

Carousel *from A1*

move is to take the inspector’s certification to an insurance company and get a quote on what it will cost to insure the contraption for ridership.

Incremental moves have been the theme throughout the carousel’s development, but COVID-19 restrictions severely hampered progress over the past year.

“It was challenging for us,” Nowicki recalled.

Because of social distancing requirements, many of the volunteers had to take their work – like painting horses – home with them.

Furthermore, funding resources have been tight.

“We’ve had no fundraising opportunities,” Nowicki explained. “And, of course, nobody coming in.”

Even so, almost all of the ride’s animals have been restored and currently only four are unfinished.

More scenic panels have also been applied to the rotating center’s bottom half and the chariot seats have been padded for a more comfortable ride.

As Lane County’s risk level began to drop this spring, volunteers started showing up again to work.

Even though the core



COURTESY PHOTO

ILC Consultant/Technician Darren Simms from International Leisure Consulting inspects the Cottage Grove Carousel on April 16. Simms’ stamp of approval verified the carousel’s safety and brings it one step closer to opening. [Photo by Ken Schwieger]

members have now been fully vaccinated, Nowicki and Project Engineer Russ McGuire said they have tried to keep their distance to six feet and work within the King Estate guidelines.

However, with the announcement that Lane County will return to a “high” risk this Friday (April 23), the volunteers will likely once again be very limited in what can be done in the workshop.

“So we lose a whole

lot of momentum there,” said McGuire.

The changing of risk levels also means that the nonprofit has a harder time than ever in answering perhaps their most frequently asked question: “When will the carousel be ready?”

As in even pre-COVID times, the question is hard to answer.

“Until the level settles to one spot, we can’t really plan a whole lot,” said Nowicki.

Still, the carousel itself

looks deceptively ready for launch and, despite its certification, much more behind-the-scenes work is left to be done.

During such times, though, volunteers aren’t as available as they used to be.

“One of our goals is to get in new members so we can train them for some of the more technical knowledge that they need to know,” said Nowicki. “Because we hate to say this, but we are getting old and we

need replacements.”

McGuire listed off a number of talents they hope to bring on board.

“We need some financial people, we need grant writing people, we’re looking for feasibility studies,” he said. “Our next phases of the project are beyond the reconstruction of a rig or reconditioning of the machine. They go more into how we acquire the land, how we acquire the building, the grants, financial stuff. So people

who deal with that kind of thing,” he said.

In the meantime, the project is surviving off of grants, sponsorship payments and pure generosity from the community.

From June 11 – 13, the group will have its annual rummage sale at the Western Oregon Exposition by the Speedway.

Nowicki said this event was a near certainty because the venue is big and open enough.

“There’s enough space and we can regulate people coming in and out,” she said.

No other fundraisers are planned, however, due to health restrictions.

“We can’t have dinners right now. We can’t get together,” opined Nowicki. “So we’re trying to be creative.”

Merchandise is being sold at The Bookmine, at the carousel workshop itself and, the board members hope, at pop-up tents should any public events present the opportunity.

For now, the group is eyeing land across from Walmart next to Arby’s and is in the process of completing a feasibility study.

How long it will take to complete these final steps is anyone’s guess.

“We want it to be done now, but it’s a slow process to go through all the hoops that are required,” Nowicki explained.



COTTAGE GROVE:

6th & Gibbs Church of Christ
195 N. 6th St. • 541-942-3822
10:00am
Christian Education: Pre-K through 5th
Tim Baker, Senior Minister
www.6thandgibbs.com

Calvary Baptist Church
77873 S 6th St • 541-942-4290
Pastor: Riley Hendricks
Sunday School: 9:45am
Worship: 11:00am
The Journey: Sunday 5:00pm
Praying Thru Life: Wednesday 6:00pm

Church of Christ
420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565
Sunday Service: 10:30am

Cottage Grove Bible Church
1200 East Quincy Avenue
541-942-4771
Pastor: Bob Singer
Worship 11am
Sunday School: 9:45am
AWANA age 3-8th Grade,
Wednesdays Sept-May, 6:30pm
www.cgbible.org

Cottage Grove Faith Center
33761 Row River Rd.
541-942-4851
Lead Pastor: Kevin Pruett
www.cg4.tv
Full Children’s Ministry available
Services: 9:00am & 10:45am

Delight Valley
Church of Christ
33087 Saginaw Rd. East
541-942-7711 • Pastor: Bob Friend
Two Services:
9am - Classic in the Chapel
10:30am - Contemporary in the Auditorium

First Baptist Church
301 S. 6th st • 541-942-8242
Pastor: David Chhantle
Sunday School 9:30am
Worship Service 10:30am
Youth Wednesday 6:30pm
cgfirstbaptist.com

First Presbyterian Church

3rd and Adams St
541-942-4479
Rev.: Karen Hill
Worship: 10:00am
Sunday School: 10:00am
fpcgrove.com

Hope Fellowship

United Pentecostal Church
100 S. Gateway Blvd.
541-942-2061
Pastor: Dave Bragg
Worship: 11:00am Sunday
Bible Study: 7:00pm Wednesday
www.hopefellowshipupc.com
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Living Faith Assembly

467 S. 10th St. • 541-942-2612
Worship Services Sundays: 9a & 11a
Youth Worship Sundays: 11a (all ages welcome)
Mondays: 5:30p (6th-12th grades)

Non-Denominational

Church of Christ

1041 Pennoyer Ave
541-942-8928
Preacher: Tony Martin
Sunday Bible Study: 10:00am
Sunday Worship: 10:50am & 5:30pm
www.pennoyeravecoc.com

Our Lady of Perpetual Help and St. Philip Benizi

Catholic Churches

1025. N. 19th St.
541-942-3420
Father John J. Boyle
Holy Mass:
Saturday Vigil – 5:30 pm
Sunday – 10:30 am
For weekday and Holy Day of Obligation schedule see website OLPHCG.net
Confession: 4 PM to 5 PM
Saturdays or by appointment
St. Philip Benizi, Creswell
552 Holbrook Lane
Sunday 8 am

St. Andrews Episcopal Church

1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050
Rev. Lawrence Crumb
“Scripture, Tradition, Reason”
Worship: Sunday 10:30am
All Welcome

Seventh-day Adventist Church

820 South 10th Street
541-942-5213
Pastor: James D. Boram
Bible Study: Saturday, 9:15 am
Worship Service: Saturday, 10:40
Mid-week Service: Wednesday, 1:00

Trinity Lutheran Church

6th & Quincy • 541-942-2373
Pastor: James L. Markus
Sunday School & Adult Education 9:15am
Sunday Worship 10:30 am
Comm. Kitchen Free Meal Tue & Thur 5:00pm TLC Groups
tlccg.com

United Methodist Church

334 Washington 541-942-3033
Worship 10am
umcgrove.org

“VICTORY” Country Church

913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913
Pastor: Barbara Dockery
Worship Service: 10:00am
Message: “WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES”

CRESWELL:

Creswell Presbyterian Church

75 S 4th S • 541-895-3419
Rev. Seth Wheeler
Adult Sunday School 9:15am
Sunday Worship Service 10:30 am
website www.creswellpres.org



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