

HONOR *from A1*

disappear.” He encouraged the community to offer thanks to those who have served. In his opening prayer, VFW Chaplain Bryan Ducker spoke of the impossibility of measuring a veteran’s worth. “How do you measure a veteran’s sacrifice? Is it by the numbers of friends and family he left behind? Is it by the month or the years given in service? How do you measure a

veteran’s courage? Is it by the number of objectives completed, or by the numbers of bullets dodged, or the missions served? How do you measure veterans honor? Is it by the duty he or she volunteered for or by the number of medals earned? “The simple truth is that all these things are unmeasurable and it is this country’s debt to all those who have served to pay the price for freedom of this land.” Mayor Jeff Gowing took the podium to reflect on the new generation of service men and women he

has seen. “Now I’m the old veteran trying to digest reality,” he said. “I’m proud to be

preacher who has given us freedom of religion. It is the veteran, not the reporter who has given us

politician who has given us the right to vote. It is the veteran, who salutes the flag, who serves

operation. “It was rewarding to watch the tanks roar across. It was mesmeriz-



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Boy Scout Troop 140 opened and closed the ceremony as the color guard.

a veteran, but I’m more proud that there are many young men and women willing to serve this great nation to ensure that we will remain free. ... For all of you that rose your hand and swore that oath, I thank you.” Hunt then returned to recite a poem: *It is the veteran, not the*

freedom of the press. It is the veteran, not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the veteran, not the campus organizer who has given us freedom to assemble. It is the veteran, not the lawyer who has given us the right to a fair trial. It is the veteran, not the



DAMIEN SHERWOOD/COTTAGE GROVE SENTINEL

Vets stood as their branches’ songs were sung by the Lincoln Middle School choir.

under the flag and whose coffin will be draped by the flag. The keynote speaker this year was District 13 VFW Commander Bob Beck. Beck served in the Army Reserve from 1975 to 1997. He spent five years in active duty, three of those years in West Germany in one year in Korea. Beck recounted his life in the military, even looking back fondly upon a float bridge construction

ing,” he said. He asked the audience to thank their veterans and to use the day to celebrate “their determination, dedication and unwavering patriotism.” Bookending the ceremony, Boy Scout Troop 140 acted as the color guard, presenting and retiring flags. Lincoln Middle School Choir performed several patriotic songs and other melodies throughout the event. Chaplain Ducker conducted closing prayers.

NOTICE OF CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION VACANCY

The City of Cottage Grove Historic Preservation Commission will have one vacancy at the end of this year. The Commissioners are appointed by the City Council. The Historic Preservation Commission meets twice a month on the 2nd & 3rd Monday evenings. Incumbents are eligible to reapply. Individuals interested in applying for these positions need to complete a Historic Preservation Commission application available at the Public Works & Development Department at City Hall or online at: [www.http://cottagegrove.org](http://cottagegrove.org). The deadline for receiving applications is **December 13th, 2021 at 5 pm.** For further information please contact the Public Works & Development Department at 541-942-3340.

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