

Climate discussion and rally planned

The community is invited to attend an online discussion about climate change on Tuesday, Sept. 21, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Lane County Climate Strategist Mark Nystrom and Grassroots Organizer with Beyond Toxics and NAACP Eugene-Springfield member Haley Case-Scott will be present for the discussion.

A brief presentation about Lane County's approach to the climate crisis as it pertains to rural Oregon will be followed by an opportunity for questions, feedback, and discussion.

Registration for the event can be found at www.eventbrite.com/e/

cottage-grove-community-climate-discussion-tickets-167520254591.

The event is sponsored by the Cottage Grove First Presbyterian Church Earth and Social Justice Committee, the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council and Be Your Best Cottage Grove.

Contact Mark Nystrom at mark.nystrom@lane-countyor.gov for more information.

Later in the week, on Friday, Sept. 24, a "Climate Strike and Rally for the Future" event will be held in downtown Cottage Grove from 5 to 6 p.m.

Climate Action Cot-

tage Grove and Forest Web are inviting the community for a downtown demonstration to show solidarity with the Global Climate Strike scheduled for the same day. Participants will gather point at Opal Whiteley Park in All-America Square.

"We will peacefully stand [and] socially distance with signs along Main Street in Cottage Grove," stated a press release. "Our goal is to cover both sides of the street from Highway 99 to City Hall."

Participants are invited to bring climate-related signs and encouraged to wear masks when not socially distanced.

FCC offers broadband discount program

The Federal Communications Commission has launched a temporary program to help families and households struggling to afford internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Emergency Broadband Benefit provides a discount of up to \$50 per month toward broadband service for eligible households and up to \$75 per month for households on qualifying tribal lands.

Eligible households can also receive a one-time discount of up to \$100 to purchase a laptop, desktop computer, or tablet from participating providers.

A household is eligible if a member of the household meets one of the cri-

teria below:

- Has an income that is at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or participates in certain assistance programs, such as SNAP, Medicaid, or Lifeline;
- Approved to receive benefits under the free and reduced-price school lunch program or the school breakfast program, including through the USDA Community Eligibility Provision, in the 2019-2020, 2020-2021, or 2021-2022 school year;
- Received a Federal Pell Grant during the current award year;
- Experienced a substantial loss of income due to job loss or furlough since February 29, 2020 and the

household had a total income in 2020 at or below \$99,000 for single filers and \$198,000 for joint filers; or

• Meets the eligibility criteria for a participating provider's existing low-income or COVID-19 program.

Eligible households can enroll through a participating broadband provider, or directly with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC), using an online or mail in application.

You can learn more about the benefit, including eligibility and enrollment information, by visiting www.fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit, or by calling 833-511-0311.

DOWNTOWN from A1

These districts have been in operation for some time, but the organizational structure changed about a year ago.

Two groups, the Main

WEDNESDAY



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Street Cottage Grove program and the Economic and Business Improvement District (EBID), merged under the same roof to form Downtown Cottage Grove. The merger was largely a practical decision as there were several overlaps in goals, project work and even membership between the two entities.

Main Street Cottage Grove, a program which receives support from the city, has been doing work in line with the goals Main Street America, a national program which aims to revitalize downtowns and commercial districts through economic development.

The local program gives primary focus to Cottage Grove's Historical District and has been behind projects such as the hanging of high school graduation banners, downtown holiday events and Art Walk.

EBID, as the name suggests, focuses on both economic and business improvement projects, though beyond a purely downtown focus.

The nonprofit mainly gains revenue for its projects through a fee system akin to a tax district (the EID and BID), drawing from property and business owners within its jurisdiction.

It has been a partner in

improvement projects such as the archway welcoming people to downtown, the All-America City Square, Opal Whiteley and Buster Keaton murals and Bohemia Park's amphitheater saddle span.

The organization generates the rest of its finances from fundraising events, donations and grants.

Under the proposed extension, the EID would continue to operate as a two-tier district.

Tier 1 property owners would pay 5 cents per square foot a year with a maximum of \$500 and a minimum of \$100. Tier 2 property owners would pay 2 cents per square foot a year with a maximum of \$300 and minimum of \$100.

The BID is proposed to increased its flat rate to

\$100 per business per year. The current rate is \$50.

Tier 1 comprises mainly of the Historic Downtown district, extending north and south by a few additional blocks and across the Coast Fork of the Willamette River to I Street. Tier 2 extends beyond downtown southward down Highway 99 and east down Main Street to Gateway Boulevard.

The group's board was scheduled to meet this week to decide whether to expand Tier 2 to include more commercial properties.

The Cottage Grove City Council originally created the two districts in 2001 for a three-year period. Since 2003, the districts have been extended three times. In 2016, the districts were extended for a five-year

term and will expire on Dec. 14, 2021.

Following Monday night's vote, the process now requires the setting of public hearings and notifications sent to all property owners and business owners in the districts to give them an opportunity to remonstrate.

The first public hearing will consider the extension districts' authorization by five years and the second public hearing, after the required notification and remonstration window, will consider the assessment amount for the two districts.

The first public hearing and vote on the ordinance are scheduled to take place at the Oct. 25 city council meeting. The second public hearing and vote are scheduled for Dec. 13.



<p>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</p>	<p>First Presbyterian Church 3rd and Adams St 541-942-4479 Rev.: Karen Hill Worship: 10:00am Sunday School: 10:00am fpcgrove.com</p>	<p>St. Andrews Episcopal Church 1301 W. Main • 541-767-9050 Rev. Lawrence Crumb "Scripture, Tradition, Reason" Worship: Sunday 10:30am All Welcome</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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.hopefellowshippupc.com "FINDING HOPE IN YOUR LIFE"</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>Church of Christ 420 Monroe St • 541-942-8565 Sunday Service: 10:30am</p>	<p>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)</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>United Methodist Church 334 Washington 541-942-3033 Worship 10am umcgrove.org</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>"VICTORY" Country Church 913 S. 6th Street • 541-942-5913 Pastor: Barbara Dockery Worship Service: 10:00am Message: "WE BELIEVE IN MIRACLES"</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>First Baptist Church 301 S. 6th St • 541-942-8242 Pastor: David Chhangte Sunday School 9:30am Worship Service 10:30am Youth Wednesday 6:30pm cgfirstbaptist.com</p>	<p>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</p>



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