

City Hall News April 2021



BLUE BAG BRIGADE UPDATE

The Blue Bag Brigade is alive and well in Gold Hill! The response from all of you has been tremendous! Christmas in Gold Hill is looking merrier and brighter already!

Remember you can **drop off and pickup** Blue Bags at Gold Hill City Hall.
Keep those Blue Bags coming!!

Spring is in the air! If you haven't taken a walk through the sports park lately, you definitely should. Tony and Shannon have been hard at work, along with the Parks Committee and a grant from ODF. The blackberries along the bike trail have been coming out, and it looks amazing! Blackberries are also being removed from the beach park, so don't just limit your walk to the sports park. Stay tuned for more park improvements coming soon!



MEETING NOTICES: ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ONLINE UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. LINK TO THE MEETINGS FROM OUR CITY WEBSITE, WWW.CITYOFGOLDHILL.COM

- **City Council Meeting – Monday, April 5th at 6:00 pm**
- Parks Committee – Wednesday, April 7th at 3:00 pm
- **Budget Committee – Monday, April 12th at 6:00 pm**
- **If you'd like an announcement posted either in this newsletter or on the city website, please submit it by the 25th of the preceding month.**

Notes from our Community Partners

What if the bells rang and nobody came?

Nationwide, the fire service remains a largely volunteer organization. Many communities attempt to augment dwindling numbers with paid on call or career members. Often, this is at a budgetary tradeoff and can reduce the ability to fund needed apparatus and equipment upgrades.

Fire District 3 is a combination department, meaning it has both full time career firefighters and volunteers. The District relies on volunteers to expand the response capabilities within the rural environments. The stations in outlying areas of the District, Dodge Bridge, Sams Valley, Gold Hill and Agate Lake are all staffed by community volunteers. Additionally, the Upper Rogue communities of Shady Cove, Lake Creek, Butte Falls, and Prospect require the engagement of volunteers to ensure that the fire engine rolls out the door when the alarm sounds.

The face of the volunteer is different today. The emphasis is not to train everyone to crawl into a burning building. Actually, this is one of the more removed skills that your local fire department seeks. Volunteers are needed to drive water tenders, respond to medical emergencies, provide public education, serve on boards, budget committees or auxiliaries and simply provide assistance and support in postfire environments.

The fire service is not the only entity feeling the effects of reduced volunteerism. Many of the missions within our communities are largely dependent on the efforts of volunteers. Our youth sports, senior organizations, grange halls, community clubs and boosters are all experiencing recruitment / retention challenges. They need your help.

If you have a few hours to give, a special skill set, or even feel a tug to social responsibility, please reach out to one of the various service organizations within your community or your city service providers to see where you can contribute and improve the quality of life with your community.

If you would like to learn more about how you can help your local fire department, please call 541-826-7100.

Mike Hussey
FD3 Deputy Chief of Operations

Avista reminds you safe digging is no accident; call 811 before you dig

Before beginning any outdoor digging project, call 811 at least two business days before you dig. Calling 811 will get a professional locator to your site to mark the approximate location of underground utility lines. There is a two-foot tolerance zone on each side of the line, and it is required to hand dig to determine the precise location of the utility in this tolerance zone. This service is free. Remember, you may have your own utilities that require a Private Locate request at 811.

Knowing where underground utility lines are buried before you dig will help protect you from injury, prevent damages to utilities and service disruptions, and avoid potential fines and repair costs. Underground utility lines can be just about anywhere, so keeping your shovel in the shed or garage and calling 811 first is a smart move (and it's the law).

Every digging job requires a call — even small projects like planting trees and shrubs. The depth of utility lines varies and there may be multiple utility lines in a common area. Here are just a few examples of when to call:

- Installing a rural mailbox
- Putting in a fence
- Planting a tree or shrubbery
- Building a patio or deck
- Excavating a new garden area

Call 811 or go to www.digsafelyoregon.com