>Stylist _____</p> <p>SHOP LOCAL</p> <p>Art Supply Store _____</p> <p>Antiques _____</p> <p>Appliances _____</p> <p>Books _____</p> <p>Clothes _____</p> <p>Convenience Store _____</p> <p>Gift Store _____</p> <p>Grocery Store _____</p> <p>Furniture _____</p> <p>Home Improvement Store _____</p>	<p>Garden Nursery _____</p> <p>Farmers Market _____</p> <p>Florist _____</p> <p>Jewelry _____</p> <p>Pet Supplies _____</p> <p>Thrift Store _____</p> <p>AUTOMOTIVE</p> <p>Auto Body & Paint _____</p> <p>Auto Mechanic _____</p> <p>Auto Parts Store _____</p> <p>Auto Repair _____</p> <p>Car Dealership _____</p> <p>Car Detailer/Wash _____</p> <p>Oil Change _____</p> <p>Tires _____</p> <p>Used Car Dealership _____</p> <p>ENTERTAINMENT</p> <p>Golf Course _____</p> <p>Museum _____</p> <p>Musician _____</p> <p>Public Art Display _____</p> <p>Live Music Venue _____</p> <p>Performing Arts Group _____</p> <p>Performance Venue _____</p> <p>Theatre _____</p> <p>COMMUNITY</p> <p>Early Child Learning _____</p> <p>Bed & Breakfast _____</p> <p>Hotel/Hostel _____</p> <p>Non-Profit _____</p> <p>Place to Volunteer _____</p> <p>Public Space _____</p> <p>Senior Living Community _____</p> <p>Service Club _____</p> <p>Support Group _____</p> <p>What business did you miss most, because of COVID, in 2020 _____</p> <p>What event did you miss most, because of COVID, in 2020 _____</p>
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GO ONLINE AND VOTE TODAY OR YOU CAN FILL THIS FORM OUT WITH YOUR PICKS AND SUBMIT IN PERSON TO 116 N. 6TH STREET, OR MAIL PO BOX 35, COTTAGE GROVE, OR 97424 ONLY ONE BALLOT PER PERSON WILL BE COUNTED.

BALLOT SUBMITTED BY: _____ **PHONE:** _____

WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN A SPECIAL BEST OF SOUTH LANE COUNTY 2020 SECTION OF THE COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL THAT WILL PUBLISH ON APRIL 22, 2021.