

SLCFR *from A5*

Thursday (June 18.)

Following more than an hour of executive session discussion regarding the matter, board members Tom Monroe, Cheryl Shannon and Dan Duffy voted in favor of the reinstatement while Board President Joel Higdon and Board Vice President Jennifer Radcliffe voted against the motion.

Radcliffe announced her resignation immediately following the vote.

Wooten had been placed on non-disciplinary paid administrative leave after a controversial post made by Wooten on Facebook was amplified by a KEZI News report on June 2.

The post in question read: "So I made the comment we should shoot the rioters and someone asked me how I could possibly do that. I replied it depended on distance, wind, temp, humidity and a few other variables but once I had the calculations done it would be a matter of breathing control and trigger squeeze."

Public responses to the report were split into both support and condemnation of Wooten and his post, prompting petitions and even a street-side rally backing the chief.

Podcast 'Encounters' topics in The Grove
(July 16)

Binding people of diverse view-points poses a challenge in turbulent and polarizing climates, but podcasters Josh Fattal and Rosie Foraker are hoping a

modern solution can help solve this age-old problem.

The hosts of the Encounter Cottage Grove podcast have been digging their fingers into the soil of small-town concerns for a couple months now, while attempting to place the community in a broader national and sometimes global context.

"It's the idea that each person is a mystery unto themselves and we are encountering each other," said Fattal. "And part of the podcast is exploring each other. But it's also exploring each other and having the town encounter itself in a sense."

DevNW completes six new homes in CG
(Aug. 20)

Nonprofit DevNW unveiled six new affordable homes in Cottage Grove on Monday, moving the city another step forward in its mission to increase housing availability in the area.

"Cottage Grove was really great in terms of all the permits and helping keep the project on track," said Erin Dey, DevNW director of real estate development. "We had a very good experience with the city."

DevNW was created last year when nonprofits Neighborhood for Economic Development Corporation and Corvallis-based Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services united to increase regional impact. The nonprofit aims to empower communities through a variety of methods such as financial counseling, revitalization projects and assistance programs.

The cluster of Cottage

Grove cottages were developed just off Arthur Avenue and all six homes are scheduled to be closing deals by the end of the month with families ideally moving in soon thereafter.

Smoke, power outages sweep Willamette Valley
(Sept. 10)

Smoke from regional wild-fires filled the Willamette Valley Monday night as power outages swept the region, affecting many rural communities including Dorena and London.

Lane County Emergency Management issued a warning Monday at 4:30 p.m. that strong easterly winds were expected starting that afternoon, continue into Wednesday. By Monday evening, smoke and ash from wildfires had begun its descent into the valley.

Much of the smoke came from the east where a wildfire along the McKenzie River, now called the McKenzie Fire, started Monday evening around 9 p.m. when a power line reportedly went down. A Level 3 "Go Now" evacuation notice was issued on Tuesday for all residents from Waltherville Elementary east to the McKenzie River Station, including all roads north and south of Highway 126 along the 35-mile stretch.

Stinnett appointed to Ward 2 council seat
(Oct. 1)

The Cottage Grove City

Council convened as a full seven-person body Monday night for the first time since the passing of Councilor Bob Ehler in May this year.

In a unanimous vote, the council decided to appoint candidate Jon Stinnett as councilor of the Ward 2 seat, a position Stinnett is currently vying for in the General Election on Nov. 3, 2020.

In the council's memorandum, it was reasoned that appointing Stinnett before the election would not only fill the seat with a voting body, but provide an opportunity for Stinnett to get accustomed to the role of councilor.

At the council's June 8 meeting, councilors discussed the possibility of filing the Ward 2 seat. Several possible applicants expressed interest at the time and two candidates ended up applying.

Although councilors had decided to let the election play out rather than appoint an applicant, candidate Ashley Rigel withdrew on Aug. 18, leaving Stinnett to run unopposed.

New shelters to provide respite for unhoused
(Nov. 25)

As night temperatures continue their gradual seasonal decline, a new model of warming shelters is set to debut in Cottage Grove this December.

The Cottage Grove City Council voted for the purchase of 18 Pallet Shelters on Oct. 26, addressing an anticipated need to secure

shelter this winter for the unhoused.

Currently erected and standing by in the Cottage Grove City Shops property, the shelters are awaiting site preparation, which is estimated to be completed mid-December.

The shelters are manufactured by the Washington-based company Pallet, which defines itself as a "social purpose company" aiming to end unsheltered homelessness and develop a nontraditional workforce.

The structures are built to be an efficient, safe and affordable option for temporary cottage-style housing.

Legion Cottages welcomes first occupants
(Dec. 17)

Cottage Grove passed another milestone in affordable housing this week as Legion Cottages, a Homes for Good project to provide housing for low-income veterans, began welcoming in tenants.

"It's really getting people into a solid and safe, clean place to live that they can stay in for the rest of their

lives if they want to," said Homes for Good Real Estate Development Director Steve Ochs. "There's no end to when they can stay here."

Legion Cottages consists of four tiny home developments located between Ash Avenue and Main Street behind the American Legion.

All four approved tenants are veterans coming out of homelessness, determined as the most in need for housing in partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs out of Eugene.

The 384-square-foot loft-style homes will be managed and maintained by Homes for Good staff from Riverview Terrace, another Homes for Good apartment community located directly across Main Street from the cottages.

The partnership with Riverview Terrace will give veterans access to the complex's community room, laundry facilities and maintenance staff.

And now, on to 2021...

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South Lane Mental Health Grupo FUERTE

La pandemia de Covid-19 impacta nuestros niveles de estrés y ansiedad. Una forma de lidiar con los efectos de la pandemia es buscar y crear conexiones sociales en su comunidad. Grupo FUERTE es un grupo de apoyo para hombres hispanohablantes en el condado Lane. Únete al Grupo FUERTE para aprender de recursos locales, temas de bienestar mental y crea su propia red social. Este es un servicio gratuito patrocinado por South Lane Mental Health. Para más información o para inscribirse, llame a 541-942-3939 y pregunte por el Grupo FUERTE.

The Covid-19 pandemic impacts our stress and anxiety levels. One way to deal with the effects of the pandemic is to seek and build social connections in your community. Grupo FUERTE is a support group for Spanish speaking men in Lane County. Join Grupo FUERTE to learn about local resources, mental health topics and create your own social network. This is a free service sponsored by South Lane Mental Health. For more information or to enroll, call 541-942-3939 and ask about Grupo FUERTE.

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