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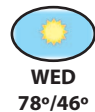
Cottage Grove volleyball wins league. **B1**

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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2018

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The pros and cons of STAR Voting

By Jared Anderson
For The Sentinel

Hallie Roberts believes that STAR (Score Then Automatic Runoff) Voting will revolutionize the way people vote in Lane County, and throughout the entire country.

"People are aware of the problems with our voting methods," Roberts said. "We end up with results that are not really what the people wanted. If we can implement a system that will lead us to more broadly favored candidates winning, I think our political process will be reinvigorated and people will be inspired to be a part of the process once they see it's working more smoothly."

Roberts is the campaign manager for STAR Voting, which was created by political scientist Alan Zundel and Mark Frohn-mayer, a Eugene entrepreneur and creator of the organization Equal Vote Coalition.

They successfully placed measure 20-290 on the November ballot which, "Amends Charter, adopts Score Then Automatic Runoff voting for elections." If passed, they hope it will both change how county officer elections are held, and how Lane County residents would vote for those candidates.

Roberts said the system has the potential

See **STAR 7A**

Breast Cancer Awareness Month: In their own words



COURTESY PHOTO

Cancer survivor Coleen Bollinger

Coleen Bollinger started getting mammograms when she was 30. So, when she went in for her routine exam at 47, she expected another clean test. It'd been just

By Caitlyn May
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a year since her last exam, she had 16 cancer-free screenings under her belt and while she had a family history of breast cancer, it seemed too far away to be a real contributing factor. But when she got a call at work, the disease was suddenly much closer.

"So, I got the call from my doctor and I was at work and my husband was out of town and he said, 'I hate to do this over the phone but I want you to know right away, and it's like the whole world went gray,' she said. "Once he said cancer, I heard nothing else, that was it. I went outside to have a cigarette and I was just stunned. I never expected, he never expected, it was out of

See **WORDS 10A**

Community effort leads to new wheelchair for local kindergartener

By Caitlyn May
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CGHS students repaired a wheelchair for six-year-old Harrison Elementary student with myotonic muscular dystrophy

By Zach Silva
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Soon it will be common to see a firetruck roaming the halls of Harrison Elementary School.

What has the appearance of a toy car is, in reality, a newly refurbished wheelchair for six-year-old Ethan who has myotonic muscular dystrophy, a muscle disease that also impact his lungs and heart. The wheelchair allows him to learn the joystick controls so that when he is older he will be able operate a power chair.

"He wasn't supposed to live and he wasn't supposed to talk and he wasn't supposed to do any of the things he is doing now. So it's like a milestone, everything is a milestone," said Ethan's mother Tara Jones.

On Thursday afternoon, in front of his kindergarten classmates on a sun-soaked day, Ethan received his newly refurbished wheelchair that was fixed up by a group of Cottage Grove High School seniors and delivered by South Lane County



ZACH SILVA/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Six-year-old Ethan tries out his newly refurbished wheelchair to the delight of his kindergarten classmates. The chair was constructed with the help of Cottage Grove High School students and will help Ethan learn to use his wheelchair.

Fire and Rescue. With excited kindergarten-ers, who got to tour the firetruck, looking on, Ethan got the first chance to drive around in his new wheelchair.

"It was super exciting that he liked it because he didn't like it last year. I was like, do you want in it and he said yeah. And the way he

was moving around in it was very surprising and very exciting," said Jones. For Jones, the firetruck holds importance and is a reminder of her father and grandfather, who have both passed away, who were both firefighters.

Last year, Ethan's doctor ordered the specialized chair to help him

learn the controls of getting around. The device, which stays at school, was used outside because there was no room inside the old Harrison and soon, it began to break down. "Every day when we'd lift it up and bring it in and out, the

See **STUDENT 11A**

Cottage Grove City Council candidates talk issues

By Caitlyn May
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With just 20 days until ballots are due in the Nov. 6 general election, the race for Cottage Grove City Council has already staged what may be the greatest opportunity for voters to hear from the candidates on the issues currently facing the city.

On Tuesday, Oct. 9, six of the candidates took part in a forum

hosted by the Chamber of Commerce's legislative committee and spoke on issues ranging from homelessness to the community pool.

Three of the city's wards were represented at the forum with Jill Hermansen and Candace Lamb-Solsbee challenging sitting councilor Garland Burback for Ward 3, Ashley Rigel taking on current at-large councilor Mike Fleck and Jake Boone who is running unopposed for Ward 1.

The night was kick-started by what is arguably the hottest top-

homelessness to the community pool. Three of the city's wards were represented at the forum with Jill Hermansen and Candace Lamb-Solsbee challenging sitting councilor Garland Burback for Ward 3, Ashley Rigel taking on current at-large councilor Mike Fleck and Jake Boone who is running unopposed for Ward 1. The night was kick-started by what is arguably the hottest top-homelessness to the community pool. Three of the city's wards were represented at the forum with Jill Hermansen and Candace Lamb-Solsbee challenging sitting councilor Garland Burback for Ward 3, Ashley Rigel taking on current at-large councilor Mike Fleck and Jake Boone who is running unopposed for Ward 1.



homeless population by county using volunteers and short questionnaires, revealed that the number of homeless had increased and a large majority of those individuals lived in Lane County. The county was recorded as having the second-highest homeless rate, fourth largest chronically homeless population and the second-largest homeless veteran population

See **CANDIDATES 6A**

Superintendent extends stay for another year

By Zach Silva
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The interim period has been extended.

South Lane School District interim superintendent Dr. Larry Sullivan will be working under the title of interim for one more year after a vote from the school board unanimously approved this decision at Monday night's special session meeting.

Last May, Sullivan's one-year contract was approved by the board and he officially began work on July 1. With the board passing an action item on Monday, Sullivan will now be in this position until June of 2020.

"My idea of transition changed throughout this whole process. I originally framed it as I'm going to help them get through a year and sort of have some stability and some support and now it really is

moving that transition to really moving forward and setting that foundation for the future rather than just taking a year and waiting for the next superintendent to come," said Sullivan. "Set a stronger foundation for the future. I think transition is the foundation for the future."

In the next year, the board will be finalizing the allocation of funds from the 2016 bond measure in addition to deciding whether Latham

Elementary School will remain open long-term.

"Any district would have any difficulty just dealing with those two things - with the closure discussion and maintaining a school or a bond - that's hard enough as it is besides going through a transition in leadership," said Sullivan. "So it allows for more stability and we can walk through it rather than try to run through it."

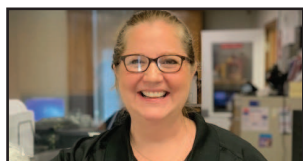
See **BOARD 11A**

COMMUNITY

New Dispatcher

Cottage Grove Police Department's new dispatcher has old ties to The Grove.

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COMMUNITY

Aquatic Center update

CG City Council agrees to help fund therapy pool

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