

The Echo



Feb. 2013

Published by the City of Echo

PO Box 9/20 S Bonanza (541)376-8411

Post Office

Have you had problems with delivery of packages or returned mail? The council is gathering information on this problem and is asking residents to let them know about such problems. Contact city hall or email ecpl@centurytel.net.

Public Meeting: The Postal Service will have a meeting at the City Hall Auditorium on Wed. **February 20 at 5:30 pm**. This will follow up the survey sent last month & discuss what hours the community supports.

Red2Red MTB

Saturday, March 2 is the 5th annual Red2Red Cycle Race with a poker run on Sunday. Parking in the downtown will be limited as a result and you can expect road delays on Bridge, Main & Dupont Streets from 10am till



3 pm. Last year there were nearly 550 entries and over 600 are expected this year. The race starts on Bridge Street at 11 am and then goes

west out of town on the Echo-Lexington Highway to the Piercy/Echo West Ranch on Snow Road.

The Echo Kiwanis will serve breakfast Saturday, which is open to the public. Aaron & Kristen Yunker will be opening the Wheat and Barley Pub (old Red Express) to serve lunch for cyclists. Sno Road Winery will be providing music, wine and beer on Friday at the Tasting Room and Courtyard from 4:30 to 8:30 pm. On Saturday the registration and center of activity will be the George (city) Park and Sno Road Winery will have the (cont. pg 2)

Echo Mural

The Echo City Center Sign is now complete with the addition of mural of Echo Koontz

Miller. Echo was named after Echo Koontz by her father JH Koontz and WW Brassfield in 1880. Her image is



also on the city entry signs and the downtown bike racks.

Stop the FOG

Fats, oils, and grease (FOG) such as meat fats, dairy products, food scraps, cooking oils, sauces, dressings, sandwich spreads, gravies, marinades, dairy products, shortening, lard, butter and margarine are a main cause of sewer line backups and breaks. Raw sewage can overflow into your home, a neighbor's home, streets, parks, etc. Raw sewage may contain bacteria, viruses and polluted materials that can cause health hazards to aquatic environment and harm the wildlife and people. Sewer line backups and breaks are expensive to repair and unpleasant to clean up. The following guidelines will assist you with managing household FOG and protecting the environment, (cont. pg 2



Red2Red (cont. from pg. 1)

courtyard open for beer, wine & music. The Masons will serve lunch at the Masonic Lodge. Organizers are hoping to add crafts and other vendors in and around the park.

More information will be available later in the month and will be posted on the Red2Red website at <http://echored2red.com/2012 Echo Red 2 Red XC MTB Race/Home.html>. There is a Red2Red Facebook page. For more information contact: Shayne Myers 541-571-8018 or Stephanie Myers 541-289-2444 or email: echored2redxc@hotmail.com.


FOG (cont from pg. 1) as well as the City infrastructure.

- Grease or other liquids should **never** be poured down a drain or flushed down a toilet. Cooking oils such as frying and salad oils, meat drippings, bacon fat, greasy leftovers, butter, food scraps, and sauces coat sewer pipes on your property and the main pipe in the street. This grease eventually builds up and creates clogged drains or blockages that can cause raw sewage to back up into your home, which may result in costly repairs and messy cleanup.
- **Dispose of cooking oils** by pouring them into a milk carton, or another type of non-recyclable container and throw it out with the garbage once cooled down.
- **Scrape grease and food scraps** from dishes, pots, utensils, etc. into the trash before washing or putting them in the dishwasher. **Dishwashers do not get rid** of grease.
- **Never pour FOG into a garbage disposal.** It is designed to shred solid materials into smaller pieces. It does not dissolve grease. Put fat trimmings in the garbage instead of in the garbage disposal.
- **Never rinse or flush FOG down the drain with hot water and/or dish soap.** It does not dissolve grease and may push it further into your sewer lines.

Small amounts of grease that may accidentally get into the drain should be flushed right away with cold water.



- **Use sink strainer baskets** to catch food and other waste and empty it into the garbage.
- **Never pour fats, oils, grease, food scraps or other cooking or household liquids down a drain or into a toilet.**
- Pour FOG into a heat resistant and sturdy non-recyclable container. Once the container is full and has cooled down, throw it out in the garbage.

Download [Stormy's Household Grease Tips Card](#) 
(courtesy of City of Fort Lauderdale)

Composting Program

To eliminate FOG problems in personal and city pipes and to reduce the amount of household organic material being deposited into landfills some cities have started programs to provide household composters to customers on a cost share basis.

Composters such as the one above are used to dump grease, vegetables, leftovers, etc. At least 25% of the average households

Kopacz Nursery & Florist



"Helping Make Echo More Beautiful"

Kopacz Nursery sponsors Echo's Beautification Program each year; Providing plants, labor & green house space for floral displays & donates annuals for public areas.

- Beautiful Bouquets
- Gift Center
- Blooming & Houseplants
- Visit us on Facebook

541-567-3278
465 W. Theater Ln. Hermiston



waste is made up of yard clippings and food scraps.

The City of Echo is looking into starting such a program for Echo households if there is enough interest. A similar program in LaGrande provided the composters for residents at a minimal charge in 2001 through a DEQ Grant. The estimated residential cost now would be about \$25. If you

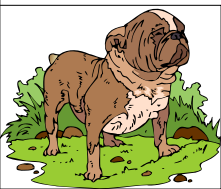


are interested in such a program. Please let us know at city hall. Provide your name and phone # to the city clerk by calling 541-376-8411, or just let her know when you drop off your payment.

Food Scraps, leftovers, greases, etc. can be placed in the composter. Add paper from your personal shredder, torn up newspapers, leaves, grass, etc. and occasionally a little water. Use a stick to stir the compost occasionally. More detailed information on use of composters is available from the manufacturer, from the extension service and online.

Dog Licenses

The 2012 dog licenses expired on Dec. 31 and licenses need to be purchased for 2013. Licenses not renewed by **Feb. 28, 2013** will be subject to a penalty of **\$10 per month** for each month the licensing is delayed. Current license fees are \$4.00 per year for a spayed or neutered animal and \$12 per year for an unaltered animal. Proof of a current rabies shot is required.



Library News & Donations

Story & Craft time (2 pm Fridays) for the next month includes:

Feb. 8—Valentine's Day Theme. Children will make Valentines.

Feb. 15—President's Day Theme. Children will commemorate President's Day with



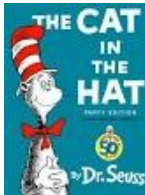
games and crafts such as making Presidential silhouettes. Children will write a little story on "What would you do if you were President."



Feb. 22—Library Lover's Day. Children will make book marks celebrating this day.

March 1—Dr. Seuss Birthday Party

The library will host a reading contest commemorating Dr. Seuss' birthday throughout February. Children can pick up reading logs at the library. The logs can be turned in on or before March 1. Prizes will be awarded. We will serve refreshments and cake for the birthday & children will make Dr. Seuss hats.



The library has over 3200 juvenile books for children to choose from, plus cds, puppets & videos\$.

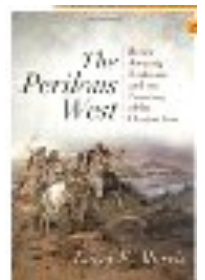
Donations

Thanks again for your donations to the library.

Jolynn Daly Anderson	22 books
Bonnie Berry	6 books
Jeanne Daly	6 books
Carol Marcum	6 books
Elsie Middleton	7 books
Richard Winter	1 DVD
Kathy Winters	17 books
Anonymous`	\$20 for children's books

Oregon History

C.S. "Sam" Jackson, acquired the East Oregonian in 1882 and in 1902 moved to Portland and established the Oregon Journal. He was a noted newspaper publisher and philanthropist who 90 years after his death is still helping Umatilla County through the C.S. Jackson Fund Historical Materials Grants. The fund provides between \$175 and \$200 each year to each Umatilla County Public Library to purchase materials on Oregon. The Echo library will be using our allocation to purchase the following: Gerry Frank's Oregon, Oregon Country: the Story of the 1843 Oregon Trail Migration, The Perilous West: Seven Amazing Explorers and the Founding of the Oregon Trail; Oregon Brew





Tree Corner

The City of Echo will be recognized for its 23rd (2012) year participating in the Tree City USA program, Oregon's smallest this year while working toward our 24th year in 2013. We will be displaying local artwork by Echo students featuring trees as the theme over the year and would also be interested in displaying Tree-related Art from other sources.

Currently we have a Pencil Tree on loan from Jesse Goldie which is on display in the library.

We will also continue the Tree Corner at least every other month. This month we will recap some information on the city's Tree Code.

Topping: Topping Trees is discouraged at all times, but it is prohibited for any tree located on the street right of way (ROW) or in a public place. If you are not certain if a tree is on your property or the ROW, check with city hall.

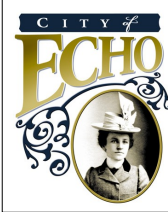
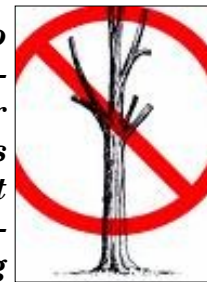
4-2-12: TOPPING, ABUSE OR MUTILATION OF TREES: *It shall be a violation of this Chapter to abuse, top, destroy or mutilate any tree, shrub or plant in a public area.... It shall be unlawful and a violation of this chapter to top any tree located in a public area, except for city electrical franchisee shall have the right to trim or top trees that are creating unsafe conditions or interfering with power lines however the city does encourage utilities ...*

The City Code also requires:

4-2-6: LICENSING/INSURANCE: *It is the intent of the City Council to protect trees and citizens from irresponsible companies or individuals who pose as arborists. It shall be*

unlawful for any person to engage in the business of cutting, trimming, pruning or removing, trees or shrubs within the City without first producing evidence of certification/license and bonding before the City whether on private or public property.

Licensing shall include a City Solicitors Permit and/or Business License. Before any license shall be issued, each applicant shall first file evidence of possession of worker's compensation and liability insurance for bodily injury or death in the amount of \$1,000,000 minimum and property damage of \$100,000 minimum indemnifying the City or any person injured or damaged resulting from the pursuit of such endeavor as herein described. The exception to this clause is utility franchisees or their contractors shall not be required to be licensed by the city of Echo..."



City News

Job Opening: Applications & job descriptions for the Utility Maintenance Worker position are now available at city hall. The position closes on Feb. 15.

Council Position: Karl Jensen has been appointed to fill the opening on the city council.

Public Hearing: The city recently completed a Water Study & Master Plan for our water system. Oregon Community Development Block Grant Funds were used for the project. As part of this project, the city is required to hold a public hearing which is scheduled for **Thursday February 21** during the regular council meeting at 7:30 pm. The purpose of the hearing is for the City Council to obtain citizen views about the project and to take comments about the local government's performance. Written comments are also welcome and must be received by February 21 by 4:00 p.m. at City Hall (PO Box 9) at 20 S. Bonanza Street, Echo, Oregon 97826. Both oral and written comments will

be reviewed by the City Council.

Budget Committee: Several openings remain on the city budget committee. Interested parties can pick up an application at city hall.

Echo Town Reunion

The Echo Reunion Committee has scheduled the next Town/School Reunion for Saturday, July 6. Their next meeting will be at the library on Feb. 13, at 7 pm. If you are interested in helping plan the reunion or just interested in more information contact Chris Bettencourt or Darrylin Collinsworth 541-449-1138 darrylin@eoni.com.



The committee is encouraging individual classes to coordinate reunions with their classmates on Sunday.

In conjunction with the reunion, we are hoping to gather Echo stories, Echo trivia, Echo recipes, photos and information on successful Echoites that we can compile for the museum and can have available for people to read during the reunion. Some of the information

will also be added to the Echo Cultural Inventory that is on the city web-site <http://echo-oregon.com/index-2.html>.



Physicist Walker Bleakney

Walker Bleakney (1901-1992) *"was an American physicist, one of the inventors of the mass spectrometer and widely noted for his research in the fields of atomic physics, molecular physics, fluid dynamics, the ionization of gases and blast waves. Bleakney was the chair of the department of physics at Princeton University"* and was a professor there for 37 years-

Wikipedia. Bleakney was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1959.

But there's more to the story: Walker Bleakney was raised in Echo and graduated from Echo schools in 1919. Bleakney told his biographer that *"His boyhood experiences did much to develop his self-reliance and mechanical abilities, traits that served him well in his laboratory career. He knew the demands and satisfaction that come with hard physical labor. His determination to secure an education was tolerated by his parents so that he was able to complete high school (as the only boy in a graduating class of four), an accomplishment that required a fourteen-mile round trip on horseback over a ridge "too dry to farm and too high to irrigate."*

Echo in the Smithsonian

Did you know that during WWII the Japanese sent about 9300 balloon powered bombs across the sea toward the US hoping to start Forest Fires? Only 360 some landed, and one of the most complete landed west of Echo and is in the Smithsonian. The photo below was sent to us from the Smithsonian where it was verified that the bomb remains on display.

One of the bombs landed near Bly, Oregon on May 5, 1945 where it killed six. The site was designated by the National Register of Historic Places in 2003, as the only place on the continental United States where Americans were killed by enemy action during World War II.

Luckily the bomb that landed at Echo did not go off or it could have killed several Echo men. In the "Eardley Bird," East Oregonian columnist Jim Eardley wrote about the bomb and its recovery. He interviewed



Service (Sarvis) Buttes from Echo (east side) looking west toward Butter Creek

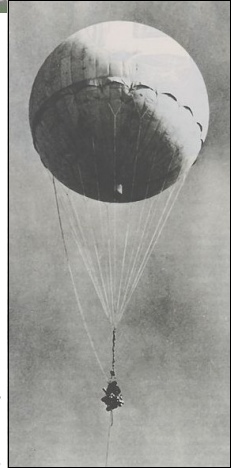


Ralph Saylor who told him about finding one of the Japanese balloons near Echo on March 13, 1945. Saylor said two ranch hands, Lee Finley and Clark Cable, tied up the balloon after finding it one cloudy day. "About 3 p.m. two of the ranch hands on our farm saw a balloon under the clouds drifting slowly to earth. They drove out toward where it appeared to land to investigate and found it to be one of the incendiary balloons that had been made and released in Japan with the intention of starting fires especially in the forests of this country. It had landed in open range about 8 miles southwest of Echo and three miles east of the Saylor Buttercreek Ranch. The men tied the balloon to a fence, but a breeze came up causing it to drift, so they threw a hay hook at the bag to deflate it.

I saw it from a distance, but it was on the ground when I arrived," Saylor told Eardley. "The balloon was 35 feet tall and 20 feet in diameter and tan color. A network of quarter-inch rope attached the basket and in the basket was a black box that looked like a storage battery. To this box was fastened a sand ballast weight about 12 inches long by three inches in diameter and a bomb about 18 inches by three inches. The bomb was designed to explode on impact and start a fire. Fortunately, this one malfunctioned. Saylor said that guards from the Pendleton Air Base guarded the balloon until a bomb squad arrived from Fort Lewis to remove it. Saylor said the Army was glad to get the balloon as it was the first intact one they had found at that time, so they planned to study it." "This bomb is in the Smithsonian Institute." (confirmed January 2013).

A letter from the Smithsonian references a text that discusses the Echo bomb: *"I assume you were able to access the complete text and illustrations of Japan' World War II Balloon Bomb Attacks on North America by*

Robert C Mikesh. The reference you mentioned comes from this Smithsonian publication. Tom Crouch, Senior Curator in the Aeronautics Division informs me the Japanese Fugo balloon bomb mechanism is now on display in a special case in the lighter-than-air section of the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center (A19480198000). It was recovered from the area around Echo, Oregon on March 13, 1945, and delivered to the Smithsonian in October 1945. We do not have any details as to precisely where it was found or under what circumstances. If you have any additional information in that regard, we would very much appreciate a note informing us of those details. Attached is a picture of the object as it appears in the display. The valve for this balloon is also on display."



After posting information on this balloon on the city's Facebook page, Andy Saylor, grandson of Ralph Saylor, provided the following information from his father Lowell Saylor *"I do remember when it happened as I was about 7. It was very visible from the ranch as it landed part way up the butte [Service Buttes] SE of the ranch. Gaylord Madison also went out to it and Dad (Ralph) said he kicked it. He was lucky it didn't explode. It was quickly hushed up and we really didn't know what they were until after the war ended."*

Charlie Daly also remembers the recovery of the bomb. He said when Mary Madison Ansell got on the school bus at the Junction (207 & Echo Road) following the landing, she had a large piece of the balloon which she said one of the Army guys gave her. She gave a piece to Daly who had it for many years.