

City News

Winter 2013
www.mfcity.com

CUSTOMER OF THE QUARTER

This quarter we are nominating a citizen for customer of the quarter who doesn't exactly like the spotlight put in his direction, let alone on him. Well, sorry Roger but you deserve this recognition! We are pleased to announce **Roger Cosner** as our Customer of the Quarter!

Roger is one of those people who often volunteers to help others out not asking for payment or recognition in exchange. He refers to himself as "A worker behind the scenes type of guy". Most recognize Roger by his green 1977 Ford pickup. He is actively out and about in the community ready to take on that next task. A local businessman and customer of the city for some 52 years, Roger has been instrumental in helping with the Pioneer Cemetery by donating his time and equipment as well as a current volunteer to serve on the Water Control Board to assist in getting our levee recertified through FEMA, not an easy task! There are many, many more of those good faith gestures that Roger has accomplished for the betterment of our community. Roger has accomplished these projects quietly more or less skimming under the radar of most. He is already planning on donating his time and equipment to help Blue Mountain Babe Ruth Baseball build the new grandstand at the McRae/Ireland Baseball Field.



"Roger has done a wonderful job, along with his fellow Water Control Board Members, in working extremely hard toward the repair and recertification of our levee. He does not want a lot of folks to know it (sorry Roger!) but I know for a fact he has dedicated literally hundreds and hundreds of hours of his personal time and expertise toward this project. Thank you Roger!" – City Manager Linda Hall

Well, Roger we appreciate all you do for our community and are proud to give credit where credit is due – to you! Congratulations!

Mayor and Three Councilors Re-elected

During this past election voters re-elected our Mayor as well as three councilors with terms due to expire in January 2013. We are proud to announce the re-election of our Mayor Lewis Key and Councilor's Brad Humbert, Sam Hopkins-Hubbard and Jeff Anliker. These elected officials will be sworn in to serve their newly elected terms at the January 14, 2013 council meeting. We are pleased to recognize the service of the entire governing body.



Mayor Lewis Key

Term: December 31, 2016
Mayor Key begins his fourth term in January 2013.



Councilor & Council President

Orrin Lyon – Ward 1

Term: December 31, 2014
Councilor Lyon is currently serving his fourth term.



Councilor Brad Humbert – Ward 2

Term: December 31, 2016
Councilor Brad Humbert begins his third term in January 2013.



Councilor Anliker – Ward 3

Term: December 31, 2016
Councilor Anliker begins his second term in January 2013.



Councilor Sam Hopkins-Hubbard – At Large #1

Term: December 31, 2016
Councilor Hopkins-Hubbard begins his second term in January 2013.



Councilor Steve Irving – At Large #2

Term: December 31, 2014
Councilor Irving is currently serving his third term.



Councilor Ed Chesnut – At Large #3

Term: December 31, 2014
Councilor Chesnut is currently serving his second term.

Council meeting dates are listed on the back of this newsletter as well as on the City's web page at www.mfcity.com and are held at 7 p.m. in the Albee Room at the Public Library located at 8 SW 8th Ave. The public is encouraged to attend.

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FEMA UPDATE – CONT.

THANK YOU HOGS WILD 4-H CLUB!

Once again your volunteer efforts have lit up
Milton-Freewater streets.





Update from our City Manager Linda Hall

What is going on with FEMA mandated Flood Insurance and the Levee Repairs ?

The Milton-Freewater Water Control District has completed the repairs and improvements required for the Walla Walla River Levee as of the first of December!

The District Board (Chair Manford Anliker, Vern Rodighiero, Brad Humbert, Roger Cosner, and former Board Member Sam Hopkins Hubbard), the Board's Secretary Vicki Lee, and their Lead Engineer, John Wells of Anderson Perry and Associates, worked tirelessly to complete and satisfactorily address the long list of work projects associated with getting our levee back into great shape. It has taken two years, which is actually quite an impressive timeline, considering the majority of repairs could only be accomplished during the very limited window of opportunity the State allows any contractor to do work in the river bed. This window of time was usually no more than four months each year, typically between July-October. Continued on Page 3

HOLIDAY CLOSURES



Observed: Tuesday, January 1st
Garbage Day: Wednesday, January 2nd



Observed: Monday, January 21st
Garbage Day: Tuesday, January 22nd



Observed: Monday, February 18th
Garbage Day: Tuesday, February 19th

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY!

Individuals interested in the outside power lineman, electrical engineering or line staking technician trade can now apply to receive one \$2,000 scholarship to an accredited line college, graduate or undergraduate course of study at an accredited college, university, or vocational/technical school of the recipients choice. Funding for this program is provided by donations from City Light & Power Linemen and the City of Milton-Freewater Community Support Fund.

DEADLINE: April 12, 2013 at 4:00 p.m.

Applications can be obtained from City of Milton-Freewater Electric Department at City Hall or online at www.mfcity.com.

Completed scholarship applications can be submitted until the deadline to: City of Milton-Freewater, Electric Department, PO Box 6, 722 S. Main Street, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862 or City Shop & Warehouse, PO Box 6, 501 Lamb Street, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862.

Qualifications: High School Graduate or GED

For more information:
Visit school counseling office, call 541-938-8277 or visit us online.



CONSERVATION CORNER

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE! Sign up now for home weatherization programs! Rebates are available for insulation, heat pumps and windows. For more information contact the Conservation Office at 541-938-8237.

IMPORTANT TIP! Close the foundation vents in your home to help protect your water pipes from freezing during the winter months. Open the vents in the spring.

Also, please remember the less fortunate and consider donating to our Entergy Assistance Program. All donations collected are matched by the City of Milton-Freewater and all money donated is used for City Light & Power customers only.

REMINDERS

Dog License – Purchase by February 28th to avoid an additional \$10.00 fee. Unaltered dogs are \$35.00 per year and altered dogs are \$10.00 per year.

Business License- All businesses operating in The City need a City issued business license. The fee is \$35.00 and is due January 1st of each year.

Christmas Tree Removal

City residents may have their Christmas trees removed at no charge.

January 2 – 4

All lights, stands and decorations must be removed and trees must be placed along curb within designated dates. Inquiries can be directed to Public Works at 541-938-8270, 8272 or 8274.



Your City Joins the Facebook Age



Almost 600 years ago Johannes Gutenberg invented what we would call mass communication by creating the printing press and movable type. During the past hundred years we have witnessed a parade of new technologies which have once again changed the way we communicate with one another: telephones, radio, television, motion pictures, audio and video recording, and the Internet, for instance. In the past few years we have been introduced to yet another innovation: social media.

There are many types of social media, but perhaps the fastest growing one is facebook. Launched in 2004 it now has more than one billion registered users worldwide. Locally someone has created a facebook page called "Milton-Freewater, OR" which has nearly 3,000 "likes". That page was not created by the City of Milton-Freewater, nor does the city have any control over it. Unfortunately, some people assume it is an "official" city page.

The City Council has voted to create an official City of Milton-Freewater facebook page and has asked City Manager Linda Hall to oversee the project. Linda has, in turn, asked Library Director Bob Jones to work with her in accomplishing that task. Bob has been using facebook personally for four years, lured in by a teenage great nephew 2,000 miles away. He is investigating other municipal facebook pages looking for worthy models to emulate. Linda and Bob expect to launch the official city facebook page in January 2013.

The city's facebook page will be yet another way for your city to communicate with you and provide reliable up-to-date information about city programs, services, and events. Look for it soon on a computer, tablet, or smart phone near you!

– Bob Jones, Library Director

Continued from Page 2 - **What is going on with FEMA mandated Flood Insurance and the Levee Repairs?**

So what happens now?

The District is now responsible for proving that the repairs and improvements made to the levee are sufficient to protect us from a 100 year flood event or more. The proof must be in the form of FEMA accepted statistical and engineering analyses that testify to the fact that the repairs and improvements are adequate for our protection from flood waters.

The District has already submitted an application to FEMA to revise the flood maps and remove the mandate of our citizens from purchasing flood insurance. FEMA's consultant has reviewed this application (which is several 1000 pages long!) and responded with 17 points of additional information requested.

The District addressed all of these 17 additional inquiries and re-submitted the addendum which was another several hundred pages of engineering documents.

We are now awaiting FEMA's word on when we can begin the process of adopting the new, revised maps removing the majority of our city from the flood plain designation.

The process works like this:

Both the City and County of Umatilla must co-adopt the maps, which takes formal action by the City Council and County Commissioners. Public Hearings must be advertised and scheduled. The City is committed to moving this process along as fast as we legally are able to, but I do want to stress that it may take a few months.

Our goal is to have the new maps adopted and in place by next summer, prior to the majority of the flood insurance premiums coming due again.

For additional questions on this process, please feel free to call us here at the City of Milton-Freewater. You may reach me, Linda Hall, at (541) 938-8242 or by email at linda.hall@milton-freewater-or.gov

Has your contact information changed? If so, please be sure to let us know. Changes can be noted on the back of your utility bill remittance or you can stop by City Hall and we would be happy to be of service to you!

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

CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER INFORMATION

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 (utility bill payments/taxi tickets)	938.5531
Fire Business	938.8256
Golf Course	938.7284
Human Resources/Public Transportation	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, 938.8274

Visit us online at www.mfcity.com

MEETINGS & EVENTS

JANUARY 2013

- 1 New Year's Day – Closed
- 7 Planning Commission
- 14 City Council
- 21 Martin Luther King Day – Closed
- 28 **City Council***
- 31 Library Board

FEBRUARY 2013

- 4 Planning Commission
- 11 City Council
- 18 President's Day - Closed
- 25 **City Council***
- 28 Library Board

MARCH 2013

- 4 Planning Commission
- 11 City Council
- 25 **City Council***
- 28 Library Board

***Tentative meeting date**

Meeting Locations & Times:

City Council – Public Library Albee Room, 8 SW 8th Ave – 7 p.m.

Library Board – Public Library Monahan Room, 8 SW 8th Ave – 7 p.m.

Planning Commission – Public Library Albee Room, 8 SW 8th Ave – 7 p.m.

All meetings are open to the public. The locations of the meetings are handicapped accessible. Please call City Hall 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 a meeting.

Next Issue: April 1st – Publisher/Editor: Krista Gannon – City Manager: Linda Hall