

# 97

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the Chamber agrees with its legislative committee's assessment, though the outcome of voting opposed the measure by a "wide, wide margin." Meanwhile, Cottage Grove's progressive Blackberry Pie Society met last week to discuss the measure, and Leslie Rubinstein said the group voted to support Measure 97.

"We were comfortable with the idea that out of state corporations that pay little taxes in Oregon would have an increase based on their gross receipts," Rubinstein said. "We were less comfortable with smaller C Corporations based in Oregon having to pay more."

Still, Rubinstein said that, following years of under-funded schools and social services, some kind of tax increase is likely necessary to plug the gap. "Everybody will likely pay more, but we feel it is the responsibility of citizens to fund schools," she said. "If this is the way Oregonians choose to adequately support schools, then we are supportive as well. However we're taxed, we feel it's the citizens' responsibility."

South Lane School District Superintendent Krista Parent said that the School Board did not take a stance to either support or oppose Measure 97 despite the impact its passage could have had on the District's budget.

*"Everybody will likely pay more, but we feel it is the responsibility of citizens to fund schools. If this is the way Oregonians choose to adequately support schools, then we are supportive as well."*

— Leslie Rubinstein,  
Cottage Grove Blackberry Pie Society

# STUMP SPEECH



photo by Jon Stinnett

Cottage Grove City Council At-Large Candidate Ivan DeSol speaks to supporters at a rally held Thursday at the Axe & Fiddle Pub downtown. DeSol, who is running against Kenneth Michael Roberts for the position, decried the ability of politics to "drive a wedge between people" and urged supporters to "become more a part of this town."

"In our town, we have the same cultural divide that exists everywhere," he said. "The goal needs to be to reach across the aisle so that everybody can win."

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# COINER

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photo by Jon Stinnett

Ruth Linoz and Garland Burback showcase a plaque dedicating the Coiner Park pavilion. Several Rotarians and city employees were on hand for the dedication.

of the Public Works employees who helped erect the park were on hand for the event. The new equipment represents the third phase of Rotary's plans for the park, with the original play structure and pavilion as

the first two phases. Fundraising efforts from Rotary's annual Cycle the Lakes bicycle ride fueled the project.  
"This is the product of the community's investment in what Rotary values," Linoz said.

"We're lucky that Public Works personnel had the skill set to install the equipment, otherwise we would've had to pay to have this done. And their schedule and availability made sure that it happened this summer."

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