

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: August 3, 2018

### **Yard of the Week**

This week the Yard of the Week is located at 262 Cherry Court. The yard has been recently renovated and is a very bright spot in the neighborhood. Summer is winding down and there are only 8 more opportunities to recognize your neighbor or friend for the work they do to beautify the community. Get those nominations in before it is too late. Nominations can be submitted to the City or Chamber of Commerce.

### **Row River Trail Closure Dates Announced**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has posted notices that the Row River Trail will be closed between Harms Park and Smith Creek starting on Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. The closure is scheduled to last until October. The closed portion of the trail will be inaccessible during that time. There will be other temporary closures for work on the trail that will occur on weekdays only and the specific information about those closures when come as work on the trail moves forward.

### **Emergency Preparedness Fair**

This year, the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Emergency Preparedness Fair is partnering with Party in the Park in Coiner Park, Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am - 2:00pm. Together the two events hope to reach even more members of the community and prepare youth for school and everyone for emergencies.

The Emergency Preparedness Fair brings together a host of organizations and first responders focused on providing information on emergency preparedness and personal safety, and Party in the Park is dedicated to giving away backpacks filled with school supplies. There will be fun activities and delicious food. So be sure to stop by and get prepared.

### **2018-19 Historic Renovation Grants Available**

The Cottage Grove Historic Landmarks Commission is extending the deadline for applications for the annual Historic Renovation Grant Program. This program is designed to assist Downtown business & property owners with needed historic renovations. We have \$7500 to distribute this year in matching grants of up to \$5,000, depending on the scope of the project. This is more than we have ever had available, thanks to additional funds from the State Historic Preservation Department's Certified Local Government Program.

This is the eighth year of this grant program. Prior recipients have included the Club (neon sign repair), Pandora's (awning), IOOF (sign repair), Crafty Mercantile (rear door), the Cottage Grove Hotel (new awning), Burkholder Woods (corbel repair), Mortier building (Coca Cola mural, masonry repair), 802 E. Main Street (new stucco, roof repair), the Bookmine (awning and siding repair), and the First National Bank (masonry cleaning, windows repair).

The Historic Landmarks Commission will make these funds available to Downtown Historic District property owners or tenants who want to make improvements or perform maintenance on the exterior of their building.

Projects must meet the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation to qualify. Also, project work plans must be approved by the Historic Landmarks Commission and the State Historic Preservation Office before work may begin.

**Applications must be submitted by September 8, 2018.** Work must be completed (and receipts turned in) by June 30, 2019.

If you are interested in applying, please contact the Public Works & Development Department at (541) 942-3340 for more information. Applications and grant program guidelines are available at [www.cottagegrove.org](http://www.cottagegrove.org) or from the Public Works & Development Department, City Hall, 400 E. Main Street.

### **WET PAINT**

On Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 pm, Lane County will be repainting all the street striping throughout Cottage Grove. This will include the bike lanes. Please be careful to avoid driving on the painted street lines from 9:00 pm on Tuesday to 6:00 am Wednesday morning. If paint does get on your vehicle it is a water based paint that can be removed with a soap and water before it dries.

### **Row River Trail Safety Improvements**

Monday evening at the Community Center, Lane County Public Works Department held a transportation safety meeting. At the meeting they presented three safety improvements the County will undertake in 2019. All three of the projects are in the Cottage Grove area. One is along the Row River Trail at the Layng Road crossing and the other at the Row River Road and Stewart Bake Park crossing. The projects will improve the safety of the people using the trail. The other projects are on London and Sears Roads. In 2015 Lane County had the highest number of traffic related deaths in the State. Lane County is committed to reducing deaths and improving the safety throughout the County's transportation system.

### **New Library Lighting**

This week Builders Electric started installing new lighting in the City's Library. The project will take about two weeks to complete. Several of the new lights are operational and have made a drastic improvement in the amount and quality of light in the areas they are illuminating. It is exciting to see the difference from old lighting to new.

### **Community Center Hosting FOOD for Lane County**

FOOD for Lane County will be distributing perishable foods on the first and third Fridays from 3:00 to 6:00 pm in the Reception Hall at the Cottage Grove Community Center. The food is provided free of charge. FOOD for Lane County is committed to getting fruits and vegetables to community members who cannot typically afford such nutritious food.

Who can come to Friday Gleaning?

- Households in Lane County living at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level can qualify for the program. This is a higher income requirement than for a pantry food box or SNAP (which is 185% FPL) in recognition that people of all income brackets can be striving for greater food security.
- There is no program enrollment; all who come can be served, as long as they sign the self-declaration statement that they meet the income requirement.

Helping with set-up between 3:00 to 4:00 pm, and clean-up after the food distribution is encouraged and greatly appreciated. For questions, please contact FOOD for Lane County at 541-343-2822 [info@foodforlanecounty.org](mailto:info@foodforlanecounty.org).

### **City's Water Tests for Lead and Copper Earn an A+ Grade**

City's Water Production staff, along with very much appreciated assistance from City consumers, collected water samples from 40 regulated City homes last week, per Oregon Health Authority requirements. The water samples collected were sent to an independent laboratory to be analyzed for the potential presence of Lead and/or Copper. Test results were received this week and the results were very good.

Twenty-seven of the 40 homes tested did not test positive for any amount of lead in the water and all of the tested home's results tested below the regulated Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 15 parts per billion. The MCL is to be enforced at the 90<sup>th</sup> percent point of all the homes tested. The home's Lead level results at this 90<sup>th</sup> percent point, in this round of homes tested, equaled four parts per billion.

Test results for the presence of Copper in the water of the homes tested graded equally as well as that for Lead. The MCL for Copper is 1.3 parts per million (or milligrams per liter). The home's test results for Copper at the 90<sup>th</sup> percent point equaled 0.023 parts per million. The testing for the presence of Lead & Copper in the City's drinking water at these regulated City homes will be repeated again in 3 years per regulatory regulations.

The City of Cottage Grove is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing.

When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

The City of Cottage Grove maintains a continuous Corrosion Control Program for the drinking water. The pH of the water is tested daily to ensure our water is not corrosive to plumbing components. Our Lead and Copper test results prove our program's effectiveness.

### **CG Library Services Director Attends NASA Workshops**

Pete Barrell, Library Services Director, attended the "Solar System Exploration Public Engagement Institute last week. Pete was selected to attend this Institute by NASA through a competitive application process. The series of workshops, events and tours was put on by NASA, The Lunar and Planetary Institute, Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab (APL), and the Smithsonian Institution. Workshops were held at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and at the Applied Physics Lab. Tours included a behind the scenes look at APL and Goddard, as well as private tours at the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum and at the National Museum of Natural History. Pete brought back lots of great information and "hands-on" program materials and ideas that will be implemented here in Cottage Grove next year as we host the NASA "Exoplanet Exhibit."

### **Cottage Grove Public Library August Events and Programs**

- Monday – August 6<sup>th</sup> - Bilingual Family Storytime - 6:30pm
- Tuesday – August 7<sup>th</sup> - Teen movie: "Beauty and the Beast" - 5:30pm
- Wednesday – August 8<sup>th</sup> - "Oregon Rocks!" UO Museum of Natural and Cultural History - 2:30pm
- Thursday – August 9<sup>th</sup> - Ukulele Morning Jam - 9:00am - Kids' Ukulele - 10:00am  
Ping Pong - 4:00pm
- Friday – August 10<sup>th</sup> - Preschool Storytime - 10:30am

### **Library Receives Grant for Books**

The Cottage Grove Public Library recently received a \$3,000 *Refreshing Youth Collections* mini-grant to purchase new, high quality young adult and children's books for our collection. Funding is provided through the 2017 Library and Technology Services Act (LSTA) Program in Oregon and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. We've also been awarded a grant to receive books from Oregon Battle of the Books, which should arrive by October.

### *Quote of the Week*

*"Wherever life plants you, bloom with grace"*

*Author Unknown*