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

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2018

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What are the pros and cons of Measures 102-106?

(Editor's Note: What follows are in-depth looks at the measures voters are considering for the Nov. 6 election — what they mean and the potential consequences and benefits. The STAR voting measure was covered in Oct. 17 edition of *The Sentinel*)

Measure 102

Measure would help fund affordable housing by eliminating restrictions on combining government loans or credits with private funding.

Currently, the Oregon Constitution bars local government from loaning credit or raising money for private businesses. Measure 102 would add an exception to the rule for housing developers, allowing private entities a tool to help pay for affordable housing projects.

Affordable housing has been described as a "crisis" statewide. According to data released by Oregon Housing and Community Services, the state as a deficit of almost 90,000 housing units for residents who earn less than 50 percent of the state's median income currently estimated at just over \$60,000 a year.

In Cottage Grove, local officials have addressed the lack of housing citing its effect on the community. City Councilor Mike Fleck and Planning and Development Director Faye Stewart met with realtors and developers to assess the greatest hurdles in providing more housing and while System Development Charges (charges levied to a project to offset the impact to the community in regards to water, sewer, traffic and roads) were on the list, the number one issue was being able to make it through a lagging permit process with the city.

Under Stewart, that system has since changed, making it easier for developers to make their way from point A to point B.

A recent housing analysis conducted by a third party estimated that Cottage Grove's population would increase by just over 3,000 residents in the next 20 years, creating the need for at least 1,379 new housing units. Rental rates in the city have followed regional and national trends, increasing each year as inventory becomes scarce, currently landing anywhere between \$600 to \$1,200 a month depending on the number of bedrooms.

Measure 102 does not define "affordable housing," instead it allows each municipality to choose its own definition. It also allows the bonds to be paired with incentives like waived permit fees — a benefit the city of Cottage Grove already offers based on the project.

Municipalities can already issue bonds to help fund housing. In 2016, Portland approved a bond measure mounting \$250 million and residents will vote again this year on a \$653 million measure. However, the current rules set out in the constitution that bar local governments from loaning credit or raising money for

See **MEASURES 6A**

In their own words: Candidates for Congress, governor

By Mark Brennan
For The Sentinel

To provide voters with a closer look at the candidates for Oregon's Governor and Oregon's Fourth Congressional District, what follows is a Q&A with the primary candidates for those races...



Peter DeFazio



Art Robinson



Kate Brown



Knute Buehler

Governor's Race
The race to occupy the Oregon Governor's Mansion, Mahonia Hall, is officially a contest between four candidates. However only two of these individuals are likely to receive enough support from

voters to become Oregon's next Governor.

Nick Chen is running as the candidate of the Libertarian Party and Patrick Starnes is running as an Independent. Neither candidate has a statewide ground organization, and both have a very

limited media presence, with no major television or radio ads airing in the week leading up to the election.

Oregon State Representative Knute Buehler is the Republican candidate for Governor and sitting Democrat Kate Brown is running for

her first full term in the office.

Both Brown and Buehler are polling in the 40 percentiles among voters, with Starnes and Chen trailing far behind.

The political statistics firm Real Clear Politics is calling the race to lead Oregon a "toss-up."

The 2018 Governor's race is the second time these candidates have competed for the same office, with Buehler being defeated by Brown for the position of Secretary of

State in 2015.

Brown then served as Secretary of State under former Governor John Kitzhaber and ascended to the state's highest office after Kitzhaber's unexpected resignation in 2015.

Brown won a special election in 2016 to finish the remainder of Kitzhaber's term and is now running for her first full term as Governor.

Brown's educational background includes a Bachelor of Art degree from the University of Colorado in

See **CANDIDATES 9A**



COURTESY PHOTO

Don Williams stands on the nearly completed carousel that is still in need of volunteers and a location.

Carousel clears major hurdle

By Caitlyn May
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After more than 20 years of false starts and abrupt stops, the carousel meant for Main Street in Cottage Grove is closer than ever to finding a home within the city's boundaries.

According to Friends of the Carousel committee, the carousel is 90 percent complete and has taken up residence at the King Estates Warehouse after restoration efforts began at the W.O.E. Fairgrounds earlier this year.

"Ed King read a newspaper article describing the open house held at the fairgrounds," said Friends of the Carousel Committee President Don Williams. "In that article it was stated we would need a larger building with at least a 20-foot high ceiling to erect

the carousel indoors to finish the chariots, all the lighting, the mirrors, and the rounding boards."

As a result, King granted use of a 40' by 80' section of the warehouse for the carousel where the attraction will be completed.

The space marked the latest hurdle cleared by the group in bringing the carousel to Cottage Grove. The attraction originally made its way to down after former resident Judy Cash cashed in on a childhood dream of owning a carousel. After inheriting money from a family friend, Cash traveled across the country to purchase the carousel with the hopes of placing it on Main Street. Soon after, various efforts to fund the restoration of the carousel came and went with groups falling short of success over the years.

"Where else can you take your family now where you can leave your worries at the doorstep and just be in a happy place? It's a happy place," Cash previously told the Sentinel, noting that she would have liked to see children smiling, enjoying the ride. Cash passed away in Nov. of 2017 after a battle with cancer, leaving behind an agreement with the Friends of the Carousel to continue toward her dream of seeing the carousel functional and attracting tourists in Cottage Grove.

To accomplish the goal, the group reached out to the community, receiving in-kind donations mounting \$67,000 and cash contributions reaching more than \$14,000. Art students at Cottage Grove High School

See **CAROUSEL 5A**

SLSD gets its report card

By Caitlyn May
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It's only two months into the 2018-2019 school year but South Lane School District already has its report card.

The Oregon Department of Education released the annual report on Wednesday, which details everything from teacher turnover to state test scores for every school in the state.

South Lane School District's 10 schools fell below state standards and averages in several categories across the board but the shortcomings adhered closely to trends found across the state and the district managed to buck trends that have plagued the Oregon school system in recent years.

Chronic absenteeism—defined as missing more than 10 percent of school days—has been a source of concern for districts around the state. However, according to the 2018 state school report card, South Lane Schools have improved their attendance rate. Regular attenders, meaning students who attend more than 90 percent of the days they're enrolled in school, increased or remained the

See **SCHOOLS 5A**

SUNDAY

Daylight saving time ends 2am Sunday, Nov. 4



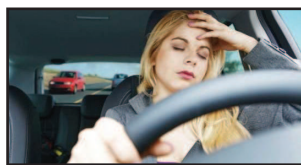
Turn clocks back one hour

SAFETY

Time Change

With the time change, drowsy drivers become a concern

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UPDATE

Whitsell set to rebuild

City meets with tax officials, Whitsell owner on mill future.

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