

COUNCIL

Continued from page 1A

Wellman instead suggested extra law enforcement patrols and ticketing in such areas, and he called speeding a "problem community-wide that is important to people and needs to be looked at."

During a public comment period dedicated to the agenda item, several citizens agreed, and City Councilor Heather Murphy thanked the crowd for participating and offering its suggestions.

"We've got to slow these people down," said Duane Taddei, who explained that a home-made sign he's placed in front of his home has had an effect on speeders there. Still, Taddei agreed that other measures could be effective.

"If we can get a commitment from law enforcement to step up patrols, to write tickets, I will agree with the recommendation for no more signs," he said.

Jimmy Schapper commented

that speed-control measures have "got to get people's attention."

"Anything we can do to calm folks down, help them take their time to enjoy their trip through the City needs to be looked at," he said.

Merlyn Adams suggested speed bumps or a roundabout in problem areas.

"If they go over one of those speed bumps at 40 mph, their teeth are going to rattle," she said.

Councilor Murphy later stated that most traffic problems in Cottage Grove are "things that drivers or pedestrians who are paying attention could avoid," while adding that the Lane and Douglas area of town is indeed a site for escalating speeds. Harrison and R streets were also identified as problem areas, as wider streets that tend to encourage speeding.

Councilor Jake Boone said he would like to hear more from

city staff and law enforcement on the subject, and City Manager Richard Meyers said information would be presented at a subsequent council meeting. The request for speed limit signs died for lack of a motion, but Councilor Mike Fleck said the Council appeared to be "looking into other options."

Also on Monday, the Council unanimously passed a number of budgetary items.

First and foremost, the Council adopted the 2015-2015 budget of \$26.4 million.

The Council also approved a transfer of appropriations within the General Fund, reducing the amount in the contingency line item in the Non-Departmental Department by \$53,320. These funds will instead be placed in a variety of other funds including the Building Inspection Program (\$20,000) and the Community Promotions Department (\$7,000).

The Council adopted a supple-

mental budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year budget. An additional \$77,000 was appropriated to complete a window restoration project at the Armory and to pay off debt in the Storm Drain Reserve Fund.

The Council approved the purchase of two 2015 Chevy Tahoes for the Cottage Grove Police Department. The vehicles, which cost \$30,679 each, will be used to replace two vehicles that are nearing the end of leases. City staff evaluated the different options and determined that it would be more beneficial to purchase new vehicles over four years than lease new vehicles for three years.

A third vehicle — a 2015 Ford Explorer — was also proposed to be purchased, however the price was yet to be determined.

Additionally, Councilor Mike Fleck was appointed to the Lane Workforce Partnership Intergovernmental Agreement and Workforce Council.

WINERY

Continued from page 1A

King said the Cottage Grove expansion will be "done in phases," with the first priority being a warehouse to store all types of King Estate wines. The facility will also host a dedicated Acrobat winery that he estimated could bring 25-30 jobs to town.

"We're also excited to have a

dedicated tasting room for our Acrobat label, a wine we have never served at our King Estate winery," King said. "We think it will be great for the brand, and that people will eventually identify Acrobat as being from Cottage Grove."

King also hinted at a possible project to bring other craft bev-

erage companies to town with an additional tasting room. He said the former Side Pocket building will need some modifications before it can be used but added that the Industrial Park is "logistically a fantastic location" for the operation that will make shipping and trucking much easier than before due to

its location near Interstate 5.

"There's a lot of great activity in wine in the northern part of the state; it will be great to see more down south," he said.

Ed King told the Eugene Register-Guard last week that he expects to break ground on the winery next spring and have it completed by the 2017 harvest.

JANE

Continued from page 1A

five-gallon bucket and head toward places in Cottage Grove where many locals never tread. After a few false starts, I catch up with her in such a place, on the narrow, sun-baked roadside leading onto the Cottage Grove Connector, where Rapier is already busy wrestling trash from among a tangle of blackberries.

"Don't stand there too long, or I'll pick you up," she jokes, waving her trash grabber in my direction.

Her cleaning efforts began in Coiner Park near her home, she tells me, and from the start, she knew she had begun a long-term endeavor.

"It's not going to magically disappear," she says of the trash she found there, before adding with a wink, "of course it's all put there by people from out of town."

In addition to Coiner Park, Rapier can often be seen cleaning up near the Interstate 5 overpass, where interstate drivers carelessly toss a collection of

cigarettes, unwanted potato chip bags, McDonalds wrappers and various other unmentionables.

"This is all market research, really," she says with another grin.

Soon, it's obvious that Jane truly loves her "job," and she tells me there aren't many days that she doesn't want to clean up.

"It's a pleasant way to get outside and meet people," she says. "And I might as well keep doing it, because the trash isn't going to stop."

Cottage Grove Public Works Director Jan Wellman, who supervises the City's own cleanup efforts, said Rapier fills a need the City cannot handle on its own.

"We clean up those areas, but as soon as we do, it's right back there," he said. "Jane helps fill a gap by keeping the area policed when people are there."

Wellman said the City is "spread thin" in its parks department; he added that much of the land Rapier cleans up is property supervised by the Oregon

Department of Transportation. Trash troubles have recently prompted the closure of the All-America City Square restroom, and the restroom at Coiner Park is similarly treated with reckless abandon.

"It's hard to keep the bathrooms up," he said. "You almost need somebody there on an hourly basis."

Wellman said no one has undertaken the commitment to volunteer to clean up Cottage Grove for as long as Rapier, and in the spring of 2014, the City Council presented her with an award for her "amazing demonstration of community pride and care," in addition to the aforementioned trash grabber and orange vest.

"We appreciate very much what she does," Wellman said. "You don't know how valuable that service is to this City; to hire somebody full-time to do the same job would be a major expense."

Fortunately for Cottage Grove residents, Rapier doesn't plan to stop anytime soon.

"My family all lived until their late 90s, and they all worked until the day they died," she said.

Her efforts have earned her plenty of praise around town, but she said the reason she keeps up the work is simple.

"I just want to make this place look nice," she said. "This is a lovely town; it doesn't need to look like the entrance to the wrong side of the tracks. Trash makes it look like nobody cares. If it's there, you might as well pick it up."

Know a local resident who deserves recognition for volunteer efforts? Tell us about it by contacting cgnews@cgsentinel.com!

RELIEF

Continued from page 3A

Emcee and FRN board member Isaac Hovet also recounted that the Nursery dealt with a significant loss with the passing of Creswell's LaVae Robertson, who was lauded for her efforts to create a FRN satellite facility in that community.

"We will miss her vitality and her vision," Hovet said.

CALVARY

Continued from page 8A

for the kids and a higher ceiling; much of this new facility has been built by the hearts and souls of this church, and I pray they will reap the dividends through spiritual growth and evangelism," Smith added.

For longtime members this marks the newest move into a larger facility. They are eager to see the benefits of this newest chapter in their church's history.

Victoria Tocher is one of the original members who met in the former Lane Community College building on 5th and Washington. She has seen the church grow and evolve with each new location.

"The thing that excites me the most is the visibility we have now!" Tocher said. "For years people have asked me 'Where is your church?' Explaining that is no longer an issue. Now all will be able to find us and hopefully be introduced to God's love and grace as they enter. Our community has growing needs and now we have lots of room to fill it wall to wall with people that the Lord wants to love on through us."

Sharon Mayfield joined the church on Easter Sunday 2000, on the day members celebrated

Executive Director Cindy Vitelli was honored for her time as interim director following the move of longtime director Heather Murphy to another job.

"She offered leadership, knowledge and stability through a time of transition," Hovet said of Vitelli.

A video presentation detailed

Calvary's first anniversary in Cottage Grove. A year later she was hired as Pastor Jeff Smith's administrative assistant and church bookkeeper. She has assisted the pastoral team through the major remodeling project.

"I am very excited to see how God is going to bless folks in our community, in building relationships with each other and in learning more and more about the God of grace we serve," Mayfield said.

Church leaders are quite happy with the expanded and improved space to better serve the younger ones. Amanda Hinkle is the Children's Pastor and spent many hours with a paintbrush in her hand decorating the walls with inspiring Bible verses and age-appropriate themes.

Hinkle said, "Having a unified space for Children's Ministry allows our kids to feel more like a part of a community. We can worship together, play together and create a cohesive learning environment."

Pastor Jeff Shroy oversees church administration and serves as the church youth pastor. He worked prayerfully with Smith as the project moved from the drawing board to the final inspection and occupancy permit.

Shroy is pleased with the ex-

tra space the youth group will have in the new building.

"More room in the new building is going to be great," he said. "But the thing that makes this youth group so great is our youth team: Cody Conley, Lance Quackenbush, John Levinhagan, Kristen Shroy, and Darren Meyers. Without them, there would be no youth group. So the extra room for the foosball and ping pong tables is great but the people are what really matters."

Kishen, who joined Calvary Chapel in 2007, is the son of former Cottage Grove Pastor Gene Kishen. Kyle believes Calvary Chapel's biggest accomplishment is yet to be seen.

"The building project is just the beginning. We are excited to see what, and who, the Lord will bring," Kishen said. "People in our city are hurting. The world has sold them on a false notion that it's more fun to party and live life by our own rules. But now they're in bondage to the very thing that promised them freedom."

Smith agrees; "The gospel of John tells us that Jesus is the truth who came to set us free and only in Him will we be free indeed and so we pray and hope our lost community discovers that for themselves."

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