

# Cottage Grove Sentinel

Est. 1889

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



SPORTS

The seniors of Elkton football have found success. **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, OCTOBER 10, 2018

FACEBOOK.COM/CGSENTINEL • TWITTER.COM/CGSENTINEL

CGSENTINEL.COM

## Breast Cancer Awareness Month: In their own words



CAITLYN MAY/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

**S**usan Jeppesen was never scared. She wasn't scared when she went in on Dec. 5 for her routine mammogram, something she never misses. She wasn't scared when they asked her to come back and told her something was abnormal. And she wasn't scared when a patient ad-

**Susan Jeppesen was diagnosed with breast cancer at the end of last year. Here, she tells her story.**

vocate was called into her exam room or when the phone call came from her own doctor with the news.

In that moment, Jeppesen crossed over the line between those of us who have always lived knowing about breast cancer and have worn pink in October — and those of us who have faced death at the hands of the disease and bear the scar of a chemotherapy port.

According to the Centers for Disease

Control (CDC), 242,476 new cases of female breast cancer were reported in 2015 — the most recent year data is available; 2,954 of those cases were re-reported in Oregon. More than 40,000 women nationwide, died of the disease.

October serves as breast cancer awareness month, bringing attention to the disease that needs no introduction; it's

See **WORDS 6A**

## Local women part of nationwide trend to join ballot races

By Caitlyn May  
cmay@cg sentinel.com

There are three women running for the Cottage Grove City Council this election cycle and many of their reasons for doing so are generally the same: someone told them they should run, they looked around and thought they could make a difference and they were already participating in various community

"I feel like a bunch of women are just busting through that glass ceiling ... There's a lot of encouragement from other women now."

— Ashley Rigel, City Council candidate

organizations. The outcome of the election, however, may make the council look dramatically different.

"When I walked into the council meetings, there wasn't a woman on the board. I've looked at the stats and I don't remember exactly but it's something like 50 or 51-point-something percent of the population in Cottage Grove is female. That's like, three seats. Not no seats," said Jill Hermansen, one of the three female candidates vying for an opportunity to represent their ward.

Currently, the seven-member board is made up entirely of men, including the mayor. The homogeneous representation was

See **TREND 8A**

## Mayor helps Armory by having a 'ball'



The third annual Mayor's Ball was held on Saturday, Oct. 6 as a fundraising event to help pay for the building's remodel.



GREG LEE

By Caitlyn May  
cmay@cg sentinel.com

**O**n Saturday night, the movers and shakers of Cottage Grove packed the Armory for the third annual Mayor's Ball and while the event aims to raise funds for long-held dream of remodeling the exterior of the building, it was the interior that drew comparisons to a wonderland.

"It was absolutely wonderful," said city councilor Kenneth Roberts. "The ambience in

that room was absolutely beautiful. As someone who sets up lights professionally, it was amazing."

Lighted clouds hung from the ceiling and attendees walked a carpet flanked on either side by white lights before taking their seats for an evening that revolved around sustainability.

The Armory's current existence has been touted as an example of recycling after the city purchased the building in 2009, restoring windows, floors and treating the building for lead paint and dust. It's been the site of several

community functions including fundraisers, banquets and for the last three years, the Mayor's Ball.

Jeff Gowing has presided over the ball for the last three years and this year was no different. He spoke about the ball Monday night saying, "It was a lot of fun, I had a lot of fun. Though, my wife probably had more fun because she spent a lot of money. I had fun, the food was great, I went back and thanked the caterers."

See **Ball 10A**

## Board to decide future of Latham Elementary this year

By Zach Silva  
zsilva@cg sentinel.com

The fate of Latham Elementary School will be decided by the South Lane School District school board in the coming months.

At this month's school board meeting, the district announced plans to conduct a report on Latham to

determine the school's long-term status. The report, that will be given to the board before December's meeting, will include an examination of staffing, transportation, technology, educational impact and maintenance.

Additionally, the district will be gathering input from community members and both Latham staff and par-

ents.

"It's not a Latham closure report, it's the Latham report. The intent is to give all the information and facts ... so the board can decide if we maintain the building or close the building," said SLSLD interim superintendent Larry Sullivan. "It's not a closure report but to look at all the options we have and

make that decision based on what are the costs and benefits across the board."

These renewed conversations about the status Latham has been ongoing since last winter when the possibility of closing the school to save an estimated \$200,000 per year was brought up at a school board meeting. Since then, parents from Latham

have attended a meeting to praise the opportunities that have come from a school with less than 90 students this year and to discuss its value in the area since it first opened its doors in 1853.

Last spring the board believed that if it was determined the school needed to be closed, there was not enough time left in the 2017-

18 school year to get everything ready for that process. It was determined that the school would stay open for the 2018-19 school year while a decision would come this fall. The board said the final decision will be made as early as mid-December or as late as February.

See **LATHAM 11A**

**THEATER**

Shrek: The Musical

Local production of popular musical will make residents "believers."

PAGE A5



**COMMUNITY**

Education for women

Soroptimists offering education funds for single moms

PAGE A6

**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

VOLUME 130 • NUMBER 51



**The Flower Basket and Gift Boutique**

"A Flower Shop and so much more"

Creative Floral Arrangements • Jewelry • Balloons

Home Décor • Fine Gifts • Boutique Clothing & Accessories

119 South 6th Street • 541-942-0505

**Rain Country Realty Inc.**

RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

RainCountryRealty.com • raincountryrealty@gmail.com

1320 Hwy 99 • 541-942-7246