

# Ballot Box

From beyond  
Analyzing decisions  
facing voters in nearby  
communities

Ballots for the Nov. 8 election have arrived in the mailboxes of local voters. In Cottage Grove, voters will make a decision to support one of four candidates for the City Council's Ward II position, two candidates for an at-large council seat and three candidates for Mayor. Local voters will also weigh the merits of a three-percent tax on recreational marijuana purchases in the City, in addition to a doubling of the City gas tax from

three to six cents per gallon to fund road repairs. The City of Coburg is considering an identical hike in its gas tax, as is the City of Springfield. The Cities of Florence and Eugene are also considering a recreational marijuana tax not to exceed three percent. Clearly, Grovers aren't the only ones making decisions that could affect their communities in this election. The following is a rundown of local measures that could have impact in nearby municipalities:

### City of Creswell, Measure 20-238

Question: Shall the City of Creswell prohibit medical and recreational "processors," "dispensaries," "producers," "wholesalers" and "retailers?" Summary: The City Council referred this measure to voters pursuant to state law. Approving this measure prohibits its medical marijuana processors and distributors in the City. Approving this measure also prohibits medical marijuana producers, processors, wholesalers and retailers within the City. Approval will

not prohibit registered medical marijuana growers. If approved, the City would not be eligible to receive state distributions of state marijuana tax revenues under current state law.

### City of Creswell, Measure 20-257

Question: Shall Creswell impose \$1.85 per assessed \$1000 of assessed value for five years for police operations beginning fiscal year 2017-18? This measure may cause property taxes to increase more than three percent. Summary: Passage of this measure would fund police services within the City of Creswell. If adopted, the City Council would remove the public safety fee from city utility bills. The measure would provide funding for additional police coverage compared to current services by allowing the City to increase the number of law enforcement officers working within the City. The funding would be used to improve police response times and improve overall protection within the City. The request would raise approximately \$624,737 in fiscal year 2017-18.

Please see MEASURES, Page 10A

## LORANE COUNTRY NEWS

BY LIL THOMPSON  
For the Sentinel

This Wednesday, Oct. 26, Siuslaw Watershed Council meets at Lorane Grange. Doors open at 6 p.m., and the

meeting takes place from 6:30-8:30 p.m.

On Friday, Oct. 28, a fun barn dance is scheduled at Lorane Grange from 7-10 p.m. There is a suggested donation per family, and all proceeds will go to help the Bowman family, who lost their young girl in the accident on CG-Lorane Road. Roberta Miller or Pam Kersgaard can be contacted for more information. On Saturday, Oct. 29, there is a celebration of life with potluck for Ray Annett

at Lorane Grange at noon.

Also Thursday evening, the Applegate Elementary Halloween Carnival is back in the gym. There are costume contests, a haunted house and many more activities. For more information, call Jen McNutt-Bloom at 541-250-4868. Bags of candy are much appreciated and may be sent to the school with students or dropped off at the office. The event should be a great, safe way for the students to have a fun evening from

4-8 p.m.

Halloween, Oct. 31, follows with the annual Trunk'nTreat in the church parking lot. The Lorane Fire Department will also hand out goodies.

If lights are on at the Rebekah Lodge, stop by too. Everyone, please be safe, watch for all those out and about. Trick or treaters, be sure to watch for cars and use a flashlight.

Just a reminder that Lorane Grange meets on Thursday, Nov. 3 at 7:30 p.m.

## Property tax statements will arrive soon

Lane County taxpayers will receive their 2016-2017 property tax statements beginning on Wednesday, Oct. 19. Tax statements and other property tax information are also available online at [www.lanecounty.org/at](http://www.lanecounty.org/at). The first payment is due on Tuesday, Nov. 15.

The Lane County tax collector collects property tax on behalf of 83 separate taxing districts, including cities, schools, education service districts, water districts, rural fire districts, urban renewal districts and other taxing districts such as park and recreation, library and ambulance districts.

The total property tax certified to collect for all tax levies combined in 2016 is \$495.7 million. This is approximately 3.7 percent more than in 2015. The total amount of taxes billed changes each year as a result of the addition of new or renewed local option and bond levies, the expiration of local option and bond levies, the three-percent statutory increase in Maximum Assessed Values (MAV), the addition of new properties to the tax roll, the number of exemptions granted and the number of properties being taxed on their lower market values instead of their Measure 50 MAV.

Lane County's Jan. 1, 2016 Real Market Value (RMV) increased to \$52.8 billion from

\$50.8 billion. This is an overall increase of approximately 3.9 percent from January 1, 2015.

The total taxable value for all properties combined in Lane County increased by 3.3 percent over last year, from \$30.5 billion in 2015 to \$31.5 billion in 2016. Additionally, 7.7 percent of residential properties in Lane County now have a market value below their Measure 50 MAV which is down from 9.6 percent in 2015.

Most properties will continue to see the three-percent statutory increase in their MAV. On average, residential property owners will pay tax on 79 percent of their RMV in 2016.

There are over 177,000 taxable properties in Lane County consisting of: 66 percent Residential/Tract; 12 percent Commercial; seven percent Industrial; five percent Farm/Forest; five percent Multi-Family and five percent Business Personal Property, Utilities and Other.

Voters in the past year have approved changes to the tax levies and bond rates which are then applied to a property's AV. However Oregon's constitution limits the total tax rate that can be billed to an individual property to no more than \$10 per \$1,000 of market value for government and \$5 per \$1,000 of market value for schools (Ballot Measure 5).

# \$500 SHOPPING SPREE

at any of the following businesses.

Use all or part at one or several businesses  
Contest Runs October 5 - October 26

Winner will be announced in the November 2 Cottage Grove Sentinel  
To enter cut out the entry form and drop them off at the businesses for the drawing.

One Entry per family per business per week.  
Must be 18 years old to play.

No purchase necessary. No copies of the entry  
form will be accepted.

Cottage Grove Sentinel Employees and their families,  
and previous winners are not eligible to enter.

<b>50% OFF</b> ALL HALLOWEEN GIFT MERCHANDISE Purchased October 26-31	<b>20% OFF</b> any one regular priced item from our BOUTIQUE CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES Purchased October 26-31 one discount per customer
<b>The Flower Basket and Gift Boutique</b> 119 South 6th Street 541-942-0505	
Name: _____ Address: _____ Phone: _____	

**Daily Lunch & Dinner Specials**

**TORERO'S**  
FAMILY MEXICAN RESTAURANT

541-942-1155 1206 Hwy 99 North Cottage Grove, OR  
541-746-3766 5705 Main Street Springfield, OR

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**HOMESTEAD Furniture**

**20 BEDROOM SETS AND ACCESSORIES IN STOCK!**

synchrony FINANCIAL

615 Main Street • Cottage Grove • 541-942-8711  
homesteadcg.com

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

(541) 942-1301  
40 South 5th • Cottage Grove

**CASCADE**  
Home Center & Equipment Rental  
(541) 895-4166  
104 South Mill St. • Creswell

Mon-Sat 8am-6:30pm • Sunday 9am-4pm

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**OREGON DUCKS GAME DAY PARTIES**

**at the Village Green Resort**  
541-942-2491

Join in the game day fun with beer tastings, prizes, and Duck football in our Fireside Lounge.

Tastings begin 1 hour before kick-off.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**GARLIC HAS ARRIVED!**

In the maritime Northwest, garlic is best planted by the end of October so it has time to establish a good root system before cold weather settles in. Varieties and quantities are limited, so stop by today and get your garlic before it's gone!

Mon-Sat: 9AM-5:30PM  
Sun: 9AM-4PM  
(starting in October we will be closed on Sundays)

**Territorial SEED COMPANY**  
20 Palmer Ave  
Cottage Grove, OR  
(541) 942-0510  
www.TerritorialSeed.com

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**El Tapatio Mexican Restaurant**  
725 Gibbs, Cottage Grove, (541) 767-0457

• Daily Lunch & Dinner Specials  
• Book your next party with us!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_