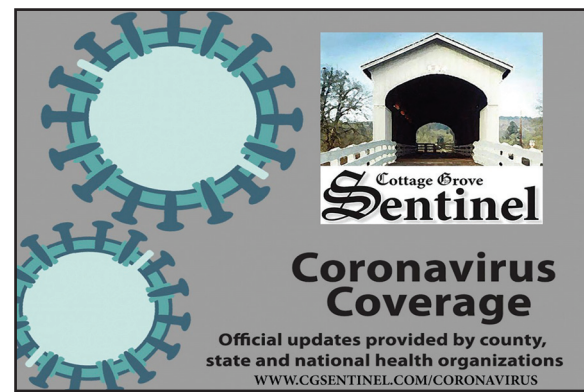


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WEATHER




Sunny skies with a high of 80 and a low tonight of 51.
Full forecast on A5

EVENTS



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COMMUNITY — B



Betty Kaiser talks peach canning
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SLSD provides latest learning blueprint

Grades 4-12 likely to be online-only until at least October under the latest state metrics

By DAMIEN SHERWOOD
DSHERWOOD@CGSENTINEL.COM

South Lane School District (SLSD) staff and administration presented its latest blueprint for re-opening to the school board on Aug. 10, providing more details of the plan while maintaining the caveat that it is a climate in flux.

“We are constantly getting information from the state and we’ll be getting information from our parents soon with regards to our plan,

so we need to be able to be flexible,” said Assistant Superintendent Brian McCasline.

The district’s blueprint is due for Lane County Public Health (LCPH) review Aug. 15.

McCasline presented the plan for the board’s review Monday, a blueprint which saw more than 70 people in three committees invest more than 900 staff work hours since June, he said.

The committee work focused on three areas: Hygiene/Organization,

Content/Delivery and Social/Emotional/Behavioral Needs.

Oregon Department of Education has provided guidance titled “Ready Schools, Safe Learners,” upon which SLSD’s blueprint is based.

In determining a re-opening schedule, however, the district must take into consideration metrics handed down from Governor Kate Brown’s office.

State opening metrics released last Tuesday by the governor mean

the majority of students in Oregon schools will likely be attending via online-only until at least October. The only exception to this could be K-3 students, which may be allowed to attend on-site class in a limited hybrid model as early as September.

The metrics dictate that, statewide, the positivity rate for all tests must be at or below 5 percent to allow opening.

See **SLSD 9A**



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL



Signage for the new Italian restaurant (top) located in the renovated Bank Building; the building today (bottom left) and before renovations (below).

COURTESY PHOTOS

Future of Bank Building looks bright

By DAMIEN SHERWOOD
DSHERWOOD@CGSENTINEL.COM

After 18 months of construction and renovation, the Bank Building has re-opened for business — and business is booming.

The man behind the project, local developer Len Blackstone, took on the building project in a bid to improve the city’s access to jobs and has introduced a unique space for office rentals as part of that mission.

“It’s provided a space for people

to work,” he said. “But it also provides a space for small business that’s just getting going.”

As well as being gutted and remodeled for modern appeal, outside changes to the building have returned a nostalgic charm to the corner of Main and Sixth streets.

In point, the renovation of the building’s façade is meant to replicate its classic appearance from a century ago.

Built in 1904, the two-story building was originally the site of the Cottage Grove Bank, earning

its namesake. When that institution failed and moved out in 1929, businesses began claiming space and a hodgepodge of changes contributed to the building falling out of recognition. Decades of patchwork modifications had stripped the building of much of its original aesthetic, causing a lack of architectural continuity between its ground floor businesses while leaving the second floor’s face to weather and crack due to inattention.

See **BANK 7A**

City holds first vote on bike ordinance

By DAMIEN SHERWOOD
DSHERWOOD@CGSENTINEL.COM

The Cottage Grove City Council held its first vote on an ordinance updating city code regarding bicycles, roller skates, skateboards and sleds during a virtual council meeting on Aug. 10.

The council unanimously voted to an amended version of the ordinance which prohibits these personal transportation devices only within the downtown area, with no special restrictions in the rest of the city.

The ordinance cannot be adopted in one meeting and will be revisited at the next meeting.

The code will replace

See **CITY 6A**

Downtown T-shirts support local business

By DAMIEN SHERWOOD
DSHERWOOD@CGSENTINEL.COM

Grocers can now display their local pride in fashion as the Main Street Program, in partnership with the Economic Business Improvement District, has launched the sale of T-shirts to support local businesses.

“It’s a way to get people involved in the community, bring people together, support our local businesses and give back to them,” said Main Street Coordinator Molly Murai.

Proceeds from the sales of the T-shirts, which feature a downtown logo and a list of local establishments, will be divided equally among more than a dozen businesses which

See **SHIRTS 5A**

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