

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Mike Sauerwein, City Manager

SUBJECT: Friday Update

DATE: January 3, 2025

### **Christmas Meal Held at Community Center**

Community members and organizations stepped up to plan and coordinate a Christmas meal in just four short days. The dinner was held Christmas Day at the Cottage Grove Community Center, coordinated by Hope Rides Again nonprofit. Made possible by donors and volunteers from our community. Over 200 hot meals were served to people in need of food or company. It was a festive time for all who attended. This was a true testament of what Cottage Grove can do when we work together.

Thank you to the generous donors and volunteers: Edward Chartrand, Hope Rides Again, Jennifer Ferraez Chartrand, Bruce Kelsh and the Committee for Earth and Social Justice, the City of Cottage Grove, Teresa Cowan, Jessica Klarr, Mike Cummings, Rob Dickinson, Samantha Duncan, Cottage Grove City Council members Jim Settlemeier and Dana Merryday, Joyce Settlemeier, Alexandra Kaul, Mike Fleck and Community Sharing, Mary Ann Love, Sonja Towner, Joy Storm, Ronathan Colbert, Valeria Clarke, Marty Walton, Leslie Rubinstein, Evan Rubinstein, Hayley Vanhorn, Nancy Ludwig, Kellen Lignier, Eileen O'Rourke, John Flannery, Sara and Rob Marvin, Tamara Jeppeson with Bohemia Tavern, Ayla Roark, Josh Fatal, Jenny Bohrman, Isaiah Fattal, The Center for Rural Livelihood, Lori Sias, Clay Olstrom, April Klein, Bill Leishman, and all the other citizens of Cottage Grove who donated and stepped up to provide helping hands in making this Christmas miracle happen.

### **Sandbags Available**

Self-serve sand and bags are available in the Coiner Park parking lot located at 1318 E Main Street, Cottage Grove. Feel free to help yourself, if you are in need.

### ***Quote of the Week:***

*“Approach the New Year with resolve to find the opportunities hidden in each new day”*  
~ Michael Josephson

