

**REEDSPORT MUNICIPAL COURT MOVES TO WEDNESDAYS (1st & 3rd weds. of each month) AT 1:30.**

**BEGINNING 01-02-13**

# EMPLOYEE of the MONTH

**NOVEMBER 2012**



**THOMAS BECK**

for honorably serving the City of Reedsport for fifteen years.

**DECEMBER 2012**



**VERA KOCH**

for exemplary service as Interim City Manager from July-October and honorable representation of the City in recent legal matters.

## WINTER FIRE SAFETY

Winter is upon us. With plenty more cold days on the way, Reedsport Fire Chief, Tom Anderson, urges citizens, that any time is a good time to have chimneys, fireplaces, and woodstoves inspected and cleaned. This can prevent fires.

Here are a few safety tips to remember when heating your home this Winter:

- Have chimneys, flues, fireplaces, and woodstoves inspected and cleaned each year by a qualified chimney sweep. Ask them to check for creosote deposits, soot build-up and physical damage.
- Always use a fireplace screen made of sturdy metal or heat-tempered glass to prevent sparks from escaping.
- Keep a clutter-free environment, allowing at least 3 ft from any heat source.
- Dispose of ashes in a metal container and place the container outdoors at least 3 ft from anything flammable. Ashes may retain heat for days after they appear out.
- When using portable heaters, make sure they have an automatic tip-over switch and a high temperature limit switch.
- Give heaters at least 3 ft of space between it and combustibles such as furniture, curtains, papers and people.
- Check the cord on portable electric heaters. If it gets hot or is frayed or cracked, have the heater serviced.
- Never use extension cords with portable electric heaters. It can overload the circuit and cause a fire.
- Unplug heaters when not in use and before going to bed.
- Be aware of electric baseboard or wall heaters. These heaters are thermostatically controlled and turn on without warning when temperatures drop.
- If using a propane-fueled heater, or other appliance make sure it is designed for indoor use. Follow all manufacturer's instructions and make sure it is properly vented.
- If you smell gas, do not operate any switches, appliances or thermostats. A spark from one of these could ignite the gas vapor. Get everyone outside and away from the building. Shut off the gas supply. Call your propane supplier from a neighbor's phone.
- Only use kerosene heaters outdoors as they may emit poisonous fumes.
- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, outside each sleeping area and inside each bedroom.
- Test the alarms monthly.
- Never disconnect or remove smoke alarm batteries for other uses.
- Make a home escape plan and practice it with your whole family at least twice a year.



**We wish you a happy, safe Holiday! From, the Reedsport Volunteer Fire Department**

### SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES MORATORIUM

**System Development Charges-Definition: charges assessed on commercial, industrial, and residential developments to fund a portion of the cost of public improvements to sewer, water and stormwater facilities**

The Reedsport City Council has, again, waived the System Development Charges (SDCs) for new construction projects. This moratorium extends to December 31, 2013. The purpose of the moratorium is to promote investment in our community by offering an economic incentive for development.

Please contact City Hall at 541-271-3603 to see what this could mean for your future plans to build or start a business in Reedsport.



# Welcome! Newly elected City Council members



**KEITH TYMCHUK, Mayor**

Keith Tymchuk has worked 32 years as a High School Teacher at Reedsport Community Charter School. Tymchuk was first elected as Reedsport's Mayor in 2002, serving until 2005. He was then re-elected in 2007 and still currently holds the position. His government experience includes 17 years as a Port of Umpqua Commissioner, Governor's Renewable Energy Working Group, Oregon Solutions Process (2007), Oregon Coastal Zone Management Association, Oregon Mayor's Association, and Governor's South Coast Regional Solutions Team. Tymchuk is also a member of the Oregon Wave Energy Trust Board of Directors and the Territorial Sea Plan Advisory Committee. He was recognized by Oregon Business Magazine as one of "Oregon's 50 Great Leaders."

**Message:** "It remains, as always, a great honor and privilege to represent and serve the people of Reedsport. I hope I will continue to deserve your trust."



**DEEDEE MURPHEY, Councilor**

DeeDee Murphey has worked 27 years in Broadcast Media. Her government experience includes serving on the Reedsport Planning Commission and Urban Renewal District Advisory Board.

**Message:** "Now that the election is over, I think it is time for us all to pull together for the good of our community. We have a wonderful community and have proven time and again that we can all work together when the need arises to help those in need or the school, or the library and these are just a few examples. Now we need to work together to make our city a place where people want to move, not just pass through. Fresh ideas will keep us learning, growing and vital."



**FRANK BARTH, Councilor**

Frank Barth is a Reedsport High School Graduate. He is currently retired from many years of working in the hardware industry. Barth is an avid gardener.

**Message:** "I promise to do the best job for you possible. To help make Reedsport a better community for all of us and for any that may consider making our community their home."



**LINDA MCCOLLUM, Councilor**

Linda McCollum is a retired Sears Personnel Manager. She's an avid bridge player and enjoys needle work.

**Message:** "I want to be part of the team whose goal it is to bring prosperity to Reedsport, to improve the city's appearance and do what we can to make it appealing for businesses to come here and for residents to be proud of the community they live in."

## Water leaks and freezing pipes

The water distribution system delivers water to our homes, businesses, schools, and fire hydrants. The system is mostly underground and is not noticed until a leak is detected or there's no water at your faucet.

The City of Reedsport is responsible for the water main lines, as well as, the service line to your City shut-off valve (usually located at the property line). If you notice a water leak from the City's water main or service lines, please call Reedsport City Hall at 541-271-3603 or the Reedsport Police Department at 541-271-2100, after 5pm. However, if a leak is found to be on the private property side of the shut-off valve, then it is the property owner's responsibility to have the leak repaired.

So, what can you do to safe-guard your home from the upcoming freezing weather? Protect your pipes. During cold weather, water pipes in or under your home may freeze and break, which can cause major property damage. To help avoid this damage, insulate the pipes that pass through unheated areas of your home or business. The use of heating tape can add protection.

Also, if your pipes aren't insulated you may need to leave a small amount of water dripping from your faucet, when temperatures drop. This will help to prevent your pipes from freezing and potentially breaking.

Lastly, all homes have, or should have, according to the Reedsport Municipal Code, their own shut-off. In most cases, it is located just outside the foundation, where the water line enters underneath. If your house has a crawl space, the shut-off valve may be right inside. Its important to know where this is and how to shut it off in the case of an emergency. If you are unable to locate your shut-off or don't yet have one, the City of Reedsport charges \$10.00 to turn the water off and \$10.00 to turn the water back on at the City's valve.

# CONTACT US

City Hall | (541) 271-3603 | Monday-Friday from 9am to 5pm | [www.cityofreedsport.org](http://www.cityofreedsport.org)

Police Department | (541) 271-2100 | Sunday-Saturday 24hrs/day

Fire Department | (541) 271-2423 | Monday-Friday from 8am to noon

Umpqua Discovery Center | (541) 271-4816 | Mon-Sat: Summer hours are 9:30am-5pm, Winter hours are 10am-4pm (Sunday 11am-4pm all year)

# UMPQUA DISCOVERY CENTER

"Dear Friends,

My family (kids and grandkids) passed through last week and the kids melted down and I did not get a real chance to explore your place, but at the urging of the lady in charge, I ran through it and was really and truly overwhelmed with what you have done. You have a really terrific exhibit, probably the best I have seen. In fact, I am on the board of the San Diego Natural History Museum and I wish I could get some of them up to see what you have done. I was just overwhelmed.

But I am worried that you might not get as many visitors as you need to be solvent. I found you searching for an old logging museum I remembered from long ago so my visit was strictly an accident. Do you get enough visitors to make ends meet? Have you had any publicity with travel publications such as Sunset? Whoever did the wonderful art work and the exhibit designer and naturalists who put that together should be famous.

Anyway, I wanted to thank you for maintaining such a wonderful center. You folks are amazing.

Paul Dayton,  
San Diego Natural History Museum"

Bring friends and family this holiday season to discover the natural and cultural history of Tidewater country. Memberships are great gifts that give all year long and are a great way to show your support. Stop by to check out the unique and educational items in the Gift Shop.

## BECOME INVOLVED! 2013 COMMITTEE VACANCIES

**Budget Committee:** 3 year term, 2 vacancies

**City Parks Committee:** 3 year term, 2 vacancies

**Dangerous Building Abatement:** 3 year term, 6 vacancies

**Reedsport Branch Library:** 4 year term, 2 vacancies

**Planning Commission:** 4 year term, 3 vacancies

**Umpqua Steering Committee:** 3 year term, 2 vacancies

**Urban Renewal Advisory Board:** 4 year term, 3 vacancies

**Also accepting applications for:** the Adopt-a-Park & Dial-a-Ride programs, the Umpqua Discovery Center, and the Reedsport Animal Shelter

Applications are available at Reedsport City Hall and online at [www.cityofreedsport.org](http://www.cityofreedsport.org)

For further information please contact Deanna Schafer at 541-271-1989.

Applications will be accepted until positions are filled.

## MEETINGS CALENDAR

### CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS:

January 7th

February 4th

March 4th

7pm in the City Council Chambers

### PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS:

January 28th

February 25th

March 25th

7pm in the City Council Chambers

### NOTICE TO HOMEOWNERS

The City has been inundated by questions from Reedsport residents who received letters from a business called HomeServe USA. The company states that they will provide "exterior water service line" insurance for homeowners. The most common questions from residents are; "why doesn't the City cover the waterlines" and "how do I get off the mailing list." The City will repair all City waterlines up to the shutoff valve located next to the street. From the valve up to the structure or dwelling is the ownership and responsibility of the property owner. If a home owner wishes to check on coverage for exterior waterlines, a call to the property owner's insurance policy provider would be the best place to start. To be removed from HomeServe's mailing list you need to call 1-888-752-6740 go to prompt No. 3 and tell the operator you would like to be removed from their mailing list. For any other questions feel free to contact City Hall.

## NEW! ADOPT-A-PARK PROGRAM

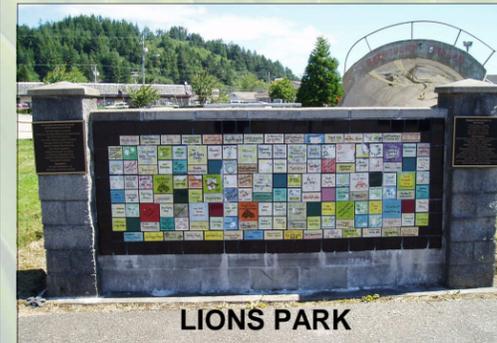
Want to give back to the community by helping to keep Reedsport parks and landscaped areas clean and beautiful? Then the Reedsport Parks & Beautification Committee's Adopt-a-Park program is a way to do just that.

Businesses, organizations, youth groups, families, and individuals can

adopt a park or landscaped area to remove litter, pull weeds, prune shrubs/trees/plants, or mow lawns. You decide how often you can commit to this - from once a month to once a year. Just complete the volunteer application available at City Hall or on the City website and return it to Deanna Schafer. You will be

contacted to go over the program details.

Acknowledgment will be made in the local media when you start your work and, after a year of service, a sign will be posted at your adopted area identifying your group as an adopter. Let's keep Reedsport looking good!



LIONS PARK



THE TRIANGLE



CHAMPION PARK

## CONFLUENCE 2013 WINE, BEER, SEA FOOD, & MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Reedsport/Winchester Bay Chamber of Commerce invites you to Confluence 2013.

**Location:** Reedsport Community Center, 451 Winchester Ave

**Dates & times:** Saturday, February 16, 2013 from 4-10pm and Sunday, February 17, 2013 from 12-10pm

**Prices:** Daily-\$10/\$9 (senior), Weekend pass-\$16/\$14 (sr.)

**Bands from Oregon & Washington—Oregon wineries & micro-breweries—tastings and sales—Bus service available.**

For more information contact the Chamber of Commerce at 541-271-3495.



STORMY WINTER SAND BAGS FOR SALE

The City of Reedsport will again be selling sand bags, throughout the stormy winter season, at-cost (26 cents each) to any citizen or business owner who wants to make preparations for possible short term flooding on their property.

The City of Reedsport keeps a supply of sand located at Rainbow Plaza (behind the Steam Donkey). Any person who needs to fill sand bags can use this sand for that purpose. Persons interested in taking advantage of this program should come to the Reedsport City Hall during normal hours of operation, MON-FRI (9am-5pm).

Persons needing sandbags for after hour emergencies can get them from the Reedsport Police Department.

## The rain and cold weather are here...

This time of year, with the leaves and rain falling, the Public Works Department is keeping busy cleaning storm water catch basins and sweeping streets to keep the leaves that are falling from plugging catch basins and storm water pipes. Plugged catch basins will cause ponding or localized flooding, which may flood the street or your property.

When you rake up the leaves from your yard, be careful where you place them. Leaves placed over or near catch basins will cause problems. By keeping your pile away from catch basins, you'll be helping to reduce the chance of flooding in your neighborhood. So, take a little extra time when raking your leaves to be a good neighbor.

