

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: July 28, 2017

Symphony

Monday night the Cottage Grove Community Band and the Eugene Symphony performed in the Bohemia Park Amphitheater to the biggest gathering ever in the park. We are still working on getting an estimate on the number of attendees.

The most important thing is to express a great big “thank you” to everyone that helped make the evening a tremendous success. Thank you to the Cottage Grove Police Association, the Public Works crew, City Recorder, YAC, Chamber, vendors, Stewart Foundation, Christina Lund, The Sentinel, KNND, Gabe Dickinson, Joanna Newton and the Community Band members, the Eugene Symphony, the Symphony Association, all the volunteers and everyone who came and spent time with their neighbors. We are looking forward to bringing the event back again next year.

Airport Welcome Center Grand Opening

On Tuesday, August 15th at noon there will be a Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting for the Cottage Grove Airport Welcome Center at the Cottage Grove Airport. Even though the Welcome Center is not open yet the airport has already seen an increase of airport traffic. Nearly 90% of the visitors to the airport are coming to see the progress of the Welcome Center. They have heard about the Welcome Center project through emails and newsletters. The City and the Chamber are working with the Welcome Center supporters to develop opportunities for pilots to get from the airport to downtown.

National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges Conference

The National Society for the Preservation of Covered Bridges will be holding their annual conference in Cottage Grove starting August 26th. This conference is typically held in the eastern half of the country and it is exciting that the conference is coming to Cottage Grove. Most of the members live in the eastern states. As a nationwide organization, the Society felt that it was important to visit the west. The covered bridges of Oregon are different from those in the eastern and mid-western states, and they want their members to experience our western bridges. Unlike the eastern states, our bridges needed to contend with the heavy traffic of the timber industry. While the eastern bridges were mostly designed in the late 1800’s for passenger and light commercial traffic, Oregon’s bridges were designed with logging trucks in mind and

are therefore much more substantial in size. In Oregon, covered bridge building also continued long after most other states had switched to steel and concrete. The abundance of materials and experienced labor made it more economical to build bridges out of wood until the 1950's.

Conference attendees are coming from Arkansas , Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts , Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, and Pennsylvania.

The City of Cottage Grove is hosting a dinner for the conference attendees in the Chambers Covered Railroad Bridge on Saturday, August 26th. The dinner is being held for the conference attendees but there are a limited number of seats available for the public to attend. If you would like to attend please contact the City Manager's office before August 16th if you would like to attend.

Yard of the Week

This week the Yard of the Week is located at 1046 E. Harrision Avenue. The resident at the home was excited to receive the recognition because his father on the other side of town had previously received the recognition. He was excited to receive the recognition and carry on the family tradition.

Public Works in the Park

On Saturday, August 5th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm the Cottage Grove Public Works Department will be joining with the Annual "Party in the Park" in Coiner Park to demonstrate Public Works equipment, operations and upcoming projects. After participating in the "Party in the Park" everyone is invited to stop by and experience the operation of the sewer line camera, learn about water quality, road conditions and even get an ice cream sandwich.

Reserve Officer Graduations

On Saturday, July 29th at 2:00 pm, Corey Stevens and Brady Baxter-Dunlap will be graduating from the Lane County Sheriffs/ Lane Community College Reserve Police Officer Academy. The graduation will take place in the Longhouse, on the LCC campus. Congratulations, Corey and Brady.

FaceBook Crime

The Police Department was made aware of a claim on FaceBook that there was a robbery/mugging of an individual by two to three males and female on the Row River Trail near the I-5 bridge. The alleged incident occurred about a week prior to the being aware of the posting. Detectives with our department have contacted the person who posted the comment which was third hand information.

Detectives will continue to follow-up any information on this alleged incident. The police department has not been contacted by anyone claiming to have been assaulted as reported on FaceBook.

Employee Changes

This week long-time employee Tony Kirk submitted his notice of retirement that will be effective September 29th. Tony has served the community for over 40 years and will be missed. To prepare for his upcoming retirement the Public Works & Development Department conducted a recruitment and as a result Mike O'Reilly, current Leadman, was selected to replace Tony as the new Utilities Supervisor. Congratulations Mike.

Hazardous Tree Removal

Blue Sky Trees successfully removed 2 hazardous trees at Middlefield Golf Course and one in Riverside Park. They also removed a large number of branches throughout the City that were damaged this past winter. The tree in Riverside Park was approximately 3 feet in diameter and over 150' tall. The majority of the branches were dead and the tree was hollow and full of ants. Blue Sky Trees climbed the tree and removed the dead branches before falling the large tree trunk.

Opal Whiteley Mural Brushup

Work has begun to refurbish the Opal Whiteley Mural in All-America City Park. The mural is currently being washed and wire brushed. Once cleaned the original muralist will repaint the mural.

Teen Wildlife Safari Success

Last Friday the Cottage Grove Public Library and Community Center led a group of adventurous teens on a trip to Wildlife Safari. The group had an excellent time exploring the exhibits at the park and observing the variety of wildlife. They especially enjoyed participating in the "Giraffe Encounter" where they were able to get up close with these majestic creatures to feed them by hand and learn from the guide all about the ecology of Giraffe's and their associated habitat systems in the wild. The afternoon was spent at River Forks County Park west of Roseburg, a beautiful park on the Umpqua River.

STEAM Events at the Library

Every Wednesday at 2:30 pm, youth of all ages are welcome to come join in the fun exploring Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) at the Cottage Grove Public Library. This week participants made eco and kid friendly "play dough" and had a great time making creations of this sometimes sticky goo.

Classic Film Festival

All ages are encouraged to join us for a screening of "The Nutty Professor" starring Jerry Lewis at the Cottage Grove Public Library on Monday, July 31st at 1:30 pm. Free popcorn and drinks provided, so bring a friend or two and come on down to join the fun.

Rhyme and Romp for Babies at the Library

Parents with babies up to 18 months old, are encouraged to come to the Cottage Grove Public Library for fun activities including stories, songs, rhymes, movement and more. Rhyme and Romp happens each Tuesday morning at 11:30 am and is a great opportunity for parents to learn about early literacy, meet other parents, and have fun exploring the world of reading and interaction with their baby.

Lego Club at the Library

Wednesday, August 2nd the Lego Club will hold their monthly meeting at the Cottage Grove Public Library. They create, build, share and display their creations at the Library. Lego Club meets the 1st Wednesday of each month at 2:30 pm at the Library.

Community Coordinator Selected for Committee

The Ford Family Foundation in Roseburg has selected Community Coordinator, Teresa Cowan, to participate as a member of the Vision to Action Working Team. The first meeting was held in Roseburg on July 21st. The team with representatives from Oregon and Siskiyou County, California, shared their experience of best practices of rural community-wide visioning. The next meeting is scheduled for September.

Fire Danger

Those in attendance at Wednesday night's Concert in the Park were visually reminded about the current level of fire danger in the community when a fire broke along the railroad tracks north of the 4th Street crossing. Just a reminder that there are serious fire restrictions in place and the fire danger is high. Our continued dry weather, winds and high temperatures create the opportunity for fires in the community. Please exercise extreme caution and keep an eye out for any problems.

Quote of the Week

"We must let go of the life -we have planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us."

~Joseph Campbell~