



Local resident leaves behind scholarship dreams

The Cottage Grove Community Foundation has announced that it has received a bequest from the estate of John Gorny to create a scholarship endowment fund. Gorny died in July of last year.

Gorney emigrated from Germany, where his father was a hotelier in Berlin, before settling in Chicago where he, himself, worked for the Hilton Hotel Corporation.

Gorny eventually settled in Cottage Grove where he and his wife, Inge enjoyed riding horses.

By the provisions of his will, Gorny directed that a percentage of his estate would be distributed to the Cottage Grove Community Foundation to create the John and Inge Gorney Scholarship Endowment Fund. The income from which would be used for an annual scholarship for student

graduating from Cottage Grove High School in pursuit of an education in veterinary medicine or animal husbandry. Permanent endowment funds are administered by the Cottage Grove Community Foundation in partnership with the Oregon Community Foundation. The Gorny scholarship is expected to exceed \$1,500 per year.

The Community Foundation is governed by a volunteer board and has a paid employee who works an average of six hours a week as well as a paid part-time executive director. The board has a goal of providing a scholarship for each graduate of Cottage Grove High School who enters college. In 2016, it awarded 91 scholarships totaling \$103,300.

Emerald Villages set for CG

BY CAITLYN MAY
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Site development has begun on Hayden Home's newest project, Emerald Village.

The multi-family development is expected to generate 32 individual cottages with construction on the homes slated for this spring.

Plans include options for four different style homes ranging from 500 to 1,200 square feet. However, accord-

ing to city planner Amanda Ferguson, the majority of the homes will be 800-1,000 square feet.

"These are market rate rentals," Ferguson said.

While concern over “low-income” housing within the city limits has risen on social media, according to Hayden Homes, Emerald Villages is not planned as a

Section 8 development. Units will be owned and managed by Hayden Homes. Poor weather and an inability to obtain equipment was cited as a cause of construction delay.

As of the press deadline, Hayden Homes had failed to return multiple attempts to reach its media representative.

CITY COUNCIL DEBATES JUDGE CONTRACT

BY CAITLYN MAY
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The Cottage Grove City Council is in charge of two positions within the city: the city manager, Richard Meyers and judge Mark Fisher. Fisher's contract is set to expire and on Monday, Jan. 23, the council took up discussion on its next move concerning the judicial seat.

"He's interested in modifications for his contract," Meyers told the council, noting that the board could meet with the judge to determine his requests and/or evaluate the judge. The evaluation, however, would be a longer and more complicated road.

An impartial evaluation, according to Meyers would be difficult to get noting that if the city polled defense attorneys and law enforcement, they may have very distinct opinions of the judge. Councilor Mike Fleck was also careful to point out the the council could not venture into the territory of evaluating the judge's rulings but instead, only focus on how he administered his court.

Discussion arose on how the council would go about meeting with the judge for contract negotiations with the city attorney and Meyers suggestion just one council meet with Fisher. However, Mayor Jeff Gowing asked that there be two members present. His suggestion brought up the issue that, if multiple councilors are present, a need for the keeping of minutes becomes an issue.

"I would rather have two and I'm not scared to have a record to go along with that," Gowing said.

Meyers pointed out that if one member went to Fisher, that member would be returning with information to the board. However, if multiple members met with Fisher and discussed their meeting and presented a joint block of information, that information would become a recommendation to the board and require minutes.

Councilors Jake Boone and Amy Slay volunteered to meet with Fisher and bring back information to the council with the city attorney requesting that the information be forwarded to the city attorney's office first so that the office could compile the recommendation for the board.

While the two commissioner suggestion was settled, the matter of evaluating the judge wasn't as easily put to bed. Because of the nature of the judge's position, the city does not currently have a means by which to evaluate him. Meyers noted that the city of Eugene recently released questions for their employees in the legal field as a way to conduct an evaluation and the city may look to those questions as a frame of reference.

Boone and Slay are set to discuss available times to meet with Fisher for possible contract modifications and the city attorney is scheduled to compile a list of examples of other judicial evalu-

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