

Cottage Grove Sentinel

VOL. 131, NO. 38

SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF COTTAGE GROVE, CRESWELL, DORENA, DRAIN, ELKTON, LORANE AND YONCALLA

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WEATHER

Mostly cloudy with a high of 63 and a low tonight of 47.
Full forecast on A5

COMMUNITY

Elkton raises its glass at Oktoberfest.
A3

SPORTS — B

Lions soccer teams on a roll.
B1

- **RECORDS**
Obituaries
Police Logs
County info
A2
- **LORANE NEWS**
A5
- **CLASSIFIEDS**
Listings and public notices
B8-B9

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Climate awareness advocates appeal to City Council

BY DAMIEN SHERWOOD
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Advocates for climate change awareness petitioned the Cottage Grove City Council at a Sept. 23 council meeting, testifying to the urgency of climate issues during public comments.

“We are living in a climate emergency,” said Cottage Grove resident Rosemary Foraker.

Participants asked the council to declare a climate emergency, host a town hall on the subject and look

for solutions to make the city carbon neutral by 2030.

“How we reach that goal has the potential to be a beautiful example of how communities can rise to this challenge, collaboratively and justly for all people,” Foraker said. “This important step of declaring a climate emergency is the diagnosis we need as a community to get into action and become a resilient role model for communities around the world

“How we reach that goal has the potential to be a beautiful example of how communities can rise to this challenge.”

—Rosemary Foraker, Cottage Grove resident.

who all face the same crisis.”

The appearance of the speakers at the City Council meeting followed the wake of the Sept. 20

Climate Strike in which more than 250 students and community members gathered in Cottage Grove as part of a worldwide climate action event.

At times, testimony at the City Council meeting was emotional and young speakers expressed fear that they would not have a future.

“I’m filling out college applications right now and I don’t

See **CLIMATE 9A**

Oktoga! Oktoga! Oktoga!

Grovers turned out draped in togas for Friday’s OKTOGAfest in honor of the annual celebration of the filming of Animal House. From 8 to 10 p.m., participants made their way around town in a pub crawl hosted by The Brewstation, Axe and Fiddle, Stacy’s Covered Bridge and The Grove Cafe and Lounge. Food and beverage deals were given to the night’s toga-clad pub crawlers.

DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Police, fire personnel receive recognition by City Council

BY DAMIEN SHERWOOD
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Cottage Grove Police Chief Scott Shepherd recognized both police and fire personnel for acts of bravery at the City Council meeting on Sept. 23.

Officer Fred Dilworth received a certificate of appreciation for his heroism in the rescue of a female driver trapped in an

See **POLICE 8A**

A Last Resort: A look at suicide and mental health — Part II

BY DAMIEN SHERWOOD
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Editor’s Note: This is the second part of a two-part series on suicide and mental health. Part II of the series will look at the availability of mental health services in the community and what needs are being met.

For rural communities, networks can be life savers. This quality is all too salient for

See **SUICIDE 7A**

City plans to refund SDC overcharges

BY DAMIEN SHERWOOD
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The City of Cottage Grove is refunding overcharges in transportation system development charges (SDCs) to area businesses after a calculation error was discovered.

The error occurred on account of the exclusion of an element called “pass-by trip factor,” a component of SDC calculations which may ultimately lower fees.

“Once we realized there was an error in the

See **SDC 9A**

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