

The Stewardship of Sutherlin, Oregon

The definition of stewardship is “the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care.” At the 2024 Oregon Governor’s Conference on Tourism, the underlying message was one that reflected this in its commitment to the future of Oregon and to create for communities a secure and solid economic future through destination stewardship.

The City of Sutherlin is achieving this goal through the combined efforts and stewardship of those with a shared vision for the city. All working together and comprising the cornerstone on which to build the future is the city staff, city council members, the Sutherlin Downtown Development, Inc. (SDDI), the Chamber of Commerce and the community. Through their stewardship, they have brought to fruition the ‘Summer of Sutherlin’ and the city now offers a myriad of reasons to make the region a destination not only for a seasonal visit, but also a year round place to live, work and play.

The official season began with a family friendly event, ‘Movie Night in the Park’, showing the fan favorite ‘Goonies.’ The annual summer concert series, ‘Music Off Central’, brings an impressive lineup of bands to the Grand Central Stage in Sutherlin Central Park. The concerts are held every Thursday evening throughout July and August. In the midst of the music, on the third weekend of July, comes the Second Annual Sutherlin Throwdown, a combination BBQ contest, cornhole tournament, all encircled by food truck vendors, with local wineries and breweries pouring their liquid gold. The Throwdown is quickly gaining in reputation as one of the premiere events of its kind.

This month also saw the return of the Sutherlin Stampede Rodeo, on hiatus for several years, but welcomed back with much anticipation and enthusiasm. The Sutherlin Farmers’ Market is also a weekly event, held each Thursday, it continues to grow and thrive, providing a venue for local vendors from food trucks to handcrafts and musicians. The 36th Annual Blackberry Festival will return in August with three full days of events beginning on Friday the 16th, Saturday the 17th and Sunday the 18th. The

festival is a community wide event, ranging from a golf tournament, to a blackberry cooking contest, the classic car cruise through the streets of Sutherlin and many activities for the whole family.

The Umpqua Valley is 65 miles long from north to south and 25 miles wide from east to west. It comprises one-hundred valleys and is a world renowned wine region. Sutherlin is the gateway to Umpqua wine country and is a short distance from several of the 30 plus wineries within the valley. The local wines are an integral part of the celebrations hosted by the city.



The ‘Jewel in the Crown’ for Sutherlin is Ford’s Pond Community Park. Once a logging pond, it has been transformed into an urban oasis. Over a ten year period, in a collaboration between the Friends of Fords Pond and the City of Sutherlin, the 202 acres, once destined to become a receptacle for wastewater, has become a haven for waterfowl, walking paths and picnics.



A long-standing building sits in the heart of downtown Sutherlin, known as the ‘Old Bank Building.’ A sentinel to the changing times, it is the literal and visceral cornerstone to the renaissance of the city. Built of solid sandstone, it is a testament to the longevity and continued stewardship in guiding The City of Sutherlin into the future.

Roseburg Tradition - Douglas County Fair



The Fair’s calliope wagon was built in 1961 by Douglas County Fair Manager, Dick Turley and friend Jack Smith on an old Oldsmobile frame as a creative way to promote the fairgrounds.

The 2024 Douglas County Fair, it starts in less than a week! “Fair Time is Fun Time!” Douglas County Commissioners along with the Douglas County Fairgrounds staff and the Douglas County Fair Board encourage everyone to head on out to the 2024 Douglas County Fair - Wednesday, August 7 through Saturday, August 10, 2024! For more about the 2024 Douglas County Fair log onto their website at <https://douglasfairgrounds.com>. See you at the Fair!

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