



Cottage Grove Sentinel

SOUTH LANE AND DOUGLAS COUNTY'S MOST AWARD-WINNING NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1889



SPORTS

Track team hosts invitational, Lions score a second-place finish. PAGE B1

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WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 2017

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Senator Wyden makes a stop in CG Honors youth council, fields health care questions



The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council receives a flag from Senator Wyden on May 5. In return, the group offers Wyden two bracelets it had made for the occasion.

By Caitlyn May
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Several dozen residents filled the Cottage Grove High School cafetorium on May 5 but Senator Ron Wyden only got a handful of questions that did not relate to the current debate on health care in America.

The town hall, which marked number 817 for Wyden, was open to all residents but

its first question went to a Cottage Grove High School student who asked if Wyden would commit to beginning impeachment procedures should democrats gain control of Congress in 2018. While the question elicited cheers from the audience, Wyden was quick to inform the student that impeachment proceedings must be originated in the U.S. House of Representatives, not the Senate. However, the senator encour-

aged residents to hold all public officials accountable.

Students were given blue tickets for the privilege of asking a question while other residents were assigned red tickets. According to Lane County Commissioner Gary Williams, red far outpaced blue, thus creating a string of questions related to the current state of health care and concern over the House's repeal of the Affordable Care

CGHS principal's departure detailed

By Caitlyn May
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On Monday, May 8, the South Lane School District Board determined the means by which it intends to replace outgoing Cottage Grove High School Principal Iton Udosenata.

Udosenata announced he would be resigning from his post on May 1, effective at the end of this school year.

"It was great to come in with this group of freshman and get to see them graduate," Udosenata told The Sentinel of his departure.

On Monday, the administration approached the school board with the notion of hiring an interim principal from within the district for the 2017-2018 school year, citing a diminished candidate pool due to the time of year.

According to South Lane Superintendent Krista Parent, there are three current employees who are qualified for and interested in the position. According to the district, hiring outside of the current employee pool would delay filling the position, possibly until the end of June and there is no guarantee a qualified applicant would submit their name. The cause, according to the district is that applicants have traditionally signed on to other positions by this time of year and principals have been in high demand in the state of Oregon.

The interim principal would face a review in December to determine if it would become a permanent position or if the school district would have to advertise the position externally.

Udosenata's last official day will be June 28. The district hopes to have someone in place by June 1 but notes it's possible to fill the position by the end of May. And while the school district could refuse Udosenata his move to North Eugene due to an additional year still left on his contract, Parent said there would be no action taken against the resignation. Udosenata is expected to begin his transition to North Eugene before his final day at Cottage Grove.

Alice Martin turns 100



Cottage Grove resident was born, May 10, 1917

By Caitlyn May
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There are five clocks in Alice Martin's house. Two in her entry-way kitchen and three in the living room that houses her television, tuned to Fox News, a computer tucked into the corner and photos of dozens of grandchildren. When Martin pauses to think of a word or remember a place, the only sound that fills her apartment is the ticking of the clocks. But today, it could be said that Martin is defying time.

"I'm going to be 100 on Wednesday, my goodness," she said. Thoughts of reaching the milestone had never crossed her mind, she said. "It looks like it's going to be more though because my health is good."

Martin's whole face twitches with her words and her features fuss and fidget as she works to remember the details of her century on Earth. Her blue sweater matches her blue pants; it's one of her favorite colors, she says, adjusting the glasses that sit just a hair too far down on her nose to be comfortable. She wishes she's had a haircut but her neatly parted locks already fall just short of her chin.

Currently, Martin is a resident of Middlefield Assisted Living in Cottage Grove but before that, she was a resident of the world.

"I've been to Thailand and Alaska and I saw that beautiful building in India," she said. "I have been almost around the world and I enjoyed traveling."

According to her son Terry, Martin's travel started as a professional ambition. "She worked for the Technical Information Department on the China Lake Naval Weapons Testing Center in China Lake, California, up on the Mojave Desert," he said. "She had Secret Clearance and handled mailings between engineers and

BUSTER'S NABS NATIONAL AWARD



Courtesy photo, Facebook

By Caitlyn May
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At Buster's, veterans eat for free. On the 11th of each month, the businesses on Main St. are dotted with American flags, following Paul and Amy Tocco's footsteps in offering a "thank you" day for veterans. And now, the Tocco's have gotten a thank you of their own.

The Main Street America Network, an affiliate of Oregon's Main Street Program, has awarded Buster's the Leadership Award at the organization's national convention held in Pittsburgh, PA.

"Strong Main Street communities succeed because of small businesses like Buster's," said Patrice Frey, President and CEO of the National Main Street Center. "A place like Buster's is so much more than just a café; it's a community anchor, employer, and a gathering place for residents. Citizens like Paul and Amy Tocco, the owners of Buster's, exemplify what Main Street is all about."

Buster's was nominated for the award, which hasn't had a recipient in several years, by local businesses and organizations.

"Paul Tocco breathes innovation and seeks ways to revitalize the Main Street District that will provide significant, lasting impact," wrote Ruth Linoz, executive director of South Lane Wheels in her recommendation.

Arrest closes three CG open cases

Cottage Grove police have reported that Liam McKinnon has been arrested, bringing a close to at least three open investigations within the city. The incidents date back to February 2 when an unknown individual robbed Dave's Corner Market at knifepoint. A month later, on March 3, Safeway Pharmacy was robbed as well. In April, the pharmacy was hit again at knifepoint. McKinnon will be held on Robbery I charges.

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Coffee with the Editor
Every Tuesday 12 pm
@ Backstage Bakery
Come chat about the community!