



# The Aurora Colony Times

21420 Main St. NE · Aurora, OR 97002

503-266-1283 [www.ci.aurora.or.us](http://www.ci.aurora.or.us)

## ALL WELCOME City Meetings for Sept. / Oct.

Meetings in the City  
Council Chambers at  
7:00pm

**Planning Commission**  
Sept. 1  
Oct. 6

**City Council**  
Sept. 8  
Oct. 13

**Parks Committee**  
Sept. 15  
Oct. 20

**Historic Review Board**  
Sept. 22  
Oct. 27

**Please confirm dates and  
times with City Hall  
503-678-1283**

**City of Aurora  
Website  
[www.ci.aurora.or.us](http://www.ci.aurora.or.us)**

**THE  
ENCLOSED  
UTILITY BILL IS  
DUE ON OR  
BEFORE  
September 10th**

\*\*\*

***Please  
remember to  
keep grass,  
rocks,  
vehicles,  
bark, etc. off  
water  
meters!***

## Mayor's Corner

I hope you and those closest to you are safe and well. These past several months have reminded us what a blessing it is to have good health – and that each of us must do what we can to preserve it.

You have sheltered at home. You have worn masks in public. And traditional gatherings that brought us together had to be set aside. Thank you for caring for your family, friends and our community. Please keep wearing your masks and maintain social distancing as we move through our daily lives.

Enclosed in this billing cycle you will find a \$25.00 AURORA BUCKS Voucher. This coupon can be used in Aurora only at the businesses on the back of the voucher. It is good until the end of the year, and you must spend it all at one time. The money came from a grant to help our community economy. A big thanks to the City Council.

You may have noticed some of the beautification projects taking place around town. New parking lines and curb safety markings were implemented, and City Hall received a new paint job. Pedestrian crossing flags at three intersections were put in place to aid in crossing Highway 99. We have witnessed many people using them. Safety first!

Our water tower will also be getting painted with our city logo around the tank. This will help put Aurora on the map!

A new 9-hole disk golf course was installed in the city park. Get out your old Frisbees and challenge your friends and family! Great outdoor fun for all.

Thanks to all who are supplying and using the food and produce boxes around town. Should anyone need assistance please contact City Hall or myself and we can get you to an organization that can help.

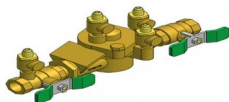
The Old Aurora Colony Museum is having a fundraiser salmon dinner (Take Home) Saturday August 29<sup>th</sup> and Online Auction. Contact [www.auroracolony.org](http://www.auroracolony.org) or call (503) 678-5754 for reservations and details. Your support is appreciated!

Save the date Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup> for Aurora's Autumn Outdoor Antiques & Farmers Market. Stock up on fall décor and more! Thanks to all who made our last outdoor market such a success.

As some of you may know our city recorder Scott Jorgenson will be leaving us Sept 1<sup>st</sup> to become the City Administrator in Rainier, Oregon. He has been a fantastic addition of our team and we wish him well in his new position. If you get a chance stop in and thank him for his service!

Thank you,  
Mayor Brian Asher

## \*\*\*\*\* Backflow testing \*\*\*\*\*



If you have a backflow device installed on your property, now is a good time to schedule your required annual testing..

Some of you may have backflow devices but do not have anything that requires one. If you don't want to have to test it every year PLEASE contact City Hall about possible deactivation. Additional information is available on the City website: [www.ci.aurora.or.us](http://www.ci.aurora.or.us).



# Aurora Fire District No. 63



TAKE THE STEPS

## TO KEEP YOUR FAMILY SAFE.

### INGREDIENTS

Fire safety when cooking includes these key items:

- Working smoke alarms
- Clean surfaces and appliances
- Kitchen or phone timer/alarm
- Adult eyes on the stovetop when it's in use

### INSTRUCTIONS

**STAND BY YOUR PAN!** This way you can react quickly if flames appear. Stay in the kitchen when cooking food on the stovetop.

**FLAMES? PUT A LID ON IT!**

**KEEP** a 3-foot child and pet-free zone around your cooking area. This helps you stay focused so you can **KEEP AN EYE ON WHAT YOU FRY**.

It's easy to forget about something that's cooking. Use a kitchen timer or a timer on your phone to make sure your dish doesn't become a fire hazard. This can help you to **WATCH WHAT YOU HEAT**.

Courtesy of: Oregon State Police OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL | [oregon.gov/osp/sfm](http://oregon.gov/osp/sfm)



## New City Recorder

The Aurora City Council voted unanimously at its Tuesday, August 11 meeting to hire Stuart Rodgers as the city's next Recorder.

Current City Recorder W. Scott Jorgensen announced last month that he is starting as the City Administrator for Rainier as of September 8.

Originally from Chula Vista, California, Rodgers moved to the small Oregon town of Jefferson and worked on a potato farm during summer vacations. This experience helped him learn Spanish and prepare for a two-year service abroad in Chile. Upon returning from South America, he focused on economics at Chemeketa Community College, transferred to Brigham Young University for a degree in political science, and then returned home to Oregon to obtain a Master's degree in Public Administration from Portland State University.



Rodgers got his start in local government through a Management Internship at the south coast city of Brookings and has completed economic development projects for the cities of Albany and Payson, Utah.

Through a variety of small business marketing ventures, his own buy-sell-trade operation and work for a Salem-based mortuary transport service, Rodgers relates well to business owners and the challenges they face. Most recently, he managed the Woodburn Area Chamber of Commerce, helping to grow the business association during a period of rebuilding.

Outside of work, Rodgers enjoys water sports and road trip adventures across Oregon and loves to spend time with family based in the Willamette Valley.

"The city is very fortunate to have found such a qualified individual to fill the position," Mayor Brian Asher said. "We are all looking forward to working together for the betterment of our city."

Rodgers started with the City of Aurora on Tuesday, August 25. Feel free to stop by City Hall to introduce yourself or find him out and about connecting with Aurora residents and businesses.





## North Marion Community Library News

Even though we remain closed due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the library does have projects ongoing, and we have so many people to thank.

First, to Wind Horse Antiques for offering us a table at their Estate Sale on August 7-9.

Second, thanks to all of you who came and took a look and even purchased a vintage book or two.

Third, the White Rabbit continues to offer us shelf space for books. If you are looking for a good read, there's a great selection at the White Rabbit right now.

Fourth, Ray of Hope Thrift Shop in Woodburn donates unsold books to us. We thank you so much as we have been able to pass most of the children's books on to North Marion Schools for their summer book donations.

Fifth, we thank you for your patience. We miss seeing everyone! In the meantime, we have plans for Little Free Libraries to be up and running soon; so look for those around town.

And....our annual HOLIDAY GREENS sale will be happening sooner that you think!! Please consider buying your wreaths, centerpieces, etc. from us this year. It will be our biggest fundraiser as our gigantic book sale was cancelled along with Aurora Days. Your friendly salespeople will be ready for your orders the first of November or so.

## Farewell from Scott Jorgensen

In February 2018, the Aurora City Council took a chance and voted to hire me on as the City Recorder. Even though I had worked in several small towns like Aurora throughout my career, this was my first time in this kind of role. I started one month later and hit the ground running. My approach was to create a culture based on quality customer service, with the hopes of helping the city move on a path towards fulfilling its tremendous potential.

The nearly two and a half years since then have been truly rewarding. It's been an honor to see several projects around town evolve from concepts on paper to reality. Together, we've celebrated the grand opening of Filbert's Farmhouse Kitchen. The Historical Society's preservation and research center has been another worthwhile addition. Portland Electrical Construction, Inc. is breaking ground on its commercial development. Conroy Classics should be doing the same in a matter of weeks. Peyton Circle is on track to begin new residential construction. Chugg Coffee should be opening very soon. At least six other commercial, residential and mixed use projects are also in the works.

I've thoroughly enjoyed working with the city council, as well as the volunteer members of the Planning Commission and HRB. I'm particularly enthused about the re-formed Parks Committee and all of its efforts to improve and enhance recreational opportunities for residents and visitors alike.

City staff is also top-notch in every respect. I'm proud of the teamwork and camaraderie. Hiring the public works crew has been another highlight, as they've done a great job and raised the level of professionalism of their department to an all-time high.

The City of Rainier has offered me the position of City Administrator and I have accepted. My last day with the City of Aurora was September 1.

My stint here in Aurora coincided with some significant life changes, including my marriage in March 2019 and the birth of my daughter last August. The decision to move on was not one that I took lightly, as I absolutely love working here, and was largely financial.

I will always fondly remember my time in Aurora, from having my band's first concert at the Feely residence to shooting a music video in the jail to Colony Days, ribbon cutting ceremonies and so much more. Thanks for the opportunity. It is my most sincere hope that my service to the city will be viewed as a positive time in its illustrious and extensive history. Leaving the city in better shape was always extremely important to me, and I feel confident that I have done that. I look forward to many visits in the future to watch the town continue its positive growth, and cherish the genuine friendships we've developed in this time.

W. Scott Jorgensen



## Upcoming City Hall Closures

Monday, September 7, 2019 - Labor Day





## Am I saying this correctly?

### A pronunciation key from the Historic Review Board.

Aurora has a rich history and is full of founding family names. They are interwoven into our community as streets and neighborhoods. These names can be a little tricky and we thought it might be helpful to share the proper pronunciations. Thank you to the Aurora Colony Museum for consulting with us to make sure we are saying everything correctly! Please check out their website to learn more about the beginnings of Aurora. [www.auroracolony.org](http://www.auroracolony.org)

Keil pronounced like the name Kyle

Ehlen pronounced like the name Ellen

Giesy pronounced Gee-Cee

Kasel pronounced Keh-cell

We hope everyone is staying healthy and enjoying spending more time around Aurora this summer..

### Emergency and Non-emergency call out information

- If you have an emergency call 911.
- If there is a non-emergency item you would like to report please call 503-588-5032, Marion County non-emergency dispatch.
- If there is a water leak that you would like to report please call City Hall, 503-678-1283. If it is after hours, please report it to Public Works at 971-930-3597 or call the non-emergency dispatch number, 503-588-5032 and they will contact public works
- The City is only responsible for repairs and water leaks in the city right-of-way.

**For additional information regarding events and happenings in Aurora, please check out the City of Aurora facebook page at**

<https://www.facebook.com/City-of-Aurora-Oregon-1690880117667604/>.

**This page will be updated regularly to provide up to date information to anyone who may be interested.**

### City of Aurora Contact Information

**Office: 503-678-1283 Fax: 503-678-2758**

Office Hours: 9am-5pm Monday-Thursday  
**Closed Friday**

**Stuart Rodgers, City Recorder**  
[recorder@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:recorder@ci.aurora.or.us)

**Mary Lambert, Finance/Court Clerk**  
[finance@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:finance@ci.aurora.or.us)

**Tammy Grimes, Administrative Specialist**  
[assistant@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:assistant@ci.aurora.or.us)

**Mark Gunter, Public Works Superintendent**  
[pws@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:pws@ci.aurora.or.us)

### City Council Contact/Information

Mayor Brian Asher – [mayor@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:mayor@ci.aurora.or.us)

Councilor Berard – [jberard@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:jberard@ci.aurora.or.us)

Councilor Feely – [mfeely@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:mfeely@ci.aurora.or.us)

Councilor Heitmanek – [theitmanek@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:theitmanek@ci.aurora.or.us)

Councilor Weidman – [tweidman@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:tweidman@ci.aurora.or.us)

You will find additional council and board information on the city website or come by City Hall with any questions.

**City of Aurora Website**  
**[www.ci.aurora.or.us](http://www.ci.aurora.or.us)**

### Aurora/Marion County Police Department

Anonymous Tip Line: 503-540-8079

Non Emergency: 503-588-5032

**Emergency: Dial 911**