

Friday August 7, 2015

Good Friday afternoon everyone. Once again I would like to remind you all that I will be out of the office starting today and will return on Tuesday, August 18th. Sheila is thrilled to begin fulfilling her duties as Acting City Manager in my absence. Ok, maybe not thrilled, but I am thrilled to be heading out on vacation for a week.

Each of you should still be receiving weekly updates on the Oak/Washington project. Please let us know if for some reason you are not receiving the updates on this busy and exciting project for downtown from Chanelle in Public Works. Please continue to encourage folks from around the community to manage the inconvenience and support all of our local businesses in the downtown area. As I mentioned last week, Knife River has begun working on the ADA ramps along the east side of Stephens Street between Stewart Parkway and Newton Creek. They started near Abby's Pizza and will end the work at Newton Creek Road. A number of the ramps have been completed and many more are being formed and poured this week. The removal and replacement paving at Charles Gardiner Park was completed this week and the contractor only has some restoration work along the edge of the path to complete before it is reopened.



It's Douglas County Fair week, so I hope all have an opportunity to take advantage of the entertainment options provided this year. The fair generally draws around 100,000 attendees and they have a great lineup of feature acts as well as a wealth of local talent from kids to livestock, arts, crafts and musicians. While the fair began on Wednesday, the Music on the Half Shell performance by Robert Cray attracted the largest crowd of the year. It was clear that the music this week drew folks from areas beyond Roseburg.

Last Sunday, Monday and Tuesday the Roseburg/Kuki City Sister City organization hosted representatives from Kuki City including their Mayor, Mr. Kenji Tanaka, their Council President Mr. Tadaaki Inoue, and three others. The group shared some tourist activities with their guests and held a dinner on Sunday with Mayor Rich and Council President Ryan at UCC followed by a formal rededication of our sister city relationship with Kuki City that same evening. Larry and Tom both spoke eloquently at the Sunday event which was attended by many local middle school families and the students from Kuki that they were hosting. The Lang Center at UCC was as full as I have seen it and I think everyone in attendance



really enjoyed their interactions and the ceremonial signing of the sister city proclamation.



Monday the Kuki City contingent toured the Public Safety center with our Police and Fire Chiefs and toured City Hall with me. We then shared a lunch at Brix before the contingent took tours of the Swanson Group mill and Umpqua Dairy. On Tuesday the group participated in some additional local activities and then finished up with dinner at the Country Club with Council President Ryan and other guests. It was great to interact with our Kuki City guests and to rededicate the sister city relationship. I would like to give special thanks to our Engineering Technician, Noriko Corrado, who translated for us on the tours of City facilities and at lunch. She did a fabulous job of keeping all of us informed and we could not have conversed at all without her help!



Have a great weekend and a great week everyone! See you when I return.