

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: June 23, 2016

Yard of the Week

This week the Yard of the Week is located at 1645 Fairview Place. Thank you for this great nomination. This year's winners of the Yard of the Week can be seen by visiting the City's webpage at www.cottagegrove.org

Eugene Symphony

The Eugene Symphony is coming to Cottage Grove on Monday, July 18th to perform in Bohemia Park. This year the Symphony performance will be enhanced with additional entertainment prior to the concert.

At 5:30 pm in the Bohemia Park Pavilion there will be an Instrument Petting Zoo. This will be an opportunity for anyone who is interested to come and touch and try some of the instruments seen in orchestras. There will be musicians on hand to help and give advice. This is open to all ages and can help children learn about instruments and try them for free.

At 6:30 the Cottage Grove Community Band will take the stage and perform. The Community Band members are local musicians that organize and practice during the summer.

At 6:50 #instaballet will perform. Formed by Eugene, Oregon based ballet dancers, Suzanne Haag and Antonio Anacan, #instaballet is a new, interactive, fun way to experience ballet. Their unique concept is to include the audience in the making of a ballet by using audience driven ideas to choreograph professional dancers. Zero pressure, 100% fun.

At 7:30 The Eugene Symphony, under the direction of Maestro Danail Rachev will perform. The symphony's program (subject to change) is planned to include:

Suppe: Light Cavalry Overture

Weber: Andante & Rondo ongarese

Maia Hoffman, viola

Dvorák: Slavonic Dance No. 8 in G minor

Tchaikovsky: Waltz from Swan Lake

Sousa: Washington Post March

Tchaikovsky: Variations on a Rococo Theme

Nora Willauer, cello

Porter: Begin the Beguine

Williams: Star Wars Theme

Ward arr. Carmen Dragon: America the Beautiful

Tchaikovsky: 1812 Overture

This is not an event to miss. There will be food vendors in the park as well for those that wish to come and enjoy good food and great entertainment. A portion of the proceeds from the vendors will go to continue the Symphony Concerts in Cottage Grove. Anyone interested in being a vendor at the Symphony concert, please contact the City Manager.

The evening of entertainment is brought to the community by a wide variety of sponsors and donors that are contributing to the success of the event. Everyone in the community can join in helping to sponsor this event. Currently buttons are on sale for \$5.00 with all the proceeds going to bring the Symphony to Cottage Grove this year and in future years. Raffle tickets will also be sold the evening of the concert for some great prizes. Those wearing their “Music in Bohemia Park” button at the concert will get a free raffle ticket. Buttons are currently being sold at City Hall, Library and Middlefield Golf Course.

Make plans and don't miss this great event on Monday, July 18th.

BMX Track Improvements

City crews spent some time at the BMX track this week cleaning the facility and removing the rotten building and other structures that are unsafe since the facility is not being used for BMX racing. The City is currently exploring the possibility with the Cottage Grove High School Mountain Bike Club and other interested riders to create a “Pump Track”. A pump track is a continuous loop of dirt berms and “rollers” (smooth dirt mounds) that you ride without pedaling. The name “pump track” comes from the pumping motion used by the rider's upper and lower body as they ride around the track. The idea of a pump track is to use this pumping motion to maintain your speed around the track without pedaling. The pump track is not a competition facility but a place to improve riding skills and abilities. Pump tracks can be ridden by cyclists of all ages and skill levels. You don't need a special kind of bicycle to ride on a pump track - BMX bikes, mountain bikes, kids bikes - even “scooter” bikes can be used on the pump track.

811 Call Before You Dig

This time of year many of us turn our thoughts to putting in that new fence or planting that new tree or shrub. Before doing any of those projects be sure make the first step a call to 811 or go online to www.digsafelyoregon.com. Call before you dig and save some serious trouble. Digging without a call to 811 (or go registering with www.digsafelyoregon.com) for locates of utilities can not only cost money to pay for damages to expensive underground infrastructure but it could cost you your life. Damage to underground utilities, even water lines, have caused severe injuries and deaths. So be sure to “know what's below, **call** before your dig.” Calling or registering online for locates **is easy** and **it is free**.

Youth Advisory Council Academy Day

Thank you to everyone that helped make the Youth Academy Day a success. The YAC members may have been small in numbers due to illnesses and other commitments, but the youth that attended appreciated the opportunity for a hands-on experience of the daily operations of the City.

Summer Reading Program Kick-Off Success

The Cottage Grove Public Library launched this year's Summer Reading Program with a fun-filled kick-off yesterday. Two hundred kids attended the kick-off event where they signed up for

the Summer Reading Program and each received a free book. Ice cream was provided and handed out by Heather and her team from Umpqua Bank and the kids enjoyed carnival games throughout the afternoon. Special thanks to Valarie, Youth and Children's Services Librarian, for organizing a fabulous event. Also, a big thank you to Valarie's parents and all of the other awesome volunteers and to the Friends of the Cottage Grove Public Library, who helped make this event happen.

Online Bill Pay Update

On June 1st the City launched an online bill pay system that allows utility customers access to their utility account online. There are several options for payment online as well as the ability to look up account history since 2013. The system also allows the customer to request their bill be emailed to them, rather than having a paper bill sent in the mail. To participate in the online bill system or request an electronic bill, visit the City's webpage at: www.cottagegrove.org.

If anyone needs assistance accessing their account information or needs more information about the system, contact the Finance Department at City Hall, (541)942-3346, or come in and we will be happy to help you use this new service. For our customer's convenience we have created a kiosk that you can use to sign-up while at the office.

During just the first twenty-two days of implementation we have had 266 customers make payment online, approximately 7% of our customer base. It's easy and convenient.

2016-17 Budget Public Hearings

The City Council will be meeting to hold public hearings on Monday, June 27, 2016 at 7:00 pm at City Hall, 400 Main Street. Two public hearings are scheduled regarding the 2016-17 Budget – one public hearing is scheduled for the purpose of receiving public comment on the uses of State Shared Revenues and the second public hearing to discuss the budget as approved by the Budget Committee. It is anticipated that after the public hearings and consideration of any public comments, the budget for fiscal year beginning July 1, 2016, will be adopted by the City Council.

Developing a Family Emergency Communication Plan

Disasters can happen at any time, so it's likely that you may not be with your family during an emergency. Do you have a plan in place to contact your loved ones to ensure they are safe? Before the storm comes, waves swell, or twister forms, create and test your family emergency communication plan so you can reach each member of your household.

Planning starts with these three steps:

1. Collect – Create a paper copy of the contact information for your family and other important people and offices, such as medical facilities, doctors, schools, or service providers.
2. Share – Make sure everyone carries a copy in his or her backpack, purse, or wallet. If you complete your Family Emergency Communication Plan online at ready.gov/make-a-plan, you can print it onto a wallet-sized card. You should also post a copy in a central location in your home, such as your refrigerator or family bulletin board.
3. Practice – Have regular household meetings to review and practice your plan. You can also create wallet-sized cards that include contact information and emergency meeting places.

Tub Grinder

On Tuesday of this week, the City hired a tub grinder from Lane Forest Products to begin the job of chipping the large pile of tree branches and other woody debris that has been collected and/or dropped-off during the past year. This commercial tub grinder can handle small and large limbs and even stumps and pallets. This was an all-day job and the City rented a large front-end loader to speed-up the process. The effort provided the City with a large supply of wood chip material to be used in the City parks, on trails, and around planting beds. Additional chips will be made available to the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council to aid in their riparian area improvement projects. Below are pictures of the tub grinder in action.



Quote of the Week

Character consists of what you do on the third and fourth tries.

James A. Michener