

City News

Spring 2013

City of Milton-Freewater - PO Box 6, 722 S. Main Street, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862 - www.mfcity.com

CUSTOMER OF THE QUARTER

"A good neighbor - a found treasure." - Chinese Proverb

This quarter we are pleased to announce our **"found treasure"** to be Betty Shellenberger.

A good neighbor and city customer since early 2007 Betty has been a "Git r done" darling neighbor. It has been reported that even after retiring from the Army after serving our country 20 years and 13 days (to be exact) as a Warrant Officer in Finance and Administration she looks out for her neighbors by doing their chores if needed. She is always staying busy by either giving people rides to the doctor or helping her neighbors and our sanitation truck driver out by making sure everyone gets their garbage put out in time for weekly collection.

"She is cheery and bright. We just love her! Betty is a role model for all of us to follow in living by the golden rule - Betty constantly puts the needs of others before her own, and maintains her outstanding sense of humor while doing so!" - City Manager Linda Hall

Betty we look forward to your weekly humor and keeping a smile on our crew's faces!
CONGRATUATIONS AND THANK YOU BETTY!



"It is a privilege to know her, and we are grateful she and her husband chose Milton-Freewater to call home!"

- City Manager Linda Hall

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM BASICS

With recent high demand by residents wanting to help fight crime in Milton-Freewater and its surrounding areas our police department is taking every measure they can to help.

Neighborhood Watch is a nationally recognized program that stresses education and common sense. It teaches citizens how to identify and report suspicious activity. These watch groups are highly encouraged and it is their objective to focus on observation and awareness to help reduce crime and improve the quality of life. They do not take the law into their own hands.

A few benefits of Neighborhood Watch programs are:

- *Reduction in crime
- *Greater sense of security
- *Preparing to help others and ourselves
- *Better quality of life
- *Building of community pride and unity
- *Become extra eyes and ears of law enforcement

While building a strong Neighborhood Watch program is not an overnight process it takes patience, planning and dedication. Here are five steps to building a successful Neighborhood Watch program:

1. Recruit and organize as many neighbors as possible.
2. Contact your local law enforcement agency and schedule a meeting.
3. Discuss community concerns and develop an action plan.
4. Hold regular meetings and hold training on relevant skills.
5. Implement a phone tree and take action steps.

The City can provide limited start up monies to assist city residents in forming watch groups. This money will help purchase educational materials, posters, stickers, etc.

The City Police Department will offer training to watch groups regarding identifying suspicious/illegal activity as defined by state statute. The police department will not provide training in use of force or offer legal advice regarding use of force, since the use of force is not a recognized component of the Neighborhood Watch paradigm.

For more information contact the Milton-Freewater Police Department at 541-938-5511. Applications for the City Neighborhood Watch program are available at the dispatch center or Chamber of Commerce.



TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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Need Help Budgeting Your Utility Bill?

Join our Equal Pay Plan - Also known as Budget Plan.

Here's how it works...

We compute the amount of your utilities used the previous 12 months (you must have lived at the residence one year). The total of your previous year's utilities along with your account balance at the time of your May statement are divided into 12 equal payments. (Note: If your account balance at the time of your May statement is more than \$50.00 you may not qualify for the Equal Pay Plan.) Your first payment will be on your May statement. Each May your budget payment amount will be recalculated. Adjustments may be made within the budget year (May-April) should the budget amount not cover increased usage. The budget amount is required to be paid as billed. Late, missed or budget amounts not paid in full may cause you to lose the privilege of participating. Your final billing for the budget year will be issued in April and will need to be paid in full unless it is a CREDIT.

How do I join? Complete the form below and return it on or before April 19th.

IMPORTANT! If you were on last year's EQUAL PAY PLAN, you will be put on next year's plan automatically, if your account balance at the time of your May statement is less than \$50.00. Should you NOT wish to continue on the plan please note below.

Please include me in the Equal Pay Plan	I do not wish to continue with the Equal Pay Plan
NAME: _____	ACCOUNT NUMBER: _____
ADDRESS: _____	PHONE NUMBER: _____
SIGNATURE: _____	DATE: _____
Questions can be directed to our Finance Department at 541-938-5531 PLEASE RETURN THIS SIGNED FORM WITH YOUR NEXT PAYMENT	



SAVE MORE TREES! Go Green with Paperless Statements.

What are paperless statements? Paperless statements include electronic statements and other account information posted online in the e-Bill History tab in Xpressbillpay.com. You will receive an e-mail notifying you of the availability of your paperless statements online. Even if you do not pay your bill through Xpressbillpay - you can still use this method to receive your eStatements. They are provided at no cost to you and you can easily switch back to paper statements at any time. Paperless statements are secure and convenient. For information on setting up this feature, please call XpressBillPay at 1-800-766-2350.

HOLIDAY CLOSURES

Memorial Day

City Offices WILL BE CLOSED

Observed: Monday 5/27

Refuse & Recycling Service: Tuesday 5/28



To participate, please cut here and remit with your next payment.



ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM – *Customers Helping Customers!*



City Light & Power's Energy Assistance Program is managed in cooperation with the Salvation Army to help the under privileged in our community pay their winter heating bills. The money received through this program stays in Milton-Freewater.

If you are a customer interested in helping others, simply mark one of the pledge options below and mail this insert back with your next payment or drop it by City Hall. City Light and Power will add the amount to your bill each month for as long as you wish. Or you may send a check payable to "Energy Assistance Program" in the amount of your desired contribution. **ALL DONATIONS RECEIVED WILL BE MATCHED BY CITY LIGHT & POWER (up to a total of \$4,000).** Your contribution is fully tax deductible. There is no obligation and you can cancel at any time. **TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**

(check one below) One Dollar (\$1.00) _____ Two Dollars (\$2.00) _____ \$ _____ Dollars	(check one below) One Month _____ Six Months _____ Continuous _____	_____ Signature _____ Date _____ _____ Name & Address (please print)
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Individuals interested in applying to receive Energy Assistance benefits may do so by calling the Salvation Army at 509-529-9470.

Spring Clean Up

City refuse paying customers only

April 18 – 20 @ landfill

Aquatic Center

Open: 5/25-5/27, 6/1-6/2 &
6/5 for season
938-9166

M-F Farmer's Market

Wednesday's starting June 5
4-7 p.m. @ Orchard Park

SUMMER READING PROGRAM @ YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

Sign Up's Begin 5/1

Join us for our fun-filled program for pre-school through high school aged children. 6/18-13 - 8/1/13

GREEN POWER

We are proud to offer you the option of buying "Green Power" and supporting the development of renewable, non-polluting power in the Pacific Northwest. Green Power comes from Bonneville Power Administration's (BPA) wind projects located in Oregon and Washington.

It's less expensive than you might think!

The additional cost of Green Power is only \$0.02 per kWh above our standard per kWh energy rate. This slight addition covers our extra cost in buying the service from BPA.

HOW IS GREEN POWER PURCHASED?

Green Power can be purchased in increments of 100 kWh blocks per month. Each 100 kWh block increases your monthly bill by only \$2.00

WHAT IS THE MINIMUM COMMITTED AMOUNT OF GREEN POWER I MUST PURCHASE TO PARTICIPATE?

In order to ensure the proper allocation of our supply, we must have a commitment from each purchaser of Green Power of at least one 100 kWh block per month for a 12-month period.

Sign up Today!

Simply complete the short application below and return it with your next bill payment or drop it by City Hall or place it in one of our conveniently located payment drop boxes located in the traffic island by the post office or in the back parking lot at City Hall.

For more information please call Pat at 541-938-8237 or visit our website at www.mfcity.com.

Remember this program is completely voluntary.

If you **DO NOT** wish to participate, **DO NOT FILL THIS FORM OUT**. If you choose not to purchase Green Power you will still continue to receive the same reliable, low cost electric service.

If you **DO** wish to participate please complete the application below and return it with your next payment. Please try to respond before May 1, 2013.

✂ -----

APPLICATION FOR GREEN POWER

Yes! I will support the development of renewable, non-polluting power.

I wish to purchase the following amount of Green Power every month:

Please check one:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 100 kWh (\$2/mo.) | <input type="checkbox"/> 1,000 kWh (\$20/mo.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 200 kWh (\$4/mo.) | <input type="checkbox"/> 1,500 kWh (\$30/mo.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 300 kWh (\$6/mo.) | <input type="checkbox"/> 2,000 kWh (\$40/mo.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 400 kWh (\$8/mo.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher amount by request |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 500 kWh (\$10/mo.) | |

Customer Name (as it appears on your utility bill)

Account Number

Service Address

City

State

Zip

I agree to purchase Green Power in the amount indicated for 12 months, at a premium of \$0.02 per kWh more than the standard per kWh energy rate. I understand that my agreement will automatically be renewed at the end of 12 months UNLESS I notify the City of Milton-Freewater in writing that I no longer wish to participate in the Green Power program or that I wish to adjust the amount of Green Power purchased.

By signing this agreement, I am obligated to purchase the agreed amount of Green Power regardless of monthly electric usage.



City of Milton-Freewater
PO Box 6, 722 S. Main
Milton-Freewater, OR 97862
541-938-8237

Customer Signature

Date

City of
Milton-Freewater
PO Box 6
Milton-Freewater, OR 97862

CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER INFORMATION

Aquatic Center	938-9166
City Manager	938-8242
City Recorder	938-8233
Community Development	938-8236
Conservation	938-8237
Electric Department	938-8231 or 938-8232
Engineering	938.8230 or 938-8238
Finance Department	938-5531 (utility bill payments/taxi tickets)
Fire Business	938-8256
Golf Course	938-7284
Human Resources	938-8243
Library	938-8247
Municipal Court	938-8203
Planning & Zoning	938-8234 or 938-8235
Police Business	938-5511
Public Works	938-8270, 938-8272 or 938-8274

Visit us online at www.mfcity.com
Check us out on Facebook



Meetings & Events

Meetings & Closures

April 2013

- 1 Planning Commission Meeting – 7 pm. Albee
- 8 **City Council Meeting – 7 p.m. – Albee Room**
- 25 Budget Committee Meeting – 7 p.m. – Albee Room

May 2013

- 6 Planning Commission Meeting – 7 pm. Albee Room
- 13 **City Council Meeting – 7 p.m. – Albee Room**
- 27 Memorial Day - offices closed
- 30 Library Board Meeting – 7 p.m. – Monahan Room

June 2013

- 3 Planning Commission Meeting – 7 p.m. – Albee Room
 - 10 **City Council Meeting – 7 p.m. – Albee Room**
 - 24* **City Council – 7 p.m. – Albee Room**
 - 27 Library Board Meeting – 7 p.m. – Albee Room
- * TENTATIVE MEETING

All meetings are open to the public. The locations of the meetings are handicapped accessible. Please call City Hall at 541-938-5531, or write the City of Milton-Freewater, PO Box 6, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862 if you will need any special accommodations or an interpreter to attend or participate in the meeting.

Special thanks to Councilor Ed Chesnut for providing all local photography for this edition of City News.

Events

April 2013

- 3/30 – 4/7 Nano Days @ library
- 1 10th Anniversary – Gladys Leibbrand Valley P L
- 5 Oldies Night – Frankie Valli & the Four Seasons 7:30 – 10:30
- 12 Scholarship applications due – Electric Dept.
- 14-20 National Library Week & 100th Anniversary of Milton Library
- 15 Library Tencennial celebration event @Library – TBA
- 18-20 Spring Clean Up event for city paying refuse customers
- 19 Budget Plan aka Equal Pay Plan application deadline

May 2013

- 1 Summer Reading – Don't Miss Out! Sign Up @Library
- 1 Green Power Applications Desired to be submitted
- 3 Oldies Night – Hits of '68 7:30 – 10:30 p.m. Albee Room
- 25, 26 & 27 Aquatic Center Open – weather permitting
- 28 Garbage Collection for 5/27 & 5/28

June 2013

- 1 & 2 Aquatic Center Open –weather permitting
- 5 Aquatic Center Open for Summer
- 5, 12, 19 & 26 Farmer's Market – 4-7 p.m. – Orchard Park
- 7 Oldies Night – Petula Clark 7:30 – 10:30 p.m. Albee Room
- 10 & 11 Swim Lesson Sign Up's @ pool 6-8 p.m.
- 17-28 Swim Lessons – Session 1
- 6/18-8/1 Summer Reading Program @ Library

Next issue: July 1st