

September 2019

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## **National Night Out**





Echo's thirteenth National Night Out, held downtown on the beautiful summer evening of August 13, was a great success. Over 130 people enjoyed local watermelon and cantaloupe, as well as hot dogs and hamburgers grilled up by Officer Wright and Chief and Julie Zumwalt. According to Dave Slaght, City Administrator, by the end of the evening, there was no leftover food! In addition to the dinner, attendees enjoyed family fun, such as games, a bike rodeo for the kids, and some good old-fashioned visiting.

A highlight of the night was the awarding of the Good Neighbor Award to Jessie Holben, a hometown gal who quietly volunteers a lot of hours helping around town. You may have seen her watering the flowers around City Hall. Said Jessie, "I show up for my first National Night Out and this happened." That's baby Elise that she's holding in the photo, who, along with older sister Julia are our newest volunteer trainees.

## Meet Our City Hall Custodian

Hi! My name is Kris Wagner. Twelve years ago, my husband and I were looking for a place to live. One day, Rod drove through town then came to me and told me about Echo and how it felt like home. We found a house, and to this day, when we come down the hill, Echo is still home.

I started working at City Hall as a janitor about three years ago. I like the people I work around and the folks who live in our community. Our children are grown and have kids of their own. They enjoy coming to Echo to visit.



### Summer Reading Program Returns to Earth





At a final ceremony held in the community room on August 9, 2019, summer reading program participants celebrated "A Universe of Stories". And there was good reason to celebrate! Twenty-six children participated in the program, and, over the course of the summer, read 1,286 books! Cake and punch were served, and all readers received a certificate and gift bag. In addition, Alexa Rose was recognized for her community service. She's been Mrs. Nelson's library assistant since 2016 and has logged 660 hours of volunteer time. We love our volunteers!

#### Retirement

On August 30, Laurie Nelson retired as Echo Librarian and City Support Staff. She and her husband Frank are looking forward to taking trips to visit their 5 children, 8 grandchildren and one greatgrandchild in Buckley and Kalama, Washington, as well as The Dalles, Oregon. At home in Echo, they are finishing installing new floors and painting. They will continue conducting Sunday Services at Regency and participating at the Old Time Fiddlers gatherings twice a month at Avemere. Laurie is planning some fall gardening and getting back to her quilting projects and rejoining a yoga group. She says she has enjoyed seeing all the Echo folks at the Library/City Hall and will miss the children that are learning to love books.



Our hardworking Public Works Department recently tackled the sink hole at the intersection of West Main and Dupont.

Justin and Ken: 1 Sinkhole: 0

# A Big Thank You to Our Community Donors!

Library Jonnie Moreno

2 books

National Night Out

A hearty thanks to the Stanfield Police Department and all the individual donors!

# **Community Calendar**

September 17 Garden Club at the Fire Hall. 6 p.m. Hosted by Jeanie Hampton and Judy Webb

September 19 City Council meeting, 4 p.m., VFW Hall

September 20 Taters and Trivia, 5:30 p.m., Buttercreek Coffeehouse

September 21 Echo Sage Trail Run, 9:00 a.m. at Sno Road Vineyard

September 25 Chester's Food Pantry, Masonic Lodge, 3:30 p.m.

September 28 Music by Chrome Molly at Echo Ridge Winery

September 29 Echo Corn Maze opens at 11 a.m.

#### Save the Date!

Community Volunteer Group Meeting

October 2

October 19

Kiwanis Oktoberfest

Want us to include your community happening or new business on the next Community Calendar? Send your event info to buttercreek10@gmail.com and we'll include it.

### Dave's Updates or "UpDaves"

The City of Echo is currently implementing a new financial-tracking system.

Current grant applications in-process: Readyto-Read for the public library's 2020 summer reading program.

#### Ideas and Volunteers Wanted

Greetings Dear Community Members:

As you may or may not know, our city has some great spaces that are underutilized, like our two parks and the upstairs of city hall. Some ideas I've heard for using those spaces are: bingo once a moth, yoga class weekly, tot time, and book clubs for adults and youth. In order for this to happen, a group of volunteers to help facilitate activities and maintain community spaces is needed.

If you are interested in doing this please contact Jessie Holben at Jessicaholben@yahoo.com. An organizational meeting will be held on September 4th at 6 p.m. at the Buttercreek Coffee House. If you are not able to make the meeting, please email Jessie your ideas so she can share them. Thank you.

### Your City Officials

Jeannie Hampton Jerry Gaunt

Mayor

Janie Enright Robert Harris Chad Ray Tammie Williams Council President Councilperson Councilperson Councilperson Councilperson

Dick Yoder Councilperson