



Established in 1856

"National Historic District"

November, December 2013

# The Aurora Colony Times

21420 Main St. NE · Aurora, OR 97002

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

## ALL WELCOME City Meetings for November/December 2013

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

- **Planning Commission**  
November 5 & December 3
- **City Council**  
November 12 & December 10
- **Park Committee**  
November 19 & December 17
- **Traffic/Safety Comm.**  
No meetings scheduled
- **Historic Review Board**  
\*November 21 & December 19  
\*Date change both months

Please confirm dates and times with City Hall

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## Mayor's Corner

Aurora is going through changes as we end the calendar year. It has been a busy 7 weeks since taking on the mayor's position. The biggest change we will see is in City Hall, where 3 (of 6) staff will be retiring at the end of the calendar year. We are working through the process of re-organizing staff functions and interviewing potential candidates. Some city services will be adjusted to maintain a balanced budget. I will keep you posted through the newsletter. Please come to our monthly city council meetings (2nd Tuesday of the month) as well to stay informed on city matters.

The City Council welcomes Kris Sallee as our newest council member, and Tara Weidman as our newest member of the Planning Commission. There is one open position on the Planning Commission. The Planning Commission is working on a number of land use issues with respect to doing business in the city. I encourage citizens to participate in the process, which uses the city's Action / Vision Plan as a foundation.

This month, the Oregon Economic Development Association has honored the "North Marion Enterprise Zone" with their "Outstanding Collaborative Partnerships" award. For those not familiar, the North Marion Enterprise Zone is a collaborative project with the cities of Aurora, Donald, and Hubbard. Business Oregon has used the Enterprise Zone concept to promote economic development for many years. The North Marion Enterprise Zone was approved by the state in May of this year. This project, along with our partnership with SEDCOR (Salem, OR) and the Mid-Willamette Valley COG are large parts of our economic development strategy for Aurora.

The City Code has been updated with regard to the Historic District (Title 17). This new section will take effect mid-November. Please note this change if you live or have a business in the historic district. You will know you are in the historic district if you receive a water bill on colored paper. There are several changes to building requirements and business restrictions.

I will be providing updates through the newsletter and the Woodburn Independent over my tenure. The "Aurora Notification and Alert" will also be used. Please visit our city's website to sign up for email notifications. It is my hope that the citizens of Aurora will work together to make our town the best it can be, and welcoming to all who visit.

Mayor Bill Graupp

**The enclosed Utility Bill is due on or before November 10th**



### City Hall Holiday Closures

**November 28 - Thanksgiving Day**

**December 25 - Christmas Day**



## Upcoming Vote

The North Marion School District has proposed a Local Option Levy Measure (24-355) on the November ballot. This measure asks voters to consider a \$0.74/\$1000 levy to allow the district to improve curriculum, safety, and classroom environments in all buildings. The levy will add \$583,336 to the operating budget, as well as qualify the district for a state matching grant of \$309,168. For additional information, please go to <http://www.nmarion.k12.or.us> or call 503-678-1256.

**Please vote in the November election. Your vote counts!**

### Aurora Celebrates the Holidays!

*Mark your calendar for these special events in historic Aurora.*

- **Nov. 9 Santa's Christmas Bazaar**, 9-4, American Legion Hall. Sponsored by the Aurora American Legion Auxiliary.
- **Nov. 9 Holiday Open Houses in the Shops**, 11-5
- **Nov. 24 Book signing with Jane Kirkpatrick, *Emma's Aurora***, Old Aurora Colony Museum, 12-4pm
- **Nov. 29 - Dec. 1 Merchant Open House Weekend**, 1-5
- **Dec. 7-8 Wine & Chocolate Walk Weekend**, 12-5. Advance tickets \$30/couple
- **Dec. 7 An Aurora Colony Christmas**, Old Aurora Colony Museum, 11-4.

Volunteer City Beautification Project

Spring Flower Bulb Planting



On October 19th, 18 volunteers gathered for a city beautification fall bulb planting. Local businessman Martin Metzger of Oregon Flowers generously donated 10,000 daffodil bulbs that were shipped in directly from Holland.



Bulbs were planted in planter strips along the highway from the north end of town down to Bob's Ave. Due to the extensive amount of bulbs, another planting work party the following Saturday was necessary. We focused our efforts on the areas along Main St from Ehlen Road to the highway and some additional areas along Ehlen Road between the railroad tracks and the stoplight at 99E.

We had a great time and all of us are looking forward to spring to see the fruits of our efforts. Thank you to all of those who volunteered and donated their time and efforts to the beautification of our great little city.

Spud Sperb

### On Patrol

With Deputy Pete Marcellais



Just a quick reminder to all as the seasons get colder - be extra cautious about warming your car up in the morning. I know it's a necessity, however, this is when we get a big increase in stolen vehicles and cars that are broken into. You can always take the key fob off of your key ring and lock the car door. And DON'T turn your parking lights on. It's like a beacon for car thieves that the vehicle is running and has the keys in the ignition.

### NOTICE OF CITY WATER FLUSHING

Starting on the third week of November 2013 and continuing on the third week of odd numbered months, the city will be flushing water lines in all sections of the city. During this week, you may notice slightly discolored water as the flushing will help clean the lines of sediment. As the program continues, the discoloration should reduce to negligible amounts. The city will continue the program throughout the year(s) with the possible exception of July, depending on summer water usage and aquifer levels. The goal is to provide clear water throughout all sections of the system.



### The Aurora Fire District Spot

Home Address Signs

Can We Find You?



Every second counts when firefighters, police, and medical personnel are responding to an emergency 911 call. The Aurora Fire District is concerned about locating people during their time of need. Please take a moment to check your address sign for proper identification of your residence. This could be the difference in saving or losing lives and property.

The address sign should be clearly visible from the street. Numbers should be 3-4" in height. When placing numbers on your mailbox, please be sure that there are numbers on both sides. When placing numbers on your house please be sure that they are a contrasting color from your house, and easily seen from the street.

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

## Aurora Colony Upcoming Events

There is still a lot to see and do as 2013 winds down at the Old Aurora Colony Museum! The museum's annual year-end exhibit "Gifts from the Colony" celebrates the generosity of some of Oregon's historic families: the 21<sup>st</sup> century descendants of the 19<sup>th</sup> century Old Aurora Colony settlers. Scheduled for early November through December 31<sup>st</sup>, this popular exhibit provides another look at some of the precious heirlooms such as vintage photographs, quilts, and unique household items. Admission for museum members is free.

Jane Kirkpatrick fans are in for a special treat on Sunday, November 24th from noon to 4 pm. Jane will be signing copies of "Emma of Aurora", a new publication of her "Change and Cherish" series. She will also sign your own favorite Kirkpatrick books. Many of Jane's books will be on sale at the museum—just in time for holiday gift-giving. Admission for Jane's book signing and the museum will be \$6.00 for adults, \$5.00 for seniors and AAA members, and \$2.00 for students.

On Saturday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, the public will again be treated to the museum's holiday tradition: the "Candlelight Tour." Throughout the five building complex, "Dr. Keil" and other "colonists" will share their stories in a series of old-fashioned vignettes. For tickets and more information, visit [www.auroracolony.org](http://www.auroracolony.org) or call the museum office at 503-678-5754.

These events mark the end of the Aurora Colony Historical Society's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, 1963-2013. This has truly been the year to mark our many achievements "preserving the past for the future". Please join us for the final celebrations!



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 the most up to date information to you 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)

**Jan Vleck, Finance Officer**  
[finance@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:finance@ci.aurora.or.us)

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

**Bob Southard, Public Works Superintendent**  
[southard@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:southard@ci.aurora.or.us)

**Ricky Sellers, Public Works Assistant**  
[sellers@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:sellers@ci.aurora.or.us)

**Otis Phillips, WWTP Operator**  
[phillips@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto:phillips@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)**