

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: May 27, 2016

### **Yard of the Week**

This week the Yard of the Week is located at 129 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street. This beautiful little cottage is an easy walk from downtown and brings a bright and cheery feel to the neighborhood. The Yard of the Week Prize patrol looked at some amazing nominations this week. To help spread the joy of the Yard of the Week program, yards that have won the award in the last two years are not eligible to receive the award. On the third year they can be recognized again. Just keep sending in those nominations.

### **Memorial Day Ceremony**

The American Legion, with assistance from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, are hosting the annual Memorial Day Ceremony on Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> in the Cottage Grove Armory. The ceremony begins at 11:00 am. At the conclusion of the ceremony in the Armory everyone will be invited to join the Memorial Day March from the Armory to the Main Street Bridge for the wreath ceremony and 21 gun salute in Veterans' Park.

### **It Is Live (or soon to be)**

On Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> all City utility customers will be able to access their utility account online. There will be several options for payment online as well as the ability to look up their account history since 2013. The utility account information will be accessible straight off the City's web page at [www.cottagegrove.org](http://www.cottagegrove.org). There are many more useful features. If anyone needs assistance accessing their account information or learning the system please call the Finance Department at City Hall at (541) 942-3346 or come in and we will be happy to help you use this new service.

### **Household Hazardous Waste Round-up**

On Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, there will be a household hazardous waste round-up at the South Lane County Fire & Rescue Fire Station at 233 Harrison. Old paint, household cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals, car care products and other household hazardous waste will be accepted. There is a limit of no more than 35 gallons of waste from each household.

### **Gran Fondo**

The fourth Oregon Gran Fondo will be here in Cottage Grove next week. The Oregon Gran Fondo is the first event of the Oregon Triple Crown and continues to draw more interest from around the country. You can still register for either the Gran (117 miles) or Medio (71 miles)

events. If spending those miles in the saddle is not your thing then be sure to come downtown for the start or the finish and cheer on the riders. The Gran Fondo starts at 8:00 am and experience the thrill and excitement of a mass start of over 400 cyclists. The finish line of the Gran Fondo is usually as exciting when riders come in still racing for time after riding 117 miles.

### **Mayor and City Council Positions on November 8<sup>th</sup> Ballot**

Beginning June 1<sup>st</sup>, election packets will be available for anyone interested in running in the November 8<sup>th</sup> election for the offices of Mayor, Councilor-at-Large, Ward 2 Councilor or Ward 4 Councilor. The positions all expire on December 31, 2016. The Mayor is a two-year term and the Council positions are four-year terms.

To qualify as a candidate a person must be a resident of Cottage Grove during the 12 months immediately preceding the election and a qualified elector within the meaning of the Constitution. Candidates filing for Ward positions must be a resident of that Ward at the time of the nomination and election and must live in the Ward during their term of office.

For more information contact City Recorder, Trudy Borrevik, at (541) 942-5501 or [cityrecorder@cottagegrove.org](mailto:cityrecorder@cottagegrove.org)

### **All-America City Square Planning Project**

The third meeting of the All-America City Square Planning Project will be on June 14, 2016 at 6:00 pm at the Cottage Grove Armory. At this meeting, a synthesis of comments from the Open House held on May 17<sup>th</sup> and Charrette held on May 24<sup>th</sup> will be presented.

This project was designed to gather public input about the condition of All-America City Square on its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Participants at the Open House were asked: What do you love about the park? What would you change about the park? What is your “Wish List” for the park? Comments were consolidated into a series of sketches, about which participants at the charrette were asked to provide feedback. The third and final meeting presents the landscape architect’s renderings of the results of this feedback. The renderings will be used by the City, the Garden Club, and other interested groups to guide maintenance and enhancement projects in the park over the next several years.

This project has been supported by the City of Cottage Grove, the Cottage Grove Garden Club, Sustainable Cottage Grove, EBID, and Cottage Grove Main Street. The City of Cottage Grove received a grant from the National Park Service and State Historic Preservation Office through the Certified Local Government Program to conduct this community planning project on the All-America City Square.

If you have questions about the process or want to get more involved, please contact Amanda Ferguson, City Planner, at (541) 942-3340 or via email at [planner@cottagegrove.org](mailto:planner@cottagegrove.org).

### **Community Services Director Appointed to “Answerland” Advisory Board.**

The Oregon State Library has appointed Pete Barrell, Community Services Director, to the Answerland Advisory Board. The Answerland Advisory Board is made up from representatives of libraries around the State that use or provide service for Answerland. The role of the Answerland Advisory Board is to set the mission, goals, and direction of Answerland program. The ultimate vision is to create, maintain and continually improve a high-quality E-reference program that succeeds in serving the needs of all residents of Oregon. Answerland lets anyone connect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to a librarian by live chat, email or text messaging.

Answerland Librarians will answer questions about almost anything, but typical topics include homework, using your library or finding a great book to read. Forty-five Oregon Libraries work together to provide the service.

### **Library Summer Adventures for Kids**

Sign-ups for “Nature for Kids” and “Teen Adventures” begin on Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup> at Noon at the Cottage Grove Public Library. "Nature for Kids" are trips for kids ages 7 to 12 and "Teen Adventures" are trips for teens ages 13 to 17. New this year will be a family fun picnic at Dorena Lake for kids ages 3 to 6 years. These trips are free and made possible through generous donations from the Oregon Community Foundation and the Hundredth Monkey Foundation.

Here's the complete list of these free summer adventure trips:

#### Family Fun Picnic at Dorena Lake

Friday, August 12<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm (School Bus ride to Lake)

NOTE: This trip is for kids 3-6 years with parent or grandparent

#### Nature for Kids...

Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> ... Rujada – Hiking, Forest and Creek Exploration

Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup> ... Spirit Falls - Hiking, Forest and Creek Fun

Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup> ... Dorena Lake – Biking, Kayaking, Paddle Boarding, Swimming

Friday, August 26<sup>th</sup> ... Raptor Center - Natural History Museum, Amazon Pool

#### Teen Adventures...

Friday July 8<sup>th</sup> ... Oregon Coast - Lighthouse Beach, Sea Lion Caves, Sand Boarding

Friday July 22<sup>nd</sup> ... McKenzie River - White Water Rafting, River Hike, Fish Hatchery

Friday August 5<sup>th</sup> ... Dorena Lake - Bike Ride, Kayaking, Paddle Boarding, Swimming

Friday August 19<sup>th</sup> ... Wildlife Safari - Exotic Animals, Umpqua River Fun

Teens who are interested in helping with the Nature for Kids trips, talk to one of the librarians at the Library for details.

### **Uniform Traffic Control Devices**

This week, City Utilities employees, Mike O’Reilly and Pete Keenan attended the Uniform Traffic Control Devices workshop at Oregon State University. This was an intensive three-day workshop sponsored by ODOT and OSU. The course was designed for staff responsible for signing, signalization, and road markings. The direct purpose of the class was to provide instruction and practice in the use of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), including the Oregon supplements to the Manual. The City Utilities crew maintains hundreds of regulatory, warning, instructional, informative, and directional signs throughout the City. The Utilities Crew is also responsible for several traffic signals and miles of road markings. This is a highly regulated discipline, per the MUTCD and Oregon supplements, and is a source of significant liability for the City. Proper maintenance and placement of signs is of paramount importance to foster pedestrian and motorist safety, while keeping traffic moving safely along our roadways.

### **Fats, Oils, and Grease**

Earlier this spring, City Utilities employees, Larry Carlton and Jeff Violette attended the Western States Alliance, FOG Forum Workshop, in Bend. FOG is an acronym for Fats, Oils, and Grease.

The purpose of this forum was to discuss planning for successful and cost-effective FOG capture, treatment, and reuse options. There were presentations on the sizing of grease interceptors, building code issues, proper grease interceptor maintenance, and FOG impacts to surface and stormwater systems. FOG's are a significant issue for the City Utilities crew, as they can cause problems with the wastewater collection system. Restaurants use very hot water to clean and sanitize dishes. This very hot water places FOG's in suspension when they first enter the wastewater collection system. As these FOG's cool further down the sewer mains, they solidify and can cause plugs and back-ups in the main sewer lines. The only way to alleviate this problem is with properly installed and maintained grease interceptors. These grease interceptors must also be regularly cleaned to be effective. The City Utilities crew works closely with local restaurants to inspect grease interceptors and educate business owners about proper grease interceptor maintenance.

*Quote of the Week*

*"As America celebrates Memorial Day, we pay tribute to those who have given their lives in our nation's wars."*

*~ John M. McHugh~*