

City

S O U R C E

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

Sister City Anniversary

April marks the 40th anniversary of Ashland's sister city relationship with Guanajuato, Mexico. More than eighty guests from Guanajuato representing government, university, public schools, service clubs and more will be visiting Ashland the week of April 11. They will be touring the city, meeting with their local counter parts, and joining in on celebrations through out the week to affirm the ongoing sister city commitment. Please join the City in offering a warm welcome to our Guanajuato guests. ▼

Pedestrian Safety

Ashland prides itself on being a pedestrian friendly city with a substantial yearly budget allocated toward improving and building additional sidewalks, bikeways, crosswalks, and other pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Sadly, each year pedestrians are hurt or even killed on Ashland's streets.



Here are a few tips for keeping Ashland pedestrian friendly, from the University of North Carolina Highway Safety Research Center:

Safety Tips for Drivers

❑ You can encounter pedestrians anytime and anywhere — even in places where they are not supposed to be found. (See *Pedestrian Safety*, Page 2)

Free CERT Training

Deepen your disaster response skills and volunteer with Ashland's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). Over two weekends, May 1-2 and May 8-9, learn and practice disaster medical operations, fire suppression, emergency radio communications, Incident Command System, and more. All medical, fire, and search & rescue operations will be taught by Ashland Firefighter Paramedics.

Classes meet two Friday evenings and two full Saturdays, May 1-2 and 8-9. Attendance required both weekends. Pre-register at Ashland Fire and Rescue located at 455 Siskiyou Blvd. For more information please call 541-552-2226 or www.ashlandcert.org. ▼



Pedestrian Safety

Continued from Page 1

- ❑ Pedestrians can be very hard to see — especially in bad weather or at night. You must keep a lookout and slow down if you can't see clearly.
- ❑ When entering a crosswalk area, drive slowly and be prepared to stop.
- ❑ Stop for pedestrians who are in a crosswalk, even if it is not marked. When you stop for a pedestrian in a crosswalk, stop well back so that drivers in the other lanes can also see the pedestrian in time to stop.
- ❑ Do not overtake and pass other vehicles stopped for pedestrians.
- ❑ When you are turning, you often will have to wait for a “gap” in traffic. Beware that while you are watching for that “gap,” pedestrians may have moved into your intended path.
- ❑ Be especially attentive around schools and in neighborhoods where children are active.

Safety Tips for Pedestrians

- ❑ Be predictable. Use sidewalks where provided. Cross or enter streets where it is legal to do so.
- ❑ Where no sidewalks are provided,

it is usually safer to walk facing road traffic.

- ❑ Make it easy for drivers to see you — dress in light colors and wear retro-reflective material. It might be wise to carry a flashlight in very dark areas.
- ❑ Be wary. Most drivers are nice people, but don't count on them paying attention. Watch out — make eye contact to be sure they see you!
- ❑ Alcohol and drugs can impair your ability to walk safely, just like they do a person's ability to drive.
- ❑ Use extra caution when crossing multiple-lane, higher speed streets.

Welcome to the new Mayor and Council Members

On January 5th the newest members of our Ashland City Council were sworn in. In part three of our series, we introduce Council Member, Greg Lemhouse:

Greg is a native Oregonian, born and raised in Salem and is

married to an Ashland High School Alumni. Together they have 3 children young children who are enrolled in the Ashland School District.

Greg worked for the City of Ashland as a police officer from 1995 to 1997. During that time he worked closely with the community, experiencing first hand the “New Years Day Flood” of 1997. He has worked for the Medford Police Department since 1997 and is currently the supervisor of the department's Special Services Section, which deals primarily with addressing community livability issues through neighborhood watch programs, citizen volunteer programs, traffic enforcement and code enforcement.

Greg also supervises police security at the Medford Airport and leads the Medford Police Honor Guard and the multi-agency Serious Traffic Accident Reconstruction team that responds to and investigates serious and fatal motor vehicle collisions throughout Jackson County. Greg is an instructor for public safety related topics, teaching throughout the state as well.

Volunteer Opportunity

The Ashland Police Department is taking applications for volunteers in their Downtown Patrol. This is a uniform unit, no enforcement involved. The Downtown Patrol Volunteers are the eyes and ears of the Ashland Police Department and are available to anyone needing information about the community. Training will be provided.

Please contact Volunteer Coordinator, Frank diEntremont, at 541-552-2121 for more information.

Adopt-A-Street

The City of Ashland has a program that will help beautify the community and also provide a worthwhile project for your organization or your family. The Adopt-A-Street Program allows your family or organization to adopt a street for one year to clean up the litter on the street.

As an adopter, you would commit to conducting a liter pick-up event at least 4 times a year. The City provides safety vest, gloves, litter bags and signs (for organizations) with your group's name posted at both ends of your adopted street. What a great way to help the City and allow your organization or family to participate with no cost to you or your organization.

It is easy to sign up, just email Mary McClary at mcclarym@ashland.or.us or call her at 541-552-2305 and she will be happy to provide you with additional information.

Greg has a degree in Sociology from Oregon State University. He enjoys reading, outdoor sports and traveling with his family. He is involved in Ashland Little League and YMCA Youth Sports. Greg is also a volunteer for the Jackson County Special Olympics.

Greg is a proud Ashlander and is dedicated to protecting the character of Ashland. His priorities include addressing the challenging budget and fiscal issues that face the city, protecting parks and open space, addressing the forest resiliency of Ashland's watershed and encouraging an economic development plan that will assist Ashland in planning for the long term.

Greg feels as though he represents all of Ashland and is dedicated to helping create strong relationships with the city's citizens and partners, keeping Ashland as a wonderful place to live, work and play. ▼

News Notes

Ashland Community Bike Swap

Ashland Parks & Recreation Department and Rogue Valley Transportation District (RVTD) present the 19th Annual Bike Swap.

☐ If you are interested in selling your bicycle, and it is in working condition, bring it to the Grove, 1195 E. Main St., on Friday, May 8, between 5pm and 7pm, or Saturday May 9, between 7am and 10am.

☐ If you are interested in buying a bicycle, the swap is open to the public from noon to 2pm on

Saturday, May 9. The Ashland Community Bike Swap will have hundreds of bicycles available.

Admission price is \$1 per person or \$3 per family and includes one raffle ticket per person. If you would like a "first look" at the bikes for sale and can donate two to four hours of time, volunteers are needed to help make this event a success! Call the Ashland Parks & Recreation Department at 541-488-5340 for more information or visit www.RVTD.org/bikeswap.

Rogue Valley Migratory Bird Day

Ashland Parks & Recreation Department, Rogue Valley Audubon Society and the Klamath Bird Observatory will celebrate Migratory Bird Day on Saturday, May 9, from 8 am to noon at the North Mountain Park Nature Center. The event will offer a variety of engaging outdoor learning activities for birders of all ages, abilities and sleep habits! Try your skills in this year's bird-calling contest! Hourly guided walks will visit the mist netting and bird banding station to view migratory and resident birds up close and learn more about local conservation. "Bird-friendly" shade-grown coffee will be served. Admire or sketch wild birds of prey from Wildlife Images. The theme this year is Celebrating Birds in Culture. For more information visit www.RogueValleyBirdDay.net or call the North Mountain Park Nature Center at 541-488-6606. (See *News Notes*, Back Page)



News Notes Continued from Page 3

Brown Bag Lunch Series

Catch a glimpse into Ashland's History with the "From Chautauqua 1893 to Shakespeare Under the Stars" presented by Kimberley Barry, associate producer/stage management at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. This program will take place on Wednesday, May 20, noon to 1 pm at the Ashland Parks & Recreation office, 340 S Pioneer St. Additional programs will be scheduled each month, during the lunch hour, through September. Please call the Ashland Parks & Recreation office at 541-488-5340 or www.AshlandParksandRec.org for additional details.

Sustainable Building

Learn about sustainable building techniques on Saturday, May 30 from 9:00 am — 5:00 pm at the North Mountain Park Nature Center. This is a full day beginner's level course for home owners, students or those interested in the green building field. The course will include a complete overview of concepts including site design, energy, green materials, indoor environmental quality, and water conservation. Learn information on how to improve a building's economic and environmental performance with green building practices. Handouts with outlines and resources provided. Instructor Shelley Lotz is a certified sustainable building advisor and instructor. Her organization, Sustainable Living Programs, is the regional provider for the National Sustainable Building Advisor Certification Program. For more information: www.sustainablelivingprograms.com. Ages 17 & up, please register on-line at <http://ashlandparks.recware.com>.

Get Involved

More than 200 people participate on one of the over 20 different City of Ashland committees and commissions. All of these volunteers are invaluable to the City Council and to the citizens of Ashland.

The City Council relies on these groups to research issues and then offer recommendations regarding specific actions. These groups attend monthly public meetings, solicit public comments, and shape their recommendations for the City Council based on the information they have gathered.

If you are interested in being involved in one of these commissions or committees please submit a letter of interest and a completed application form to the City

of Recorder's Office (20 E. Main Street or christeb@ashland.or.us). Application forms, current vacancies, and calendars of meeting dates can be found on the city website at www.ashland.or.us. ▼

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.
- ❑ **Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission** meets on the third Thursday at 5:15 p.m.
- ❑ **Conservation Commission** meets on the fourth Wednesday at 7:00 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.
- ❑ **Traffic Safety Commission** meets on fourth Thursday at 7:00 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

