



Established in 1856

"National Historic District"

March / April 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 March / April 2014

Meetings at the City Council Chambers at 7:00pm

- **Planning Commission**
March 4, April 1
- **City Council**
March 11, April 8
- **Park Committee**
March 18, April 15
- **Traffic/Safety Comm.**
No Meetings Scheduled
- **Historic Review Board**
March 27, April 24

Please confirm dates and
times with City Hall

503-678-1283

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Mayor's Corner

Snow has turned to rain as we head towards spring. Planning for the year's harvest is underway. Signs of our regions strength in agriculture are starting to blossom for the coming season. Stewardship of the land's natural resources is paramount to achieve long term sustainability of our region's economy. As we watch our neighbors to the south of Oregon struggle with drought, we must be conscious of how our availability of natural resources can fluctuate.

City Council would like to welcome Mercedes Rhoden-Freely to the Planning Commission. She brings a wealth of experience and a strong drive to make our city the best it can be. The Planning Commission is at full strength again. They are working on city issues which include medical marijuana laws, economic development, regional collaborative opportunities, and building code. Please attend Planning Commission meetings on the first Tuesday of each month.

Our City Recorder, Kelly Richardson, has completed her Certified Municipal Clerk Certification, awarded by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC). We congratulate her for this accomplishment.

Well #5 is under maintenance to maximize its capacity for the upcoming summer season. Analysis of our water filtration system to ensure capacity for the summer months is also ongoing. Upgrades to our sewer lift stations are underway which will increase performance and reliability. The public works team is continuing our water flushing program to remove residue from the inside of the water system.

As our city enters 2014, an upcoming issue will be how the state legislature deals with allowing local control of medical marijuana producers and dispensaries. Debate in Salem is occurring now over a bill which will allow for municipalities to restrict such activities. The planning commission and city council have begun discussions as to how this issue may affect our town. There is the possibility that the general election in November will put to the voters the legalization of recreational marijuana, as our neighbors in Washington have done. Please come to the meetings and participate in these discussions.

Mayor Bill Graupp

The enclosed utility bill is due on or before March 10th

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

Pancake Palooza to support local hunger program on March 4th

Pancakes, for dinner? March 4th is "Fat Tuesday" and Aurora's first *Pancake Palooza*, a fundraiser to support our local North Marion Schools Backpack Buddies Weekend Meals Program. From 4-7 pm at the Aurora American Legion Hall, each person gets pancakes and ham (gluten free pancakes and vegan sausage will also be served) for \$5. So come learn more about our weekend meals program, make a Mardi Gras mask or decorate a pancake with edible decorations and get to know your neighbors. The event is sponsored by The Aurora American Legion Auxiliary, Aurora Presbyterian Church and Christ Lutheran Church.



The North Marion Community Library Association is moving forward with our plans to open the library in the lower level of the Aurora Presbyterian Church the last week in March. Please check our website, nmarionlibrary@gmail.com for the exact date and times. Our fundraiser on February 15th at the Topaz Bistro in Hubbard was a huge success. Thanks to all who attended and to the local merchants who donated many items for our auction.



2014 Aurora Colony Days Festival

Little Miss Pioneer

The Little Miss Pioneer committee is very excited to invite girls of Aurora, ages 9-12 years, to participate in the 30th Annual Aurora Colony Days Festival's "Little Miss Pioneer" program. The original rules/judging criteria have been updated to adhere to the original program motto: A program that builds self-confidence, manners and poise in a positive and comfortable environment while promoting early community involvement. Beginning this season, all participants who complete the program in full through the ceremony will remain on the LMP court. The LMP Queen and her court will represent the City of Aurora in local parades, fairs and community functions.

The Little Miss Pioneer Committee will be providing an opportunity for several workshops throughout the course of the program leading up to the crowning ceremony that will equip girls with the tools and skills needed to perfect their confidence in public speaking, manners & etiquette, and community service: all skills that will not only be helpful in the program process, but will also go on to enhance their professionalism for their future goals. More information, as well as applications with rules and requirements, will be available online at www.auroracolony.com March 1st with a print version available at Aurora City Hall.

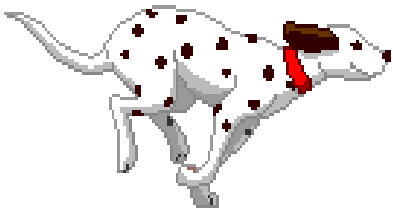
On Patrol



With Deputy Pete Marcellais



It has been brought to my attention by many of our neighbors that there are several dogs around the city that are left outside and continually bark and bark and bark and bark and bark and bark (well you get the idea). While everyone is a dog lover, it can be annoying to listen to this all day long, especially if you're in the middle of Law and Order SVU and the bad guy is about to get away. So, as a reminder, if you have a dog please be courteous to your neighbors and make sure the little one is not causing a ruckus while you are away. If you have a neighbor who has a barking dog, let the neighbor know. If they don't know there is a problem, they can't fix it. And as usual, if you have a question or an issue, give me a call. See you on the street.



The Aurora Fire District Spot

As winter weather and cold temperatures continue, wood and pellet stoves may be fired up inside the home.

- ◆ Have a QUALIFIED professional install stoves, chimney connectors, and chimneys.
- ◆ Stoves should have the LABEL of an independent testing laboratory.
- ◆ In wood stoves, burn only DRY, seasoned wood. In pellet stoves, burn only DRY, seasoned pellets.
- ◆ Have your stove and chimney INSPECTED and cleaned by a certified company annually.
- ◆ CLEAN the inside of your stove periodically.
- ◆ Allow ashes to COOL before disposing of them. Place ashes in a covered METAL container.
- ◆ Keep the ash container at least 10 feet away from your home.
- ◆ Keep a CLOSE EYE on children when operating wood or pellet stoves.
- ◆ Stoves need SPACE. Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet away from the stove.
- ◆ INSTALL and maintain **carbon monoxide alarms** outside each sleeping area and each level of your home.

For more safety tips visit: WWW.nfpa.org/education

Dave Fincher **Aurora Fire District**

Aurora Colony News



www.auroracolony.org

ANTIQUÉ SPINNING WHEEL SHOWCASE

On March 8th and 9th, the Old Aurora Colony Museum is the site of the 32nd Annual Antique Spinning Wheel Showcase. This regional favorite proves that hand spinning is alive and well! This event is produced every year by one of our wonderful community supporters, the Aurora Colony Handspinners Guild. The Antique Spinning Wheel Showcase benefits the Old Aurora Colony Museum. The admission is two-for-one: just \$6.00 per adult; seniors/AAA \$5.00; or students \$2.00 gives you admission to the Museum AND this visually appealing and instructional event!



Over 30 friendly spinners will greet you at their antique spinning wheels demonstrating this ancient art and craft that attracts new artisans every day. You can view carding and spinning demonstrations and enjoy the gentle animals in the Museum's courtyard that are raised for their wool, angora, and alpaca. Enter the raffle for an American Saxony-style flax spinning wheel, circa mid -1800's. Who knows— if you win you might take up a new hobby: spinning! Those Aurora Colony Handspinners know how to put on a show- so rain or shine come out and enjoy the 32nd Annual Antique Spinning Wheel Showcase!

NOTABLE MUSIC- SALUTING OLD AURORA'S MUSICAL HERITAGE

On April 26, 2014 professional musicians and school-age music students perform music of the Old Aurora Colony. This unique evening concert will be held at the Richard R. Brown Fine Arts Center at Canby High School. Please visit the Old Aurora Colony Museum for ticket information and details: www.auroracolony.org

Please go to the City of Aurora website at 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

Mary Lambert, Finance
finance@ci.aurora.or.us

Mary Lambert, Court Clerk
clerk@ci.aurora.or.us

Darrel Lockard, Public Works Superintendent
pws@ci.aurora.or.us

Ray Lowe, Public Works Assistant
pwa@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

City of Aurora Website:

www.ci.aurora.or.us