

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council  
FROM: Richard Meyers, City Manager  
SUBJECT: Friday Update  
DATE: December 2, 2016

### **Cottage Grove Youth Advisory Council (YAC)**

The YAC met last night at City Hall and decorated the City Hall Christmas Tree in preparation for Santa's visit on Saturday. Stop by City Hall this holiday season and checkout the beautiful job the YAC did on the tree. The YAC continues to look for additional youth 7<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade aged youth to be on the YAC this year.

The YAC will be meeting on Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 6:15 to 7:30 pm.

### **Santa is Coming!**

City Hall is all set for a visit by the big guy Santa himself. He will be arriving Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> and he will be making a number of stops in throughout the day going to All-America City Park at 5:00 to light the tree then make his way to City Hall to visit with the kids and have pictures taken until 8:00pm. Be sure to join in the fun and make your way downtown on Saturday. See the attached flyer from the Chamber for all the events and activities happening downtown.

### **Trail signs**

The City has just completed installing a new interpretive sign in the Row River Trailhead Park at 10<sup>th</sup> and Main Street. This is the first of a series of 6 interpretive signs that were made possible through a partnership between the City and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers with support from the Bureau of Land Management. The signs will be located along the Row River Trail and in parks near the trail (Schwartz Park and Bake-Stewart Park). The signs are intended to increase public awareness of the natural features along the trail. Sign topics include local history, restoration of Willamette Valley prairie remnants, Harms Park recreation, and pollinators of nearby native wildflowers. The other five signs will be installed in the next several months to be available prior to the Spring recreation season.



The Row River Trailhead sign provides a timeline that describes the history of the railroad and eventually the trail.

### **Cottage Grove Airport Aviation Gateway**

The fundraising for the Airport Welcome Center at the Cottage Grove Airport has been very successful and the project is moving into the next phase to prepare for construction. The hope is to have the welcome center open for the 2017 flying season. The Cottage Grove Welcome Center has been highlighted in the November/December edition of *PropWash*, the newsletter for the Oregon Pilots Association. The newsletter is sent to 1,600 members of the Oregon Pilots Association. The newsletter is at: <http://www.oregonpilot.org/propwash/CurrentIssue.pdf>.

### **Middlefield Golf Course Superintendent Leaving**

Kris Ammerman, who has served as the Middlefield Golf Course Superintendent for the past ten years, will be leaving the City of Cottage Grove today. Kris has accepted a job with the City of Roseburg as the Parks Superintendent. Kris was hired shortly after the City acquired Middlefield Golf Course as a site for the land application of treated wastewater effluent. With Kris' background in horticulture and turf management, he greatly improved the overall care and maintenance of the golf course playing surfaces. Equipment and turf maintenance had been neglected under the prior private ownership of the course. Kris reversed this trend and made Middlefield a much more desirable place to play the game of golf. Kris also expanded play opportunities at Middlefield to include soccer golf. Kris is a licensed herbicide and pesticide applicator and was also a certified arborist. The City utilized Kris' talents in these areas throughout the City's Park System and public open spaces. Thank you for your professional dedication to the Middlefield Golf Course and the City of Cottage Grove. We wish you the best of luck in your new position with the City of Roseburg. We'll see you on the 19<sup>th</sup> hole!

### **Golf Course Management Magazine**

Prior to Kris's departure from Middlefield Golf Course, he prepared an article that was published in the November 2016 Golf Course Management Magazine. The article describes how the Middlefield Golf Course saves the citizens of Cottage Grove money, while also having a positive impact on the environment.

The article is available at: <http://gcmdigital.gcsaa.org/i/740214-nov-2016/58>. Kris's article is eligible for an award from the Golf Course Management Magazine and he has pledged any monetary award received to scholarships to the summer youth golf program at Middlefield.

### **Winter Watershed Soiree**

The Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council will be holding their annual Winter Watershed Soiree on Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 10:00 pm at the Village Green. The evening will include food and refreshments, an exciting science performance by Explosions Inc., a silent auction, an award ceremony and watershed styled holiday cheer. Tickets are available at the Bookmine, CoastFork.org and on The Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council's Facebook Page.

### **LEGO CLUB**

The Lego Club at the Cottage Grove Public Library will meet on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 to 3:30 pm. Lego Club is for Youth ages 4-12. They are encouraged to bring a friend and come join in the fun. Lego Club meets each month on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday.

### **Holiday Fundraiser at the Library**

This December the Friends of the Cottage Grove Library are fundraising to update the Library's collection in the following areas: self-help, spirituality, health, parenting, teen self-help and psychology. Donate \$10 or \$20 to the topic area of your choice, and a personalized bookplate will be added to the books that we purchase. Please make all checks out to Friends of the Cottage Grove Library.

### **Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Looking for Volunteers**

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) provides a powerful voice for abused and neglected children in Lane County. Last year, over 1,500 children in Lane County spent time in foster care because of abuse or neglect by their parents. Every day, judges decide the futures of these children in a system that is too overburdened to focus adequately on the needs of each child. CASA trains and supports community volunteers to advocate for these children in the court and child welfare systems and help to move them as quickly as possible into safe, permanent homes.

CASA needs volunteers! If you would like to change the lives of children in foster care in 10-15 hours a month, visit [www.casa-lane.org](http://www.casa-lane.org) or call (541) 984-3132 for information about becoming a volunteer.

### *Quote of the Week*

*“Christmas is a season not only of rejoicing but of reflection.”*

*~Winston Churchill~*