



Established in 1856

"National Historic District"

January / February 2014

# The Aurora Colony Times

21420 Main St. NE · Aurora, OR 97002

503-678-1283 www.ci.aurora.or.us

## ALL WELCOME City Meetings for January/February 2014

### Meetings at the City Council Chambers at 7:00pm

- **Planning Commission**  
January 7, February 4
- **City Council**  
January 14, February 11
- **Park Committee**  
January 21, February 18
- **Traffic/Safety Comm.**  
No Meetings Scheduled
- **Historic Review Board**  
January 23, February 27

Please confirm dates and  
times with City Hall

503-678-1283

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## Mayor's Corner

Aurora has begun its transition of city staff as three of our members will retire at the end of this month. We have two new team members in our Public Works Department: Darrel Lockard and Ray Lowe. Both bring experience and knowledge to our team. In addition, our City Clerk, Mary Lambert, will be taking on the role of City Finance Officer.

The City of Aurora has received Certified Local Government status from the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). This status allows the city to access many of the resources which the state provides to historic areas, including 50/50 grants, training, and networking with many experts and districts in the state.

The planning commission is beginning a forward looking update to our land use code. This includes issues such as food carts, residential zone usages, view corridors, and other interesting topics. I encourage all to come to the meetings on the first Tuesday of each month. There is also an opening on the commission for a citizen to become part of the decision making process.

The Aurora Colony Visitors Association continues to hold great events in our town, along with the Aurora Colony Historical Society (Old Aurora Colony Museum). Tourism is one of our town's economic foundations. Please help our local businesses through support and participation of the efforts of these organizations in making our town a great place to visit, shop, and eat.

Mayor Bill Graupp

**The enclosed utility bill is due on or before December 10th**

## City Hall Holiday Closures

**January 1 - New Year's Day**

**January 20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day**

**February 17 - President's Day**



## Volunteer needed for Aurora Colony Days

After seven years of outstanding leadership, Betsy Imholt is ready to pass the Aurora Colony Days baton on to the next great leader. We thank Betsy for all the time she put into every aspect of making Aurora shine the 2nd weekend in August. Now it is time for that next great organizer (or organizers) to come in and carry on the tradition. This event is not possible without the help of many volunteers throughout the community. Please contact City Hall if you are interested in helping with Aurora's biggest weekend. And to Betsy, thank you for all you have done!

### On Patrol



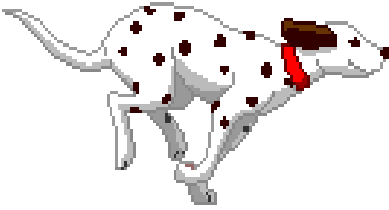
With Deputy Pete Marcellais



With all that's been going on in the world and the local area, it gets a person to start thinking. I would like to say, "Tis the Season" and I would not be too far off. Now that the cold weather is among us, I would like to remind folks to be cautious when warming up your cars in the morning. Car thieves look for this and it's usually a free ride with the keys. I know we have to warm the cars up, so here is a good way to stop that; Take your key fob off of the key ring and use that to lock the doors. Oh, and for some reason people like to turn their parking lights on while the car is warming. You might as well put a sign on the car that says, "Free!" So, as a reminder, your car does not need the lights to warm up.

Also, as our winter continues, please check on our neighbors. The cold affects all of us differently and it's always helpful to check your neighbors to make sure they are doing OK. If you find a neighbor that is having problems, Call me or Aurora Fire and we can come to help.

Speaking of Aurora Fire, there are a bunch of folks around here that volunteer their time and personal safety to protect us all. What do they ask in return? Nothing. These true heroes are willing to risk their lives to make sure we are all safe. They work all hours of the night and day, in any weather, and they never complain and are always happy to see folks. They work holidays and weekends and they don't get paid for either. They work on their outdated fire engine almost every day so they know it's running and ready should you call. They do it because they care about your community. These volunteers and students of the Aurora Fire District are the real heroes (in my humble opinion). So take some time to appreciate and say hello to your fire fighters.



## The Aurora Fire District Spot

### HEATING SAFETY TIPS

Safety Tips provided by National Fire Protection Association

Heating equipment is a leading cause of home fire deaths. Almost half of home heating equipment fires are reported during the months of December, January, and February. Some simple steps can prevent most heating-related fires from happening.

- ◆ Keep anything that can burn at least three feet away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater.
- ◆ Have a three-foot “kid-free zone” around open fires and space heaters.
- ◆ Never use your oven to heat your home.
- ◆ Have a qualified professional install stationary space heating equipment, water heaters or central heating equipment according to the local codes and manufacturer’s instructions.
- ◆ Have heating equipment and chimneys cleaned and inspected every year by a qualified professional.
- ◆ Remember to turn portable heaters off when leaving the room or going to bed.
- ◆ Always use the right kind of fuel, specified by the manufacturer, for fuel burning space heaters.
- ◆ Make sure the fireplace has a sturdy screen to stop sparks from flying into the room. Ashes should be cool before putting them in a metal container. Keep the container a safe distance away from your home.
- ◆ Test smoke alarms monthly.

If you have questions or need additional information please call the Aurora Fire District at 503-678-5966

Thanks, Dave Fincher

## Aurora Colony Volunteer Opportunity



[www.auroracolony.org](http://www.auroracolony.org)

Have Some Fun! Do Some Good! Volunteer At The Museum!

Because of volunteers we have been open since 1966 to welcome thousands of visitors to the Old Aurora Colony Museum. In 2014, we need a few more volunteers! Would working one day a week in our historic museum interest you? Interested in the repair and maintenance of historic buildings? How about hands-on learning about the old tools, spinning wheels, forge and farm implements that 19th century Aurora Colonist used. You would be trained to introduce this living history experience to grade-school kids.

There are lots of volunteer opportunities like these waiting for you at the Old Aurora Colony Museum. Whether you have a few hours one day a week or just a week or two here and there, we would love to welcome you as a volunteer. Interested? Please contact Elizabeth Corley, Volunteer Manager, for more details: [elizabeth@auroracolony.org](mailto:elizabeth@auroracolony.org) or 503-678-5754.

**Please go to the City of Aurora website at [www.ci.aurora.or.us](http://www.ci.aurora.or.us) and sign up for Aurora Notifications and Alerts. This is our way of getting you the most up to date information as quickly as we can.**



### City of Aurora Contact Information

**503-678-1283 office 503-678-2758 fax**

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

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

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

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

**Darrel Lockard, Public Works Superintendent**  
[dlockard@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:dlockard@ci.aurora.or.us)

**Ray Lowe, Public Works Assistant**  
[rlowe@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:rlowe@ci.aurora.or.us)



### Aurora/Marion County Police Department

Anonymous Tip Line 503-540-8079

Non Emergency 503-588-5032

**Emergency Dial 911**

**Deputy Sheriff Pete Marcellais**

503-932-3369

[pmarcellais@co.marion.or.us](mailto:pmarcellais@co.marion.or.us)

**City of Aurora Website:**

**[www.ci.aurora.or.us](http://www.ci.aurora.or.us)**