

**NOTICE: EARLY DEADLINES**  
 The Sentinel office will be closed Friday, July 3 in observance of Independence Day. Early Deadlines for classified ads, display ads, legal notices and editorial submissions will be July 2 at noon.



# Cottage Grove Sentinel

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2015 SOUTH LANE COUNTY'S MOST AWARD-WINNING NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1889 VOLUME 126 • NUMBER 52

## King Estate to buy another lot in Industrial Park

City Council approves offer for lot adjacent to former Side Pocket building

BY JON STINNETT  
 The Cottage Grove Sentinel

It looks like King Estate Winery's plans to expand its operations into Cottage Grove will be more expansive than first announced.

At its Monday-night meeting, the Cottage Grove City Council quickly and unanimously approved an offer from the Lorane-

based winemaker to buy Lot 13 in the City's Industrial Park, a lot situated across R Street from the 3.9-acre building — the former Side Pocket Foods building — that the company announced it had purchased last week. King Estate offered \$131,738 for the lot, an offer that pleased City Manager Richard Meyers, who said he had not been definitively told what the winery wishes to

do with the additional space. (A representative of King Estate could not be contacted after the meeting and prior to press time Monday). Meyers did state that winery representatives had asked a lot of questions about the possibilities of the property, including whether a pipeline might be constructed over the road between the Side Pocket building and the new lot.

Meyers said the purchase will take care of three years of debt payments on the Industrial

Park; the purchase eased concerns about the need to make payments on the park, and in fact, an executive session was called early in the meeting to discuss King Estate's offer due to the impact the purchase was expected to have on the City's 2015-16 budget, which was approved later Monday evening.

The former Side Pocket building — which has been shuttered since its previous owner was convicted on charges of tax evasion — has been slated

to become the headquarters of King Estate's Acrobat brand, a less costly offering than its signature wines but one that Northwest Area Manager Justin King called "a good bottle of juice to have on the table without stretching the budget." King added that Acrobat has been the "fastest growing brand in Oregon history" since his father, Ed King, introduced the label during the recession in 2008.

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**Also inside:**



**Getting a reading**  
 Summer programs aim to foster youth reading, page 6A



**Playground pix**  
 New structure draws a crowd, page 12A



## See Jane clean up

Rapier volunteers to tackle litter

BY JON STINNETT  
 The Cottage Grove Sentinel



Jane Rapier picks up trash next to the Cottage Grove Connector. Rapier has been recognized by the City Council for her efforts.

In order to interview Jane Rapier, it is first necessary to find Jane Rapier — a task that can be surprisingly more difficult than one might imagine.

Sure, many Cottage Grove residents see the 76-year old frequently, and her efforts to clean up some of the community's frequent targets for trash have led to more requests from locals to recognize her in her hometown newspaper than this reporter has witnessed in nearly a decade on the job. But it can nevertheless be tough to talk to somebody who refuses to sit still.

"I just like doing things," Rapier says. "When I'm not busy, I find things to do."

For about two years now, one of Rapier's favorite things to do has been to don an orange vest with her name emblazoned on the front, pick up her trusty trash-grabber and a

Please see **JANE**, Page 10A

## Speed limit sign request starts council discussion

Many, including citizens present, believe speeding is a problem

BY JON STINNETT AND MATT HOLLANDER  
 The Cottage Grove Sentinel

A citizen's request for a number of speed limit signs in a Cottage Grove neighborhood touched off an extensive discussion at City Hall of the problem of speeding drivers and crosswalk safety Monday night.

The lion's share of a City Council meeting that also featured the adoption of the City's 2015-16 budget came under an agenda item seeking to place eight speed-limit signs in the Douglas Ave./Lane Road area of Cottage Grove, and while city staff advised against installing the new signs, members of the Council and the public seemed to agree that speeding and crosswalk safety were issues that deserved a closer look.

In his staff report, Public Works Director Jan Wellman told the Council that additional speed-limit signs in problem areas would do very little to curb speeding there.

"Increasing the number of signs doesn't make a lot of sense," Wellman said. "I'm not downplaying the problem. We have speeding on every street in city, all the time, throughout Cottage Grove. But I think if we start reacting like this, approving extra stop signs without letting law enforcement know there's a problem, it could set a bad precedent."

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## With new treatments on the horizon, Relay prepares to grow

BY MATT HOLLANDER  
 The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Alice Knighton, a double cancer survivor, has attended every Relay for Life of South Lane County since the event began in 1997, including the 18th-annual event held Friday to Saturday at Lincoln Middle School.

"It's simply remarkable how hard the organizers and volunteers work on this event. They put their hearts and souls into it year-round. It's overwhelming how they honor us," she said.

Much has changed for cancer patients in the nearly 20 years since Knighton participated in the first Relay for Life of South Lane County, which was then staged at the W.O.E. Fairgrounds. Investment by

the American Cancer Society (ACS) in research has boomed to nearly \$160 million per year, and the rate of survival for patients with cancer has increased to 68 percent. But even as both those figures continue to climb, Knighton said she will keep coming to the annual event.

"I almost view it as my responsibility as a survivor to support the people who work so hard on this event," she said.

This year to date, Relay for Life of South Lane County has raised a little over \$19,000, which is a bit less than a year ago. However, the organization has until Aug. 31 to reach its fundraising goal of \$35,000.

Participation at this year's Relay was also less than last year, but event chair Gary Manly said that could have had some-

thing to do with the coincidence of Father's Day weekend.

"The organization has hit a bit of a plateau, and we have to figure out how to break through and reach new heights," said Manly, who is stepping down from his role this year. "It's a good, family oriented event, and those that were there were very active and highly involved."

In addition to Manly, there will be new blood in the local ACS administration. Lori Allan, a long-time relay volunteer, will soon begin providing support to local organizers as the new community manager.

"I'm very excited to get involved with the community, get a feel for its interests and, hopefully, grow Relay for Life," she said.

According to Brenda Webber,

Senior Manager for Relay for Life Oregon, there are several exciting developments in cancer research that could reinvigorate local relay chapters, including fruit fly avatars, which allow researchers to develop more personalized and effective care by testing different chemotherapies on fruit flies that are genetically identical to the patient; and there is a new treatment, currently in clinical trial, that is designed to stop the spread of breast cancer to the bones and organs.

"We have a stack of research grants that are waiting to be funded," said Webber, who noted that the new breast cancer treatment had been on a waiting list for several years before receiving a grant. "The more we can maintain momentum, the more lives we'll be able to save."



photo by Matt Hollander

Cancer survivors lead the survivor's lap at the 18th annual Relay for Life of South Lane County, held Friday and Saturday at Lincoln Middle School. The event is looking to "reach new heights," according to its chair.

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