



Established in 1856

"National Historic District"

January / February 2015

# The Aurora Colony Times

21420 Main St. NE · Aurora, OR 97002

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

## ALL WELCOME City Meetings for Jan / Feb 2015

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

- **Planning Commission**  
Jan 6, Feb 3
- **City Council**  
Jan 13, Feb 10
- **Park Committee**  
Jan 20, Feb 17
- **Traffic/Safety Comm.**  
**No Meetings Scheduled**
- **Historic Review Board**  
Jan 22, Feb 26

**Please confirm dates and  
times with City Hall**

**503-678-1283**

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## Mayor's Corner

Winter has arrived again. Daylight is short and outside chores to prep for the cold need to be completed. This year, overnight freezes came early to our city. Shutting down and protecting outside faucets and watering systems should be done. Our students move into the middle trimester of the school year. I want to give a big shout-out to our North Marion Boys Soccer Team, finishing the season as your 4A State Champions, with the honors of having both player and coach of the year.

The recent elections have brought a major change to our city planning with the passing of measure 91 that will legalize recreational marijuana in Oregon. The discussion of how this will impact our city has been going on at the planning commission for several months. Many municipalities have already started to challenge points in the measure. We will be monitoring the upcoming legislative session to see how our state leadership will implement the measure. Your thoughts and suggestions are always welcome.

I want to remind all households that if you have an outdoor sprinkler system or chemical watering system connected to your city service, you need to have your required backflow valve checked each year starting in 2015. This report must be turned into city hall prior to the end of 2015, and annually thereafter. There are several certified backflow value testers in our region. If you are unsure if your property has or needs a backflow valve device, please contact our Public Works Dept for assistance.

As we enter 2015, I find myself thinking about what the New Year will hold and the goals to be achieved, for both family and myself. 2014 was a year full of struggle and promise. I am wishing you and all the families of Aurora a productive and successful coming year.

Bill Graupp

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

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

## Upcoming City Hall Closures

January 1 - New Year's Day  
 February 16 - President's Day  
 February 25, 26 - May be closed for staff to attend a conference



## Historic Review Board Opening

There is currently one opening on the Historic Review Board for anyone who would like to serve and has lived within the city limits at least 6 months. This is a 3 year term which will expire on January 1, 2018. For more information and/or to be considered, please contact the city recorder, Kelly, at City Hall.

## Don't Miss THE GREAT GROUNDHOG HUNT! January 31-February 1, 11am-5pm

Bring the family "downtown" to look for Punxsutawney Phyllis in the shops and enter to win prizes. It's a great midwinter break from the sofa! Pick up your free "hunt" map in any shop or eatery. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.





## On Patrol



With Deputy Pete Marcellais

I have been getting a lot of complaints about vehicles speeding down Liberty and Main and running stop signs. I have in fact stopped some of you the last few weeks for that. And yes I said YOU. These are your neighbors flying by your house. 34 on Liberty is not only unacceptable, but it's dangerous (we had a nice conversation after). Going through the stop sign at 2<sup>nd</sup> street at 20 mph is also dangerous. There would be no way you would have been able to stop if a kid on a bike went through the intersection.

So, for the foreseeable future I will be working on our side streets to regain traffic safety in the community. THIS is your warning. If you get stopped by me you WILL receive a citation. There is no excuse to be flying through our neighborhoods. Ask yourself if the 10 seconds you may save is worth the \$260.00. If you see one of our neighbors doing this, call me with the vehicle info or who it is. I will handle it accordingly.

## The Aurora Fire District Spot



### Aurora Fire District in search of dedicated Volunteers

The Aurora Fire District is seeking applications for Volunteer Firefighters, Emergency Medical Personnel, and Support Personnel.

Volunteers needed in the communities of Aurora and Donald and surrounding areas. If you are at least 18 years old, in good physical condition, and have a desire to serve your community, you are encouraged to apply today.

To become a volunteer you must:

Fill out an application

You can come in to the Aurora Station or get the application on our website at [www.aurorafire.org](http://www.aurorafire.org)

Participate in an Officer's Interview.

Pass a pre-employment physical and background check.

No previous experience or training necessary. We will provide the training and equipment at no cost to you. There are flexible training hours available, including weekly Monday evening drills that begin at 7pm.

For more information you can contact the Aurora Fire Station at (503) 678-5966 or visit us at 21390 Main St. NE in Aurora. You can also find us at [www.aurorafire.org](http://www.aurorafire.org).



We look forward to meeting you!

## Aurora Colony News

### Don't Miss "The Promised Land" in February

As an Aurora resident, you won't want to miss this! In advance of the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Aurora Mills in 1856, your Old Aurora Colony Museum will feature exhibits that will focus on the 1855 Oregon Trail trek made by the future colonists from Bethel, Missouri into the Oregon Territory. The Museum will be closed during the month of January and reopen on February 1<sup>st</sup> to welcome visitors to the exhibit titled "The Promised Land: Preparation for Eden." This exhibit will explore the lives of the ten scouts who were chosen by Dr. Wilhelm Keil, the leader of the group to select a new western site for his Christian communal society. Why were these men (and one woman) chosen for this task? Did their personal backgrounds indicate that they had the ability to complete their arduous task? Be sure to join us on February 1, 2015, for the grand opening of this important and informative exhibit that will answer these questions and give Aurora residents another window into the fascinating past of the Old Aurora Colony.

For more information, visit the Museum website [www.auroracolony.org](http://www.auroracolony.org) or call the Museum office: 503-678-5754. The Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 am to 4 pm and on Sunday noon to 4 pm. It is closed Monday, major holidays and the month of January.



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 Friday**

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

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

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

**Ray Lowe, Public Works Assistant**  
[pwa@ci.aurora.or.us](mailto: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](http://www.ci.aurora.or.us)**