

Cottage Grove Sentinel

Est. 1889

Serving the communities of Cottage Grove, Dorena, Drain, Elkton, Lorane and Yoncalla.



SPORTS

Catching up with the speedway B1

PERSONAL | COMMERCIAL
BENEFITS | SURETY

PayneWest
INSURANCE

(541) 942-0555

PayneWest.com/Cottage-Grove



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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018

FACEBOOK.COM/CGSENTINEL • TWITTER.COM/CGSENTINEL

CGSENTINEL.COM

Opal to host 'Storybook Theater' this month

By Caitlyn May
cmay@cg sentinel.com

In the early days of August, 15 teenagers will lock themselves in Opal Theatre and four days later, emerge having learned everything there is to know about performing.

Storybook Theater has been in oper-

ation for the last five years under the leadership of Cottage Grove resident Judy Smith. It operates as a non-profit under Opal Theatre and started with a realization.

Smith, a longtime supporter of the arts and volunteer at Cottage Theatre looked around one summer and saw theatre kids without an outlet for their

showmanship. Her daughter, who was also active in the Cottage Grove theatre community, was going to school in Seattle at the time, so Smith made a call.

"I thought, what are the chances her and her friends would want to start a program down here and teach these kids?" She said. "So, I asked her and she asked her friends and there was an

overwhelming response."

There were 10 teenagers that first year who first met at Smith's house where she gauged their interest before embarking on what would become an intensive seven-day theatre camp.

"They're mouths just fell open,"

See OPAL 10A

LCSO deadly force incident ruled lawful

By Caitlyn May
cmay@cg sentinel.com

The Lane County District Attorney has ruled the fatal shooting on July 12 to be a lawful use of deadly force by Lane County deputies.

Joey Loop was shot and killed after deputies were called to property on Cedar Park Rd. The caller informed deputies that Loop was on the property and threatening violence. According to a press release on the ruling, Loop was "banging on the house and demanding the caller to exit the residence."

An additional 911 call was recorded from a separate resident in the area.

Deputies patrolled the area, and according to the district attorney's office, re-ponded to the scene with an armored Humvee after reports of shots being fired were recorded.

"Upon arriving, deputies attempted to contact Loop via public address system attached to the LCSO

See LCSO 10A

Kennedy High School gets new look



The new family and consumer sciences room, featuring new appliances, was being completed on Monday, July 30 by Kennedy crew students and instructors Matt Hall and Brandi Baker-Rudicel.

By Caitlyn May
cmay@cg sentinel.com

A flurry of dollies and students were buzzing around Al Kennedy High School on Monday moving desks, chairs, cabinets and everything else that would fit in their hands. The school isn't relocating for a second time in as many years but it is making moves.

Kennedy made the transition from portable trailers on Taylor Ave. last year to Delight Valley, a campus outside of city limits that they shared with Head

Start for the 2017-2018 school year. Now that the preschool is moving out to a new building funded by the \$35 million bond passed by voters in 2016, Kennedy gets to spread out a bit. The renovation, that took place over two days earlier this week, included a new space for family and consumer science classes, a new library, music room, front office and a rearrangement of existing classrooms.

"It's exciting," said Brandi Baker-Rudicel. She teaches family and consumer sciences, formally known as home economics, as well as careers and health classes. Her new classroom is in a space uti-

lized by Head Start last year but just a day into the renovation, it's impossible to tell toddlers had ruled the room.

The perimeter of the room is now outfitted with brand new cabinets and counter tops, interrupted by two new stoves a few feet apart. There's also a new dishwasher, sink, refrigerator and washer and dryer set. The spacious floor, now wood laminate, will soon be broken up by brand new tables where students will learn how to take the vegetables from the

See KENNEDY 10A

Mother seeks return of son's stolen ashes

By Ned Hickson
nhickson@cg sentinel.com

In a very real way, Belinda Renfro is dealing with the loss of her son for a second time. Christopher Wade Kimble was just 29 when his life was cut short by a drunk driver Sept. 26, 2016.

"He was an awesome human being who was loved by all who met him," Renfro said of her son during an email conversation with *The Sentinel*.

It was a devastating loss for a mother who is now experiencing that sense of loss once again after her tent site in Sharps Creek was robbed Monday night. Among the things taken was Christopher's cremated remains, which were housed in a black plastic container with the Norse god Odin on one side and Thor's hammer on the other. Inside, her son's ashes were held in a clear container wrapped in orange and gold ribbon.

Renfro is asking for her son's ashes to be returned, no questions asked. "Whoever has him, please don't discard

See ASHES 11A

City awards sewer project bid to H&J Construction

By Caitlyn May
cmay@cg sentinel.com

On July 27, during a special city council meeting, the board awarded H&J Construction a sewer repair project after the company bid \$388,673 for the repairs.

According to information provided by the city manager's office for the meeting, "Two sanitary sewer jobs were identified and partially designated from

a couple of years ago ... While staff was completing the design on these two jobs, the public works department found two more jobs with their cleaning and video program."

The original job was located on S. First St. and the alley west of the street between Quincy and Van Buren Ave. During the completion of that project, the public works department utilized a technology known as pipe bursting that replaces buried pipes without trench-

ing.

H&J Construction was awarded the secondary projects found during the completion of the first which includes a pipe on Adams Ave from S. Seventh St. east to the Napa parking lot. The second portion of the project runs from Highway 99 between Grover and Woodson Ave.

"Both these projects are good candidates for the pipe bursting technology. Staff feels that adding these two proj-

ects to the first two would save money because of economy of sale," according to city engineer Ron Bradsby.

The current budget for the project, according to Bradsby is \$3,822,955 and is allocated for buildings and improvements in the city's budget.

The bid award was the only item on the council's meeting agenda. The meeting was scheduled specifically to award a bid due to timing.

COMMUNITY

Chili cook-off
Winners announced in CG Chili Cook-off PAGE A5



EVENTS

Car Show
Car enthusiasts get a look at hot rods, racers and more PAGE A8

INDEX

Calendar B12
Channel Guide B5
Classifieds B7
Obituaries A2
Opinion A4
Sports B1

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



MICHELE MONROE, LCSW
Counseling Services
541-255-8822 • 1450 Birch Ave • Cottage Grove, OR 97424

- Individual and Family Counseling
- Insurance and Sliding Scale
- Accepting New Clients
- Weekend and Weekday Appointments Available

Rain Country Realty Inc.
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
RainCountryRealty.com • raincountryrealty@gmail.com
1320 Hwy 99 • 541-942-7246