July 2022 Volume 14, Issue 7

A Downtown Facelift

Welcome summer! And, what an exciting time for downtown Sutherlin! Downtown businesses are, or soon will be, working to improve the overall appearance by rebuilding and replacing the business facades. This is made possible, in part, by grants from the Urban Renewal Agency. A shining example is the recent completion of The Body Shop façade. Bold and powerful, it is an excellent manifestation of the Urban Renewal Agency's hope for all downtown Sutherlin. Other approved grantees include the Sutherlin Liquor Store/Smoke Shop, the Sutherlin Rotary Club, and CG's Computer Repair Shop. In addition, the Urban Renewal Agency has recently granted funds to help bring the historic bank building at the

corner of Central Avenue and State Street up to code so that future development can progress successfully.

Lastly, the Central Park Multi-Use Stage is nearing completion! With a full line-up ready to entertain for Music Off Central, this new venue will definitely raise the bar for Douglas County's summer calendar! Exciting times for downtown Sutherlin, indeed! ~ Mayor Sumner





Sutherlin Police Department ~ Law Enforcement Officer of the Year



Pictured left to right: Chief Troy Mills, Officer Jon Rausch, Captain Kurt Sorenson, Sergeant Todd Jochum, Officer Ashley Higgins

'Spotlight On' Jon Rausch ~ On May 26th, of this year, The Roseburg Optimist Club presented Sutherlin Police Officer, Jon Rausch with their Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award for 2021. Officer Rausch was overwhelmingly voted on by his peers to be the recipient of this award. The presentation was made by Peter Sudduth of the Roseburg Optimist Club and held in the Sutherlin Council Chambers.

Officer Rausch began his career in law enforcement with the Reedsport Police Department in 2015. Since joining the Sutherlin Police Department in 2019, he has been an exemplary employee and a very valuable asset to our department. He is committed to making a difference in our community and in Douglas County, always working to try and be the change. He is well liked by his peers, a constant motivator and doesn't even realize the positive impact he has on those around him. Officer Rausch genuinely cares about his fellow officers, staff and the city he serves. He gives 100 percent every day, continues to enhance his knowledge of police work and is currently working on his Advance Police Officer Certification.

"I am personally proud to work with Officer Rausch as a fellow law enforcement officer in the cities of Sutherlin and Oakland specifically, but also as part of the larger team in Douglas County. In recognition of your very calm and professional demeanor, your willingness to take on difficult and challenging assignments, your passion for training, teaching and encouraging others at the City of Sutherlin Police Department, you are our choice as Officer of the Year. Congratulations." ~ Troy Mills, Chief of Police

Election Year 2022

This election year, Sutherlin will have one position for Mayor and three positions for Council members on the ballot for the general election, to be held on November 8, 2022. The term for Mayor is two (2) years and four (4) years for City Councilors. All are nonpartisan and volunteer/non-paid positions. The newly elected Mayor and Councilors will take the Oath of Office on January 9, 2023. Qualifications are:

- ➤ Be a registered voter under the laws and constitution of the State of Oregon.
- ➤ Be a resident of the City of Sutherlin for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the election.
- No person may be a candidate at a single election for more than one office.
- Mayor and Council members must maintain residency within city limits during the term of office.

The filing deadline is August 22, 2022. Applications must be completed and returned to Diane Harris, Elections Officer at Sutherlin City Hall, located at 126 East Central Avenue. To schedule an appointment, contact her at d.harris@ci.sutherlin.or.us or by phone at 541-459-2857. Please visit the website www.cityofsutherlin.com for more election and candidate information.

Sutherlin Downtown Development, Inc. ~ Oregon Main Street

The restoration of the Sutherlin Historic Bank Building will begin July 2022. This project has been made possible with a grants to the Sutherlin Downtown Development, Inc. As the Oregon Main Street Organization for Sutherlin, SDDI was awarded the grant by Oregon Heritage, a division of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. The grant is in the amount of \$199,835.75, with matching funds of \$60,000 from the Urban Renewal District, for a total of \$259,835.75 allocated for the

restoration, consisting of a new roof, HVAC, sprinkler system, and asbestos abatement. The grant program was created in 2015 by Oregon Legislature, under the auspices of the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office. A permanent fund for the Oregon Main Street Revitalization Grant was established, funded by the sale of lottery bonds. It was included in the lottery bond package approved in 2021. The grants are intended to facilitate community revitalization.

Nicole Bennett and Dan Bartram purchased the bank building after several years of consideration of the various uses and growth potential, prior to becoming members of SDDI. A key factor in making the decision was the progressive attitude combined with the open communication that the City of Sutherlin had shown. Their priorities align with those of the City and the funds will be used to bring the building up to current building codes. The improvements will allow them to provide viable retail lease spaces, adding to the



growth and future of the downtown district. Their goal is to return the bank building to the showpiece it once was for the downtown and maintain the heritage that was put into place by the dedicated workers in 1905. It will be restored to its original beauty using materials, from the sandstone to lumber, that can be reclaimed and repurposed. The estimated completion date is December 31, 2022. "We are very excited about the changes happening downtown and the hope is that the bank building will be the cornerstone." ~ Nicole Bennett

Please visit <u>www.oregonheritage.org</u> for more information about the Oregon Main Street Revitalization Network, or contact Kuri Gill at <u>kuri.gill@oprd.oregon.gov</u>.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

July 4th City Hall Offices Closed

July 11th City Council Meeting 7 p.m. - Civic Auditorium

July 19th Planning Commission Meeting 7 p.m. – Civic Auditorium

