

CGHS student takes second place in statewide Mayors Contest

SALEM, Ore. – Kourtney Owens, a 12th grader at Cottage Grove High School won the second-place prize for her digital presentation in the Oregon Mayors Association's (OMA) "If I Were Mayor..." civic awareness contest.

Each year, students statewide compete in three age groups using different media, describing what it would mean if they were the mayor of their city. Posters are designed by 4th and 5th grade students, 6th through 8th grade students write essays, and 9th through 12th grade stu-

dents produce a short video or other digital media presentation.

The competition begins with a local contest conducted by mayors. The local first-place winners are entered in the state-level competition in the spring, which is judged by members of the OMA Judging Committee. Fifteen cities participated in this year's contest at the local level, with 26 entries being forwarded to the state-level competition.

As a second-place winner, Kourtney will receive a check for \$300.00. Other

second-place prize winners in the state competition were:

- Poster – Kaide Price, 4th grader from Imlay School in Hillsboro; and
 - Essay – Hallie Jones, 6th grader from Rosemont Ridge Middle School in West Linn.
- First-place winners in this year's statewide contest, each receiving a check for \$500.00, were:**
- Poster – Madalyn Coleman, 5th grader, Home-Schooled in Sweet Home;
 - Essay – Harrison Swift, 7th grader from Redmond Proficiency Academy in Redmond; and
 - Video/Digital Media – Chaela Baker, 12th grader, also from Redmond Proficiency Academy.

Third-place prize winners in the statewide contest, each receiving a check for \$100.00 were:

- Poster – Averi Gustafson, 5th grader from Tom McCall Elementary in Forest Grove;
 - Essay – Lilyana Oien, 6th grader from Happy Valley Middle School in Happy Valley; and
 - Video/Digital Media – Cecily Cooper, 10th grader from Crook County High School, Prineville.
- This year's first, second and third-place prizes were provided through a generous donation from Pacific-Corp. Entries may be viewed on the OMA web page at www.oregonmayors.org/special-programs/page/student-contest.

Free rides offered between Eugene and Roseburg

Umpqua Public Transportation District (UPTD) has started a new bus route called the Lane-Douglas Connector (LDC).

This new service offers safe, reliable, accessible transportation to veterans and the general public in rural communities for better access to healthcare services and shopping opportunities.

Lane-Douglas Connector operates from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays with scheduled stops at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Roseburg, Ray's Food in Drain, Walmart and

PeaceHealth Medical Center in Cottage Grove, and the Veterans Affairs Clinic in Eugene (LTD bus stop nearby).

The stop in Drain serves as a connection point for passengers of the North Douglas Betterment shuttle.

The route is operated by South Lane Wheels as a pilot project funded by the Rural Veterans Healthcare Transportation grant.

For service information and timetable go to: www.southlanetransit.com, or to schedule a ride, call UPTD dispatch toll-free at 888-232-8121.

The Cottage Grove Lions Club is proud to sponsor the 2021 Summer Reading page

Blood drive coming to Elks Lodge

Bloodworks, a blood bank and medical research institute headquartered in Seattle, will be conducting a blood drive at the Cottage

Grove Elks Lodge on Aug. 2 and 3. To schedule an appointment, visit bloodworksnw.org or call 1-800-398-7888.



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Wastewater Superintendent Erich Schroeder explains the role of the chlorine contact basin to guests on the wastewater treatment plant tour on July 22.

TOUR from A1

well," said Boone, who was also in attendance. "In my personal opinion, it seemed that everybody there was really engaged and interested."

City staff and councilors have discussed improving community outreach efforts this year as part of new goal setting efforts.

The idea for the tours

followed from this as a way "to help our local residents, which includes the council, better understand how all of this infrastructure that they are paying for works and why it's important and why it costs what it does," said Boone. "Also, why we need skilled persons on staff to be able to run these things – to give people a window on those complexities."

Two more rounds of tours are planned in the coming months. The next three-week round of tours for the next group will include councilors Greg Ervin, Kenneth Michael Roberts and Jon Stinnett, beginning Aug. 12.

A final round of tours including Mayor Jeff Gowing will begin on Sept. 2.

The inclusion of the Cottage Grove City Council in the tours was a purposeful addition.

"There's no point in doing a bunch of tours to educate the citizenry about these things and not include our city councilors, who are the ones who are most directly making decisions about them," said Boone. "Everybody who comes on the city council gets a tour of those locations, but it's not as in-depth."

The potential for future tours covering other aspects of city remain, but no plans have yet been made.

Those interested in joining a tour group can contact the city manager's office at 541-942-5501 for more information.

More information on the wastewater treatment plant can be found in brochures at the front desk of City Hall.

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Contact: Meg Fringer
541-942-3325 x1200
mfringer@cgsentinel.com

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