

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: June 18, 2021

Yard of the Week

This week's Yard of the Week is at 103 Village Drive. The lawn is well-kept, with an artful arrangement of plants and large stones. Several tiered shrubs give the design a whimsical and nigh-Seussian vibe. Swing by and check it out, and remember to nominate deserving yards for the award!

Chlorine Shortage

Currently there is shortage in the Pacific Northwest of chlorine used to treat drinking and wastewater. There was a transformer failure at the distribution facility in Washington and a fire at a major chlorine manufacturing plant in Louisiana that has drastically impacted the supply and distribution of chlorine.

Both the Row River Water Treatment Plant and the Cottage Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant use liquid chlorine to disinfect the water each plant treats. Both plants have enough chlorine on hand for the next 2 to 3 weeks of operation. The plant superintendents are working closely with their suppliers and are confident they will have enough chlorine to meet operational requirements. The Water Treatment Plant expects to receive a shipment today allowing the plant to meet its operational needs for the next month and a half. By that time the distribution facility in Washington expects to be back up and running and regular shipments will be restored.

Interchange Landscape and Irrigation Project Update

On Thursday, City Engineering Staff held an onsite pre-construction meeting with Milroy Golf Systems, Inc. to kick off the interchange landscape and irrigation project. Milroy will be onsite starting construction of the irrigation system next Tuesday. The project is expected to be completed by the end of September. Once the project is completed, the City will have an additional 15 acres of land to irrigate using treated effluent from the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Armory Restoration Update

This week the City Maintenance Staff completed the restoration of the main entrance to the Armory. Staff repaired the rotten flooring and joists, installed new doors, new trim, lighting, and refinished the existing maple flooring. Next the City Staff will be installing new side doors at the 7th Street entrance and rear exit doors for the ADA ramp. The remodeled entrance looks amazing and is welcoming for guests. The City is currently allowing use of the Armory provided users follow the current COVID guidelines. Reservations can be made through the City Manager's Office.

Bohemia Park Saddle Span

Next Monday, City Maintenance Staff will be installing the amphitheater saddle span for summer use. Cottage Grove Chamber Concerts in the park start Wednesday, June 23rd with the Gabe Shiffler and Sugar Pine String Band. The concerts will be every Wednesday evening through August 25th.

The South Lane Ballet will be having their annual Spring/Summer performance at the amphitheater, with performances on Friday, June 25th and Saturday, June 26th. This is a fundraiser for South Lane Ballet and tickets will be required for entrance. This is a great way to support our local ballet students and enjoy an excellent entertaining performance.

Axe & Fiddle Streatery

The week of June 21st, the City Maintenance Staff will be installing the second streatery at the Axe & Fiddle along South 7th Street, just in time for summer and the warm days ahead. Staff will begin construction of the final streatery for Bartolotti's Pizza Bistro on East Main Street with the hopes of installing it by the middle of July.

City Summer Work Crew Positions are Filled

The City has filled the six summer work crew positions for 2021. All the new summer employees are Cottage Grove students 16 years of age or older. The Public Works & Development Department is excited to have all the positions filled, and is ready for them to join the Utility and Maintenance Staff working to complete projects throughout the City. They will be working to maintain City Parks, trails, and streets. Their first day is July 6th and ends when school starts in the fall.

Middlefield Golf Course Hosts Chamber After Hours Event

Thursday evening Middlefield Golf Course hosted the Cottage Grove Chamber After Hours. There was a large number of Chamber members in attendance. The attendees took tours of the new golf cart storage facility, participated in a putting contest, learned about the golf course operations, improvements to the treated effluent program, and the interchange irrigation project. Attendees of the event were entered into a drawing where they could win prizes. Thank you to the Chamber and City Staff for all the work put into holding the event. It was a very nice evening enjoyed by everyone that attended.

Officer Hernandez Recognized by Bureau of Land Management

On April 16, 2021, a felon fled from a BLM Ranger to avoid apprehension and engaged in a 14 mile vehicle pursuit in the Cottage Grove area. Law enforcement units from the Lane County Sheriff's Office, Oregon State Police and Cottage Grove Police Department joined the pursuit to stop the dangerous suspect before he could injure or kill innocent bystanders. During the pursuit, Officer Hernandez took the initiative to set up spike strips on State Highway 99 to disable the fleeing vehicle. Officer Hernandez's deployment of spike strips exposed him to a very dangerous situation where he could have been struck by the fleeing vehicle. Nevertheless, Officer Hernandez's personal courage allowed him to successfully flatten all four of the suspect's vehicle tires, which ultimately ended the pursuit. The suspect was apprehended on multiple felony and misdemeanor charges due to Hernandez's actions. Officer Hernandez was presented with a Bureau of Land Management Challenge Coin and a custom engraved knife as well as a letter acknowledging him for his service.

Officer Dumas Accepts New Position with Veterans Affairs

Thursday, June 17, 2021 was Officer Joshua Dumas' last day at the Cottage Grove Police Department. Officer Dumas has been with Cottage Grove for five years. He has accepted a position as Police Officer with the Eugene Office of Veterans Affairs. We appreciate your service here and wish you all the best in your new position.

Quote of the Week

“A father is neither an anchor to hold us back nor a sail to take us there, but a guiding light whose love shows us the way.”

~Unknown~