



Cottage Grove Sentinel

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Early deadline
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WED
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For a complete six-day forecast please see page A5.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2017

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COTTAGE GROVE POPULATION: 10,000 (ALMOST)

By Caitlyn May
cmay@cg sentinel.com

Cottage Grove is growing.

According to the latest Census estimates, the little city 20 minutes south of Eugene may have reached a milestone: 10,000 residents. However, that's not the number that counts.

"It is our attorney's interpretation of the law that the number that applies to us is the Portland State University (PSU) number," said Cottage

Grove City Manager Richard Meyers. That number, last updated in March of this year, puts Cottage Grove at 9,892 residents.

So what's 108 residents here or 108 residents there? A lot.

When a municipality reaches 10,000 residents in the state of Oregon, certain requirements kick in.

"We have to offer another selection of disposal for solid waste," Meyers said. And for Cottage

Grove, that selection is most likely, yard debris. "It would cut down on the need to use backyard burning," he said.

The new method would be one of the changes occurring in garbage collection after the state passed new legislation concerning recycling. Regardless of population, municipalities within the state will now have to formulate and implement a plan to enforce recycling laws and requirements.

"Basically, someone has to be checking peo-

ple's recycle bins for contaminated material," Meyers said. Kleenex and plastic bags, despite popular belief, cannot be included in recycle bins and are considered contaminated material.

To comply with the new law, the city or waste company will have to create tags that inform residents who recycle incorrectly that they have done so and submit plans to the state by 2018 and implement that plan by 2019. They'll also have to formulate a system to do periodic checks on res-

Please see **10,000 PG. A10**

HAIRCUTS AND HOPE: Mayor chops hair at Relay for Life



Mayor Jeff Gowing readies to have his hair cut during the Relay for Life event held at Bohemia Park on Friday, June 16. Candace Solesbee volunteered her time to pull off the new look while Cottage Grove City Councilor Ken Roberts offered emotional support. Attendees had the opportunity to choose the mayor's new hairstyle by donating money to one of three buckets representing a haircut. Gowing's wife chose the three styles that were represented and Ryan Gosling won out in the end. For a complete story on Relay for Life please see page A ____

Interim principal selected for Kennedy

By Caitlyn May
cmay@cg sentinel.com

It's a mess. Doors sit half open revealing the remains of a classroom used throughout the year, empty now except for papers and remnants of books and bobbles. Classroom furniture, chairs, white boards and storage cabinets are piled in the walkways, signs reading "Going to DV" plastered on this and that. It's moving day at Al Kennedy High School.

At the end of the long walk that spiders off into classrooms, passed the piles of furniture and signs directing faculty to take or leave boxes in the office. Inside, files stand stacked ready to go and someone calls out for Halie.

She's in the back space of the office behind a desk sorting through papers. She sits in the only chair in the room.

Halie Ketcher is the new interim principal at Kennedy, appointed after former principal Mike Ingman was selected to take Iton

Udosenata's spot as Cottage Grove High School Principal earlier this year. The changes will take effect for students at the start of the school year in September but for Halie, she's already rolled up her sleeves and gotten to work. The entire flesh and bone of Kennedy has to be moved from its home near Taylor Ave. out to Delight Valley in the shadow of the Saginaw exit of I-5.

The move means a permanent home for Kennedy, which has been housed in portable buildings next to the Daughterty community pool. Students will be sharing the space with Head Start but for once, Kennedy kids will have a gymnasium and a place to call their own in their quest to obtain a high school education.

"It would have been a lot for the kids to get a new school and a new administrator," Ketcher says, referring to the school district's decision to promote from within.

South Lane School District learned of Udosenata's resignation

Please see **INTERIM PG A9**

Fire board meets

By Caitlyn May
cmay@cg sentinel.com

During a 23 minutes fire board meeting, the South Lane Fire District said goodbye to long-time member Jerry Settlemeyer,

approved a budget, welcomed a new firefighter and updated the community on the new trucks slated to join the fleet this summer.

Settlemeyer, who has served on the board on and off for over a decade, did not run in the election held in May. During the June 15 meeting, he bid farewell to the board saying, "My intention was to start a fire district and we serve the district. Everytime that siren

Please see **FIRE PG A10**

COMMUNITY
Artist profile
Sujo still paints and now she wants to share her art.
PAGE A11

ENTERTAINMENT
"Carnage" at Opal
"God of Carnage comes to Opal Theatre. **PAGE A10**

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cgnews@cg sentinel.com
(541) 942-3325 ph • (541) 942-3328 fax
P.O. Box 35, Cottage Grove, OR 97424
Corner of Sixth and Whiteaker, Cottage Grove

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