SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF COTTAGE GROVE, CRESWELL, DORENA, DRAIN, ELKTON, LORANE AND YONCALLA | THURSDAY EDITION | FEBRUARY 11, 2020 | $1.00

Cottage Grove Sentinel

Est. 1889

VOL. 132, NO. 6 • *Your Local News Delivered Your Way: In Print. Online. On the Go!*

Bundle home & auto to save $$.

PayneWest INSURANCE

(541) 942-0555

WEATHER

Rain with a high of 52 and a low tonight of 39.

Full forecast on A5

COOKING

Betty Keiser's Valentine's Day cheesecakes

B1

HUMOR

James Kazad Valentine's Day tips for men... sort of.

B2

• **RECORDS**
Obituaries
Official releases
A2

• **LORANE NEWS**
B1

• **CLASSIFIEDS**
Listings and public notices
B5-B6

FOLLOW US FOR THE LATEST NEWS:

/CGSentinel

@CGSentinel

541-942-3325 ph • 541-942-3328 fax
P.O. Box 35, Cottage Grove, OR 97424

DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

From left: Doris Graham, Yvonne Fasold and Dawn Nelson strike the classic "Rosie the Riveter" pose during the informal ceremony.

'Rosies' awarded with national honor

By Damien Sherwood
dsherwood@cgsentinel.com

Local "Rosie" Doris Graham was surprised to walk out to her driveway last week to learn she'd been awarded with a Congressional Gold Medal.

Yvonne Fasold, a past national president of American Rosie the Riveter Association (ARRA) and whose mother was a welder during the war, presented Graham with a certificate in an informal ceremony which celebrated Graham's and other Rosies' contribution to the country during World War II.

"Well, I think it's wonderful. It feels great," said Graham, laughing, "I don't get this much recognition from my own family."

Dawn Nelson, a daughter of another local Rosie — Opal Nelson — who passed just last year, accepted a certificate on her mother's behalf at the informal ceremony as well.

Rosie the Riveter became an American cultural icon of WWII, representing women in the workforce who contributed to production for the war effort. With more than 16 million Americans serving in the war, many women took

See **ROSIES 5A**

City appropriates unforeseen expenditures

By Damien Sherwood
dsherwood@cgsentinel.com

On Monday night, the City of Cottage Grove squared away much of its expenditures which took place over a tumultuous past year.

In a resolution, the city council established appropriations within the 2020-21 Budget for the expenditure of unforeseen funds as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

In July last year, the City of Cottage Grove entered into an agreement with the Oregon Department of Administrative Services to receive Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF) through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act).

The funds were unforeseen at the time of the 2020-21 Budget adoption.

Through the CARES Act CRF program, the city was allocated $328,944.98 and expenditures which qualified according to the U.S. Department of the Treasury made between March 1, 2020, and Dec. 30, 2020, were eligible for reimbursement.

This deadline date was later extended to the end of 2021.

A portion of the funds, $60,370, were used to reimburse expenditures made during the 2019-20 Budget year and those funds were accounted for in the 2019-20 Budget.

"So if you added everything up in the resolution, it will be $60,370 less, because we won't be appropriating that," said City Manager Richard Meyers.

In the current budget year, a number of major projects were undertaken which would not have been done if not for the COVID-19 pandemic. These projects were not a part of the current budget and the expenditures had to be made in order to request any kind of reimbursement.

"And so we spent it out of a

See **FUNDING 7A**

Deadline passes for city assistant applications

By Damien Sherwood
dsherwood@cgsentinel.com

With the application deadline for a newly created Assistant to the City Manager position passing on Feb. 5, the process of gradually whittling down a pool of 26 applicants began this week.

"It's going to be a very difficult decision," said City Manager Richard Meyers.

The city began advertising for the position near the end of last month, eliciting not only a strong response of applicants, but curiosity from local residents.

The seemingly sudden creation of a new position with the city has had many in the community scratching their heads as to why such a person is needed — much less during a period of economic strain.

The position has been in the city's budget for the last two years, but has not been opened to applicants until now. A primary motivator for its creation, said Meyers, is an impending exodus of several key staff positions over the next several years.

"We're losing almost all of our administrative staff in the next year or two, maybe three," he said. "That's a huge, huge hit when many of the people that are leaving have 35 or 25 years in local government and all of a sudden we have nothing in the community but new people."

At least one of those positions is opening up later this year and Meyers' own position is included in the list.

Though no precise date has been set, he said he could see his retirement coming within the next year or two.

In order to see a more seamless transition with the several positions, Meyers reasons that an assistant will be able to serve in a broad capacity, picking up any slack where learning curves may provide challenges to new hires.

See **CITY 8A**

Boone resigns from City Council

By Damien Sherwood
dsherwood@cgsentinel.com

After a decade of serving as representative of Ward 1 in Cottage Grove, City Councilor Jake Boone officially stepped down from his position last Thursday (Feb. 4) at midnight.

"I am doing this because I am intending to seek employment and that employment will preclude my continuing on the council," he said in making the announcement at the previous week's city council meeting. "So, I do want to say I think in the 10 years I've been here, I have served under three mayors and with roughly a dozen different city councilors and it has been an absolute privilege and a joy. … I can't stress enough how lucky I have been to be on this council with these people who are able to consistently interact in a civil and productive way to get stuff done."

See **BOONE 6A**

Free Appraisals I'll Come to You!

BUY & SELL

Gold, Silver, Scrap, Men's Jewelry, Costume Jewelry, Pieces & Parts. Even Junk!

25+ Years Experience

The Jewelry Girl, LLC
Lisa Russell (541)556-9598

Install, Service, and Replace Pumps and Water Filtration Systems

Test Water Quality And Water Flow Rate

BONDED LICENSED INSURED CCB# 225978

EFPS
ERVIN FAMILY PUMP SERVICE LLC

Bonded Licensed Insured
CCB# 225978
Brandon Ervin (Owner)

Tel: 541.649.8100 • For service after hours, Call (503)991-9159
Email: ervinfamilypumpervice@gmail.com