



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Food bank director is this year's Ellensburg Rodeo parade grand marshal

ELLENSBURG, Wash. — Roger McCune, the director of the FISH Food Bank, is the Ellensburg Rodeo Parade Grand Marshal this year.

“This is a wonderful honor,” McCune said.

The Ellensburg Rodeo parade is a tradition during Labor Day weekend. Hundreds of people will line the streets of downtown Ellensburg on Saturday, Sept. 5., for the festivities.

McCune has been leading the FISH food bank since 2006. After the recession crept into the community, the food bank needed more space to feed its growing list of clients. McCune led the move from the Methodist Church to the Snickeldoodle building on Water Street in late 2008.

After six years of feeding families, the food bank was damaged in fire the day after Thanksgiving 2014. Mercer Creek Church opened its doors to the food bank after the fire and FISH has been operating out of a building at Mercer Creek since then.

The food bank opened the Monday after the fire as scheduled with 5,000 pounds of food ready to distribute at Mercer Creek Church. McCune credits the community and social media outreach for being able to restock their supplies so quickly.

Before becoming the director of the FISH food bank, McCune did social work with the homeless and indigent in Ellensburg. He sat on the board for the Kittitas County Action Council, now known as HopeSource.

He is a pastor in Thorp, where he “tag teams” the Sunday sermon with one of his Bible students. He and his wife, Janie, have four grown children and 10 grandchildren scattered throughout Kittitas, Oregon and Georgia.

ABOUT THE ELLENSBURG RODEO:

This year's rodeo runs from September 4 - 7, 2015. More information about its many competitions and events can be found online at www.ellensburgrodeo.com.

The Ellensburg Rodeo is one of the “old rodeos” and has earned its place as one of America's Top 10 professional rodeos. The Ellensburg Rodeo hosts the World Finale of PRCA's Xtreme Bulls Tour. Started in 1923 with the same volunteer spirit that still “fuels the fire” of today's volunteers, the rodeo has grown from a local competition among ranch hands to the Professional event of today with over 600 contestants and prize money in excess of \$400,000!

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