

City

SOURCE

THE CITIZEN'S SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE CITY OF ASHLAND

Reward For Arson Information

The Ashland Police and Fire Departments are seeking assistance from the public with information about the fire that occurred at the Ashland High School Stadium on June 30, 2010, at approximately 10:30 p.m. The fire was purposely set and caused about \$500,000 in damage to the building and the contents.

A reward of up to \$5000 is being offered for information leading to the arrest of a suspect who committed arson at the Ashland High School Stadium. People with information about this fire are asked to call the Arson Tipline at 800-452-7888. This reward is sponsored by the Oregon Council Against Arson and the Northwest Insurance Council in partnership with the Oregon International Association of Arson Investigators.

Children's Halloween Parade

The annual Children's Halloween Parade, hosted by the Ashland Chamber of Commerce, will begin at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 31 at the corner of East Main and Gresham Streets.

The priority for this event is a fun and safe environment for children. In an effort to maintain a safe environment, the Ashland Chamber of Commerce Halloween Committee asks the community to abide by the newly established parade rules and policies.

At the start of the parade a rope divider will separate children and their families walking in the parade from others. Please allow younger children and their families access to the area in front of the rope. Adults attending the parade without children are asked to remain behind the rope. This will allow children to lead the parade with clear visibility of the route.

The front of the parade will be staffed with Event Officials and security to maintain the safety of the parade route. These individuals are in place to assist with crowd control and to maintain the safety of the event.

Before attending the Children's Halloween Parade, please visit the Chamber's website at www.ashlandchamber.com and click on the pumpkin to read the full set of parade rules. We look forward to a safe and happy Children's Halloween Parade.



Low Income Assistance

Once again, the City of Ashland has set aside money during the budget process for the Ashland Low Income Energy Assistance Program to assist low-income residents with electric bill costs during the cold winter months.

Eligible Ashland residents include those whose income is at or below 60 percent of Oregon's median income. These levels are based on household income and household size. Qualified recipients will receive a credit on their electric utility charges. Credits of up to 50 percent will be given to seniors and disabled persons for up to six months and credits of 50 percent to other qualified residents for up to three months. The Maximum allowed credit is \$300.00 for either group.

Beginning October 1 applicants may call the request line at 541-552-2038 to request a Low Income Assistance application packet be sent to them.

If you know of someone who might qualify and needs assistance, please let them know about this program. ▼



Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink

Bundle up; the Ashland Parks & Recreation ice rink season is upon us again! The Ashland Rotary Centennial Ice Rink will be operational (weather permitting) Friday, November 12, 2010 through February 2011.

The outdoor rink is located near downtown Ashland, around the corner from the Plaza and directly across from Lithia Park at 95 Winburn Way, corner of Nutley Street and Winburn Way. Bring the whole family; our skate rentals accommodate toddler size 9 to adult 13. We also rent adjustable skate trainers for first time skaters or those needing a little support.

Come prepared to skate as there are no changing rooms. Hot chocolate, coffee and water are available for sale. Open to the public for recreational and hockey skating.

The opening day schedule, November 12, will be Open Skate from 5:30 pm to 10:30 pm, with FREE admission onto the ice. For more information, prices, daily schedule, and extended holiday schedules visit www.ashland.or.us/icerink, call the ice rink directly at 541-488-9189, or call the Ashland Parks & Recreation Department at 541-488-5340. We'll see you in the park! ▼



The 9-1-1 call system, first implemented in 1968, is the public's primary tool to access emergency first responders. When a call is made to 9-1-1, it is connected to the local public safety answering point (PSAP). The PSAP then notifies the appropriate public safety organization and dispatches the resources needed. For Ashland, our PSAP is known as Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon (ECSO) and is located in Medford. ECSO utilizes an enhanced 9-1-1 (E911) system and dispatches for 26 agencies. Both Ashland Fire and Rescue and Ashland Police Department pay a fee to ECSO for their 9-1-1 and dispatching services.

While the 9-1-1 system is a vital tool for public safety, it has limitations and should be used only when needed. The proper use of 9-1-1 will maximize the benefit of this system. Help us help you by remember several simple points:

- When calling 9-1-1, try to remain calm, remember you may be the only source of information to the dispatcher. It is imperative that you can be understood.
- Tell the dispatcher your location, situation, your name and phone number, and other pertinent details.
- If you are in immediate danger (burning house, etc.) remove yourself and your family or seek shelter if the situation allows first. Teach your children when and how to dial 9-1-1 in a responsible manner.
- Dial 9-1-1 if you are in an emergency or dangerous situation. Emergency situations are those in which a person's health is immediately in jeopardy (injury, serious illness, fire, serious car accident, etc.), a crime has occurred or may be occurring or any other event due to its serious nature demands immediate attention by the police or fire department. If the situation is not an emergency situation please do not call 9-1-1. There are a limited number of 9-1-1 lines and a non-emergency call may preclude the proper handling of a true emergency.
- If you are unable to speak or are incapacitated call 9-1-1 and stay on the line. Your call can be traced on the 9-1-1. First responders will be sent to your location. Tracing may be delayed for calls made by cell phones and voice-over-internet-protocol (VoIP).
- If you accidentally dial 9-1-1, don't just hang up. That may prompt a response of emergency personnel. Just tell the dispatcher you misdialed. Don't worry, it happens.
- If you are reporting a fire you will be asked:
 - Where is the fire?
 - What is on fire?
 - How large is the fire?
 - Are any structures threatened? Are there flames moving close to any homes or buildings?
 - Do you know if anyone is inside the housing or building?
 - Do you know if anyone is hurt?

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Commission Openings

Do you want to get more involved in the community, share your talents and skills, and help influence city government? The City of Ashland encourages interested citizens to volunteer their time and serve as an Ashland City Commissioner. We currently have several openings and want YOU to share your voice and experience.

- *Housing Commission* meets once a month on Wednesday afternoon (4:30 p.m.) The Commission is responsible for developing and recommending coordinated housing and supportive services programs, issuing recommendations on Community Development Block Grant allocations, investigating funding opportunities for City housing programs, compiling accurate information on the City's housing supply and affordability, and fostering public knowledge and support of City housing programs.

- *Planning Commission* meets twice a month on Tuesday evening (7:00 p.m.) The Commission is responsible for providing recommendations to the City Council on the overall direction of land use planning in the City. The Commission issues decisions on development applications, makes recommendations to the Council on the City's Comprehensive Plan and land use regulations, and implements City goals and policies.

- *Tree Commission* meets once a month on Thursday evening (6:00 p.m.) The Commission is responsible for providing advice and guidance on all tree-related matters in the City. The Commission acts in an advisory capacity in the administration of the land-use planning process with respect to tree science and requirements, landscape design and principles, locally suitable botanic species, and protection of natural resources. The Commission also issues policy recommendations for the planting, care and protection of trees throughout the City, and promotes public understanding of the benefits of appropriate tree planting and care.

- The *Public Art Commission* meets once a month on the third Friday (8:15 a.m.). The commission is responsible for developing and recommending to the City Council policies and programs that would enhance and encourage the planning, placement and maintenance of public displays of art in locations open to the public within the community.

Community volunteers play an important role in shaping Ashland's future. If any of the above commissions interests you applications are available at City Hall, 20 East Main St or can be downloaded from the City's website www.ashland.or.us. If you would like additional information contact the City Recorder's Office at 541-488-5307. ▼

Compostable Leaf Bags Available at a Discount

Compostable bags for collecting and disposing of leaves are available for purchase from Recology Ashland Sanitary Service (RASS) at 170 Oak Street. The biodegradable bags cost \$14.50 for a set of five. The cost includes curbside pickup of the bag by RASS. Each bag is nearly three feet tall, and can hold up to 35 pounds of leaves.

For a limited time the City of Ashland is offering a discount on the bags. From October 25 through November 5 a set of five bags may be purchased at RASS for \$10.00. The City is subsidizing only a limited number of bags. Bags will be available on a first come, first serve basis with a limit of two sets per household. (Please be prepared to show identification.) The program is sponsored by the City of Ashland Public Works Department, the Conservation Commission and Recology Ashland Sanitary Service.

The compostable bags, for leaves only, will be picked up on regular garbage collection /green debris days during the months of November and December. Any leftover bags can be used the following year. Street sweeping is not a community-wide leaf pick-up program. Property owners are responsible for removing and disposing of fallen leaves on their property and adjacent sidewalks and should not blow or rake leaves into the street or right of way. The prepaid leaf bag program is an opportunity for those who are unable to take advantage of the three free leaf collection days (Nov 7, Nov 21 and Dec 5) at the Recycle Center.

"Keeping leaves out of the street is a simple but important action we can all take to help improve water quality in our streams," says Terry Ellis, Public Works Superintendent. "The distance between your yard and the water's edge is as close as the nearest storm drain or ditch. Everyone can help maintain the health of our streams by keeping the leaves out of the street and storm drains."

For more information on these programs, please call Recology Ashland Sanitary Service at 541-482-1471 or visit www.RecologyAshlandSanitaryService.com.



News Notes

Project FeederWatch

Help count birds that visit the feeders at North Mountain Park while learning to identify species with expert guidance. This is a great opportunity for all-level birders to get acquainted with local birds and mingle with other birders. The program will take place 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on alternate Saturdays, November 13, 2010 through March, 2011 (except Sunday, December 26). The information collected will be submitted to Cornell University's FeederWatch project, a nationwide bird monitoring effort. Pre-registration is not required for this free program. Ages 10 and up. North Mountain Park is located at 620 N Mountain Avenue in Ashland.

Bear Creek Work Party

You can help to make Bear Creek healthier by coming to a restoration work party at Bear Creek Park in Medford on Saturday, November 6, between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Join other volunteers in planting, weeding, and mulching to benefit fish and wildlife as well as park and water users. Proceeds from the Bear Creek Festival silent auction will be used to purchase native plants for the project site. Tools, snacks and guidance will be provided. For more information call North Mountain Park Nature Center at 541-488-6606. All ages welcome, pre-registration is not required for this free event.

Natural Cleaning Products

Learn how to combine familiar ingredients to make a variety of 'green' cleaning products for your home or to give away as gifts. Participants will make and take five different products and will receive recipes for several more. This class will help you save money and the environment at the same time. Pre-registration is required. Class held on Thursday, November 18 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Pioneer Hall in Lithia Park. This class is for ages 13 and up (younger children may participate if accompanied by an adult) and costs \$12. Please register online at www.ashland.or.us or call the North Mountain Park Nature Center at 541-488-6606.

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The use of cell phones and Voiceover Internet Provider (VoIP) phones has created some challenges for the 9-1-1 system. Currently, ECSO operates with a Phase 2 capability for cell phones. Phase 2 means that depending on your cell phone provider, your approximate location may be available to the dispatcher. It is important to understand that this location information may not be as accurate as a call made from a conventional phone.

The ability of the PSAP to accurately locate a call made using VoIP phones is primarily dependent on the subscriber registering their "current location with the phone provider. If you have any questions concerning this issue please contact your VoIP provider. Please remember the proper use of the 9-1-1 system. Help us help you!

Oak Knoll Golf Course

3070 Hwy 66, Ashland

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced golfer looking to fine-tune your swing, Oak Knoll's professional teachers are here to help you. For more information call us at 541-482-4311, or visit us on the web at www.oakknollgolf.org. We hope to see you soon!

Oak Knoll Golf Course, Great Course — Good Times.

CITY OF
ASHLAND

City Calendar

- ☐ **City Council** meets on the first and third Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. Study sessions occur on the day before at 5:30 p.m.
- ☐ **Planning Commission** meets on the second Tuesday 7:00 p.m. Study sessions occur on the fourth Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.
- ☐ **Airport Commission** meets on the first Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.
- ☐ **Conservation Commission** meets on the fourth Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.
- ☐ **Forest Lands Commission** meets on the second Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.
- ☐ **Historic Commission** meets on the first Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. (the Wednesday prior to the Tuesday Planning Commission)
- ☐ **Housing Commission** meets on the fourth Thursday at 4:30 p.m.
- ☐ **Parks and Recreation Commission** meets on the fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m. Study session occurs on the third Monday.
- ☐ **Public Art Commission** meets on the third Friday at 8:15 a.m.
- ☐ **Transportation Commission** meets on third Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
- ☐ **Tree Commission** meets on the Thursday before the Tuesday Planning Commission Meeting

◆ Many of the above meetings are cablecast live on channel 9 and replayed on channel 30. ◆ Meetings are held at Council Chambers, 1175 East Main or at 51 Winburn Way. ◆ For information about all City meetings please call City Administration at 488-6002. ◆ Back issues of the City Source are posted under "Documents" on the City's Website, www.ashland.or.us. ◆ TTY 1-800-735-2900

