

SLSD *from A1*

specifically praising the work done by Interim Assistant Superintendent Brian McCasline. “Brian worked really hard to bring everything together. So, I think it was seamless.”

In Curtis, SLSD found a new interim superintendent who brings with her vast amounts of administrative experience and a knowledge of the area due to her past work with the Eugene 4J school district when Sullivan was the superintendent.

“I have been a close colleague with Larry Sullivan for a long time,” Curtis said at the Dec. 2 board meeting.

“We share a lot of the same philosophies around children. I love your ‘Children First’ [slogan] because that’s what we’re all here for and we both had an opportunity to do that work together in Eugene.”

The existing working and personal relationship between Sullivan and Curtis gives the board plenty of reasons for optimism that work done in the district in 2019-20 will be collabora-

tive in nature.

“I think the relationship they have is that he’ll be able to share what he saw in this district with her, which will be very helpful,” Duerst-Higgins said.

When it came time to decide who to hire as the new interim, the district wanted someone with experience whose vision could help lead SLSD into the future. With eight years as the Forest Grove superintendent followed by a year and a half as deputy superintendent of Portland public schools — overseeing all things related to teaching and learning —

Curtis fits the bill.

“She communicates very well. She’s very open. She’s very, very experienced,” said Duerst-Higgins while also highlighting Curtis’ own diverse background as a reason for excitement.

In the process of evaluating the candidates for the interim position, it was discovered that Curtis’ tenure in Forest Grove ended under tension as she resigned due to disagreements with the school board.

However, thorough reference checks with school district officials directly involved in the events in

Forest Grove alleviated any concerns the SLSD board may have had.

Curtis leaves retirement, much like Sullivan’s journey to SLSD, to take over a school district that has been in flux in recent years.

While there are unique challenges, Curtis looks forward to the opportunity to employ her approach to equity and education in Cottage Grove.

“I just got to hear a little bit about what our administrators in our school buildings are focusing on,” Curtis said. “I was delighted to hear already a lot of system cohe-

sion which you don’t always find across every district in Oregon because we tend to be very site-based, but as a team they’ve really been working on some things that will help the whole system be system-supported in each of the new initiatives and the strategic plans.

“So, it’s very exciting. I’m delighted to be here.”

Baas and Duerst-Higgins met with Curtis last week to offer her the position and she formally became the interim superintendent by signing the contract at the Dec. 2 board meeting.

Snapp *from A1*

Housing Authority purchased the property to construct Riverview Terrace, a senior housing complex. To make way for what was to become the tallest building in town, the shabby Victorian home was destined to become a “burn to learn” exercise for the fire department.

Founding Club Member Ray Nelson, a local historian and businessman, persuaded Club members to purchase the house from Lane County for \$1. They soon raised the funds needed to relocate it to a nearby city-owned proper-

ty where it sits today.

Nelson’s original vision was replicating a small frontier town on that property. At that time, Interstate 5 was fairly new with thousands of cars daily zooming by the Cottage Grove interchanges. Club members hoped a small 1850s-era attraction would entice travelers to stop and visit, thus generating revenue to promote and maintain the village.

Most Grovers supported the vision and they were disappointed it was thwarted by rules restricting placement of new structures in a floodway.

Today the Dr. Snapp

House sits alone on the north end of Prospector Park near the newly reconstructed Swinging Bridge.

The Club traces its origin to Oregon’s Centennial Celebration in 1959. Grovers produced one of the largest Centennial celebrations in the state highlighting their town’s pre-statehood history. It was so fun and satisfying a decision was made to create a community organization devoted to celebrating and preserving local history.

The Club adopted the mission statement: “Prospecting better things for Cottage Grove”. One of those things was creating the an-

nual mid-July Bohemia Mining Days festival.

In 1964, the Club began its legendary Miners’ Breakfast on The Mountain to draw people up to the Bohemia City ghost town in the Umpqua National Forest. They hoped to gain public support to preserve and restore the mid-19th century gold mining town.

Ultimately, Forest Service staff determined the old buildings were a safety and liability hazard and tore down all but the post office, which remains today. The popular breakfast, on the Sunday of the Bohemia Mining Days weekend, attracts

nearly 1,000 diners to Bohemia Saddle Park, 38 miles southeast of town in the Bohemia Mining District.

The Prospectors and Gold Diggers Club uses revenue from its summer fundraisers, Breakfast on the Mountain in July, the Old Schoolmates Breakfast in August, and from the Christmas Bazaar to maintain the historic house, to support community organizations and to provide scholarships to high school graduates.

Club members worked out an agreement with city and county officials to use the house for educational purposes. Earlier this year,

the Club invited the Singing Creek Educational Center to begin offering its year-round “pioneer lifestyle” focused workshops and summer camps for children and their families.

This weekend, the historic house, filled with antiques and vintage medical equipment and artifacts, will also feature sale items from .50 cents to \$50. Shoppers can enjoy free treats as they search for unique and tasty holiday gifts.

Bazaar hours are Friday from 4 to 8 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 360 S. River Road.



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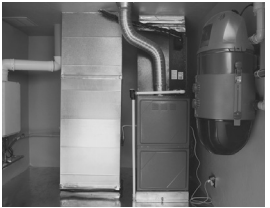
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Wednesday, March 4, 2020 ~ 7:00 pm

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Giada Valenti

Friday, April 3, 2020 ~ 7:00 pm

Award-winning Venetian vocalist Giada Valenti whisks her audiences away with pageantry and poignancy, dazzling them with her breathtaking vocals, captivating beauty, and her lavish stage presentation. One thing is sure – Giada will bring inspiration and heart to each moment of this performance.

Bettman & Halpin

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2020 ~ 7:00 pm

This award-winning duo, perform original, toe tapping, and heartfelt Americana Folk music. Their live show is a combination of vaudeville humor and instrumental “wow” factor. Their high-energy, upbeat bluegrass inspired compositions, beautiful ballads and soaring vocals with groovy feel-good songs will have audiences dancing and singing in their heads for weeks after.

Hot Club of San Francisco

Tuesday, May 19, 2020 ~ 7:00 pm

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