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**Bordeaux,  
 deux fois!**

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# Cottage Grove Sentinel

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2015

SOUTH LANE COUNTY'S MOST AWARD-WINNING NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1889

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## Schools brace for impact of Common Core

*First Smarter Balanced test on new standards imminent*

BY MATT HOLLANDER  
 The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Later this spring, Oregon students in grades three through eight and high-school juniors will take on the Smarter Balanced Assessment — a controversial test aimed to demonstrate competency in the Common Core areas of Mathematics and English Language Arts, which encompasses reading and

writing. And while educators have for some time been preparing for the full implementation of the Common Core Standards, suddenly that time is now, and there has been a flurry of new resistance. Just last week, an Associated Press story reported that Oregon education leaders have sought a yearlong delay in rating schools based on the Smarter Balanced Assessment. In their proposal, tests would still be administered this spring, but they think rank-

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photo by Jon Stinnett

Officer Sheri Nelson checks on the first dog housed in the City's new kennel. The dog was found wandering near Dairy Queen.

## City kennel hosts its first pooches

BY JON STINNETT  
 The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Cottage Grove police officers are accustomed to checking on the welfare of inmates at the local jail with regular frequency. These days, though, police find themselves looking after a different group of those who wind up in police custody.

On Jan. 31, the Cottage Grove Police Department began lodging impounded dogs in a four-run kennel at the City's shop property. Late last week, police had lodged two guests at the new kennel, including a small, skittish terrier type that had already spent a week there by Thursday afternoon after it was found wandering near Dairy Queen.

For some time, the City has lodged impounded animals at Forest Valley Veterinary Clinic, where it paid the clinic for the service provided. Those seeking to retrieve their animal would have to provide proof of a rabies vaccination to get a dog license as part of the process.

Corporal Conrad Gagner said that the City built the kennel last summer but had to develop policies for its use and coordinate with Eugene's Greenhill Humane Society to set up a procedure for transferring animals to the shelter there when an owner does not claim a dog in Cottage Grove. The kennel is as product of a trade with Cottage Grove Public Works, Gagner said. Police traded a large generator seized in a marijuana raid, and Public Works personnel constructed the facility.

Gagner said the kennel will provide savings for the City and citizens of Cottage Grove in addition to allowing police to wait longer than they otherwise might to find a dog's owner, as they won't be incurring costs at Forest Valley for each day a dog is lodged there. The small dog at the kennel last week had already served as one such example of a dog that might have otherwise already been transferred to the Greenhill shelter.

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## South Lane Wheels driver succumbs to medical condition

Cottage Grove Police say an apparent medical condition claimed the life of a volunteer bus driver for area non-profit South Lane Wheels on Wednesday, Feb. 11.

Officer Jarod Butler said the driver, later identified by South Lane Wheels as 84-year old Donald Hill, was driving an empty SLW bus at the 400 block of Adams Ave. near the South Lane School District office when an apparent medical condition caused Hill to collapse at the wheel, then strike a parked car before coming to rest between a telephone pole and a tree.

Witnesses including school district personnel attempted to assist Hill, and Butler said paramedics with South Lane Fire and Rescue were able to extract him from the vehicle and begin

attempting to revive him before he was taken to the hospital.

Butler said the accident appeared to stem from Hill losing consciousness while driving, adding that no traumatic injuries were observed. South Lane Wheels Executive Director Ruth Linoz said Hill had been driving for the agency since 2006. Hill had just dropped off one rider and was on his way to pick up another when the accident occurred, Linoz said, adding that South Lane Wheels appreciated the efforts of witnesses to attempt to aid Hill. She called the fact that Hill was driving an empty bus the "best-case scenario" under the circumstances.

"Don would've appreciated that," Linoz said. "He really liked his riders."

A memorial service for Hill is scheduled for Feb. 28.

**Also  
 inside:**



**Collision**  
 One to hospital in Thursday bus/truck crash, page 3A



**Fire!**  
 Blaze destroys Dorena-area home, page 11A



## City park renamed in honor of community contributor Lindsey Haskell

BY JON STINNETT  
 The Cottage Grove Sentinel

Cottage Grove's Lindsey Haskell has certainly made his opinion known during his time in the public sphere. Still, Haskell visibly struggled to find words to match the emotions brought forth by a ceremony held in his honor on Thursday afternoon.

Members of Haskell's family joined Cottage Grove Mayor (and longtime friend) Tom Munroe, City Manager Richard Meyers and other community leaders to officially re-dedicate and rename Woodson Park in honor of the longtime community volunteer. Haskell Park, which occupies space along the Coast Fork of the Willamette River just across from the vacuum and sewing shop Haskell operated for 30 years, now sports a rock bearing a plaque that tells of his volunteer service to the community. The City Council approved the

name change at its Feb. 2 meeting.

"Since Oregon became a state, folks recognized the need for good governance and for volunteers to help provide it," Munroe said. "Small cities couldn't pay for that service, but volunteers stepped forward anyway. We are fortunate to have an excessive amount of volunteers, and once in a while, one is raised above the others."

Munroe saluted 25 years of Haskell's service to the community, which includes stints on the City Council from 1998-2000 and 2001-2006; membership on the City's budget committee from 1992-97 and 2007-14 and the Planning Commission from 2008-14, among other efforts.

"This kind of thing usually happens after a person is gone," Haskell said of the dedication. "This is the highest honor that can be paid to a servant of the community, and I'm at a loss to tell you just how it feels."

Haskell and his wife, Ruby, came to Cottage Grove in 1985, and he soon opened Cottage Grove Vacuum and Sewing.

"I didn't realize that when you open a store, you try and build trust in the community," he said. "Over 30 years, the community became like my friends and family."

Over the years, many a public meeting featured Haskell (often quite colorfully) articulating his opinion, and he said that in his time in various offices he's most proud of helping keep the City of Cottage Grove on level financial footing while other communities faltered.

"Early on, we made budget decisions that affected the City's infrastructure," he said. "We didn't have to lay off cops, and we kept our library open. The Council also teamed up with South

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photo by Jon Stinnett

Lindsey Haskell offers remarks on the dedication of a park in his honor Thursday. Haskell has served on numerous boards and councils, including two stints on the City Council.

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