



School Zone

The inside scoop on
Cottage Grove-area schools

February 25, 2015

Got Rhythm!

Organizers are calling last week's Metropolitan Rhythm and Blues Revue was a tremendous success, selling 480 out of 600 available tickets over its four performances. The annual fundraising event featured over 40 students Cottage Grove High School's music department, along with staff and community musicians. With the help of generous sponsorships, the show raised \$8000, which goes to support festival fees, equipment purchases and scholarships.

The singers pictured are Janet Rust and Glenn B. Rust. Janet is a teacher at the high school, and her son is a senior. The musicians behind them are (from left to right): David Richards (CGHS graduate), Travis Wong, and David Larsen (CGHS music director).



Photo by Kim Larsen Photography

Bond Committee takes a look at Harrison building

A committee of about 40 community members, district staff and members of the South Lane School District Board of Directors has been tasked with exploring the possibility of a bond levy to replace the aging Harrison Elementary School building.

The Bond Advisory Committee has been meeting bi-weekly these past two months; it is tasked with discussing a possible bond to rebuild Harrison while also discussing the possi-

bility of other upgrades in South Lane including a new pool to replace the aging Warren H. Daugherty Aquatic Center.

The new Harrison would be built on the site of the old Cottage Grove High School property at 8th and Taylor streets; a decision has not been made on what the fate of the property that currently houses Harrison would be.

At its Jan. 29 meeting, Superintendent Krista Parent told the group about reasons the Dis-

trict feels it is the "right time" to pursue a local option levy. A recent restructuring of the bond that built the current Cottage Grove High School means that the rate on that bond will drop significantly in 2017, and Parent explained that, if passed, a bond to replace Harrison could take effect in conjunction with that rate drop, meaning that local taxpayers wouldn't see a resultant increase in their property taxes.

Parent said that a strong econ-

omy and the rate decrease on the current bond have the District targeting either the May or November 2016 election in which to put the issue before voters.

On Tuesday, Feb. 24, the Committee was scheduled to take part in an in-depth tour of Harrison Elementary to gauge the health and needs of the building. The Sentinel will update progress from this meeting in its next edition.

PLAN

Continued from page 1A

During public testimony, Jimmy Schapper pointed out the subtlety between quieting and choking off downtown traffic. Lexie Simpson said she's always hoped that revamping downtown could be done with a minimum of disturbance to downtown business owners. Architect Marston Morgan urged more specific guidelines for how many Main Street trees could potentially be saved, in addition to a firm commitment from the Council to leave All-America City Square as it is.

Downtown business owner Danny Solesbee said the Main Street trees are a nuisance.

"The trees drip sap on cars," he said. "Their leaves block storefronts. I'm tired of washing my sidewalks on a weekly basis in the fall and summer. I don't agree with everything in the plan, but we need to have a plan to fix the streets and sidewalks."

Another downtown business owner, Tim Schweitzer, said public safety should be the

plan's first priority.

"We don't need to spend money on fluff," he said. "The priorities are the Main Street crown and fixing the sidewalks. The trees are a secondary issue. They never should've been planted in the first place."

Christina Hubbard represented Friends of Main Street, a group opposed to many of the specifics of the first Refinement Plan. Hubbard said FOMS hopes the plan can retain current sidewalk and travel lane dimensions. She added that public consensus on the plan could've been more easily reached if more citizens had known about the public process.

Craig Simons said he had helped plant the Main Street trees but they have outlived their life expectancy.

"We don't need 'em downtown," Simons said. We need 'em at the park. We need safe streets and sidewalks down Main Street. I don't need you taking my extra money and planting trees, then constructing cantilevered sidewalks so the

trees don't tear things up."

Business owner Su Rosenthal pointed out that the Refinement Plan is a fluid document. Chamber of Commerce Director Travis Palmer said the plan is not a perfect one but is a "jagged little pill" that is eventually going to be healthy for downtown.

During her testimony, Beth Pool requested an extension of the public hearing, which the City Council seemed eager to accommodate. The Council agreed to continue accepting written testimony on the plan for another week and did not deliberate on the plan. The Council will revisit the plan at its Monday, March 9 meeting, where a unanimous vote in favor could bring its adoption. Two majority votes in favor would also be sufficient to adopt the plan.

ORDINANCE

Continued from page 1A

creation of local law enforcement regarding the issuance of citations for possession and use of e-smoking devices by minors or other infractions.

Boone said he was "philosophically very against relying on prosecutorial discretion as an excuse to write vague law."

Boone wondered whether the Council could simply ban the free distribution of nicotine-containing products, but City Manager Richard Meyers pointed out that there is no way to quantify the nicotine contained in those products.

During public comment, Shauna Neigh encouraged the adoption of the ordinance, relating an incident involving her son and an e-cigarette.

"Anything we can do to keep this stuff out of the hands of minors needs to be done," Neigh said.

15% OFF

Any service with coupon
Schedule your appointment Today!
Not Valid on any service Exceeding \$100 • Expires 02-28-15
Not valid with any other offer.

Our People Really Make The Difference!

Brad's

Chevy

COTTAGE GROVE

CHEVROLET, INC.

541-942-4415 • 2775 Row River Road • bradschevy.com

Skilled Nursing at Coast Fork Nursing

Walking into Coast Fork one can tell this is a place filled with camaraderie and closeness. This place radiates with the loyalty, love and laughter of old friends. Spending time at Coast Fork Nursing Center is like joining a group of life-long friends for coffee. The laughter spills over into the hallways, the appreciation for each other rings in the words they say, and the commitment to the future is evident in each and every heart.

Onsite Services provided by COAST FORK NURSING CENTER

- Activities • Housekeeping • Nursing
- Occupational therapy • Physical therapy
- Social work • Speech/language pathology

515 Grant Avenue, CG • 541.942.5528



courtesy photo

Lincoln's Tigers are now using sporks in their cafeteria.

Lincoln students back the 'spork'

Utensil change aims to reduce waste, produce savings

BY JEREMY SMITH
Lincoln Middle School Principal

A simple idea is now making a positive impact on the environment. The idea was sparked by some Lincoln Middle School students, and it's also saving money for the school district. In a word, it's sporks. If you're not sure what a spork is, it is a spoonlike utensil with three to four fork tines on the end, making it a fork and a spoon in one.

In the fall of 2012, LMS science teacher Beverly Wilson held a class where students learned about sustainability. Students were given a task to "brainstorm campus changes that could make LMS more sustainable," says Wilson. This is where the group of students chose to research the use of plastic utensils. "In their research, they found that if the LMS cafeteria switched to sporks, we could save \$2,574 per year, as well as cut our plastic waste from utensils in half," Wilson explains. "They also suggested that a switch to metal silverware would be a good idea. It would help us save \$4,902 and would help eliminate plastic silverware from the dumps." The students did not factor in the cost of using a dishwasher and soap that would likely lower the savings from their estimate for metal silverware.

Wilson was quite impressed with their findings and passed along their research to Principal Jeremy Smith, who was also impressed. Mr. Smith contacted Monica Yoss, the Food Service Supervisor for South Lane School District.

"I appreciated the fact that they took into consideration how much more labor it would take to go with stainless steel silverware. I felt going to a plastic spork and eliminating one utensil was a nice compromise," Yoss explains. "The South Lane School District Food Service program is self-supporting, so whenever making a change we need to make sure it is affordable. It turned out to be a positive change for our department."

Sporks have made their way into Lincoln's cafeteria this week, lightening the budget and the garbage bags. With changes like this, it is easy to see why the school's motto is: "At Lincoln, we never stop learning."

Curves

JOIN TODAY AND GET
50% OFF
OUR ENROLLMENT FEE!

All new CLASSES LIKE NO ONE ELSE'S.

FOR women

JUST LIKE you.

NEW 30 minute classes including:

- Exercises to improve balance, stability and core strength
- Strength training focusing on arms, core and legs
- Movements designed to both stretch and strengthen your muscles
- Total body workouts with Jillian Michaels

1133 E. Main Street
Cottage Grove, OR 97424
541.942.9580

* Visit or call your local club for details.

Automotive Specialties

PRACTICING THE ART OF TRANSMISSION REPAIR SINCE 1991

- ✓ Manual & Automatic Transmission Repair
- ✓ Tune ups
- ✓ 30-60-90K Services
- ✓ Brakes, belts, hoses and cooling system services
- ✓ Mufflers & Custom Exhaust
- ✓ Drive-train repair such as clutches, u joints and differentials

All makes and models.

MAINTAINING YOUR VEHICLE AFFORDABLY

WE LIVE IN THE SAME TOWN WE WORK IN

"NO MONKEY BUSINESS!"

www.automotivespecialties.biz

DUSTIN TULLAR & RUSS OWENS
541-942-8022 • COTTAGE GROVE

Sears

Appliances • Lawn & Garden

SAVINGS EVENT

SAVE UP TO 30% OFF ALL APPLIANCES
SAVE UP TO 20% OFF LAWN & GARDEN
PLUS TAKE AN EXTRA 5% OFF WITH YOUR SEARS CARD

OR 12 months special financing over \$499 w/Sears Card
OR Free Delivery over \$499 w/Sears Card
Sale Valid through 2-28-15

118 Gateway Blvd., Cottage Grove
541-942-7377 (Next to Bi-Mart) Open 7 days/week

Turn an ordinary room
into an extraordinary experience.

IMAGINE IT FRAMED

ART GALLERY AND CUSTOM FRAME WORK

29 South 6th Street • Cottage Grove • (541) 942-5036