



The City Newsletter

March 2012

Welcome to the
CITY OF JEROME

www.ci.jerome.id.us

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City Council

Council meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm at Council Chambers, located at 100 East Ave A, Jerome, ID 83338

Council Meets:

- March 6th
- March 20th

For a copy of the most recent agenda, visit our website or email: sfraser@ci.jerome.id.us

IDAHO GOP CAUCUS TO BE HELD MARCH 6

Idaho has traditionally held a Primary Election in the month of May. Voters select a candidate of their political party who then go onto the general election in November to battle it out with the opposing party. This includes all county, district, state and federal offices. For the Republican Party the nominee for the presidential race was also decided in the primary whereas the Democratic Party held a caucus for their presidential nominee.

The Idaho Republican Party has decided to go to a caucus system. The Idaho Republican Presidential Nomination Caucus will be for the presidential nomination only. The caucus will not change the timing or the process of the primaries for all other offices. These will still be decided in May. The republican presidential caucus will be held on Tuesday March 6th, also known as Super Tuesday due to twenty-three other states also holding caucuses and primaries on that day. The Democratic Party will hold their caucus on Saturday April 14th.

The Jerome County Republican Presidential Caucus will be held at the Jerome High School. Registration and seating will be conducted between 5:30 pm and 7:00 pm. Everyone in line at 7:00 pm will be allowed to participate in the voting. The voting will be conducted by secret ballot and take place in successive rounds. Each round, the low vote-getters are eliminated. Voting ends when one candidate receives a simple majority of 50% plus one or only two candidates remain and the final vote is taken. A photo ID is required for voter registration if you are not already registered. The process may take up to a few hours, but regardless of what you may have read or heard you can leave at anytime.

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2012 Presidential Caucus

CITY COUNCIL TO REVISE UTILITY ORDINANCE

The Mayor and City Council have met and discussed in recent City Council meetings their desire to place utility service agreements between the City and all real property owners. A draft ordinance to this end addressing the water section of City Code was presented at the February 7th, 2012 Council meeting, with sewer and sanitation sections being worked on currently by the City Attorney.

It is anticipated that upon final draft ordinances being completed, public comments during the first reading will be permitted. Notifications will be sent in advance as well to involved parties making known any potential changes.

During the course of Council discussions, the following are some of the reasons used in favor of the changes:

Reduces the majority of City delinquent amounts sent to collections which have historically been for landlord owned properties.

Gives all property owners authority to make changes and conduct business as they see fit such as having the ability to turn water on/off.

City mailings would be reduced as we would bulk mail all property owners vs. individually (for separate tenant accounts). This would cut back on postage and prep time for printing and mailings.

The City would reduce the amount of termination notices being mailed. Currently a termination notice is sent to the renter and a copy is sent to the property owner.

This process would be eliminated and only property owners would receive a termination notice.

With a decrease in termination notices there would result in a reduction in the amount turned off on shut off day. As a result this would decrease the amount of wear and tear on the City's equipment, which reduces maintenance costs. This also frees up man power that is pulled from other projects to help complete shut off day in a timely manner. The City currently uses anywhere from 4-6 Waterworks and Wastewater employees to complete shut off.

General Reminders for our Residents

Alley Trash Pick Up will Resume March 19

PSI will resume alley pick up of all trash carts on March 19. After this date, PSI will not pick up any trash can that are left in the street. Please remind any neighbors or friends who may be effected by this change. Questions? Call 324-8189

Trash Can/Cart Removal

As a reminder, Jerome City Ordinance requires all residents and businesses to remove their trash cans/carts from the street within 24 hours of garbage pick up. This makes the streets a safer place to drive and improves neighborhood aesthetics.

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

EMAIL ENews@ci.jerome.id.us OR CALL 208-324-8189

WWW.CI.JEROME.ID.US

www.ci.jerome.id.us

eAUDIOBOOKS AT THE JEROME PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Jerome Public Library is excited to offer over 10,000 best-selling books in audio format to listen to on your computers and transfer them to a portable listening device such as an iPod or MP3 player. All you need is your library card and a computer with an internet connection. They are available for both Mac and PC and in MP3 and WMA formats.



including fiction and nonfiction, adult and children, and in all genres. You can search for a specific book or browse the popular or newly added titles. If you'd rather listen on CD's, you can find over 500 titles at the library.

Information about the library and audio books is easy to find through the City of Jerome web site at www.ci.jerome.id.us, click on City Government and select Library. On the Library page, scroll down to eAudiobooks. Browse from home or bring your laptop down to the library and use their free wi-fi. The friendly library staff is eager to help. For any questions, please call the library at 324-5427.



You can download up to 10 titles at a time for up to 21 days each. Each title is automatically returned after 21 days (no late fees!) and can be returned early as well. The OneClickdigital service offers all kinds of audio books

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR 2012



As 2011 closes and 2012 begins in earnest, the Ready Campaign is reminding Americans to Resolve to be Ready in 2012. As 2011 - one of the most active years for

disasters in recent history begins to fade in memory - the Federal Emergency Management Agency is encouraging all Americans to Resolve to be Ready by resolving to be prepared for emergencies. Let us look forward to spring and a safe summer by PREPARING NOW!

As a recent report by the National Climatic Data Center highlights, 2011 has seen more billion-dollar natural disasters than any year on record. This year alone, the U.S. experienced its first hurricane landfall since 2008, the most deadly series of tornadoes since the 1950s, significant earthquakes and severe flooding - hazards that impacted every region of the country. All of these events have served as important reminders that disasters can strike anytime, anywhere, and being prepared is one of the most effective things we can do to protect our homes, businesses and loved ones.

"One of the most important lessons we can take away from this year is that disasters can impact all of us, no matter what part of the country we live in," said FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate. "While we can't control where or when they might hit, we can take steps in advance to prepare for them - efforts that can go a long way toward protecting our families, homes and business. Resolving to be Ready in 2012 could be the most important pledge you make this year."

By making a resolution to take a few simple steps in advance, Americans can minimize the impact of an emergency on their families, homes or businesses. To take the pledge, visit www.ready.gov/resolve or www.listo.gov, which includes free information, checklists, and guidelines about how to put together a kit, make a plan, and stay informed. Contact Jerome County Office of Emergency Management at cblackwood@co.jerome.id.us, or call 324-9261 for more information about local training opportunities and activities.



IRRIGATION SEASON SOON TO BEGIN

The irrigation crew has been working diligently all winter on cleaning and repairing the ditches, pipes, and irrigation access boxes. The new assessments will be mailed out on March 1 and due by April 1. The Board of Corrections will meet on March 20. Any citizen who has questions or concerns regarding their assessment, must be in attendance. Any changes after the board meets will not be considered until the 2013 irrigation season. This could include citizens requesting access to irrigation who aren't currently assessed, citizens currently being assessed the minimum assessment and requesting full access, and other concerns. These requests brought after the Board of Corrections has met must be budgeted in the new fiscal year budget process and therefore will not be considered until the new 2013 Irrigation Season.

In accordance with I.C. 50-1807, the Mayor and Council must meet as a Board of Corrections no later than the 20th day of March to make changes to the 2012 assessment roll that conforms to the facts. Changes should be made, for example, only when an error in square footage exists, if the property owner does not have access, or if ownership has changed. The city is responsible for delivering water to properties within the system. Owners are responsible for delivery devices.

Senior Center Events!

• Pool Tournament

Come join the Jerome Senior Center for an exciting night of competition. We will be hosting an 8-ball Double Elimination Pool Tournament Friday March 16th starting at 5:00 pm. Prizes will be awarded for the top three teams. Dinner and refreshments will be provided. The cost is \$5.00 For more information or to register please contact Kris Shelton at 324-5642. All registrations and entry fees must be received by March 9th. You can mail your check to 520 North Lincoln, Jerome, Idaho 83338

• Italian Bake Off Night

The Jerome Senior Center will be hosting an Italian Bake Off Friday March 16th at 6:00 pm. Come sample the culinary delights from Italy. Pick your favorite dishes for a chance for your favorite Chefs to win great prizes. Salad, Garlic Bread and beverages will also be served. The cost is \$5.00. To enter your prize winning recipe or for more information please contact Kris Shelton at 324-5642. All proceeds will go to support the Home Delivered Meal Program.

• Let's Make Jewelry!

Learn how to make beautiful beaded bracelets for yourself, as a unique handmade gift or to sell. Forever Chic Jewelry will be presenting a class on March 21st at 1:00 pm at the Jerome Senior Center. Come join us for an afternoon of fun as the instructor teaches everyone how to make wired or stretchy bracelets. All materials and beads will be provided and you get to keep your original design. The cost is \$7.00 and \$1.00 for each additional strand. Please pre-register for this class by contacting Kris Shelton at 324-5642.

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT: TIME FOR A GOOD BOOK!



The perfect "curl up with a good book" weather has arrived. The library has a selected stack of books for the Let's Talk About It program. This year's theme is "Living in the Modern Rural West". The featured writers have a variety of perspectives on rural life. Writers range in location from Washington, to Idaho, to Montana and present a realistic portrait of today's West. Book discussions will be led by scholars from CSI and ISU.

The program will be held at the library on Thursday evenings at 6:00. The first discussion is scheduled for Thursday, March 8th. The books for this book discussion are available for checkout at the library. Mark your calendar and don't be left out in the cold. Join us for refreshments and a lively discussion.

March 8

Bitterbrush Country: Living on the Edge of the Land by Diane Josephy Peavey. Speaker:

Kim Madsen, Asst. Prof. of English, CSI.

March 29

In the Wilderness: Coming of Age in an Unknown Country by Kim Barnes. Speaker: Steven Hall, Doctoral Student, ISU.

April 12

The Sky Fisherman by Craig Lesley. Speaker: Clark Draney, Prof. of English, CSI.

May 3

Traplins: Coming Home to the Sawtooth Valley by John Rember. Speaker: Shelley McEuen, Assoc. Prof. of English, CSI.

May 17

Winter Range by Claire Davis. Speaker: Kim Madsen, Asst. Prof. of English, CSI.

Let's Talk About It is made possible by the Idaho Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, a generous gift from U.S. Bank, and administered by the Idaho Commission for Libraries.

PUBLIC WORKS AND WATER WORKS COMBINE DEPARTMENTS

Recently the Water, Irrigation, and Infrastructure programs were combined with the Public Works Department, becoming the largest department in the City of Jerome. The transition has been smooth while the employees and supervisors working to ensure the reorganization continues to go well.

The cleanup on 16th Avenue, resulting from the torrential rains/snows of January, is proceeding at a steady pace on a "clean by request" basis throughout the remainder of the winter months. To prevent unnecessary flooding, the Public Works is working on the storm drain at Tiger and 16th to assist in future flood situations. If you have any questions concerning flooding in Jerome, please call the Public Works Department at 324-9669.



The Water Department crew is currently exercising the main water line valves throughout Jerome. In addition, they will be installing pressure reducing valves on the main water lines on So. Lincoln. This project

will require approximately three to six months for completion.

The Public Works Department is planning on a busy year with a reconstruction project planned for Nez Perce, Yakima, chip sealing, and several other major projects. As city crews work on these projects, please be patient and mindful of their safety. If you have any questions, please call 324-9669.

ANNUAL SAFETY FESTIVAL AT CSI

Safety Fest of the Great Northwest Twin Falls, Idaho



College of Southern Idaho (CSI)
Health Sciences & Human Services Building
315 Falls Ave, Twin Falls, Idaho

March 27—30, 2012
Cost: FREE

Register at <http://safetyfest.csi.edu>
Register by March 14, 2012

Hosted By:

- College of Southern Idaho
- URS Corporation
- Occupational Safety & Health Administration—Boise Area Office
- Idaho Small Business Development Center—IV/CSI
- College of Southern Idaho Community Education

Questions?

Contact Gary Dewey, (208) 420-0607, gdewey@csi.edu

IDAHO GOP CAUCUS MARCH TO BE HELD ON 6TH

The caucus allows communities to come together, to enjoy an evening of comradery coupled with civic opportunity. This is Idaho's chance to make a difference in the presidential nomination process. Where before Iowa and New Hampshire have carried the weight, it's time for Idaho's voice to be heard!

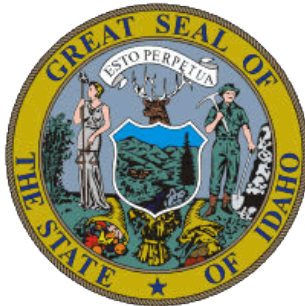


Photo: Idaho Milk Products (IMP) in Jerome is one of the city's major employers with over 100 employees and is a valuable community partner. Their sophisticated facility is one of the only of its kind in the nation.



PRESSURIZED IRRIGATION PROPOSED FOR JEROME

The City Council recently partnered with the Northside Soil and Water Conservation agency to examine the feasibility of installing a pressurized irrigation system throughout Jerome. The system would replace the current flood irrigation system in the older parts of Jerome and in some of the newer subdivisions that were built without pressurized irrigation.

Under a pressurized irrigation system, residents would be able to connect their lawn sprinkler system to irrigation water, instead of city water. This saves hundreds of dollars in water charges over the course of a single watering season, depending on the usage and saturation. In addition, irrigation water would not be metered like city water, but paid for in the usual annual irrigation assessment.

On March 12, the City Council is holding a workshop with the engineering firm commissioned to complete the study, SPF Engineers, to discuss the most cost effective and efficient method for building a pressurized irrigation system. The public is welcome to attend the meeting.

If you are in favor or opposed of pressurized irrigation, please let us know your opinion. To submit your comments, email enews@ci.jerome.id.us or call 208-324-8189.



Jerome Recreation District

Upcoming Events for March:

Youth Soccer Registration

- Now thru March 26
- 4 years old thru 6th grade
- Must be 4 years old on or before April 14
- \$15 in district
- \$25 out of district
- Games scheduled to begin April 14
- Play on Saturday mornings
- 4 week season

T-Ball and Coach Pitch Registration

- March 5 – April 16
- \$17 in district
- \$27 out of district
- 6 week season
- T-Ball - 5 & 6 years olds — games on Monday evenings
- Coach Pitch - 7 & 8 years olds -- games on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings
- Ages determined as of first game - May 14

Adult Co-ed Softball Registration

- Returning Teams March 5 - April 16
- New Teams March 19 – April 16
- Lower and Upper Leagues
- Leagues limited to 6 teams per league
- \$225 Team Fee plus \$50 substitution fee
- Player Fees - \$25 in district/\$30 out of district
- Play on Thursday nights

March Kids Fun Nights

- March 2, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm, Kids Fitness Night!
- March 17, 7:00 pm-9:00 pm
- Crafts, Games, and a snack
- \$3 per child or free with “plus” memberships

March 17 – Movie Night

- Movie to be determined later
- Movie and snack
- \$3 per child or free with “plus” upgrades
- 3 per child or free with “plus” upgrades – change upgrades to memberships

Check our website for the latest information:

www.jeromerecreationdistrict.com

Library Events in March

PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN:

- Storytime every Friday at 10 am and 1 pm
- Children’s Game Day every Tuesday at 3 pm
- Movie Day every Friday at 3 pm
- Mad Scientist Day: March 27 at 3:00 pm



PROGRAMS FOR TEENS:

- Teen Gaming every Thursday at 3:30 pm
- Youth Advisory Council Wednesday Feb. 22 at 4 pm
- Teen Tech Week (TTW): Geek Out @ Your Library: March 6-10
 - TTW Events: Thursday March 8- Mario Smash Bro. Tournament at 3:30pm
 - Thursday March 9- Internet Scavenger Hunt at 3:30pm (Teens must have parents’ permission for computer privileges)

PROGRAMS FOR ADULTS

- Let’s Talk About It book discussions in March
- (see full schedule and details in separate article in this newsletter)
- Thursdays, March 8 and March 29, 6:00pm

PROGRAMS IN SPANISH

- Cuentos Para Niños (Spanish storytime, Wednesdays at 5:00 pm)
- Traiga sus niños de 2 a 5 años a divertirse y aprender, con cuentos, canciones y actividades especiales.
- Los Miércoles a las 5:00 p.m.
- Para mas información llame al 324-5427. Pregunte por Silvia.

CLASES BASICAL DE COMPUTACION

- (Basic computer classes taught in Spanish, Thursday evenings 5:45pm -6:30 pm)
- Las clases se darán los Jueves de 5:45 - 6:30pm
- Venga hoy a restrarse of llámenos 324-5427 y pregunta por Silvia.

MARCH ISSUE STAFF WRITERS



Sonny Henry has worked for the City of Jerome for almost seven years in the Building Department. He reported on the Public Works Department.

Jack Krill has worked for the City of Jerome for just over five months as the Deputy Fire Chief. He reported on the Library for this issue.



Gina Jerke has been with the City for over seven years, working in the Utilities Office. She reported on the Irrigation Assessments for this issue.



Darbie Chocker has worked at the Library for almost two years. She reported on the Police Department for this issue.

Micah Austin, Community Development Director, edits and compiles the monthly e-Newsletter