

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: May 31, 2019

### **Yard of the Week**

This week the Yard of the Week is at 1513 Jason Lee. This well maintained yard has a variety of features that make the yard a beautiful and interesting yard to see.

### **Gran Fondo**

Tomorrow about 250 cyclists will be starting off from Downtown Cottage Grove on four different length journeys. The mass start will be at 8:30 am on Main Street. If you have never seen a mass start of over 250 cyclists you should not miss this opportunity. The first Gran cyclists (117 route) are expected to begin returning to downtown after 1:00 pm. Riders from the shorter (41 and 70 mile routes) will begin returning to downtown a little earlier. Riders will continue to return throughout the afternoon.

As a part of the Gran Fondo, several downtown businesses will be holding sidewalk sales or offering other specials. Come to Downtown Cottage Grove and cheer on the cyclists from around the country and visit some of the local businesses.

### **Youth Town Hall**

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council will be meeting on Monday to make last preparations for the Youth Town Hall that will be held on Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in the City Council Chambers. All youth in the community are invited to attend and get to share their ideas and thoughts with community leaders.

### **Congratulations Russ Kaleese**

After 39 years of employment with the City Russ Kaleese has officially retired. Through the years Russ has held several different positions in the Public Works Department ending up as the Fleet and Facility Manager for the Public Works & Development Department. On Thursday a retirement party was held at the City Shop where co-workers, community members, former City employees, and vendors came to thank Russ and wish him well in his future adventures.

Russ will be a hard act to follow. His knowledge of the City and desire to see Cottage Grove be the best it could be will be missed. He has lead several major projects over the years such as relocating the City Shop from Main Street where Dari Mart is located to the current location on North 14th Street, built several support buildings for City services, trail lighting, park improvements, and many more. Russ has left his mark on Cottage Grove. A huge "Thank You" goes to Russ for all he's done the past 39 years for the City.

### **Master Recycler Program**

Shauna Neigh, Cottage Grove's Planning Administrative Aide, graduated from the Master Recycler program with the Lane County Waste Management Division. They offer two training courses each year that provide comprehensive training in solid waste prevention, reuse, recycling and compost education. The 35+ hours of instruction included: nine evening class sessions from 6:00 to 9:00 pm, a free enrollment in Recycling 101 online through OSU, two Saturday morning multi-site tours and one Saturday morning compost demonstration. She is now enrolled with the Master Recyclers Program as a volunteer and has worked with the Hazardous Waste collection here in Cottage Grove and the Metamorphose Event in Eugene. Starting June 6<sup>th</sup>, Shauna will be a regular at the South Lane Farmers Market (7<sup>th</sup> & Main Street, Thursdays from 4:00 to 7:00 pm) where she will work at educating the community and providing resources when necessary. The buzz of Shauna's involvement in the farmers market has created a great deal of interest in the Master Recyclers Program. Shauna will work with her instructor, Kelly Bell, to bring a class to Cottage Grove this fall. She has been in touch with the Al Kennedy School to see about a partnership to set up a community composting area. She would also like to work with children to educate them on little changes to make big differences. If you are interested, drop by the Farmers Market and she will be happy to fill you in on the ever changing world of recycling.

### *Quote of the Week*

*"Don't let yesterday take up too much of today."*

*~Will Rogers~*