

# Hard at work for Spring Break

Many Cottage Grove students approach Spring Break as a time to take it easy, but Victoria Fullerton will be applying photography skills she learned as editor of the high-school yearbook to a Sentinel photography internship. Fullerton, a CGHS senior, plans to attend Western Oregon University this fall in the hope of teaching history and photography. So far, she's taken senior pictures for over 40 fellow students.

"You could say yearbook has consumed my life, but I wouldn't have it any other way," Fullerton said. Look for more of her work in upcoming issues of the Sentinel.



photos by Victoria Fullerton  
 Above left: A trip to Doernbecher Children's Hospital's NICU produced this fantastic shot of a premature infant. Above right: Senior pictures brought Fullerton and Kaetlynn Knee (pictured) to the swinging bridge. At left: Shots of cherry blossoms are the perfect reward for a walk around Cottage Grove.



## PLAN

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'All-America City Square' and updating the cost estimates.

These changes were apparently enough to satisfy the reservations of the Council.

Councilor Mike Fleck, who was very outspoken against the draft presented at the previous meeting, said it was a tough decision, and while he still has serious concerns about the project, the extra time allowed him to see the value added to downtown infrastructure.

After a word of thanks to all those involved in the process,

Councilor Heather Murphy echoed Councilor Fleck's sentiment of a tough decision. She emphasized that the plan merely gives the city a road map to proceed and that there will be many more opportunities for input. Councilor Murphy also said she is excited by the prospect of a downtown that is more attractive to families and visitors.

Councilor Jake Boone said that the ordinance didn't contain everything that he would like but expressed confidence that it is the best plan available.

Between a downtown built

for traffic or families, Councilor Kate Price said she prefers the latter, and that the objectives of the plan help accomplish this vision. She also stressed that the plan is not an "end-all, be-all" and that the final outcome may look very different, especially since the budget is still in flux.

Councilor Price said that she felt better about the \$9-plus million price tag knowing that the City would still have to find viable funding options for the project.

Mayor Tom Munroe said he "somewhat" agreed with the

comments shared by the Council; however, the retired truck driver felt that some of the anxieties about Main Street as a thoroughfare were unfounded. He also reminded those in the room that the trees were originally planted on Main Street to attract people to downtown.

"If the community remains as involved as it has during this process, we can do a lot of things in this town," said Mayor Munroe after the vote.

Councilors Jeff Gowing and Garland Burback were absent from Monday's meeting.

## COUNSEL

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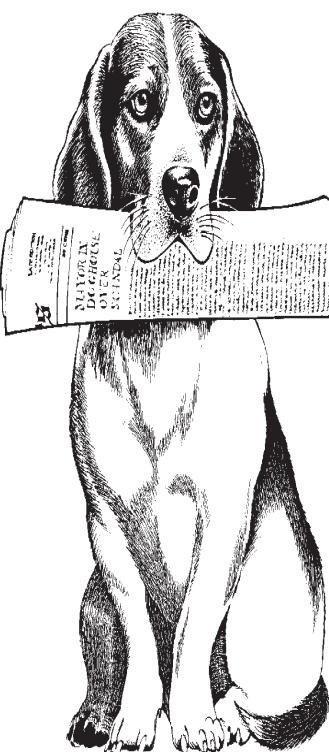
over 20 local municipalities and about 80 special districts, according to Carrie Connelly, who herself is no stranger to legal proceedings in Cottage Grove. Connelly acted as counsel for the City during its push to revamp its charter document last spring and has served as the City's attorney previously on an interim basis.

"It helps that I've already become a little bit familiar with city code and a few of Cottage Grove's recent special projects," Connelly said. She added that she's enjoyed becoming more familiar with the framework of operations of the City Council recently.

Connelly said the members of the Local Government Law Group each have a special focus they can bring to bear on certain aspects of law practice. She said the group is planning to hold office hours on the Tuesday before each City Council meeting and will attend council meetings on a trial basis. The firm charges \$180 per hour for legal services or \$210-250 per hour for legal work involving specialized skills.

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