

FILM PREVIEW

Awards nominees and blockbusters are on the way

ENTERTAINMENT. 1B



YOUTH MOVEMENT

Grants Pass wrestling replaces 8 state qualifiers SPORTS, 8A



\$1.00 GRANTS PASS, ORE.

Daily Courier thursday DECEMBER 14, 2017

A HOT SLICE OF LAND

MOD Pizza might come to Grants Pass in a proposed development on Northeast Terry Lane



ABOVE: This property located between Parkway Christian Center and Carl's Jr. (background) is undergoing a site review process with city planners. BELOW: MOD Pizza opened in Medford's Northgate Shopping Center in February.

By Lisa Whiting of the Daily Courier

Grants Pass may be getting its own MOD Pizza, if negotiations opment Department. go as planned and the city gives a new commercial development project the green light.

The popular fast-casual pizza chain, based in the Seattle suburb of Bellevue, is one of several tenants set to occupy a strip mall planned for a large undeveloped lot behind the Carl's Jr. on Northeast Terry Lane, just off the Grants Pass Parkway.

The proposed site plans, drawn up by Gerlitz Engineering of Grants Pass, depict Aspen Dental and MOD Pizza as the building's anchor tenants, with Kay Jewelers and a wireless phone store occupying the remainder of the space.

Currently the project is undergoing a major site plan review by Aaron Anderson, a planner in the

The 10,300 square-foot building will be situated on a combination of four lots totalling 2.43 acres, zoned both general commercial and residential.

LRG Investors, of San Mateo, Calif., is the developer for the project.

The land is owned by JCK Enterprises of Eugene, which owns a numbers of Carl's Jr. franchises in the region.

"Right now we're under contract to purchase the land, and the current owner is on board with the plans," said Michael Butler of LRG, the developer.

Turn to MOD, Page 5A



LISA WHITING/Daily Courier

Arrival of Uber, Lyft requires city code review

Licensing issues arise as traditional taxi rules clash with ride-sharing

By Troy Shinn

of the Daily Courier

Ride-hailing services like Uber and Lyft may have gotten the green light to operate in Medford, but haven't yet in Grants Pass.

A release by the city on Tuesday stated that

the services were "operating in Grants Pass without obtaining the proper licensing" as required by municipal code.

This is because Medford just recently began

to allow the services, with the first Uber ride on Dec. 1. As in other places, the service is bleeding over into other areas where it's come into conflict with other local laws.

"Typically what happens when we start in a major city, the smaller cities that are close to the major city will come into that service area," said Uber spokesperson Jon Isaacs.

Turn to UBER, Page 6A

FCC overturns net neutrality regulations

By Tali Arbel and Barbara Ortutay Associated Press

In a vote along party lines, the federal government has ended sweeping net-neutrality rules that guaranteed equal access to the inter-

The vote today at the Federal Communications Commission will likely usher in big changes in how Americans use the internet, a radical departure from more than a decade of federal oversight. The move not only rolls back restrictions that keep broadband providers like Comcast, Verizon and AT&T from blocking or collecting tolls from services they don't like, but bars states from imposing their own rules.

The broadband industry promises that the internet experience isn't going to change, but its companies have lobbied hard to overturn these rules. Protests have erupted online and in the streets as everyday Americans worry that cable and phone companies will be able to control what they see and do online.

That growing public movement suggests that the FCC vote won't be the end of the issue.

Turn to FCC, Page 6A

• Learn what net neutrality is and why it matters. Page 6A.

Generous tax cuts for corporations, wealthy

Merged House and Senate bills also include a repeal of health care insurance mandate

By Stephen Ohlemcher, Andrew Taylor and Marcy Gordon Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Generous tax cuts for corporations and the wealthiest Americans would be delivered in a sweeping overhaul of the tax laws, under a new agreement crafted by Republicans in Congress.

Middle- and low-income families would receive smaller tax cuts, though President Donald Trump and Republican leaders have billed the package as a huge benefit for the middle class.

The agreement reached Wednesday by House and Senate GOP leaders also calls for scrapping a major tax requirement of the "Obamacare" health law, a step toward the ultimate GOP goal of unraveling the law.

The agreement combines

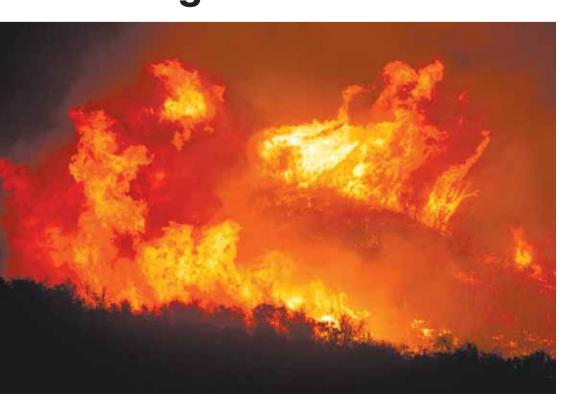
key elements of separate tax bills recently passed by the House and Senate, striking compromises on some of them. The Republicans are pushing to deliver final legislation to Trump before Christmas as the first major legislative accomplishment of his presidency.

At the White House, Trump was eager to receive it. "The cynical voices that opposed tax cuts grow smaller and weaker, and the American people grow stronger, he said. "This is for people of middle income, this is for companies that are going to create jobs. This is for very, very special people, the great people of America.'

The business tax cuts would be permanent, but reductions for individuals would expire after a decade — saving money to comply with Senate budget

Turn to TAX, Page 6A

Local firefighters are on California fire lines



The Thomas Fire in Southern California has consumed 237,500 acres near Ventura and Santa Barbara. It has already destroyed more than 700 homes, with 18,000 still threatened.

Fanned by high winds, 'flames are just incredible,' Illinois Valley captain says

By Jeff Duewel of the Daily Courier

Local firefighters aren't getting a break during the winter months because they've been sent in droves to help battle a massive wildfire in Southern California.

The Thomas Fire, the largest and most dangerous of dozens of Santa Ana wind-driven wildfires in the past 12 days, has consumed 237,500

Burning near Ventura and Santa Barbara, it has already destroyed more than 700 homes, with 18,000 still threatened.

Close to 8,000 firefighters are battling the fire, which is not only the fourth-largest fire in California history but also the only one to occur in Decem-

Turn to FIRE, Page 3A



2 Sections, 20 Pages Volume CVIII No. 62 Issue 32322 The Daily Courier www.thedailycourier.com



LOW

OVERNIGHT FRIDAY HIGH

Five-day forecast on Page 2A

WHERE TO FIND IT	Obi
Abby 5B	Opi
Classified 7-10B	Poli
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Entertainment1-5B	Sto

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