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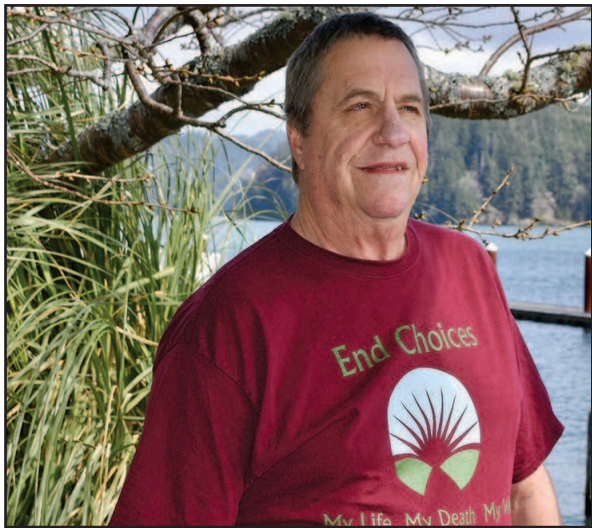


For a complete six-day forecast please see page A5.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, 2019

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MARK BRENNAN/FOR COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Diagnosed with terminal illness, Lane County resident Bruce Yelle is promoting legislation to provide more options for those wishing to utilize Oregon's current Death With Dignity Act.

Area activist speaks at State House on 'death with dignity'

House Bill 2217 seeks to modify Oregon's current Death with Dignity Act

By Mark Brennan
for The Sentinel

Bruce Yelle is a man on a mission.

On Tuesday of last week, that mission led him to the Oregon House of Representatives in Salem. He made the trip to speak to the House Committee on Health Care about an issue vital to him and many other Oregonians, the state's Death with Dignity Act. If Yelle's presentation is ultimately successful, the end result will be his own

death. The only unknowns in the equation are when he will die and how.

Yelle does not want to die today or tomorrow, but he does eventually want to have the option to take advantage of Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 120.800, the Death with Dignity Act (DWDA).

Yelle's trip to Salem was made so he could directly present committee members with the reasons he supports House Bill 2217, which seeks to amend the current DWDA.

Yelle has been working closely with District 33 Representative Mitch Greenlick to craft an amendment to the original DWDA that modifies the criteria for self-determination. With that goal in mind, Greenlick

has recently introduced, HB 2217 which contains a modification to the language which currently requires an individual to ingest and self-administer the medication to end their life.

"If you can't move your limbs or you can't swallow because your throat doesn't work, this is impossible to do, so we want to change the wording so people that are unable to move have a way to do this," Yelle said. "We also want to change the definition of 'self-administered' to include other delivery methods than just taking the medication orally."

See DWD 9A

Letting Dad lead



COURTESY SHELLY HARKINS, OFFICE MANAGER AT NDEMS

North Douglas Elementary and Middle School students take to the dance floor with their fathers during the recent Father-Daughter Dance, an annual fundraiser for the North Douglas School District's music program. (More photos on page 12A.)

Candidates file for SLSD board

By Zach Silva
zsilva@cg sentinel.com

Filing deadline was last Thursday for four seats on the SLSD board

It's a group of mainly familiar faces looking to get re-elected to the South Lane School District school board. Four positions will be up for grabs at this year's May 21 special election with three of those seats running unopposed.

The seats up for election in this cycle includes positions one, three, six and seven.

Tammy Hodgkinson, who currently holds position one, is running unopposed as is Jerry Settelmeyer for position six.

Hodgkinson has served

See SLSD 9A

Tougher gun legislation proposal will not be heard

Sen. Floyd Prozanski has decided against scheduling SB 501 for a state senate hearing

By Mark Brenna
for The Sentinel

Senate Bill 501 was introduced in January by District 19 Democrat Sen. Rob Wagner and has drawn the attention and ire of gun rights groups in Oregon and across the country. Co-sponsored by fellow Democrat from District 38, Rep. Andrea Salinas, the bill would require

"Unfortunately, there wasn't anyone who had oversight or knowledge of different firearms when crafting the bill."

— Senator Floyd Prozanski

any individual that wished to purchase a firearm to obtain a permit before receiving a gun of any type.

Another controversial aspect of the proposed law is that it would also severely restrict the number of rounds an individual could purchase each month.

The legislation was written with input from Ceasefire Oregon, a student-led advocacy group that is working to reduce gun violence. The group was formed in 1994 and has re-emerged as a national voice on the subject of gun violence. The organization "Students for Change" has also been involved in the introduction and contacts with the press.

State Senator Floyd Prozanski represents District 4 and is the Chair of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. Prozanski has stated publicly his opposition to the proposed

See PROPOSAL 10A

County takes over Territorial Highway

County will assume jurisdiction over next five years

The 42-mile stretch of Territorial Highway located within Lane County's boundaries, with the exception of the portion that is also Highway 36, is now under the jurisdiction of Lane County after months of planning with the Oregon Department of

See HWY 10A

COMMUNITY

Grant recipients

Cottage Grove Community Foundation awards grants to 16 area nonprofits

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THEATER

Hello Dolly!

The Very Little Theatre's production of "Hello Dolly!" opens this Friday.

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