

The Echo



Dec. 2009

Published by the City of Echo

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Christmas Food Drive & Giving Tree



If news reports are correct, this year many Americans will have a tough holiday season. We are hoping Echo people can chip in a little bit, whether it is cash, toys or food to help local needy families. Donations can be

dropped by City Hall or mailed to PO Box 9, Echo, OR 97826.

If you need a food basket and/or to have children's names on the giving tree, applications can be picked up at city hall. If you are aware of a friend or neighbor that lives in Echo that you feel is in need of assistance, please let us know the name and the circumstances. We normally deliver to 19 to 22 families each year.

Food items collected include canned and packaged food—sorry no home canning can be accepted. Potatoes and carrots can also be accepted. Cash is used to purchase turkeys, bread, margarine, milk and other perishables that we do not have the storage capacity to collect ahead of time. Food will be delivered on Tuesday, December 22 in the morning. (cont. page 2)

Fish Feed

The Annual Quarterback Club Stag Fish Feed will be Friday, Dec. 4, at the Fire Hall on Main Street. As well as the seafood dinner there is an auction and raffle to earn



money for school athletics, sports camps and other school and youth oriented projects. The Quarterback Club has donated \$1500 toward the Skatepark and makes donations to National Night Out and the Christmas Food Drive each year.

CENSUS-Be Counted!!

The next Census will be in 2010. The City of Echo is asking residents to Stand Up & Be Counted, as population determines the amount of money the city collects from the state for cigarette, liquor, revenue sharing and gas taxes. When people do not get counted, our share of such money is reduced and in effect goes to other cities.



Information gathered on population and income also determines whether or not the city is eligible for federal grants and assistance such as the Block Grant Program. Errors in the 1990 census undercounted Echo's population and income levels were too high. (continued page 2)

SKATEPARK

The Echo skatepark bowl is expected to be completed next week. However site improvements such as work around the perimeter, landscaping and fencing will not be completed until next spring. A formal dedication will be held in June.

The contract was for \$99,900, but thanks



Giving Tree

(cont. from page 1)

The Giving Tree will go up this week. It will be located at city hall between the library and office. The tree has tags with the ages of needy girls and boys. Select a tag and let the city clerk write down the number selected such as "G-3". Then bring a gift back to city hall by Friday, Dec. 18 at 4:30 pm. Some of the tags will have suggestions and sizes when that information is available.

The gifts will be delivered on Tuesday, December 22 in the morning.



Census

(cont. from pg. 1)

This was probably the result of people not filling in or returning census forms. In order to qualify for federal assistance for the upcoming sewer project, it took two citizen polls, nine months of discussions with state and federal agencies and two formal income surveys by Greater Eastern Oregon Development Corporation (GEODC) to finally get these agencies to recognize that Echo does serve a low to moderate income population. The cost for GEODC to conduct the surveys was \$10,000. If the Census had been accurate, all of this headache and cost could have been avoided.

However as a result of the survey, the city will qualify for a poverty interest rate of 2.6%. The sewer and water loans issued in the mid 1970s and 1980 have a 4% interest rate. Census data determines school funding such as Title I grants.

The number of Congressmen in each state is determined by population and population is used to create state representative districts.

(cont. page 2)

Skatepark

(cont. from pg. 1)

to Grindline Skateparks love of skating and desire to build a park that they want to visit along with Pendleton and Irrigon, we have

ended up with a park that is larger and more complex than in the original proposal. The additional \$12,500 will cover the cost of lighting, landscaping, bleachers, fencing and other amenities. If Dale Fife had not provided the labor to excavate the park and Dale and Kevin Fife had not donated the use of their construction equipment, the project would not have been possible and the costs would have been another \$15,000 to \$20,000 more.

Fundraising efforts continue on the project for other park improvements. A grant application has been submitted to the Meyer Memorial Trust to cover most of the cost for a vandal-resistant restroom. Among the items still needing funding are the restroom, picnic shelter and a playground structure.

November donations: Cal Pines \$250; Vision Source-Pendleton \$200; Banner Bank \$100; Gregory B. Jones, DMD \$50; Wilcox Furniture \$50; Pendleton Electric \$50; Washington Group (Army Depot Chemical Disposal) \$125.



Funding

This project was funded by specific purpose grants from the Ford Family Foundation \$50,000; Safeway \$5000; Autzen Foundation \$7500; Wildhorse \$5000; Tony Hawk Foundation \$5000; Oregon Community Foundation \$5000; Walmart DC \$1500; PacifiCorp \$1500; Local donations and fund-raisers \$27,161.88; in-kind donations \$20,000; These funds would not be available for use on projects around the community such as streets or sidewalks.

Antique Mower

William and Karen Douglas are donating a McCormick-Deering No. 7 Horse drawn mower to sell with the proceeds going to help fund the annual Christmas Basket program.

This mower would have been



used to mow hay or grass c. 1905. Bids will be accepted until December 17. Please submit in an envelope with the words "mower bid" written on the exterior. They can be mailed to PO Box 426, Echo or dropped by city hall.

The same mower was recently sold on line for \$150. Contact Diane Berry at 376-8509 with questions. The mower is #M22090

Christmas Concert



Inland Northwest Musicians (INWM) Orchestra and Chorale have scheduled two programs in the city hall audi-

torium on December 12 at 7 pm and 13th at 4 pm. The theme this year is "Home for the Holidays": White Christmas, What Child Is This & more. The programs are free, but donations are accepted. Donations to help sponsor the concerts can be sent to INWM at PO Box 7039, Hermiston, OR 97838.

A free reception will follow each performance. Donations of cookies for the receptions are also needed. INWM has been performing each Christmas at city hall since renovations were completed in 2000.

Library/China Hse. Donations

Anita Dorn	23
books	
Elsie Middleton	4 books
Hasbro	3 games
Anonymous	37
books	
Carol Marcum	15
books	
Patty Cisneros	3 books
Dale Fife	13 magazines, Union Pa-



Christmas Lighting Contest

This will be the 18th Echo Booster Club Christmas Lighting Contest. . 21 & 23. Cate-

gories include Best Overall, Traditional; Modern Display; Best Tree(s), New Display, Fence/Landscape, Entry or Doorway, Kid-dies Favorite, Unique.



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Facebook

We now have a City of Echo page on Facebook. Keep track of what is going on around the city by becoming a fan of the page. We have a large collection of photographs uploaded and will add more as time permits.

A discussion section asks for comments on making the library more appealing to teens.

Bazaars/Food

The Echo Methodist Church and Echo VFW Auxiliary are both hosting bazaars on

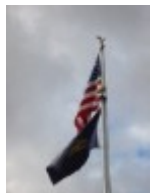


December 12th from 9 am to 3 pm. The VFW will also serve Chili starting at noon and it will be in the VFW Hall on Bridge Street. The Church Bazaar will include a baked food sale and will be

in the basement of the church. The VFW does not have any tables left, but the church still has a few for \$10.

Volunteer Thanks

We want to recognize Gene & Jeanne Hampton for volunteering to place US Flags on the Main Street Flag poles each holiday.



Memorials

Bill Fisher, long time resident and former city councilor.



Online Database

Gale Cengage Learning is now available for library patrons as a source for online



periodicals and databases. This service provides full-text access to

thousands of magazines, newspapers, reference ebooks, transcripts, and images. This service is provided courtesy of the State Library.

You can even access this from your home computer. Unfortunately since we are not yet automated, you cannot use your library card number to gain access like patrons of other local libraries, but if you contact Karen Beacham at 376-8411 she will provide the password. Go to: <http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/s9187914>. then type in the password. You will then see a list of subject headings. Remember the library also provides free access to Tutor.com & the Learning Express. Karen can also help you with access to these sites.

Free Lunch

Echo Methodist Church Minister Tim Novak announced at the November city council meeting that the church and Echo Kiwanis were committed to ending hunger in Echo. As a result the church is hosting a free lunch and "Fun Time" for kids's through seniors on Fridays. In December lunches will be served on December 4th, 11th, & 18th from 11 am to 1 pm. The church will continue to operate their Friday End Zone program on the same dates from 8 to 10:30 pm. This is for Junior High and High School students.



Christmas Lights

The Echo Boosters is continuing its tradition of providing a free strand of Christmas Lights to those who purchased a new home in Echo during the past year.

Lights can be picked up at city hall.

Recipients: Trent Fife, Francisco Reyes Family, Stephen Gifford.



PTA Holiday Shop

The Echo PTA will hold their holiday shop at the school again this year between Dec. 14 and 17th during lunch and after school until 4:30 pm. The shop provides inexpensive gifts such as cups filled with candy, jewelry and stuffed animals for children to purchase for Christmas gifts. Adults can also visit the shop and donations of new or lightly used items are welcome. Donations can be dropped by the school.



Library Trainee

Thanks to a CAPECO Training program the library is lucky enough to have the services of long-time Echo resident Toni

Coleen's A Cut Above

Come in & take a look at the new & improved shop. We have expanded & remodeled.

A Second Chair: introducing Jessica White who will be a full time stylist. **New Services:** eyebrow waxing & facials.



Tanning Room

Sunvision Elite 20 min. bed
Unlimited Monthly \$35
10 tans—\$40
Single tan—\$5

New Hours:

Tues., Wed. & Fri. 10 am-6 pm
Thurs. 9 am-4 pm



McLachlan in the library for six months.

Toni is learning how to do the many daily tasks required in the library as well as listing and researching the 1000s of library books being pulled in this years weeding program.

Young Adults in Library



Statistics show that 25% of most libraries regular users are teens, but in the Echo library we know that teens make up more than 50% of our regular users and we are

hoping to make the library more inviting to teens. We are developing a small area in the library for youth to comfortably sit and study or quietly talk in small groups. A Young Adult book section has been added in the video room. As we prepare for automation by weeding books that have not been circulating in the last 8-10 years, we hope to open the library up to provide more space for this type of usage.

The survey below is being taken to find out what Youth want and need in the library.

What would you like to have the library add?

What would encourage you to use the library more?

What don't you like about the library or what keeps you from visiting?

Teens have already expressed interest in an area to sit comfortably with lap tops or to talk. What themes would you like to see in posters or decorations in a teen area?

Teens have already expressed interest in having the library offer video games for check out. However there are a number of systems on the market, so we need to know what type of system you have?

Would you be interested in volunteering to

read to preschool and elementary students if you could receive school credit for it?

Would you be interested in participating in a Teen Summer Reading Program & what type of incentives would encourage you to participate?

What type of programs would attract you to the library? Youth Authors, Speakers, Performers, etc?

Some area libraries have a monthly Pizza party where books and movies are discussed. Is this something you would be interested in? and if so would you help organize it?

Would you be interested in teen oriented magazines? What type?

Please complete this survey & drop it by the library. You can place the form in the library book drop or give it to the librarian.

Weeding/New Books

The Echo Library is preparing for automation of the library collection. With the library having more than 14,000 books and nearly 3000 videos, this is a major undertaking. It is also expensive to provide bar codes for the collection. As a result the library district is encouraging us to weed the collection so that materials that have not been circulating are not cataloged.



Statistics also show that patrons check out more materials when shelves are not over crowded. If you have been in the library lately you probably have noticed more room on some of the fiction collection, western and science fiction. We have literally pulled over 1000 books that have not circulated since 2000 or which are in poor condition. We will be holding a large book sale in the spring to sell these books and are also listing collectible books and these will be available on a list for patrons and book buyers to submit offers.

Because of the overcrowded shelves and

the desire to open the library up more, we have applied to the Collins Foundation for funding to raise the height of the non-fiction shelves from 41" to 60". With weeding this should provide space for the books we are keeping, a little room to grow and still allow us to remove a few of the shelves have been placed in every spare corner. We are also accepting donations toward the project to help provide matching funds for grants. Library district funds are designated for operations and materials and not capital improvements such as shelving. We are also trying to raise funds to add a few lap top computers so patrons can take advantage of the buildings Wi-Fi connection and sit in other areas of the library with lap tops. Donations to the library are tax deductible.



New Books & Materials

In an opposite move to weeding, we have also placed a clipboard on the counter asking for patrons to list materials they would like to see in the library. Please let us know of any suggestions you have.

Computer Training/Programs

Many other local libraries have been holding basic training courses on use of computers, emailing, setting up facebook pages, how to use Ebay, etc. While we do try to help on an informal basis patrons with limited computer exposure, we are interested in knowing if there is enough interest in the community to warrant holding such courses here. Please let us know what you think by filling out the form below and dropping it by city hall or return it with your water bill.



We have had mixed results in attempts to bring programs to the library. So we would like to know if you are interested in programs

and if so what types.

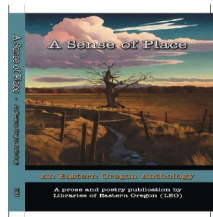
Would you be interested in attending a basic...
How to use a computer course? Yes No.
Morning? Afternoon? Evening?

Are you interested in learning about Facebook? Yes No

What type of programs would you like the library to offer? Cultural Humanities Science Authors Other_____

Eastern Oregon Anthology

The Libraries of Eastern Oregon (LEO) has published an Anthology of Eastern Oregon writing which will be available through the Echo Library for \$16.50. The 226-page "A Sense of Place" anthology is a collection of juried poems, essays and short stories by several dozen residents across the 15 eastern Oregon counties as well as a few previously-published writers who pay tribute to our region. The book has been endorsed by state poet laureate Lawson



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Echo Items

Want a unique Christmas gift? Echo t-shirts, mugs & the Echo Story Books are available at city hall. The books are \$15.00.

Calendar

Dec. 4	QB Fish Feed, Fire Hall
Dec. 12	Echo Church & VFW Bazaars, Baked Food Sale & Chili Feed
Dec. 12	Inland NW Musician Christmas Concert-7 pm @ city hall
Dec. 13	INWM Christmas Concert 4 pm
Dec. 14-17	PTA Holiday Shop
Dec. 15	Echo School Holiday Program 2 pm and 7 pm-Gym
Dec. 16	School Character Trait Assembly- 10:30 am, gym
Dec. 17	Last day of school
Dec. 22	Christmas Food/Gift Delivery
Dec. 24	City Hall/Library close at noon Candlelight Service, church 7 pm