

News in the Grove is a community-driven digital newspaper made by Forest Grove people, for Forest Grove people. [Join us today.](#)

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# News in the Grove Weekly Newsletter | May 16, 2025

Pacific University graduation is Saturday, elections are coming, police seek help finding Forest Grove woman and so much more



**Chas Hundley**  
16 May 2025 — 8 min read

# News *in the* Grove

*April 18, Volume 1, issue #15.*

*Today, we have 226 free email newsletter subscribers and 41 paid email subscribers.*

**Good evening, Forest Grove!** This is our fifteenth email newsletter. That's right, I am back from vacation and ready to rock 'n roll.

This is a long newsletter. Your email provider may clip the ending, so make sure to check for something like the message below at the end of this email *because it may not, in fact, be the end.*

...

[Message clipped] [View entire message](#)

## What's in this newsletter?

Inside this newsletter:

❖❖ [Pacific University is graduating more than 700 students](#) on Saturday and [we published each and every one of their names](#)

❖❖ A communication snafu at the Oregon Department of Forestry [has resulted in the resignation of a Forest Grove resident](#) who was on the Board of Forestry

❖❖ [Here's who's running for fire and school boards](#), and how and where to vote in advance of the May 20 election

❖❖ [Police need help locating a Forest Grove woman](#) last seen by family two months ago

...And so many more stories, events, and bits and bobs. **All Forest Grove, all the time.**

Let's dive in.

Did someone forward you this email? [Subscribe here to get the Forest Grove news every week!](#)

**Don't have a [paid subscription yet](#)? Reply to this email and I'll send you a coupon for half-off! Every subscriber gets us closer to our goal: Hiring a full-time journalist.**

**Some internal news:**

We've added [archives](#) of the weekly newsletter and a [contact page](#) to the homepage. And we're launching our [campaign to start a full-blown community calendar that has, well, everything](#).

*This week's email newsletter is sponsored by me! Because I have something important to say to my fellow Forest Grove business owners:*

[HELP ME LAUNCH A UNIVERSAL COMMUNITY CALENDAR](#)

Forest Grove businesses: Help us launch a universal community calendar in Forest Grove

It's time to launch the community calendar. Here's how you can help us help you.



News in the Grove

• Chas Hundley

**As a reminder, News in the Grove is in prelaunch.** We don't have staff or stable funding yet, which means our publishing schedule is irregular and limited, but will grow as our capacity builds.

***On to the Forest Grove news.***

**[More than 700 Pacific University students to be honored at graduation ceremonies Saturday](#)**

Commencement ceremonies for more than 700 Pacific University students ([we named them all here](#)) will be held Saturday, May 17, and Forest Grove is expected to be a busy place as friends and families visit the university to celebrate their graduates.

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## **[Fire, school board, and a police building bond: Elections are May 20](#)**

Here's who's running for fire and school boards, and how and where to vote.

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Here's who's running for fire and school boards, and how and where to vote.



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- Chas Hundley

## **[Forest Grove Police seek public help in locating Forest Grove woman](#)**

The Forest Grove Police Department is seeking information to help find a woman last seen by her family more than two months ago.

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## **[State forestry officials face backlash over Astoria timber sales, board member resigns in wake](#)**

A vague letter about a timber sale near Astoria started a year-long series of communication breakdowns that resulted in blowups at board of forestry meetings, an \$8,000 mediator's bill and one board member—a Forest Grove resident and former Pacific University professor—quitting.

State forestry officials face backlash over Astoria timber sales, board member resigns in wake

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- Alex Baumhardt

## **[Verboort's Visitation Catholic School hosts 25th annual dinner](#)**

Verboort's Visitation Catholic School was the site of a Hollywood-style gala on Saturday evening as community leaders and school supporters gathered to raise funds for tuition assistance and new STEM curriculum.

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**Art studio Outback Downunder opens in Forest Grove**

Outback Downunder, Forest Grove's newest art studio, featuring artists Jeffrey Hall and Shari Erickson, is open.

Art studio Outback Downunder opens in Forest Grove

Outback Downunder, Forest Grove’s newest art studio, featuring artists Jeffrey Hall and Shari Erickson, will hold its grand opening from 4 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday during the Forest Grove Festival of the Arts.

⌄  
News in the Grove  
• Chas Hundley

**This week's history column**

1925 in Forest Grove: A new Forest Grove poet delights Forest Grove society, farmers learn the benefits of septic tanks in Verboort.

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⌄  
News in the Grove  
• Chas Hundley

‘Fire season is here,’ Gov. Kotek declares May Wildfire Awareness Month, state prepares  
The 2025 fire season is projected to be more intense than the 2024 season fire leaders said, but emergency response agencies have begun preparing early.

⌄  
News in the Grove  
• Alex Baumhardt

City phone system goes down  
The city of Forest Grove’s phone system is down across every department, but 911 and non-emergency dispatch are unaffected.

⌄  
News in the Grove  
• Chas Hundley

City phone outage stretches into second day  
The city of Forest Grove’s phone woes continued Tuesday, but things were looking better than on Monday.

⌄  
News in the Grove  
• Chas Hundley

The Forest Grove Farmers Market is back Wednesday

On Wednesday, Main Street will close to vehicle traffic between Pacific Avenue and 21st Avenue. Stalls and booths will go up, and the first Forest Grove Farmers Market of the season will begin.



News in the Grove

- Chas Hundley

University of Portland strips Robert Pamplin Jr.'s name from its business school

The move comes after labor officials found Pamplin, who owned the Forest Grove News-Times until last June, violated federal pension laws in his management of retirees' money.



News in the Grove

- Nigel Jaquiss

## Forest Grove events

What's going on this week?

?? = Free show or live music

Looking for Pacific University sports events? [Visit the Boxers calendar here.](#)

### Saturday | May 17, 2025

- [Pacific University Commencement](#) - Hanson Stadium @ Pacific University
- [St. Anthony Rummage Sale](#) - St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
- ?? [The Whags](#) - (live music) - Waltz Brewing
- [FGHS Viking Theatre Presents: Luna | A Play for All Ages](#)
- ?? [Jump at the Sun](#) (live music) - Garage door @ McMenamins Grand Lodge
- Tejano Night, 8 p.m. - Bullets, Burgers and Brews
- ?? [Old Train Station Museum open 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.](#) - Friends of Historic Forest

### Sunday | May 18, 2025

- [St. Anthony Rummage Sale](#) - St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church
- ?? [Zesti Trike Fest](#) (free; registration required) - Zesti Food Carts
- [Junior Line Dance Lesson](#) - Bullets, Burgers, and Brews
- [Give & Go 2025](#) - Pacific University
- [100% Free Community Yard Sale](#) - Washburne University Center @ Pacific University
- [FGHS Viking Theatre Presents: Luna | A Play for All Ages](#) - FGHS Auditorium

### Monday | May 19, 2025

- [Giggles! Wiggles! Stories!](#) - Forest Grove City Library
- [Magnet Monday](#) - Dauntless Wine Co

### Tuesday | May 20, 2025

- [ELECTIONS](#). Ballots due 8 p.m.

- [Budget Committee Meeting](#) - Forest Grove Light and Power, 1818 B Street
- [Trivia](#) - Waltz Brewing
- [Preschool Storytime](#) - Forest Grove City Library
- [Free ESL Class \(Intermediate Level\) | Clase de inglés gratis \(Nivel intermedio\)](#) - Forest Grove City Library
- [Lunch with Meals on Wheels People](#) - Forest Grove Senior & Community Center

## Wednesday | May 21, 2025

- [Books on Tap book club](#) - Waltz Brewing
- [Mario Kart Mayhem](#) - Forest Grove City Library
- [Parks and Recreation Commission](#) - Community Auditorium
- [Planning for your future](#) (.pdf) - Forest Grove High School
- [Old Train Station Museum open 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.](#) - Friends of Historic Forest Grove
- Line Dancing, 7 p.m. - Bullets, Burgers, and Brews

## Thursday | May 22, 2025

- [Bluegrass Jam Session](#) - Waltz Brewing
- Open Mic (signup 6 p.m., starts at 6:30) - Taqueria Corona
- [Canta Con Amigos](#) - Forest Grove City Library
- [Music in May 75th Anniversary Festival](#) - Stoller Center @ Pacific University
- [Lunch with Meals on Wheels People](#) - Forest Grove Senior & Community Center
- [Re-Threading Our Social Fabric](#) - Forest Grove Community Auditorium
- [Jacob Westfall \(live music\)](#) - Garage Door @ McMenamins
- Family Karaoke 7 p.m. - Bullets, Burgers and Brews

## Around town & coming up

*Things that didn't quite make it to a full story and upcoming events beyond this week. Disappointed? Us too. [Get a subscription so we can hire a full-time Forest Grove journalist!](#)*

## Gardens sought for Forest Grove GardenWalk

A June event to showcase gardens in Forest Grove is seeking interested gardeners who'd like to showcase their backyard gardens. [Find out more online.](#) (Disclosure: one of my siblings is a volunteer for this event)

## That's all for now, folks!

This is the actual end of the newsletter

-Chas Hundley

READ MORE

## Forest Grove businesses: Help us launch a universal community calendar in Forest Grove

It's time to launch the community calendar. Here's how you can help us help you.

By Chas Hundley — 16 May 2025

Commencement ceremonies for more than 700 Pacific University students will be held Saturday, May 17, and Forest Grove is expected to be a busy place as friends and families visit the university to celebrate their graduates.

By Chas Hundley — 16 May 2025

**Every Pacific University student on the candidate list for Saturday's graduation**

More than 700 graduating Pacific University students will be celebrated in ceremonies on Saturday. Here they all are.

By Chas Hundley — 16 May 2025

## State forestry officials face backlash over Astoria timber sales, board member resigns in wake

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By Alex Baumhardt — 15 May 2025

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