

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: July 23, 2021

### **Garage Sale Signs**

As summer continues, it is still the season for "Garage Sales" in and around the City. As a reminder, garage sale signs cannot be affixed to utility poles or street signs or in the public right of way. Signs on private property must have the permission of the property owner on which they are displayed. Signs need to be free standing and removed the day after the event.

### **Yard of the Week**

The Yard of the Week is located at 425 South 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. This is not your typical Yard of the Week winner; with its wide array of wild flowers, sun flowers, lilacs, gladiolas and herbs it stands out. The yard is broken into zones and is a joy to walk through on the sidewalk.

### **Rabies in Bats**

Lane County Public Health (LCPH) was notified of a positive case of Rabies in a bat following testing at the Oregon State Veterinary Lab in Corvallis. This is the fourth case of rabies identified in a Lane County bat. A South Eugene resident collected the bat on their property and submitted it to Lane County Environmental Health. No human contact is suspected at this time.

“This is the fourth case of bat rabies in 2021, which is somewhat unusual this early in the year,” said Dr. Patrick Luedtke, Lane County Senior Public Health Officer. “this uptick reminds us it always a good practice to stay away from bats and to make sure your pets are vaccinated for rabies.”

Recent data suggest that transmission of rabies virus can occur from minor, seemingly unimportant, or unrecognized bites from bats. Human and domestic animal contact with bats should be minimized, and bats should never be handled by untrained and unvaccinated persons or be kept as pets.

In all instances of potential human exposures involving bats, the bat in question should be safely collected, if possible, and submitted for rabies diagnosis. Safe collection means not actually handling the bat, but rather using a utensil to pick the bat up and place it a safe container which cannot be punctured and reported to Lane County Public Health. Rabies postexposure prophylaxis is recommended for all persons with a bite, scratch, or mucous membrane exposure to a bat, unless the bat is available for testing and is negative for evidence of rabies.

It is important to note that bats are a critical part of the ecosystem and should not be targeted or proactively killed.

To prevent exposure to bats in both humans and animals, LCPH recommends being aware that bats primary feeding time is at dusk. Avoid letting pets outside an hour before and an hour after dusk. Also, make sure all windows have screens and that pets are vaccinated for rabies.

### **Eugene Symphony on Monday**

The Eugene Symphony is returning to Cottage Grove on Monday, July 26, 2021 in Bohemia Park at 7:30 pm. Be sure to come and enjoy a beautiful evening of music and entertainment. Joining the Symphony on Monday will be an amazing special guest soloist, Evynne Hollens.

In addition to the Concert the City and Eugene Symphony will be hosting a food drive in partnership with FOOD for Lane County, so be sure to bring non-perishable foods to donate when you attend the concert! See a list of non-perishable items in need at:

[https://eugenesymphony.org/assets/images/site/FOODforLaneCounty\\_MostWanted.pdf](https://eugenesymphony.org/assets/images/site/FOODforLaneCounty_MostWanted.pdf).

Community Sharing is one of FOOD For Lane County's 150 partner agencies, who order and stock their pantry through FOOD For Lane County. Food from this food drive will go back to FOOD For Lane County and be distributed to local partner agencies like Community Sharing.

In addition, the City and Symphony are partnering with Lane County Public Health to host a COVID-19 vaccine clinic during this concert. Vaccines will be available on-site from 6:30-8:30pm. Walk-ins are welcome and appointments can also be made online at:

<https://lanecounty.org/cms/one.aspx?pageId=17388003> . All vaccine recipients at the concert will receive a voucher to attend a Eugene Symphony concert at the Hult Center during the 2021/22 season!

For more information about the performance and the Eugene Symphony visit the Eugene Symphony website at: [www.eugenesymphony.org](http://www.eugenesymphony.org).

### **Blood Drive at ELKS lodge**

Bloodworks will be conducting a blood drive at the Cottage Grove Elks Lodge on August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. To schedule your appointment visit: [www.bloodworksnw.org](http://www.bloodworksnw.org) or call 1(800)398-7888.

### **Coffee On The Corner**

The Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Coffee on the Corner event Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 to 9:00 am at the Covered Bridge Brewing Group. It will be an open forum to gather input on the educational needs and wants of local businesses and a great opportunity to exchange ideas and to network.

### **Utility Tours Kickoff**

On Thursday evening the City kicked off the first tour of the Utility System Tours with guests from Councilors Fleck, Savage and Solesbee touring the Wastewater Treatment plant. The 2 hour tour provided an opportunity for the guests and Councilors to visit the wastewater treatment plant and see firsthand the operations of the facility, answer questions and gain a



better understanding of the City utility operations. This first tour group will tour the collection system next week and then the Water Treatment Plant on the last night of their three week tour schedule. The three weeks of tours for the next group; Councilors Ervin, Roberts and Stinnett and their guests will begin August 12<sup>th</sup>. The Mayors' tour group will begin their tours on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Anyone interested in joining a tour group can contact the City Manager's office for more information or to be placed on a list for the tours.

### **Free Showers Wednesdays**

The City of Cottage Grove and Community Sharing are working in partnership to offer free showers at Community Sharing, 1440 Birch Avenue, every Wednesday from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. If you're interested in learning more about the Mobile Shower program or have an interest in volunteering, contact Community Coordinator Teresa Cowan at 541-942-1185 ext 2.

### **Chief Shepherd Speaks to Rotary Club**

Chief Shepherd had the opportunity to speak to the Rotary Club at noon, Thursday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>. This was their first post COVID restrictions meeting and he discussed staffing, current police department issues, and mental health contacts. Following his speech, the group had a number of great questions.

### **New Police Officer**

The Police Department has hired a new officer, Talib Lamont. He formerly worked as a loss prevention officer with Walmart in Eugene. He was officially sworn in on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Welcome to CGPD, Talib.

### **Two Communication Specialist Positions Open**

There is an open recruitment for two communication specialist positions. These are full-time positions and lateral and entry-level applicants are encouraged to apply through the National Testing Network. All applicants must use this service to be considered. The recruitment will remain open until sufficient qualified candidates have applied. Once the recruitment closes, within two weeks, panel interviews will be conducted and Chief interviews will be one week after.

### **Assistant Golf Course Superintendent**

Tuesday Jaime Urenda, Middlefield Golf Course's newest employee, started work as the City's new Assistant Golf Course Superintendent. Jaime has prior golf course maintenance experience

having worked for both Hidden Valley Golf Course and Springfield Country Club. Jaime is a great addition to Middlefield's Maintenance Staff and we are thankful for the experience of golf course maintenance he brings.

### **Redwood Tree Removal Update**

Pacific Power's tree trimming contractor will be at G & Chestnut today starting to remove and chip the limbs from the two large redwoods. The chips will be piled at the end of North 12<sup>th</sup> Street near the Warming Shelter Site. The chips are available free to City residents on a selfload and haul basis.



The contractor will be back Friday, July 30<sup>th</sup> to complete the limb removal and chipping. On August 5, 2021 they will be cutting the trees into 20' logs and lowering them to the ground with a large crane. City Utility Crew members will be hauling the logs to Starfire Lumber for milling into lumber. Once the lumber has dried the City will use it for projects in the community such as, park benches, structures, garden beds, etc.

### **Gateway Boulevard Resurface Update**

On Wednesday a chip rock surface was added to Gateway Blvd. from East Main Street to Harvey Road. On Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup> the contractor will be applying a sealer to the chip surface. Gateway Blvd. will be closed to vehicle use for up to 8 hours from East Main to Coop Court on Monday. The portion of Gateway from Coop Court to Harvey Road will be closed up to 8 hours on Tuesday. Lane County will be restriping the street Tuesday night completing the project.

### **City Wide Street Restriping**

City Utility Crews will be installing no parking barricades along City streets Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup> in preparation for repainting the street striping. Tuesday evening July 27<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday morning the 28<sup>th</sup> Lane County will be repainting all the street striping within the City limits. Please watch for the painting crew and give them plenty of room to paint and allow for it to dry before driving on it.

### **Welcome Tatum Ramsey**

Tatum Ramsey, a senior in the University of Oregon's Planning, Public Policy & Management Program, joined the City of Cottage Grove Public Works & Development Department as a Planning Intern last week. Tatum will be working with our planning and public works staff on a variety of projects over the next 8 weeks as she earns credit towards graduation in December, 2021. She will be helping the Public Works staff develop interpretive story boards for each of the public utility sections for use during upcoming utility tours. She'll also be working on the grand opening of our new Safe Routes to School sidewalk system around Lincoln Middle School and on a survey project designed to see how we can enhance the Cottage Grove Skate Park. We are lucky to have her help this summer. Please stop by and say hello if you are in the vicinity of City Hall.

### **Sol Path Music Festival – August 7, 2021**

Sol Path Collective\*, the South Valley Farmer's Market, the City of Cottage Grove and the

Cottage Grove Area Chamber of Commerce are delighted to present an evening of feel-good live music for all on Saturday, August 7<sup>th</sup> from noon to 5:00 pm in All-America City Square. Join us for a magical evening with a group of diverse and complementary bands that bring messages of hope set to enjoyable melodies and grooves! The Sol Path Music Festival promises to make you smile. The lineup includes: Ten Spiders (funky bluesy roots rock fun); Silent Temple (mystical jazz fusion); Flying Caravan (transformative psychedelic folk) and Neptune Bass Association (eclectic reinterpretations of classics in a band of two bass players).

\* Sol Path Collective is a group of bands that support and inspire each other to pursue their musical dreams. Questions may be directed to Rossi of Ten Spiders at (503)334-8634.

### **Weekly Update #41 Southmayd Home Build Project** *(By Jason Bush)*

Dan Wilson was able to come out Monday and get our power and LPG trenches in, and Superior Electric came out Tuesday and installed the conduit. We now need to arrange the inspection by EPUD.

We had our exterior shear wall inspection on Tuesday, and I met Ray Hutchinson, Lane County Building Safety Specialist, at the site. We missed 18 nails in three areas, and still need to add (4) MSTA 36 straps. I have a call into the engineer to validate sheathing the inside of the portal framing with plywood as opposed to the straps, as we have a little left over and the straps are expensive.

McKenzie Roofing was able to come out on Saturday and get the roof dried in. Steve was able to help secure and coordinate the donation of about 80% of the roofing materials package from Roofline, leaving a balance of \$2,347.00. I stopped by River Roofing to see if they may be in a position to bridge the gap in roofing materials. Vice President John Davey took some time to listen to part of our story and then after some discussion, he wrote us out a check for the full amount, so we now have the complete roofing package. A big thanks to McKenzie Roofing, River Roofing, and Roofline.

I received a call from Grace Smith, a KEZI Reporter who had heard about our situation and wanted to do a story on Tuesday, the day she called. I was not able to arrange it on Tuesday, but met at the site on Wednesday at 9 AM. She spent an hour and a half at the site interviewing us with great patients and the story aired on Thursday at 4, 5, and 6 PM. It was a very nicely done story with a good dose of intrigue! I did not know how she heard about our project, but suspect our great friends at Window World had something to do with it, as they were featured in the story as the donor of our windows, front door, and sliding glass door. Thanks to Grace, KEZI, and all the folks at Window World.

It did not take long to receive a call from Claudia of Elite Relocation Services, who seen us on television last night. Shawn Jones, the Owner and a veteran himself would like to help the Southmayds move into their new home this fall. This is something I had not considered, but the Southmayds still have most of their stuff in storage since the travesty befell them, so this turned out to be quite a benefit to them when it comes time to move in! Thanks to Claudia and Shawn.

Joe Hurd, owner of Hurd General Contracting returned my call on Tuesday, and took the time to meet me at the Southmayd job-site. He is going to try and help us with some of the exterior site preparation such as the decks, gravel fill in the garage and eventual slab, and general grading. It looks like we may need quite a bit of soil fill on the west side of the home in order to bring it up

to grade and maintain complete ADA accessibility off the therapy room and to the planned swim spa. We may have an opportunity to obtain some soil from a local Creswell project, once they break ground shortly.

Lastly, I wanted to share that we had a work-party out at the Southmayd property on July 10th that was organized by Michele Linbarger and Jack Applegate of Northwest Code Professionals. We had folks from both ends of the state, to include Permit Specialist, Serena Locke and Heather Lathrop from Jackson County; Tiffany Little from Washington County; Chris Carpenter, Building Official of Springfield; Brian Overstake of MAE Engineering; and, a few others whom I did not get a chance to meet. Chris Smith from Dorman Construction also came out to help me envision what I should be thinking and planning to keep this project organized, and moving along at a reasonable pace.

*Quote of the Week*

*“Never give up. You only get one life. Go for it!”*

*~Richard E. Grant~*