

FAITH PAGE EDITOR RETIRES

By Cindy Weeldreyer



It's been a pleasure serving as The Sentinel's volunteer Faith Page editor for the past 10 years. Cottage Grove has a strong and vibrant faith community. I've done my best to capture most of the milestones and memories of churches in our area. As the Faith Page editor and the host of KNND's Sunday Morning Light program, I've been blessed to have a front row seat to witness all God is doing in us and through us in the last decade.

When I first began the Faith Page in 2007, I had lots of time to seek a wide variety of stories. Today, I have four part-time jobs and two big community projects taking up most of my time. I'm thankful to the many church publicity folks who answer my email request for information at the beginning of each production week. As an added benefit, I include that information in KNND's online community calendar, in on-air announcements and in Around The Grove, the community newsletter I produce each week.

I'm not going away. I'm simply stepping down from the editorial duties of compiling church news and writing a feature story each

month. With my resignation, Caitlyn will need more contributing writers for the page and perhaps that will increase the diversity of faiths represented each month. I plan to be one of those contributing writers, but not have the responsibility of writing a story every month. If there is an important church event happening, please let us know and I'll be happy to cover it for The Sentinel.

I want to thank local photographer Bruce Kelsh for attending events and providing a great photo to accompany my feature stories. In the future, please send your church information to Caitlyn at cmay@cgsentinel.com and to me at cindy@knnd.com. We'll do our best to continue getting the word out about what's happening in The Grove's faith community.

Change is rarely easy. It's been a long time since we've had a new editor. I love the paper's fresh new look. I'm pleased with the commitment Caitlyn has to cover our exceptionally busy little town with the highest journalism standards needed to produce informative and award-winning stories.

CGHS students protest federal appointment

By Caitlyn May
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Approximately 30 Cottage Grove High School students staged a protest on Friday, Feb. 17 against the newly confirmed U.S. Education Secretary, Betsy DeVos.

Students stood across from the high school with protest signs speaking out against DeVos' appointment.

"We're protesting DeVos because she doesn't represent our interests and she's more focused on funding private schools," said student Kyle Carrillo-Enders. "There is no place for low income renters here to be able to afford private education. The faculty have supported our right to exercise our voice."

When reached for comment, South Lane School District Communication's Coordinator Garrett Bridgens released a statement made by CGHS Principal Iton Udosenata which noted students who missed class for the demonstration would be considered as unexcused absentees.

"This morning about 25 students participated in a demonstration outside of school in protest of the Department of Education Secretary Betsy DeVos' views on public education," he wrote. "We communicated to students that participation in a walk-out during school hours is considered an unexcused absence. We acknowledged the power of civil discourse and that there is a time and place for such gatherings, but emphasized importance of being in class and respecting the educational environment. On our end, we are providing a

safe space, during lunch, in the library for students to gather and express their concern. All students are welcome. Our expectation is that students will attend class after lunch. Students who miss school for this event will be considered as unexcused."

DeVos was met with protests during her confirmation hearings with several lawmakers citing DeVos' support of charter schools and her apparent lack of knowledge concerning federal education programs such as IDEA.



"FANTASTIC FRIDAY" BRINGS YOGA TO KIDS

Students at London School took a break from the books last Friday to try their hands at something new: yoga.

The activity was just one of the many opportunities offered to students during Fantastic Fridays, an incentive-based program that allows kids the chance to experience different activities. It takes place once a month and is open to students who manage to avoid getting a referral, complete their homework and other behavioral mile markers. Students partaking in Fantastic Fridays can choose two different activities from the list of opportunities offered and spend approximately two hours learning new skills or indulging in different sports.

"It was implemented before I got here, at least 12 years ago, but it's a huge incentive," said April Sexton, a teacher at London. This past Friday, students were given the opportunity to choose among yoga, dodge ball, and other art-related activities including the chance

•CORRECTION•

In the Feb. 15 edition of The Sentinel, the police blotter incorrectly identified some of the individuals who reported incidents to the Cottage Grove Police Department as suspects. Specifically, the entry regarding the incident at Grocery Outlet was incorrect. In addition, Cottage Grove resident Marie Longfellow was incorrectly identified as sleeping on the museum steps when, in fact, she called the incident in. Additionally, "Snapshots" incorrectly identified Casey Woodard and Ruth Linoz. The Sentinel regrets the errors and asks that all errors be brought to the attention of the Editor for correction.

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