

City of Weston Newsletter



City Council

Jennifer Spurgeon, Mayor

Liaison: City Hall

Tim Crampton, Councilor

Council President

Liaison: WCDC, Historic Landmarks

Suellen Harral, Councilor

Liaison: Planning Commission

Rick Stephens, Councilor

Liaison: Umatilla County Sheriff's Dept.

Duane Thul, Councilor

Public Works, Library

City Phone Numbers

- City Hall: 541 566-3313
 - Hours 7:30am-4:00pm
 - Closed 12:00pm-12:30pm Lunch

Debi Russell, City Recorder

russ01@qwestoffice.net

Library: 541-566-2378

Police/Dispatch: 541 966-3651

Public Works: 541-566-3976

We're online at:

www.CityofWestonOregon.com

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer"

Mayor's Corner - January 2018

Happy New Year!

With a new year, comes review and renew: reviewing goals and accomplishments in the middle of the fiscal year, and renewing commitments and goals for the upcoming year. The City has been committed to safety, infrastructure, and processes. We have had successes and set-backs.

Safety: increase awareness and public input around the Middle School and seek funding for sidewalk and crosswalk improvements. Our code enforcement official resigned, and we are exploring replacement options. Renewal of the Service Contract with the Sheriff. Increase awareness and need for Emergency Preparedness and Planning.

Infrastructure: Seeking funding for sidewalk and crosswalk improvements around the Middle School. Seeking engineering updates and funding for additional water (well) sources. Securing funding and future planning for replacing multiple bridges. Seeking planning and construction funding to improve broadband (internet) infrastructure.

Processes: Approved by-laws for WCDC, reviewing planning by-laws, reviewing ordinances, and reviewing asset inventory.

You could live anywhere, you've chosen to live here. Thanks for continuing to help make Weston a great place to live!

Jennifer McClure Spurgeon



**City Hall Will be Closed
Martin Luther King Day
Monday, January 15th**

**City Hall: 541 566-3313
Hours 7:30am-4:00pm Monday thru Friday
Closed 12pm-12:30pm Lunch**



Your New E-Reader

Maybe you received a new e-reader or audio player for Christmas. If you have a new device, do you know how to get free downloads from the library? You can learn to check out and download the hottest eBooks to your device, or audio books to your mp3 player or phone, during a help session for the Library's free downloadable service, **Library2Go**.

We are setting aside a time at the **Weston Public Library Tuesday, January 23 at 4:00**. We will be prepared to help you with tips and tricks for using this great service.

Umatilla County Special

Library District helps subsidize a group subscription to Library2Go for all libraries in our county. Library2Go has a huge catalog of titles available for you to check out. These materials can be checked out 24 hours a day, and you never have to worry about returning them. It's easy to use. Bring your device to the library January 23 and find out how!



A Thank You Note

A Greek philosopher famously said that time is the most valuable thing we can spend. With that in mind, we'd like to thank those community members who spend time making our **Santa at the Library** event happen each December. Thanks to Weston-Athena Lions Club for books, candy canes, and elves; photographer Robert McLean for his expert pictures; and Santa himself who takes time out from his busy schedule to meet with our Weston children.

January Dates

1/2 Library Board

5:30 pm (Library)

1/15 Closed for MLK, Jr. Day

1/19 National Popcorn Day

(serving popcorn all day at the library!)

1/23 Lib2Go Help

4:00 pm (Library)

1/25 Novel Readers

5:30 pm (Library)

New at the Library

The Whispering Room, fiction by Dean Koontz

Robicheaux, fiction by James Lee Burke

The Wanted, fiction by Robert Crais

The Girl Who Drank the Moon, YA fiction by Kelly Barnhill

The Story of Arthur Truluv, fiction by Elizabeth Berg

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

Main Office: 541 - 276 - 3322
(Pendleton)

Call to schedule a presentation, explore
volunteer opportunities or to make a
donation

541 - 567 - 0424 (Hermiston)

Call either office for assistance with
domestic & sexual violence or stalking

24 Hour Crisis Line:
1 - 800 - 833 - 1161

Pendleton Advocacy Center

Office: 541 - 276 - 3322

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
1103 SE Court Place

~
DHS M - W and F 8:00 a.m. to noon

Hermiston Advocacy Center

Office: 541 - 567 - 0424

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
240 SE 2nd. St., Suite B & C

~
DHS M - W and F 8:00 a.m. to noon

Milton-Freewater Advocacy Center

Office: 541 - 276 - 3322

DHS Thursday 8:00 a.m. to noon

~
Thursday - 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
722 S Main (City Hall basement)

Boardman Advocacy Center
Information - call 541-567-0424
Thursday - 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
200 City Center Circle (City Hall)

~
DHS Thursday - 8:00 a.m. to noon

Heppler Advocacy Center
Information - call 541-276-3322

Heppler Women's Group
Information ~ call 541-276-3322

Domestic Violence Services
provides direct services to victims
of domestic/sexual and dating
violence and stalking:

24 Hour Crisis Line

1.800.833.1161

Sexual Assault Advocacy
Domestic Violence Advocacy
Bilingual Advocacy

Shelters:

- **Awakening House in Pendleton**
- **Casa de Esperanza in Hermiston**

Confidential Crisis Support

Information & Referral

Safety Planning

Confidential Abuse Assessment

Assistance with Restraining Orders

Court Support & Advocacy

Presentations:

Community and Student Education

**Speakers available for businesses, clubs,
schools, churches & civic groups**

**Parenting and Mental Health First Aid
classes**

Call 541.276.3322

Support Groups:

Pendleton Women's Group

Call 541.276.3322 for information

⌘

Hermiston Women's Group

Thursday 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

⌘

**Hermiston Spanish Language Women's
Group**

Thursday 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Children's activities provided

Call 541.567.0424 for information

⌘

Milton-Freewater Women's Group

Thursday 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Call 541.276.3322 for information

Volunteer Training, Parenting Class, Mental Health First Aid - CALL 541-276-3322



Umatilla County Pioneers Seeking Photographs

Do you have photographs of past Pioneer Queens or Grand Marshals? Photographs of past parades? Someone is looking for photos of the 1973 parade with the float for Pioneer Queen Ruby Collins. Wasco County Pioneer Association would like to have photographs for the website to add to the history of the organization. We're also looking for biographies for many of the past Queens and Grand Marshals. Check the website to see what we have so far: www.UmatillaCountyPioneers Association.com

If you scan photos, please scan them at least at 300 dpi and email them to Trish Neal at TrishaNeal@hotmail.com *Don't have a scanner? Please let Trish know and arrangements can be made so that the photos never have to leave Weston.*

Attention Weston Senior Citizens!

The Senior Menu for Weston and Milton-Freewater is posted on Community of Weston's Facebook page, the city's newsletter, and at www.WestonOregon.com under the "Senior Citizen" tab.



The Food Pantry is located at the Franklin Street door of City Hall. The Weston Food Pantry will distribute food each month on the

Saturday after the 3rd Friday between 10:00a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Citizens from Weston, Athena, Adams, and the surrounding area are welcome. Please bring your own bags

or box. Don't be late. We must close on time. Contact person: Greg Phillips 503-880-6360 (Supported by CAPECO)



The Weston Food Pantry is open each month on the Saturday after the 3rd Friday. They have wonderful food supplies for folks in need. BUT, paper products are not part of what they provide. So, the **Weston-McEwen Lions Club** gathers paper towels and toilet paper to be part of the offerings. You can help!! There are boxes for your paper donations in the US Bank in Athena and in the Weston City Hall. We appreciate your help.



Be sure to "Like" the Community of Weston Facebook page.

Keep up to date on what's happening, important notices, etc. This Facebook page is intended to supplement the City of Weston's website and the community website, WestonOregon.com You may post items to this page, too!

Be sure to invite your friends and family to "Like" the page, too.

<https://www.facebook.com/CommunityofWestonOregon>

Local Links

- Weston-McEwen High School: <http://wmhs.athwest.k12.or.us>
- Athena-Weston School District: <http://www.athwest.k12.or.us>
- Weston Middle School: <http://wms.athwest.k12.or.us/>
- Athena Elementary School: <http://aes.athwest.k12.or.us/>
- Weston Community Development: www.WestonCommunityDevelopment.com
- Weston Historic Landmarks Commission: www.WestonHistoricLandmarks.com
- Weston Parks and Recreation Commission: www.WestonParksandRec.com
- Weston Public Library: www.WestonPublicLibrary.com
- Weston Chamber of Commerce: www.WestonChamberofCommerce.com
- Historic Weston Oregon: www.HistoricWestonOregon.com/





WESTON CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST WINNERS

*Lighting Contest Sponsored by the
Weston Chamber of Commerce*

Glitz & Glamour

- 1st Place Will Galloway
- 2nd Place Joe & Carlene Hearn
- 3rd Place Dusty & Lucy Hearn

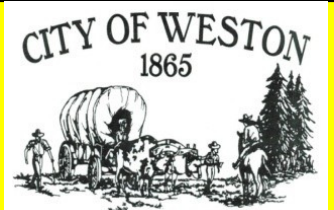
Reason for the Sea son

- 1st Place Greg & Lois Phillips
- 2nd Place Mark & Joni Clark
- 3rd Place Betty Munoz

Old Fashioned Christmas

- 1st Place Jack & Sheila Jaspersen
- 2nd Place Tyrel, Jinni & Hailie Burns
- 3rd Place Roy & Sue Rachor

**THE CITY OF WESTON HAS A PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY
IF YOU ARE INTERESTED PLEASE COME BY CITY HALL
114 E MAIN AND FILL OUT AN APPLICATION.**



Monthly Meetings

Meetings held at the Memorial Hall unless otherwise noted.

- Library Board January 2nd at 5:30pm (Library)**
- Lions Club January 4th at 7:00pm**
- Cemetery January 9th at 6:30pm**
- City Council January 10th at 6:00pm**
- Historic Landmark January 16th at 7:00pm**
- WCDC January 23rd at 7:00pm**
- Lions Club January 25th at 7:00pm**
- Planning Commission No meeting in January**





**Thank
you!**

GIVING TREE SPONSORS

Weston City Giving Tree was a big success. We started out with 18 names and ended up with 53. The citizens of Weston and a few from Athena made this a success. We ended up with over 200 presents and on Dec 23rd Santa and his elves went to 19 houses to deliver them!!

Again, THANK YOU WESTON for making this the best Christmas ever!!!

WESTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

KERRI COSSMAN

SMITH FROZEN FOODS

TRAVIS & DEB GLOVER

CAROLYN RENKEN

JOANNE GABRIELSON

LINDA CRAMPTON

THE CARLSON'S

THE GRIMSHAW'S

CHRISTI LOVINS

THE PETERSON'S

SHEILA JASPERSON

NANCY STRAIN

THE BUCKLES

THE THUL'S

CAROL KIRK

TRACY KING

THE KNUTZEN'S

PEGGY TARWATER

ELISA PIKE

JEANETTE CAMPBELL

ESMERA (HAPO)

TYREL, JINNI & HAILIE BURNS

MELISSA PALMER

DEBI RUSSELL

NICHOLE CISNEROS

KATHLEEN SCHMIDTGALL

KATHLEEN McCULLOUGH

THE PRICE'S

JONI MINKLER MILLS

A SPEICAL THANKS TO KAREN WEBB



**Milton-Freewater and
Weston* Senior Centers
Menu for January 2018**

Nurse Health Check
30-Jan-18

M-F Senior Center
541-938-3311

Begins 1 hour before Lunch

THANK-YOU TO THIS MONTH'S MEAL SPONSORS!

		WESTON*				
		M-F		M-F		
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY		
1	2	3	4	5		
	Salisbury Steak Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Carrot Raisin Salad Pears Fruit Medley Bread Brownies	Country Fried Steak Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Harvard Beets Mixed Vegetables Rolls Apple Crisp		Tamale Pie Ground Beef Chili Green Salad Carrots Peaches Cornbread Pudding		
8	9	10	11	12		
	BBQ Beef Sandwich Baked Beans Mixed Vegetables Apricots Upside Down Cake	Ham Au Gratin Potatoes Harvard Beets Pears Bread Poke Cake		Hot Turkey Sandwich Whipped Potatoes w/Gravy Salad Normandy Mixed Vegetables Cake		
15	16	17	18	19		
	Biscuits & Gravy Beef or Sausage Patty Tater Tots Fruit Medley Orange Dump Cake	Hamburgers Lettuce Tomato Onion Baked Beans Green Salad Strawberry Shortcake		Sponsored by Sykes Fish w/Tarter Sauce Baked Potato Cole Slaw Peaches Roll Special Dessert Sponsored by Park Plaza		
22	23	24	25	26		
	Lasagna w/Meat Glazed Carrots Fruit Medley Garlic Bread Layered Brownies	BIRTHDAY DINNER Baked Chicken Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Mixed Vegetables Fruit Salad Cobbler Sponsored by Brookdale CP		Clam or Corn Chowder Green Salad Mixed Fruit Bread Crackers Fruit Cobbler		
29	30	31				
	BIRTHDAY DINNER Baked Chicken Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Spring Vegetables Mandarin Oranges Wheat Roll Cake & Ice Cream	Clam or Corn Chowder Green Salad Carrots Rolls Crackers Fruit Medley Jello				
MILK SERVED AT EACH MEAL \$3.50 PER MEAL (suggested donation) MENUS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE						



East Umatilla County Health District

Medic 400

O: (541) 566-3813

*431 E. Main Street / PO Box 640
Athena, OR 97813*

F: (877) 469-6944

“State of the District” 2017

Season’s Greetings and Happy New Year from the Desk of the Medic 400 Ambulance Administrator:

On behalf of the small team of hardworking and dedicated healthcare and emergency services professionals that make up the Medic 400 team, I wish to take a moment and provide the citizens and communities we serve with a snapshot of the District’s accomplishments over this past year, provide an accounting of the current position of the District since its re-organization and redistricting, and outline a few of the District’s plans for the coming year, as well as, some of the challenges facing the new District.

Background

In 1988, the citizens living within the boundaries of the Athena-Weston School District voted to establish the East Umatilla County Health District to provide local medical and ambulance services during emergencies. Since its inception, the District’s Medic 400 ambulance has relied upon the strength, dedication, and professionalism of its hard-working local volunteer staff to provide these essential emergency medical services. In 2016, voters were asked to expand the District’s tax boundaries to include the communities of Adams and Helix, as well as, the unincorporated communities of Bingham Springs, Holdman, and Tollgate. Fortunately, citizens within these local communities responded favorably to the District’s request and called for the dissolution of the old health district and the formation of the new East Umatilla County Ambulance Area Health District (EUCAAHD). The new health district started operations on July 1, 2017, and today provides EMS services to over 400 square miles within East Umatilla County, covering the area northwest along Highway 37 to the boundary with Umatilla County Fire District #1 and the Oregon-Washington border, northeast to the boundary with Milton-Freewater Rural Fire Protection District, east along Highway 204 to the Umatilla-Union County line, south along the Highway 11 corridor and the boundary of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and southwest to the boundary with Pendleton Fire Department. The District now responds to over 200 calls for emergency services annually and services a year-round population of over 4000 citizens in the East Umatilla County area. The new area for which the District is responsible is referred to as Ambulance Service Area #5 (ASA- 5), or the Athena-Weston ASA.

Current State of the District

Since July 2017, the new health district has taken its direction from the overwhelming local support received and voiced by the voters within our local communities. The District recruited and hired three (3) full-time responders (both Paramedics and Registered Nurses) with collectively over twenty-five (25) years of EMS experience to provide near 24-hour medical coverage to the service area. Additionally, the District continues to foster and maintain its valuable connection to the community by recruiting and relying heavily upon its local volunteer members to augment the Medic 400 team and round-out our response crews. While maintaining a durable, and much needed, working relationship with our EMS partners in Pendleton and Milton-Freewater, the new health district is no longer dependent upon these entities to provide primary EMS coverage and service to our local area. Further, the new district maintains close mutual aid relationships with the Athena Volunteer Fire Department, the East Umatilla County Rural Fire Protection District in Weston, Helix Rural Fire Department, the Umatilla Tribal Fire Department, and the Life Flight Network. Many of the individuals that serve within the ranks of the Medic 400 team also serve within these other fine organizations. As District Administrator, I extend my appreciation and admiration to all of those hard-working and dedicated professionals that regularly give of their valuable time and expertise to help our citizens most in need.

As a further indication of the ongoing strength and health of the District, several recent and meaningful accomplishments must be recognized. In July, the new District successfully applied for and received a license from the Oregon Health Authority to operate an Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance within the County. After receiving the support and recommendation of the Umatilla County Ambulance Service Area Committee and the Umatilla County Office of Emergency Management, the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners approved and awarded the ambulance service contract for ASA-5 to the Medic 400 franchise. Despite an unsuccessful search for a full-time administrator, the District currently operates under an acting administrator with ten (10) years of public sector managerial and budgetary experience, and six (6) years EMS and critical care experience, who holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Willamette University and maintains licensure as a registered nurse in both Oregon and Washington State. The District's EMS Field Supervisor is also a Willamette University bachelor degreed graduate who is an Oregon certified Paramedic with over eighteen (18) years of experience working in high-volume fire and emergency services and maintains board certification as an emergency nurse. Further, the District continues to staff and answer to a volunteer five (5) member elected Board of Directors that governs and provides direction to the District Administrator. Also, the District maintains a respected group of ten (10) dedicated volunteer professional medical responders and CPR-trained drivers that collectively provide critical EMS services within the ASA. Finally, the District continues to enjoy a healthy working relationship with our medical director, Dr. Brad Adams, of Pendleton, who provides and oversees that the medical protocols used by our paramedics and nurses are up-to-date and appropriate for our needs. The District is indebted to Dr. Adams, the EUCAAHD Board of Directors, its employees, and the citizens of East Umatilla County for their continued support of Medic 400. While impressive in its summation, the District continues to seek and encourage the involvement of medical professionals within the area willing to participate and contribute their skills, abilities, and talents to the Medic 400 team.

What the Future Holds

While the new health district has accomplished the needed work to secure its place as an ambulance service provider for ASA-5, continued planning and growth is necessary to ensure that the best medical services are available to our citizens and customers. The District will continue to leverage the many available opportunities for grant funding and other financial resources to maintain and grow the District's capabilities.

For example, the District recently received a generous grant from the Wildhorse Foundation to assist with the purchase of a LUCAS® chest compression device. The LUCAS® device will be used to provide uninterrupted and effective high-quality chest compressions during cardiac arrest emergencies, which has the benefit of freeing up our medical personnel to focus on other life-saving activities for patients, such as early defibrillation, ventilation, IV access, and life-saving medications. Also, discussions with major equipment manufacturers are being initiated to secure the purchase of new cardiac monitoring and defibrillation equipment for the District. Additionally, in the coming budget cycle, the health district intends to pursue an upgrade of its ambulance fleet to replace its aging vehicle inventory. Finally, the District will be focusing on making key infrastructure and long-term investments to better prepare and provide for major medical and catastrophic emergencies within the community and region.

Lastly, as a member of the state's trauma and emergency services resources, the District will pursue a collaborative relationship with the Oregon Health Authority EMS and Trauma Division. In the coming year, the health district will request an audit of its operations to review and provide process improvements to assist with improving and maintaining compliance with all statutory and administrative requirements for ambulance franchisees within the State. As with all audit and process improvement plans, the goal will be to attain an improved and more efficient service delivery organization for the betterment of the District's citizens.

Challenges for the District

While not to detract from the many exciting and promising changes already happening at the Health District, there remain some ongoing challenges that threaten the Medic 400 team and its ability to provide reliable ambulance service to the area. The primary difficulty plaguing the future of the District can be summarized simply: "We need volunteers."

The addition of full-time Paramedic/RN staff to the District has notably enhanced service delivery within the ASA by keeping qualified EMS personnel present to respond to medical emergencies; however, having medical responders "ready to go," has highlighted two continuing staffing challenges for the agency. First, the District's current staff of three (3) full-time employees can provide coverage for only 120-hours within each 168-hour work week without incurring overtime, which requires that District volunteers be available to cover the remaining 48-hours each week. Currently, the District relies on only three (3) advanced life support (ALS) level responders and one (1) intermediate (ILS) level responder to meet this staffing demand. This implies, at a minimum, a twelve-hour commitment each month from each of these volunteer members amidst their already demanding personal and full-time professional lives as medical providers in other nearby communities. Even though the District pays for full-time medical staff, and relies on volunteer professionals to make-up the difference, the continued necessity for medically trained volunteer responders is essential to fulfilling the District's mission of providing reliable local ambulance service. It is important that the District continue to recruit, train, develop, and retain a strong local volunteer medical core.

Secondly, to further underscore the importance of the District's local volunteers, for each call for emergency service received by the District, the Medic 400 ambulance must be staffed, at a bare minimum, with at least one (1) ALS or ILS trained medical staff member and one (1) CPR-trained qualified driver. Ideally, and in most larger communities including Pendleton and Milton-Freewater, both responders would be medically trained, and ambulance drivers would possess medical certification to at least the EMT-Basic level. This means that, although the District pays to have full-time medical staff, a volunteer CPR-trained driver must respond to each and every emergency call for service received by the ambulance, regardless of the time of day. There are currently six (6) qualified drivers that provide this essential service to the ambulance district, requiring a time commitment of more than 24-hours each month by each volunteer. Again, these are hard-working local professionals with full-time jobs that live right here within our communities that donate time from their lives to provide this essential service to the ambulance district. I salute and deeply appreciate the sacrifice made by each volunteer member of our organization.

The problem of fewer and fewer volunteer members with the ranks of the ambulance district is not unique to Medic 400, but rather is a symptom of a continuing reduction in altruism and volunteerism within society at-large. As more and more families struggle to make ends meet, less time remains available for extra-curricular activities such as volunteering. Local governments struggle to find people willing to serve within city councils or planning commissions, special districts and library districts struggle to find people able to serve on boards and committees, and local special interest groups, such as the Lion's club, or the Adams Ladies Club, suffer from fewer and fewer committed members. In the case of the Medic 400 team, the unavailability of volunteers is compounded by the need for these volunteers to have and maintain proficiency within their disciplines so that we might continue to provide the high-level emergency services all of us would want to have caring for our families and loved-ones. While the health district can likely do little to stem the societal influences creating the shortage of free-time in people's lives, the District is committed to continuing to make its presence known within our local area, and making its need for local support, both in time and funding, paramount in its mission such that any able-bodied individual with the desire, ability, skills, and time available can be allowed the opportunity to serve his/her community through the health district.

Conclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to provide an update on the recent successes, upcoming plans, and current challenges for your Medic 400 ambulance organization. Anyone having questions about the health district, or if you are a medical professional willing to become involved with the ambulance service, please feel free to contact the health district office, either in person at 431 E. Main Street in Athena, Oregon, or by phoning our office directly at (541) 566-3813. Messages will be returned at the earliest opportunity.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Jeff Rost, RN, Administrator EUCAAHD