

# Local painter's work named Best in Show

BY JON STINNETT  
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

A local artist's long walks around her favorite Cottage Grove-area locales have produced works that have garnered attention beyond this community.

On Friday evening, Juliette Loquidis was awarded Best of Show for her entry into the 2015 Mayor's Art Show in Eugene. The evening's award ceremony was held at the studio in the Hult Center, and the presentation was made by Eugene Mayor Kitty Piercy. The show received 206 entries, with 46 selected for exhibition; those selected for display will be shown in the Jacobs Gallery at the Hult Center until Sept. 19.

The prize painting, "Cries and Whispers," is one of a "branches" series that Loquidis has been making that showcases trees around Cottage Grove. She said the series is based on many miles of walking in the area, especially near the home she

shares with husband and fellow artist, Brinsley Burbidge.

After the ceremony, Loquidis described her win as "completely unexpected."

"The wonderful thing is that, because the show is open to everyone, there's an opportunity for some of us in rural places to gain more exposure," she said.

Loquidis said that, while living in a small town does hamper the exposure an artist might receive, it also has its benefits.

"I get to spend a lot of alone time that leads to a lot of creativity," she said. "It's a nice place to have a studio, and the walks we're on (at this very moment) always seem to find their way into the paintings."

Loquidis said she would love to show her work in Cottage Grove but has yet to find the proper venue. She called the seven years that she and her husband have spent here a "very rewarding time."

"It's been a wonderful opportunity to explore our artists' sides, and there's the added bo-



Juliette Loquidis poses with her prize-winning painting, "Cries and Whispers." courtesy photo

nus of a little bit of exposure," she said.

Much of Loquidis' and Bur-

bidge's work can be viewed on their website, [www.julieandbrinsley.com](http://www.julieandbrinsley.com).

# Hayden Homes rezone vote passes, 4-2

Company is proposing rentals on lot adjacent to RiverWalk development

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The date was different, but the outcome was the same for a vote from the Cottage Grove City Council on one developer's plans to change the zoning of a parcel of land from commercial to residential.

The Council had previously approved the application of Hayden Homes, which built the RiverWalk development adjacent Highway 99 in Cottage Grove, by a 4-2 vote on July 27. Hayden had sought a change from commercial to high-density residential zoning for a 3.2-acre tract of land next to RiverWalk, a change recommended for approval by the Cottage Grove Planning Commission. Councilors Heather Murphy and Jeff Gowing opposed the change, meaning that the application must come back to the Council for a second vote on Aug. 10, a vote that brought the same outcome.

On Monday, Gowing said that he had spoken to residents in the area around RiverWalk that had been promised that rental apartments would not be built in the adjacent lot.

"The salesman specifically told them that they would never develop anything like that there," Gowing said. "You can't have business practices like that in a town like this."

Gowing said that the City has acquiesced to change zoning to high-density residential before in recent years, only to wait as nothing is built on the site.

Please see **HAYDEN**, Page 12A

## LAST DAY



photo by Jon Stinnett

A final party was held at Bohemia Elementary on Thursday to celebrate a summer of reading at United Way of Lane County's Summer Reading Spot in Cottage Grove. Guests of the program were able to take a book home each time they attended.

## Sheriff's Office warns of phone scam using names of its employees

The Lane County Sheriff's Office announced last week that it has recently been receiving reports from community members who are receiving calls from a male claiming to be from the Sheriff's Office.

The caller is identifying himself using names of actual Sheriff's Office employees, LCSO says, adding that the caller tells the person that they have a warrant, or have missed jury duty, and that they owe money and may be arrested if they do not pay immediately.

The caller usually directs the person to purchase a "green dot money pack" from a local retailer to pay their "fines."

The Sheriff's Office says that these calls are a scam, and they state that "community members should hang up immediately and not engage with the caller," continuing that "these calls are

not associated with the Lane County Sheriff's Office in any way."

The Lane County Sheriff's Office says it does not make phone calls to community members regarding warrants and would never ask a community member to purchase "cash cards" to pay fees. It urges victims of a phone scam to report it to a local law enforcement agency, and to follow these tips to decrease your chances of becoming a phone scam victim:

Never provide personal information to callers, including your name, address, or banking information.

Be aware of callers who are unprofessional, pushy, or use scare tactics such as threatening arrest if payment is not made.

Callers asking for payment through wire transfer, cash cards such as green dot cards, or other

non-trackable methods are signs of a scam. Legitimate government agencies will not ask you to provide payment using these methods.

Check the caller's information. If they claim to be from a law enforcement agency or other governmental agency, call the publicly listed phone number for that agency to verify the caller's authenticity.

Those interested can view more information on scams by visiting the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Information website on phone scams at <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0076-phone-scams>.

Community members can also report fraud to the Oregon Attorney General's Consumer Hotline by calling 1-877-877-9392.

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