

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: December 1, 2017

Youth Advisory Council

The Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council will be meeting on Monday, December 4th from 6:15 to 7:30 pm.

Santa Claus Arrives Tomorrow

Santa in his pre-Christmas tours around the world will be arriving to spend the day in Cottage Grove tomorrow. He will help celebrate the season by lighting the community Christmas Tree at 5:00 pm in All-America City Square and visiting with the kids of all ages at breakfast at the Fire Hall and after the tree lighting in City Hall from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. All day there will be activities throughout downtown. Be sure to stop by the Armory for the South Valley Farmers Winter Market from 2:00 to 8:00 pm.

Residential Holiday Lighting Contest

The Mayor and City Council are sponsoring the residential holiday lighting contest in Cottage Grove. Anyone is invited to submit nominations of those homes that are helping make the season bright in Cottage Grove. Nominations can be submitted at City Hall, or by phone (541)942-5501, email (citymanager@cottagegrove.org) or on the web page (www.cottagegrove.org) just follow the link on the Mayor and City Council page. The deadline for nominations is Friday, December 15th at 5:00 pm. Judging will occur December 15th, 16th or 17th between 6:00 and 8:00 pm and the winners will be announced on Wednesday, December 20th. Pictures of the winning holiday displays will be posted on the City's web page and Facebook page. Prizes will include: 1st Place \$100 City utility bill credit; 2nd Place \$75 City Utility bill credit and 3rd Place \$50 City Utility bill credit.

All residents within the Cottage Grove City Limits are eligible to participate. City Councilors and employees are not eligible to participate. Only decorations and lights visible from the street will be judged. Displays will be judged on neatness, theme, creativity and overall appearance.

New Sergeant Selected

The Police Department has completed the process to fill the Sergeant position replacing David Burgin, who left Cottage Grove to work at the Springfield Police Department.

There were five applicants for the Sgt. position, three applicants are currently with the department and two from outside. The applicants completed an essay assignment, oral board and interview with the Chief. After the assessment process was complete, Shawn Branstetter was the officer scoring the highest points and was offered the position. Sgt. Shawn is currently assigned to Investigations, but will start as Sgt. on Monday, December 11, 2017. Congratulations Sgt. Shawn Branstetter.

Opal Whiteley Birthday Party

The Cottage Grove Public Library and Friends of the Library invite everyone to the 120th birthday party for Opal Whiteley. Please join us Monday, December 11th, 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Axe and Fiddle for this community event. We will be screening the Oregon Experience film, "Opal Whiteley", and will have an Opal Whiteley "Karaoke Party" where people can get up and read passages from Opal's writings. "Opal expert", Steve Williamson, will also share a few words about Opal and her extraordinary local history. All ages welcome for this fun Opal Whiteley event.

Congratulations Erich Schroeder

Thursday November 30th The Public Works & Development Department held interviews for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent position. There were 3 very qualified applicants that were interviewed by the interview team. Erich Schroeder was offered and he accepted the Superintendent position. Erich has worked at the City's wastewater treatment plant for the past 9 years and has served as the acting superintendent this past year.

Welcome Greg Griswell

Today was the first day on the job for the Utility Division's new Leadman, Greg Griswell. Greg and his wife arrived from Salina, Kansas on Tuesday. He spent the day with Mike O'Reilly, Utility Supervisor, touring Cottage Grove and learning about the Utility Division's responsibilities. It is great to welcome Greg to the Cottage Grove employee family and look forward to working with him. For the first time in over 9 months the Utility Division is fully staffed.

Quote of the Week

"Ho, Ho, Ho."

~Santa~