

# Cottage Grove Est. 1889 Sentinel



"Garden of People" on display downtown (A6)

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**WEATHER**

Partly sunny with a high of 82 and a low tonight of 52.  
Full forecast on A5

**COLUMNIST**

Betty Kaiser  
Cook's Corner  
A3

**SPORTS & REC**

New trail coming to Coast Fork  
B1

- **RECORDS**  
Obituaries  
Official releases  
A2
- **LORANE NEWS**  
A5
- **CLASSIFIEDS**  
Listings and public notices  
B5-B6

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## CG receives American Legion leadership visit

**CONTRIBUTED BY ERIC HAAN**

On Friday, July 2, a delegation of National, Department of Oregon, and local district level American Legion leadership personnel visited Cottage Grove American Legion Post #32 during a six-day tour through Oregon.

Their itinerary included visits to American Legion posts in 10 Oregon cities, the Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers in Roseburg and Vancouver, the

Willamette National Cemetery in Portland, and a visit with the Director of the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs.

Due to the Cottage Grove post's expanding community involvement, growing membership, and innovative homeless veterans housing project under the five-year tenure of Post Commander Steven Wesolowski, Department of Oregon leadership requested a post visit as their dele-

see **VISIT** on A10



**From left to right: American Legion National Commander Bill Oxford; Cottage Grove Mayor and former Cottage Grove American Legion Post Commander Jeff Gowing; and current Cottage Grove American Legion Post Commander Steven Wesolowski.**



PHOTOS BY DAMIEN SHERWOOD AND SOPHIA EDELBLUTE  
CG SENTINEL

The public turned out for fireworks shows in Yoncalla, Creswell and at the Cottage Grove Speedway on Independence Day.

## Flames and fireworks light up the Fourth

**BY DAMIEN SHERWOOD AND SOPHIA EDELBLUTE**

Independence Day of 2021 saw an enthusiastic public turnout as parking lots sparked with impromptu firework displays and more official shows lit up the sky above the Cottage Grove Speedway, Creswell and Yoncalla.

In Yoncalla, July 4 was bookended with its tradition morning parade and evening firework show. The firework display, managed as usual by North Douglas Betterment, attracted a slew of eager onlookers to the high school hill and field to settle into their camping chairs and blankets on the warm summer night and take in the evening's explosion of color.

Northward, the city of Creswell, too, looked to the sky. The city's fireworks show hosted at the Old Knob Mill

see **SHOW** on A11



## City, Community Sharing debut mobile shower facility

**BY DAMIEN SHERWOOD**  
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The city's new mobile shower unit made its debut in Cottage Grove last week, offering a fresh option for those without access to a

way to wash up.

Getting the shower unit to town was a months-long process as a partnership between the City of Cottage Grove and the nonprofit Community Sharing.

While the city accessed about \$60,000 of CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act grant funds to purchase the trailer, Community Sharing Executive Director Mike Fleck said his nonprofit is anticipating an initial investment of around \$25,000 of its own funds toward the facility and preparing the site.

On July 2, there was a soft opening of the mobile shower with a sparse turnout. Though just one guest used the facility, the soft opening also provided an opportunity for volunteers to familiarize themselves with the operation and equipment.

The mobile showers will be available every week on Wednesdays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Community

see **SHOWER** on A9

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