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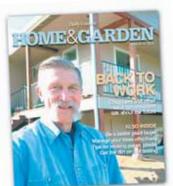


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Daily Courier

FRIDAY MARCH 16, 2018

State of the City: Public safety is a top priority

By Troy Shinn of the Daily Courier

Public safety and infrastructure topped the agenda of the wellattended and first public State of the City address at Grants Pass City Hall on Thursday.

The city years ago used to do an annual State of the City for the Grants Pass Association of Realtors, but the speech by Mayor Darin Fowler was the first that was open to the general public.

The city's No. 1 priority of keeping citizens safe was discussed at length, with Fowler speaking about some of the moves the city has made to improve the atmosphere downtown and pass key levies.

The mobile soup kitchen, created by a partnership with the city and St. Vincent de Paul, went live last year.

It serves food to the needy at various locations around town, borne out of an effort to reduce the concentration of street people at the St. Vincent de Paul downtown soup kitchen location.

Officials say the effort has been successful.

"It really helped them get services to those who need them," Fowler said. "It's part of the effort to improve the atmosphere downtown ... because when we drive bad behavior out. our businesses are more successful.

He also mentioned the passage of both the city and county public safety levies.

"We had tremendous support and the county levy wouldn't have passed if it weren't for the support of Grants Pass, Fowler said, referencing the approvai spiit between city and county residents.

However, he made sure to point out that these are just the first of many steps to a fully funded criminal justice system.

"People often talk about how now it's fully funded, but it's not," he said. "We still don't have full patrols (in the county) and the city still does most of the detective work out in the county, meaning we are spending money and resources that we shouldn't have to.'

Turn to CITY, Page 7A

Oregon high court suspends judge who refused to marry gays

Three-year suspension of Vance Day is the longest handed down by state Supreme Court. Story, Page 3A



'Wonder of Flight' event encourages local youth to believe they can fly



Students line up to try out the cockpit of a Erickson Air-Crane helicopter named "Incredible Hulk" at the Discover the Magic and Wonder of Flight event held at the Dutch Bros. hangar at the Grants Pass Airport on Thursday.

Students gathered at the Grants Pass Airport to learn about opportunities available in the aviation industry

By Jeff Duewel of the Daily Courier

 ${\tt MERLIN-North\ Valley\ High\ School\ sophomore}$ Skylee Sansaver hopped into the cockpit of an Erickthe Magic and Wonder of Flight" event at the Grants

Then she talked to an Oregon Air National Guard recruiter.

Then she heard keynote speaker Shaesta Waiz tell how she was inspired to fly, and became at age 30 the youngest woman in history to fly solo around the world in a single-engine plane.

Sansaver's goal of becoming a pilot took deeper root, even though she's just 15.

"That was amazing," Sansaver said afterward. "It makes me want to do it even more."

About 75 students and an equal number of others heard the hour-long program inside the Dutch Bros. Coffee hangar at the airport, put on by the Southern Oregon Education Service District. Attendance was about the same for a second evening session.

Waiz told of her shy youth, in a family of six girls that emigrated from Afghanistan to Richmond, Calif., in 1987, to escape their war-torn homeland.

"When I found aviation at age 18 my life changed right before my eyes," Waiz said. "I suddenly realized something in that airplane. Where you're from, the challenges you faced, your background, it's all irrelevant. The only thing that matters is the pilot's ability to fly the aircraft. That empowered me to do more in

She founded Dreams Soar, a program to reach out to children. She contacted 3,000 of them on her journey around the world that ended May 2017 in Daytona, Florida, her starting point.

She flew in a Beechcraft Bonanza 836, a singleengine plane.

Turn to AVIATION, Page 7A



Shaesta Waiz, an Afghan-American pilot, is the first female Afghan certified civilian pilot and became the youngest woman to fly around the world solo in a single engine aircraft. She was a keynote speaker at **Grants Pass Airport's Discover the Magic** and Wonder of Flight event Thursday.



President Donald Trump talks with reporters during a meeting with Irish Prime Minister Leo Varadkar in the Oval Office of the White House on Thursday.

White House on edge as **Trump weighs** yet more staff changes

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump consumed Thursday morning's TV headlines with amusement. Reports of tumult in the administration were at a feverish pitch — even on his beloved Fox News — as the president reflected on the latest staff departures during an Oval Office conversation with Vice President Mike Pence and Chief of Staff John Kelly.

With a laugh, Trump said: "Who's next?"

It's the very question that has the whole White House on edge. In recent weeks, the president's top economic adviser has resigned over a policy dispute, the secretary of state he long clashed with was fired and a slew of top aides headed for the exits. An increasingly confident Trump is privately weighing still more changes, expressing frustration with certain advisers and sifting through possible replacements.

Many close to Trump think more upheaval is coming soon. The president is moving toward replacing national security adviser H.R. McMaster, but has not settled on exact timing or a successor, said four people with knowledge of White House deliberations. Kelly has also worn on the president, confidants of the president said. And Veterans Affairs Secretary David Shulkin, under fire for ethics violations, appears to be grasping to keep his job.

Turn to STAFF, Page 7A

JoCo Commissioners will have a say in Kruse's replacement

By Shaun Hall of the Daily Courier

The Josephine County Board of Commissioners will have a say, albeit a small one, in choosing who will replace state Sen. Jeff Kruse of Roseburg.

Commissioners in five counties containing parts of the Republican's sprawling District 1 will have a say, based on the number of voters living in the district in each county.

Kruse's district dips in northern Josephine and Jackson counties. It also extends into Coos and Curry

Turn to KRUSE, Page 7A

Local artist puts finishing touch on GPHS informational murals

By Edith Decker of the Daily Courier

This week Grants Pass High School students stopped to notice some new artwork down the hall from the college and career center.

Over the weekend, professional artist and sign painter J Marshall had swooped in and completed a long-planned mural on three walls to represent the many options for further education that Grants Pass graduates have.

"It gave them food for thought, which is what

the idea was supposed to be," says Marshall. GPHS Principal Ryan Thompson had the idea

for the project after a walking tour of the building with a site committee.

We have really blank wall space in our interiors and we felt like there was a lot we could do to promote a college and career environment within our walls," Thompson said. "We want students to be thinking about what their next destination is."

Marshall worked and reworked the plan for the mural, beginning with a list of the 65 colleges, vocational and technical schools in Oregon that offer further education.

Turn to MURAL, Page 7A



Artist J Marshall (left) speaks with **Grants Pass High School Principal Ryan** Thompson in front of part of the mixed media mural Marshall created last week end in one of the school's long hallways.

TIMOTHY BULLARD



4 Sections, 86 Pages Volume CVIII No. 128 Issue 32388 The Daily Courier

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OVERNIGHT LOW

Five-day forecast on Page 2A

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City From 1A

Looking to the future, he said the city is still aiming for the formation of an independent fire district, so that fire and rescue services will have its own funding, separate from the Department of Public Safety.

"A lot of cities have made that move already ... to get away from the city entanglements they have to do in order to deal with larger depart-

He mentioned how cities like Medford benefit from mutual aid programs that Grants Pass doesn't have enough of.

"When a fire breaks out in Medford, they have all these surrounding cities that can help them out," Fowler said. "We have some private entities, like

Rural/Metro, but we don't have those other partners to rely on so we will be taking a hard look at moving towards that in the future."

The other noticeable projects

in the city involve infrastruc-

ture, most notably the ongoing upgrades at the water restoration plant and the need for a new water treatment plant. The water restoration plant

also known as the wastewater or sewage plant — is currently undergoing a \$23.5 million project to upgrade crucial systems that were so outdated they often led to failures at the plant.

That project is being financed by bonds, which city residents are paying off through 7 percent rate hikes in their sewer bills every year for three years. The first of three annual increases took effect in January.

Importantly, those upgrades

are called "Phase II," meaning more work is still to be done.

Speaking of rate increases, the construction of a new water treatment plant, needed to replace the Depression-era facility on Southeast M Street, will also require rate hikes.

The current water plant is deteriorating and unlikely to survive even a moderate earthquake, let alone the massive Cascadia event that officials say the region is long overdue

Key questions still remain about the size and location of the plant, and rate hikes are on hold until those elements are known, though the project carries a current estimated pricetag of \$56 million.

Fowler called it the "single largest project this city has ever undertaken.'

Stormwater is another big

undertaking, with Public Works hiring a new assistant director to help oversee the implementation of projects involving wastewater.

These are needed to comply with new state regulations, not to mention to address the flooding concerns created by Grants Pass growing and becoming increasingly more urban.

Fowler acknowledged the feeling that all this is hitting Grants Pass at once, but that these decisions couldn't keep being kicked down the road.

'We'll continue approaching (these goals) with the same zeal and tenacity, just as we have for years," he said. "We have to continue our leadership of never pushing off the hard decisions."

Reach reporter Troy Shinn at 541-474-3806 or tshinn@thedailycourier.com



A few hours into the flight, off the coast of eastern Canada, she had to turn around because an antenna on the wing came loose and started whacking the side of the plane.

She actually thought about ditching the whole adventure,

but persevered.
"I thought if there was ever a time I needed to be brave, this was it," she said. "So many kids wrote to me and said 'I can't believe you're flying around the world.' I thought: 'I have to con-

She did, stopping at the Azores, Spain, Sardinia, Greece, Egypt, Dubai, India, Thailand, Australia, Fiji, and Hawaii before kissing the ground upon reaching California.

The students also heard about the Horizon Air Pilot Development Program, from LaMar Haugaard of Alaska Airlines, which owns Horizon.

The program could result in a few students receiving \$7,500 for flight training and a guaranteed interview with Horizon down the road.

A deal is in the works with Pacific Aviation Northwest of Grants Pass, the fixed base operator at the Grants Pass Air-

port.
"I hope you people here today fully grasp the message you just heard," Haugaard said of Waiz's story.

He added that a serious pilot shortage made Thursday's event even more pertinent.

"You folks have a tremendous opportunity," he said. "This industry is wide open. The demand for pilots in this country outstrips the entire pilot population of regional carriers 17,000."

Students were bused in from Jackson and Josephine coun-

"It made me want to at least look into being a pilot more," added Carson Lowe, a Rogue Community College student. "It opened my eyes to the opportunities in this area, to get started in aviation."

Larry Graves, manager of Josephine County Airports, helped organized the event along with Caleb LaPlante, board member for Southern Oregon Air Academy.

The air academy, a weeklong summer school at the Grants Pass Airport that is now approaching its third year, dovetails with the push to get more young people into avia-

"If I could have gone to something like this in high school ..." Graves said. "I wasted 10 years trying to figure out what I wanted to do.

Graves said Dutch Bros. pilots Chad Hermanson and Brett Hopper, who also spoke to students at the event, are examples of local people who met their goals of flying.

"They grew up here, they live here, they raise families here," Graves said.

Reach reporter Jeff Duewel at 541-474-3720 or jduewel@thedailycourier.com

Trump has expressed frustration with aides whom he believes try to "manage" him according to several current and former White House officials and has grown tired of efforts by his staff to stall controversial actions they disagree with. Trump, the officials said, wants a lively discussion — he often talks about enjoying conflict among his aides — but has grown irritated that some try to undermine his decisions.

As Trump reshapes his administration, those who are taking over some of the vacated administration jobs tend to have closer ties to the president and signal more willingness to buy into his ways.

Trump's nominee to be the next secretary of state -CIA director Mike Pompeo — is a longtime favorite of the president who has demonstrated rare ability to navigate the West Wing. A campaign supporter of Trump's, Pompeo developed a strong personal relationship with the president by regularly attending his daily intelligence

briefing.

And Trump has known his pick to replace Cohn for decades. He's CNBC contributor Larry Kudlow, who opposes taxing foreign imports, yet still says he's "in accord" with Trump's agenda.

Kruse From 1A

With the bulk of the district in Douglas County, commissioners there get 16 votes apiece, compared with 2.3 votes for Josephine County commissioners and only .3 votes for each Jackson County

commissioner. Commissioners in Coos and Curry get 5.7 and 5.3 votes, respectively.

Because Kruse is a Republican, sometime next month commissioners are expected to act on nominations from a con-

vention GOP precinct committee persons. That group are expected to meet March

Names floated so far for possible HEARD replacements include state



Rep. Dallas Heard, R-Roseburg, whose House District extends into northeast Josephine County nearly to Merlin and



encompassing

Wolf Creek and Sunny Valley Another possible candidate is state Rep. David Brock Smith, R-Port Orford.

Kruse resigned effective Thursday, following an investigation that determined he had harassed at least eight women in the Capitol building with prolonged hugging, groping and other unwelcome physical contact. Kruse maintains his innocence.

The Oregon Secretary of State's Office is overseeing the process.

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New York Exchange

NEW YO	PRK (AP) —	CocaCola	43.68	+ .01	Hess	48.76	+ .15	Praxair	153.96	-1.71
Today's noon New York		ColgPalm	69.61	+ .05	HonwIlIntl	152.22 -	+ 1.15	ProctGam	79.03	+ .36
Stock Excl	nange selected	ConocoPhil	54.48	+ .45	Idacorp	84.75	+ .72	RockwlAut	183.99	+2.23
orices:		ConEd	76.81	+ .23	IBM	161.39 -	+ 1.78	SempraEn	111.67	54
Stock	Last Chg	CurtisWrt	136.92 -	+ 1.46	IntPap	54.90	+ .48	SouthnCo	43.92	
AT&T Inc	37.31 + .26	Deere	163.16 -	+ 3.56	JohnJn	133.02	04	Tegna		+ .09
AerojetR	27.4253	Disney	103.74	+ .50	Loews	51.29	+ .35			
Altria	63.86 + .05	DowDuPnt	68.51	+ .63	LaPac	29.87	+ .76	Textron		+ .09
AEP	67.22 + .23	Eaton	81.20	+ .93	MDU Res	27.20	42	ЗМ Со	237.48	
AmIntlGrp	54.5413	EdisonInt	64.16	+.16	MarathnO	15.12	+ .21	TimeWarn	96.82	06
ApldIndIT	73.65 + .55	ExxonMbl	74.79	+ .37	McDnlds	162.30	+ .69	Timken	45.40	+ .60
Avon	2.7812	FMC Corp	82.89 -	+ 1.82	McKesson	152.94	-1.02	TriContl	27.29	+ .30
3P PLC	39.42 + .39	FootLockr	44.28	+ .82	Merck	55.64	+ .39	UnionPac	138.18	+1.92
3kofAm	32.49 + .39	FordM	11.19		NCR Corp			Unisys	11.48	+ .28
BarrickG	12.23 + .01	GenDynam	223.30	+ .70	NorflkSo	139.19		USSteel		+1.72
Boeing	327.97 -2.01	GenElec	14.29	07	NorthropG		+ .64	VarianMed		
BrMySq	67.27 + 1.02	GenMills	50.75	18	OcciPet	64.07	+ .16			
3runswick		GenMotors		+.11	Olin	31.45	+ .15	VerizonCm		
Caterpillar		HP Inc	23.76		PG&E Cp		+ .88	ViadCorp		+ .45
Chevron	115.5107	Hallibrtn	45.87	+ .58	Penney	3.10	+ .07	WalMart		+ 1.35
Citigroup	74.00 + .66	HeclaM	3.85	01	Pfizer	36.98	+ .40	WellsFargo	57.03	+ .20

Commodities

Gold

Selected world gold prices, today London morning fixing: \$1323.35 London afternoon fixing: \$1318.75 NY Handy & Harman: \$1318.75 NY Handy & Harman fabricated: \$1463.81 NY Engelhard: \$1321.89 NY Engelhard fabricated: \$1421.03 NY Merc. gold: \$1316.80

NY HSBC Bank USA: \$1317.00 **Metals**

NEW YORK (AP) - Spot nonferrous metal prices today. Aluminum - \$0.9506 per lb., Lon-

don Metal Exch. Copper - \$3.1110 (pound) NY Merc spot

21.13 20.92 21.06

Lead - \$2453.50 metric ton, London Metal Exch. Zinc - \$1.4875 per lb., London Metal

Silver - \$16.415 Handy & Harman Silver - \$16.353 troy oz., NY Merc spot Platinum - \$959.00 Handy & Harman Platinum - \$956.90 troy oz., NY Merc spot

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 Open High
 Low
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 Chg.

 May 18
 493.3
 496.0
 487.5
 489.9

 Jul 18
 482.0
 483.1
 475.0
 480.0

 Sep 18
 464.7
 468.4
 464.7
 468.4
 447.1 447.1 447.1 447.1 432.1 432.1 432.1 432.1 Est. sales 311 Thu' sales 677

35.81 35.46 35.75

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+.75 +1.5

+.22 +1.0

+.52 +1.0

-.21

+.06

-.48 -2.6

+.20

Staff From 1A

So intense was the swirl of speculation about McMaster that White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders tried to tamp things down late Thursday by "Just spoke to tweeting: @POTUS and Gen. H.R. McMaster - contrary to reports they have a good working relationship and there are no changes at the

This account of the tensions in the White House is based on conversations with 10 officials inside the White House and familiar with West Wing deliberations, all of whom spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss internal After more than 14 months in

office, Trump is reshaping his administration, seeking people more likely to fall in line with his policies and tolerate his moods. The factionalism that defined the early days of his tenure has faded and he has lost some of the close aides who could manage his volatile impulses. To some, the White House is increasing taking on the feel of a team of cheerleaders more than a team of

While dismissing news reports of looming departures, Trump also appeared to signal more changes to come on Thursday, telling reporters: "There will always be change.'

Trump's administration has set records for turnover among senior administration aides. Top economic adviser Gary Cohn and communications director Hope Hicks are leaving the White House in coming weeks. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson was just unceremoniously ousted. And junior-level aides were particularly troubled by the abrupt exit of Trump personal assistant John McEntee this week, who was removed from his job and escorted off White House grounds — then quickly handed a job on Trump's re-election campaign.

TIMOTHY BULLARD/Daily Courier

Skylee Sansaver, 15, tries the co-pilot's seat in a Erick-

son Air-Crane helicopter at the "Discover the Magic

and Wonder of Flight" event held at the Dutch Bros.

eventually wants to join the Air Force, she said.

hangar at the Grants Pass Airport Thursday. Sansaver

In private conversations in recent weeks with aides and friends, Trump has reflected on his desire to reshape the administration. Though the drumbeat of the ongoing Russia probe has only grown louder, the president believes that his recent decisions on tariffs and North Korea have breathed new life into his administration, and he is eager to take more "bold steps" that make his own mark. He has told confidants he wants to rid himself of staffers who hold him back.

Trump chafes at McMaster's demeanor, complaining that his aide lectures him, according to three current and former administration officials. Officials said McMaster has been sidelined in some internal discussions, with Kelly taking on a more active role in foreign policy decisions, because of the personal ten-

The president and McMaster have disagreed on a number of issues — including the Iran deal and the U.S. approach to North Korea — and the national security adviser has also clashed with Kelly and Defense Secretary James Mattis, according to the officials.

McMaster, in turn, is not a natural fit for the scattershot policy-making process in the White House and dislikes the

internal rivalries that so often divide the West Wing. He was the target of online attacks from the fringes of the right wing last summer, including for his alleged insufficient support of

During an earlier round of Trump discontent with his national security adviser, there was White House talk of providing McMaster, a three-star general, with a soft landing by giving him a fourth star along with a command in a priority area such as Afghanistan or Korea, according to a former senior administration official.

Kelly has been credited with imposing order on the chaotic West Wing, but his relationship with Trump has come under strain too.

Trump was said to be deeply irritated and to have considered firing Kelly over the negative publicity surrounding his handling of the controversy over ousted White House aide Rob Porter, who was accused of domestic abuse. The president also recently told an ally that he was still frustrated by an interview that Kelly gave to Fox News nearly two months ago in which he suggested that Trump had "evolved" in his thinking about the need for a wall on the Mexican border.

At least one of Trump's "generals" — the collection of military advisers he used to boast about — remains largely in good standing. The president is said to remain pleased with Mattis, as the defense secretary rarely publicly disagrees with Trump and has succeeded in quietly working through any differences, according to three White House officials and outside

Northwest Stocks

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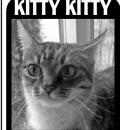
knock over tiny people, or love them

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neutered Catahoula Leopard Dog mix. I'm a people-pleaser and I do have manners, I just haven't been indoors much. so if vou want a

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Mural From 1A

"I was surprised to find so many," he said. "Let's put it this way: I got schooled in this process of learning about schools.'

It was too much to get onto one wall inside the center, so the project went outside into the hallway and took up three walls, Marshall said. While there Monday for a final look, Marshall

said he talked to a few students. 'They had no idea there were so many schools in Oregon," Marshall said. "Also I didn't realize what a thoroughfare that hallway is" for the stu-

Marshall has done many projects for schools in the area, dating back to soon after he moved here 15 years ago.

Jerome Prairie Principal Patti Davidson first hired him to paint a Kelso wheel at the school, a diagram intended to help students solve disagreements peacefully. That was the first of many he's painted over a dozen on schools around the Rogue Valley. Along the way, he's also painted mascots on

many gym and cafeteria walls and other pro-Though the budgets are always "slim" for school projects, Marshall said he loves doing the

work because it's helping young people. He and his wife are also foster parents. Marshall said he hopes his mural of excited graduates throwing their mortarboards in the air

is the first of many he paints at local high "We know that the youth of this town is really the future," Marshall said.

The project may not be the last at GPHS, Thompson said. "I think a mural can really highlight your ideals.

Reach reporter Edith Decker at 541-474-3724 or edecker@thedailycourier.com.