



CHAMBERWIRE

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

Published by the Oregon City Chamber

Local schools demonstrate excellence

By Amber Holveck, Executive Director

Business, school and community leaders came together at Clackamas Community College to learn the current condition of our schools. The Oregon City Chamber hosted a State of the Schools luncheon event on November 10 with a focus of better understanding local K–12 education and post-secondary education issues. This forum offered an opportunity for Dr. Roger Rada, Mr. Chuck Clemans, and U.S. Congressman Kurt Schrader to share their unique perspectives on education. An ongoing partnership between our schools and business community must continue so tomorrow's workforce is ready to join our businesses already on the ground or create new businesses.

Despite past budget cuts and the potential for more cuts in the future, the Oregon City School District is posting outstanding scores. Oregon City School's

Superintendent Roger Rada began with, "I am gratified to report that the state of Oregon City Public Schools is strong and vital. Our students earned excellent results on the standardized state tests and that is a major point of pride." Test scores released recently show Oregon

See "Oregon City Schools" on page 4



Dr. Roger Rada answers a question regarding the timing of reported test scores.

The survey says...

By Julie Paulsen, Communications Coord.

I asked you to provide feedback on the *ChamberWire* newsletter and the response was incredible. 102 people completed the online survey. The support and suggestions for taking the newsletter into the new year were highly valuable.

The articles and event calendars were by far the most important/interesting components, which was encouraging to those of us who submit news items. As one respondent stated, "It keeps me informed as to what is going on in the community and keeps me in touch." We will gradually make adjustments to the newsletter's content and design but want to assure you it will remain true to our monthly goal of providing the most informative and valuable newsletter possible.

All of you appreciated our efforts to decrease costs while maintaining an important benefit to our members. 88 percent would choose to receive only an electronic version of the *ChamberWire*. Therefore, the Chamber will be instituting an "opt in" process for those who desire a *print* copy of the newsletter.

I will be sending an email to those who currently receive print copies. Please respond to that email or call to let me know if you want to receive a print copy in the mail or prefer to pick one up at a GMOC or the Chamber office.

90 percent of respondents approved switching to black and white printing to reduce expenses. However, we anticipate continuing with the full color version due to a reduction in the number of copies we print each month.

Thank you everyone for your feedback and congratulations to Stefani Baker of Real Deals on Home Décor, the winner of the drawing for a \$10 gift card.

This could be your last print issue of the *ChamberWire*.

Help carry the torch and Honor Our Champions

By Amber Holveck, Executive Director

Join with other business and community leaders as we carry the torch for Oregon City and *Honor Our Champions*. You are invited to participate in the grandest event hosted by your Oregon City Chamber of Commerce on Saturday, January 30, 2010. Your evening will once again begin with the reception, wine pull, and silent auction at Providence Willamette Falls Community Health Education Center and then you will proceed to the Abernethy Center for the main event. Your invitation to this night of champions will be mailed out soon.

The main event will provide attendees a chef-inspired, plated dinner accompanied by live music, accentuated by the dessert and live auctions, and highlighted by honoring our local champions. The outstanding achievements of our membership and Chamber will be acclaimed throughout the evening.

Just like the world respected Olympics, it takes a great number of people joining together to make our Annual Dinner and Auction a success. Certainly it takes leadership and volunteerism. This gala event will be managed by Carol Pauli of KC's Midway Bar & Grill, who is the Annual Dinner Coordinator. Leading the team of volunteers are our co-chairs Laurel Lukesh of Citizens Bank and Taci Philbrook of Accurate Collections Service. Not everyone in our Chamber is designed to *volunteer* for the Annual Dinner, however our Annual Dinner is designed for everyone to *participate*. These roles you can play are as a dinner ticket holder, a sponsor, an auction donor, and a Wall of Champions supporter.

See "*Honor Our Champions*" on page 4

Board of Directors 2009**Board Chair – Sherrie Henson
Bank of the West****Chair-Elect – Mark Ellingson
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Julie Paulsen, Communications
Coordinator****Paul Haulbrook — Farmers Insurance****9115 SW Oleson Rd #308****Portland, OR 97223****(located near Washington Sq)****Phone: 503-341-5205****E-mail: paulbrook@farmersagent.com****Website: PaulHaulbrook.com**

In 2006, I joined Farmers Insurance Group as a full-time agent, specializing in commercial and personal lines insurance. I started with a goal of utilizing a consultative approach to help clients and prospective clients evaluate their coverage needs. As the business has grown, my wife Jennell joined the agency as a fully-licensed account manager in 2007 so that we can provide a high level of customer service to our clients.

Farmers Insurance Group was founded in Los Angeles, California in 1928. Farmers Insurance Group of Companies is the country's third-largest insurer of both private passenger automobile and homeowners insurance. We also provide a wide range of other insurance and financial service products. Farmers' operates primarily in 41 states across the country servicing more than 15 million customers. The main point of contact for the 15 million customers is not an 800-number or the internet, but through their individual agent. My agency takes the needs of our clients very seriously and believes that having access to your agent is very important, regardless if it is a quote, claim, or request.

Giving back to the community has been a cornerstone of the Farmers brand; the foundation on which our trust and respect securely rests. Farmers supports numerous national, regional, and local programs in our communities across the country. The Haulbrook Insurance Agency continues that legacy that Farmers founders envisioned. We have participated in such endeavors as getting child safety information and supplies to community Head Start programs, talking to groups of students about safe driving through Oregon Impact, and talking about making good insurance choices to foster kids in the Clackamas Independent Living Program.

Before starting the Haulbrook Insurance Agency, I worked for Pendleton Woolen Mills as a logistics coordinator. I have also served our country in the Air Force for four years in Japan and Germany. I graduated from the University of Nevada in 1996 with a BA in Journalism and a minor in Japanese language. After college, I got the opportunity to go back to Japan to teach English and while there obtained my Japanese language proficiency certification. I have lived in Oregon since 1999.

Jennell moved to Portland after obtaining her BA in Psychology from Linfield College in 1998. She then worked for First American Title Insurance Company for five years before working in Lake Oswego as a project coordinator and financial analyst for Bates Private Capital.

Life is uncertain, but great coverage isn't. Let us worry about protecting your assets, so you can work on achieving your dreams.

Chamber Mission Statement

Working together to promote the economic vitality and quality of life in the community of Oregon City.



FROM YOUR CEO

By Amber Holveck

Chamber staffing efficiencies

You may have already heard that the Oregon City Chamber is seeking a new, permanent Office Assistant to care for our front office needs and provide basic office functions. This position will be part-time and in most cases the first point of contact as a visitor walks into the office or calls. This person will work closely with our Chamber's basic accounting functions. We are pleased to work with Worksource Clackamas in the process and are advertising for this position on our website at www.oregoncity.org. This is a good time to remind you, the members, that you can advertise job announcements for free via our website. Just log in as a member and go from there.

A change we are implementing is outsourcing our largest special events (Annual Dinner, Golf Tournament and Antique Fair) to a local independent contractor. I am pleased to share that Carol Pauli of KC's Midway Bar & Grill is filling the role of Annual Dinner Coordinator! Carol is a great asset and I appreciate her willingness to assume this task.

Julie Paulsen will continue as Communications Coordinator, however she will focus on communications and marketing. She will be developing and distributing press releases; developing a membership brochure; managing social networking; updating the website; and, producing the highly regarded newsletter. The most noticeable change will be the new Oregon City magazine, a joint effort between our Chamber and BCT. This magazine will replace the traditional Directory/Community Guide with a fashionable 3x yearly magazine. We hope this shift will produce more proactive outreach to our businesses and community.

As Executive Director, I will carry on in much the same fashion as before. My role requires me to be a "big picture" person. Reaching across the community to our government leaders, school and college leaders, businesses and more is a great deal of my role. I work with our Board and carry forward the plan of work and help see that the Chamber's mission and goals are achieved. It is my job to look for ways to meet our financial responsibilities and grow more services. From time to time I will take on the role of event planner for events like Business at Noon and programs like Leadership Oregon City.



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Chairman's Circle



A new name, but the same faces

It has been a very busy year for us. In late September, we announced that Oregon's attorney general had reviewed and approved the affiliation between Willamette Falls Hospital and Providence Health & Services, leading to our new name: Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center. This transition brings renewed commitment to the excellent health care services our staff has provided the community for over 50 years.

Our employees represent the heart of Providence Willamette Falls, and many of our 850+ staffers have been with us for 20 years or more. With an annual payroll of nearly \$35 million, the hospital is one of the largest employers in Clackamas County. We are certified by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) and licensed for 143 beds.

We continue to grow with the community and look to bring even more services and doctors to our area. Our state-of-the-art, fully digital diagnostic imaging and emergency departments offer some of the most advanced medical technology in Oregon. The two medical office buildings on campus provide convenient office space for many of our 175 active affiliated physicians, surgeons, and health care professionals. Their specialties run the gamut from orthopedics and spine care, to obstetrics and vascular surgery.

Offsite, our Community Health Education Center offers classes, support groups and meeting space for more than 15,000 people each year. Since 1985, our hospice program has given end-of-life care and comfort to thousands of patients and families in their own homes. Our satellite facilities include physician offices, immediate care clinics, occupational health and a full diagnostic imaging center in Canby.

We deeply value the role of Providence Willamette Falls Medical Foundation and the generosity of the many donors who have helped it to grow. The foundation is a private non-profit organization that supports the hospital by seeking gifts, grants and bequests from the community. The foundation's current campaign supports startup costs of a free clinic that will provide health care to the many uninsured and underinsured members of Clackamas County. For more information about the foundation, call 503-650-6805 or visit www.wfhf.org.

With half a century of service to the region and an eye to the future, Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center is proud to carry on the tradition of providing top quality health care. Our employees, medical staff and volunteers make it a point to exceed the expectations of our patients and visitors at every opportunity.

We'll be here when you need us.

Honoring Our Champions

Continued from page 1

Dinner ticket prices are \$40 each and include the reception hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, plated dinner, live entertainment and the company of champions. Member businesses can carry the torch forward as an event or table sponsor with sponsorships ranging from \$200 (1/2 table Torch Bearer) to \$2000 Platinum Sponsor. Individuals and businesses can contribute to the wine pull, silent auction, live auction, and/or dessert auction. The Wall of Champions is something completely new for us and provides the most affordable way for you to play a role in honoring a local champion. (see related article on page 5)

The Annual Dinner is one of the Chamber's major fundraisers that help us maintain current services and develop new services for you, our members. Our Annual Dinner Committee will be contacting each Chamber member by phone to secure your donation. It would be an incredible help to simply call in or email your donation early. The goal is to reach everyone by December 15. The Chamber is a 501(c)6 non-profit corporation. Donations to the Oregon City Chamber are not tax-deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes, but may be deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses. More information is available on the Chamber website at www.oregoncity.org under the Events heading or you may contact staff at 503-656-1619.

Award nominations requested

Each year the Oregon City Chamber of Commerce is proud to select five award recipients to showcase the top of our Oregon City businesses. Each of us doing business in Oregon City knows at least one deserving nominee in one of the categories and everyone appreciates recognition from time to time. Anyone may nominate a Chamber member/business for any of the below awards and self-nominations are certainly acceptable. The Chamber will utilize an awards task force to review the nominations and make the final selections. All award nominees will receive prior notification and recipients will be announced on Saturday, January 30, 2010.

Award categories include:

- Businessperson of the Year
- Business of the Year
- Chamber Citizen of the Year
- Community Enhancement Award
- Rookie of the Year

A nomination form providing criteria for each category is enclosed in this newsletter and is also available on the Annual Dinner page of our website www.oregoncity.org. A complete list of award recipients for the past three years can be found there as well.

Chamber membership is composed of a variety of businesses from retail, service, multiple employees, sole proprietors, and charitable non-profits. Think outside the box when making your nomination. **All nominations must be postmarked by Thursday, December 31, 2009.**

	<p>Betsy's Pet Sitting Service 503.635.6592 P.O. Box 822 Lake Oswego 97034</p> <p>www.betsypetsittingservice.com email betsy.reis@comcast.net</p> <p>Lake Oswego West Linn Dunthorpe Oregon City</p> <p>Est. 1990 Licensed, Bonded, Insured</p>
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Oregon City Schools

Continued from page 1

City students achieved better than the state averages in every grade on every subject tested. In fact, some of the scores were significantly better than the state averages, especially at the high school level. There is no doubt that the school district has had to make difficult decisions and all staff continues to offer quality education despite the challenging economic environment. Dr. Rada shared that the district may have to undergo painful budgetary cuts should state measures 66 and 67 not pass. Read more at www.orecity.k12.or.us.

Speaking on behalf of Clackamas Community College was Mr. Chuck Clemans who serves on the CCC Board of Education and Foundation Board. Clackamas Community College has three full-service campuses serving our area with Oregon City as the largest. CCC offers classes and programs, as well as opportunities to enjoy theatre, art and music, athletic competition, and many community events. Some of the specific programs highlighted by Mr. Clemans were the popular, new "graveyard" welding courses and the Veterans Affairs Program which helps assist our veterans when they return from active duty. A program significant for businesses is the Small Business Development Center and Customized Training. Lastly, Clackamas Community College has been the recipient of federal funds dedicated to retraining displaced workers and work closely with partners throughout Clackamas County. Read more at www.clackamas.cc.or.us.

U.S. Representative Kurt Schrader who represents the 5th District of Oregon joined our team of presenters to provide perspective from the federal level. Congressman Schrader shared that as a father and an elected official in Oregon he had spent many years working closely with education. The emphasis on education at the federal level is vastly different, however. He recognizes that there are enormous issues lawmakers are dealing with already in Washington, D.C., however there should be some time dedicated to education. One of the greatest areas in which the federal government can make a difference is improving the ease, speed and degree to which adults can seek student aid. Read more at <http://schrader.house.gov>.

The overarching theme from all three speakers was despite tough times, our Oregon City schools have risen to the challenge of providing a quality education.

New Members

Evergreen Home Loans

Mortgages

Tim Hattan

19376 Molalla Avenue, Suite 120

Oregon City, OR 97045

503-594-1415

www.evergreenhomeloans.com

The Caufield House

Restaurants

Maria Bottcher

723 Main Street

Oregon City, OR 97045

503-305-8017

Editor's Note: I apologize for forgetting to include this new member in a previous issue of the ChamberWire

Let's build a Wall of Champions

One of the nicest gifts we can give is the gift of appreciation. Who has not felt a warm glow when they hear how they had a positive impact on another? At Good Morning Oregon City, our members frequently give "kudos" to each other for stellar service or extra effort. The Annual Dinner this year will give Chamber members the opportunity to share kudos with a larger group of people and even put it in writing. Another way for us to Honor Our Champions is with the Wall of Champions.

Anyone associated with the Oregon City Chamber may purchase gold, silver or bronze awards in honor of other businesses or individuals who deserve recognition



as a champion. The awards will be made from heavy-duty quality paper to imitate medallions. The front of the medals will clearly show the champions name in the center of the medallion and the ribbon will display the name of the donor.

The Wall of Champions will be on display for all to see and appreciate during the reception and silent auction at Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center's Community Health Education Center. This also allows people a public opportunity to recognize one another and thus promote relationships within our Chamber. As a commemorative token of the recognition, the recipients may take their awards home with them at the end of the night.

An additional purpose of the Wall of Champions is to give everyone a chance to participate in the Annual Dinner, with prices to participate quite low. Medallion prices are as follows: \$15 Gold, \$10 Silver, and \$ 5 Bronze.

Medallions will be available for purchase between December 1 and January 22 at the Chamber office and Chamber events. Onsite purchases may also be available the night of the event.

Pioneering Partnerships for Our Future

Renewing Members

Members for 5 – 9 Years

Litch Plumbing, Inc.

Members for 1 – 4 Years

AT&T Mobility

Delta Auto Glass Inc

IKON Office Solutions, Inc.

Rotary Club of Oregon City

GOLD CLUB MEMBERS

AJH Financial Services, Inc.

American Travel Bureau

Bank of the West

Café Joli

Community Solutions for Clackamas County

CSA Consulting Engineers

Dex

Exclamation Advertising & Graphic Design, Inc.

Fitness Together

Frager Group—Graham Cole Peterson

Homewoods on the Willamette

Key Carpets LLC

Meier Wealth Management, Inc.

Metro IT

Natural Health Works, PC

Northwest Enforcement Safety Patrol Unit

OfficeMax

Oregon City Evangelical Church

Pacific Medical Group

Pacific Residential Mortgage—Shelley Gale

Paradise Photography Studio

Pop's Golf Shop

Reformation Covenant Church

Rivershore Bar & Grill

smALL FLAGS

The Morrissey Group, LLC

The Sign Guy

The Tutor House

TLC Carpet Cleaning

To Better Health

Trails End Physical Therapy

Dr. Christopher Veley, DMD

Vicki H. Yates, PC

To learn more about the GOLD CLUB and the additional ways you can showcase your business, call your Chamber at 503-656-1619.

Good Oregon City schools are good for Oregon City business

By Jessica Snyder, Stand For Children

In the last several years, Oregon City schools have been achieving test scores well above the state average, implementing innovative new programs, and supporting educators through collaborative professional learning communities. This high quality education, which fosters a qualified work force, is undoubtedly good for the Oregon City business community.

When school districts across the state made huge cuts to programs, school days, and staff, in response to the economic recession last spring, the community rallied together to prevent these cuts from negatively impacting our kids. Teachers are working harder than ever, principals are filling in on recess duty when they are understaffed, parents are volunteering, and local businesses are donating school supplies and even food for students who face tough times.

However, in the special election on January 26, Oregon City schools are at risk of losing an additional 4 million dollars in cuts if measure 66 and 67 do not pass. This could mean 20 schools days or 60 staff members cut in the next two years. We now face the question: will Oregon City's quality public education continue in the face of more vast cuts?

We can't afford to let education in Oregon City fall behind. Our students are the next generation of entrepreneurs, skilled workers, civic leaders, doctors, and scientists. If we are going to be able to compete with countries like China and India—not to mention the other states in the country—we need to protect funding for Oregon City's classrooms.

If measure 66 and 67 do not pass in January, Oregon City children will face even larger class sizes, a shorter school year, and fewer support services. Our kids deserve better. Voting YES on Measures 66 and 67 will ensure that we are continuing to provide a quality education for our students.

Although measure 66 and 67 will mean a small increase in taxes of businesses making over 250,000 dollars a year in profits, and couples making more than 250,000 dollars a year, these taxes will have no impact on 97.5 % of individuals. Furthermore, recent report issued by the nonpartisan Legislative Revenue Office shows that if the tax increases are approved, Oregon's economy will actually be better off than if state government cuts spending by that amount to balance its budget. According to Legislative Revenue Officer Paul Warner, a state government "spending decrease has a larger negative impact on the economy than a tax increase does."

Bad schools equal bad business. Investing in education is key to economic recovery and Oregon's long-term economic health. Every dollar invested in public education returns \$9 to the community. Although these are tough times, our children are the heart of our community. Let's rally together once again to support our students and vote YES on measure 66 and 67.

Editor's Note: this is an op-ed piece provided for your information and does not indicate a Chamber stance on these ballots measures.

Chamber gets connected

By Julie Paulsen

Like all businesses, the Chamber must keep up with technology and trends to stay relevant. We also periodically assess our target markets of existing and prospective members, and how we communicate with them. The Oregon City Chamber is now utilizing the social networking tools Twitter and LinkedIn. We will soon be adding an official FaceBook site as well.

The goal for these tools is to provide another way to let our members know about upcoming events, new and renewing members, and other relevant tidbits of information. We hope you will find what we share worth sharing with others in your social circle.

To follow us on Twitter, simply go to [Twitter.com/oc_chamber](https://twitter.com/oc_chamber). If you are a member of LinkedIn, search for Oregon City Chamber and join our group. Finally, stay tuned for the official FaceBook group. I anticipate having it set up the first week of December and look forward to having you as friends.

As with any new tool, there will be times will I do not handle them as efficiently or effectively as more experienced people. Thank you for bearing with me through any foibles. I hope to keep them to a minimum and appreciate your feedback.

The more networks we utilize for sharing information, the more our Chamber will continue to maintain relevance, grow, and connect businesses with customers.



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Banking on our small businesses

Provided by Jamal Raad, Office of Senator Jeff Merkley

To get lending going again, Senators Jeff Merkley (D-OR) and Barbara Boxer (D-CA) introduced legislation that will assist community banks in extending credit to small businesses and consumers, urging economic growth and assisting in job creation. By allocating existing TARP funds under a new Community Credit Renewal Fund to community banks, the Bank on Our Communities Act will allow those institutions to raise private capital and spur job growth at the local level.

“Small businesses are the engine of job creation, and community banks provide the fuel that keeps that engine going,” Merkley said. “Community banks have been crushed by the financial crisis through no fault of their own, and the Bank on Our Communities Act will give them the access to capital necessary to re-start lending on Main Street.”

“By increasing lending, we will not only help our small businesses grow, we will create jobs,” Boxer said. “This legislation will strengthen community banks so they can get credit flowing again to small businesses and consumers.”

Small businesses rely on community banks for loans, but tight credit markets have made it difficult for these local banks to raise the capital they need. Community banks are critical to small business growth and job creation. In fact, community banks hold 11 percent of total industry assets but make 38 percent of small business and farm loans.

The legislation introduced by Merkley and Boxer will help community banks recapitalize, on the condition that they increase the flow of credit into the economy.

The Bank on Our Communities Act includes four elements:

- **Stress test:** Participating banks would conduct a two-year, forward-looking review to determine, in consultation with their primary regulator, the amount of capital they need to remain well-capitalized during adverse economic conditions and restart small business and consumer lending.
- **Market viability test and government match:** The bank would be required to obtain commitments from private investors for at least one-half of their target recapitalization. Treasury would provide the remainder of the target recapitalization from a new Community Credit Renewal Fund drawn from TARP monies. Treasury would have the option to veto the bank’s request. The bank could request early confirmation of Treasury’s willingness to provide the matching funds.
- **New lending:** Participating banks would be required to generate new credit equal or greater to the amount of capitalization received from the Federal government. By the end of 2010, the bank would be required to increase overall business loans outstanding by at least 5 percent over the lowest level reached in 2009. Additional incentives would be given for banks to increase lending to credit-worthy businesses above the minimum levels required for participation.
- **Limited duration:** Up to \$15 billion would be committed for the Community Credit Renewal Fund, and banks with up to \$5 billion in assets would have nine months to qualify to participate.

Seminars of Interest

The following seminars are brought to you by the Small Business Development Center at the CCC Harmony/OIT Campus, 7736 SE Harmony Road, Clackamas. All registrations must be completed two weeks prior to any workshop. Register at www.bizcenter.org.

QuickBooks Pro: Beginning

Thursdays, January 7–28, 6:00 – 8:50 pm

Find out how to set up your books right the first time, using QuickBooks Pro or Premier. If you are new to QuickBooks or have little bookkeeping experience, this class will get you started. Topics include how to navigate in QuickBooks, setup a company file, enter your sales & pay your bills. Fee: \$120.

Small Business Recordkeeping

Saturday, January 9, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Understand basic recordkeeping and tax requirements for a small business and assess the various options for keeping track of business income and expenses. Find out how to differentiate and select appropriate accounting and tax professionals, based on the needs of your business. Fee: \$45

Make Search Engines Love Your Website

Tuesday, January 12, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Do you want to find out how the search engines rank your website? Discover how you can get better search engine results for the search terms that matter to you most. Fee: \$30



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Enrolling now for January 2010 Introductory Classes.

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tuition for any introductory class. or tuition for any new student entering a regular class.
Offer expires February 28, 2010. OCC12-09

The Board election results are in

By Amber, Holveck, Executive Director

The election for the Oregon City Chamber Board of Directors is concluded and the results are in. The number of ballots returned this year was greater than the last four years. I appreciate how much this Chamber means to our members when I see this type of response and commitment.

I offer a special thanks to all nine candidates for your willingness and desire to more directly serve the Chamber. Our Chamber will always need people like you to provide leadership in future years. Congratulations to the five individuals selected to serve on the Board who will direct the Chamber through 2010 and beyond.

Welcome your newest additions to the Board of Directors of the Oregon City Chamber of Commerce:

- Aaron Breniman, The Verdict Bar & Grill
- Dr. Joanne Gordon, Natural Health Works
- Hope Loose, It Figures Bookkeeping
- Tim Shea, Small Business Development Center
- Vicki H. Yates, Attorney at Law

There's no doubt that with this group of business leaders we will stay focused on the vision of striving for a better future.

Your Chamber Board is eager to serve you. They continue to look for ways to strengthen the Oregon City Chamber and the entire business community. I encourage all members to share your thoughts and ideas with any Board member so that they can truly represent you, our membership.

Operation Santa Claus needs help

After recognizing the need to provide toys and food baskets to people that may not be experiencing the joys of the holiday season, Clackamas Fire District #1 established Operation Santa Claus in 1974. The project has grown to be an ambitious month-long holiday toy and food drive. A popular highlight of the effort is Santa's fire engine parade meandering through neighborhood streets to collect non-perishable food items, toys, and other gifts used to fill hundreds of food baskets for families in need in Oregon City and the remainder of the fire district. Donation sites for non-perishable food, toys, and other gifts are located at many area businesses and public places.

This year, Santa Claus is asking for the Oregon City Chamber's help (which will prove to him that you've been VERY GOOD this year and you know what that means to Santa!) Santa would be delighted to place a donation center in your business, appreciate your support of our effort with a monetary donation, or, in some more creative way that you can think of. We have barrels available for those who can fill them and smaller boxes for those that may be less ambitious or confident, and even cash receptacles for your counter.

Please visit our web site (www.clackamasfire.com) and click on the Santa link to learn everything about the project, including printable maps of Santa's Fire Engine Parade in YOUR neighborhood, contact information, and ways you can help your neighbors have a more pleasant holiday season through Operation Santa Claus. If you are interested in providing a donation center at your business, please call Tim Dahl at 503-969-3607.

LEWIS & CLARK BANK

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Community Events

Friends of the Library and Three Rivers Artist Guild: First Friday and Grand Opening Event

Friday, December 4, 4:00 – 7:00 pm
512 7th Street

Please join us at the newly expanded Friends of the Library Bookstore, the Three Rivers Artist Guild Gallery and the Antique Mall. The Bookstore and Gallery are located at 512 7th Street with the Antique Mall directly behind. Artists will be set up giving demonstrations and refreshments will be available.

First Friday in Downtown Oregon City

Friday, December 4, 4:00 – 7:00 pm
Downtown Main Street

First Fridays in Downtown Oregon City bring together commerce and culture in historic downtown Oregon City. Make an evening out of it. Dine, stroll, shop and explore the local art scene in historic downtown Oregon City. This month's featured artist is Mike Wonser.

Annual Heritage Holiday Event

Saturday, December 5, 2:00 – 6:00 pm
McLoughlin House
713 Center Street

The McLoughlin family will be home, making holiday ornaments and serving yummy treats. Join them for an afternoon of fun and celebration to kick off the holiday season.

Annual Tree Lighting

Saturday, December 5, 4:30 pm
Liberty Plaza
Main Street, Oregon City

Please join Santa and Mrs. Claus for the annual tree lighting event in Historic Downtown Oregon City on Main Street next to the Clackamas County Courthouse. Santa arrives at 5:00 pm so come early and enjoy the festivities. Music and refreshments will be available and don't forget your camera for the perfect holiday photo. Call Nancy Busch for more information at 503-496-1571.

*Oregon City High School Performing Arts Department Presents
Irving Berlin's*

White Christmas

December 4, 5 and 9-11, 7:30 pm
Oregon City High School Main Stage Theatre
19761 S Beaver Creek Road

This is a holiday musical the whole family will enjoy and one you won't want to miss! It tells the story of entertainers Wallace & Davis and their romantic interests the Haynes sisters as they try to put on a show to save the Vermont Inn of the boys' former General from their army days. General admission: \$9.

2nd Annual Holiday Gift Bazaar hosted by the Oregon City Lions Club

Sunday, December 6, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm
Ainsworth House & Gardens
19170 Lot Whitcomb Drive

Handcrafted gifts and accessories; Christmas music and refreshments; Christmas trees for sale; Live Santa Claus and photos; and more! Benefits from this event will help our Club provide a wide range of benefits to those in need. Call 503-467-9461 for more information.

Taste of Clackamas County Holiday Party and Dessert Auction

Sunday, December 6, 5:30 – 8:30 pm
Abernethy Center
606 15th Street

Entry donation of \$5 at the door gets you access to the dinner buffet from 10 area restaurants and caterers. You will receive a raffle ticket for every stocking item you bring in to donate. All proceeds from this fundraising event will go to fund the efforts of Fill a Stocking, Fill a Heart. This 501 c 3 charitable organization is nearly out of funds; their efforts help thousands of Clackamas County neediest citizens at Christmastime.

2009 Christmas Parlour Tour

Saturday, December 12, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm

The Historic Oregon City Heritage Coordinating Committee and the Old Home Forum are presenting a self-guided Christmas Parlour Tour of historic sites. Each of the 12 historic sites will be decorated for the holidays. The age of the sites ranges from 1845 to 1927. Styles range from Classical revival to Colonial. Advance purchase of tickets is strongly recommended. A limited number of tickets will be sold. Pre-sale tickets are available at the Oregon City Antique Mall, 11 am – 6 pm Monday through Saturday and Noon – 5 pm on Sunday. The Oregon City Antique Mall is located at 502 7th Street, corner of 7th and Center Streets in Oregon City (503-655-0393).

Winter Market in Downtown Oregon City

Saturday, December 19, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm
Downtown Oregon City
8th Street between Main and Railroad Streets.

Foodies! You can still get your fix of locally produced foods this winter. Oregon City Farmers Market discovers its roots in downtown Oregon City with a Winter Market on 8th Street at the site of the original market first established in 1924. In addition to all the glorious foods, the market will have Christmas Trees, plus wreaths, paper whites, holly, greenery, potpourri, dried flower wreaths, soaps, candles and gift baskets. For more information visit www.orcityfarmersmarket.com.

Chairman's Circle benefits you

The *Chairman's Circle* program will soon begin its third year. Your Oregon City Chamber wishes to recognize the ten businesses and organizations who committed their resources in 2009 to stand firm as year-long sponsors through the *Chairman's Circle*: **Abernethy Center, Accurate Collections Service, BCT, Clackamas Federal Credit Union, Community Solutions for Clackamas County, Danielson Hilltop Mall, Hagggen Food and Pharmacy, West Coast Bank and Providence Willamette Falls Medical Center.**

The *Chairman's Circle* is reserved for up to twelve active Chamber members who take pride in being identified as continued sponsors of Chamber events and activities throughout the year. They receive recognition and additional benefits for one all-inclusive rate. It also provides the convenience of a one-time transaction for all Chamber-related programs, which helps you with your annual budgeting. Payment for *Chairman's Circle* enhanced memberships is due January 1 and is in addition to your yearly membership investment.

In addition to substantial recognition, *Chairman's Circle* members receive special invitations, complimentary tickets to specified events, and 10% off additional event sponsorships. *Circle* members are also recognized in all programs and publications associated with the Chamber, including the website. Our *Chairman's Circle* businesses are introduced at the Annual Dinner and presented with crystal trophies.

The Oregon City Chamber will host a special holiday party *Chamber After Hours* on Thursday, December 17. All Chamber members are welcome to join in for this celebration at Ainsworth House & Gardens.

To sign up or receive further information about this esteemed program for 2010, please contact the Chamber office.

Chamber After Hours

Chairman's Circle Recognition

Thursday, December 17

5:30 – 7:00 pm

Ainsworth House & Gardens

19130 Lot Whitcomb Dr.

Everyone is invited to enjoy exquisite Christmas decorations at Historic Ainsworth House as we recognize our 2009 Chairman's Circle. Savor scrumptious hors d'oeuvres. Listen to beautiful, seasonal music. Join in an optional Gift Exchange by purchasing a gift from another Chamber member with a \$10 maximum price. A smaller group and informal atmosphere create an environment where you can have a relaxed conversation with someone. This relaxed networking event makes for a pleasant end to your work day during the holiday season. A no-host bar will be available courtesy of The Verdict Bar & Grill.

RSVP by Friday, December 11
503-656-1619 or at chamberinfo@oregoncity.org

Donate fresh food to "Fork It Over!"

Provided by Susan Terry, Clackamas County Office of Sustainability

Are you hosting a big holiday event? Are you a restaurant, catering company or grocery store? If so, Metro's "Fork It Over!" program can help you donate leftover fresh and prepared food to hungry citizens safely and conveniently—and reduce your waste.

"Fork It Over!" provides an online list of food rescue agencies, many of whom can pick up donated food on a regular or on-call basis. These food rescue agencies follow safe food handling guidelines. Furthermore, Oregon and federal Good Samaritan laws protect you from liability when donating food you believe to be safe and edible.

Dozens of food rescue agencies are scattered across the metro region. "Fork It Over!" helps you connect and provide delicious healthy food to children, senior citizens on fixed incomes, people who are disabled, and people who have lost their jobs. Call 503-234-3000 or visit www.ForkItOver.org to find out how.

The mission of Fork It Over! is to reduce hunger and waste in the Portland metropolitan area. Join the many area businesses that have committed to reducing waste and fighting hunger.

2009 Chairman's Circle



CFD #1 honored for conservation

By Ellen Rogalin, Clackamas Co. Dept. of Transportation & Develop.

Clackamas Fire District 1 was recently honored by the Clackamas County Recycling Partnership for excellence in recycling, preventing waste and cutting its carbon footprint. The 17-station district received a Distinguished BRAG (Business Recognition Awards Group) certificate from the Clackamas County Office of Sustainability.

Over the summer, Clackamas County Recycle at Work specialists visited all 17 stations to insure they were properly equipped with recycling and yard debris service. Captain Brian Rooney, who spearheaded the effort, said, "Although we have had a recycling policy in place since the mid-1990s, it was time to analyze the program and make some improvements. Through gentle reminders, encouragement and personal accountability we can all make a significant impact on our environment."

County recycling specialists were delighted to find fire district employees enthusiastic about the program and eager to do more. Now that some minor improvements have made the system run more smoothly, Clackamas Fire District 1 is expanding its program to include a separate collection for non-curb-side materials such as batteries, film plastic and toner cartridges.

Clackamas Fire District 1 is serious about saving taxpayer dollars through energy conservation. The district is working with Energy Trust of Oregon to get energy audits for all 17 stations. In the meantime, the district has placed "Turn off the Lights" reminders in meeting rooms, and is adopting a heating and cooling policy for employees.

Winter Party Special

Make beautiful, historic
Ainsworth House & Gardens
your destination.

Menus starting at
\$16.99 per person.

Call for details
503-656-1894

Happy Holidays to one and all
from Kevin at Ainsworth House!

*Offer good through
the end of January 2010.*

AINSWORTH HOUSE & GARDENS



Member Updates/Kudos



After hosting Good Morning Oregon City on November 18, Oregonians Credit Union celebrated the one year anniversary of their new branch at 19360 Molalla Avenue. Tammy Emmert, the Branch Manager, performed the ceremonial ribbon cutting. She was surrounded by Oregonians Credit Union staff, City Commissioner Doug Neeley, and Chamber members.

Evergreen Homes Loans, located at 19376 Molalla Ave Suite 120, celebrated their Grand Opening on November 19. Branch Manager Tim Hattan prepares to cut the ceremonial ribbon accompanied by his staff. Chamber Board Chair Sherrie Henson, holding the certificate and Ambassador Chair Janine Brooks, holding the end of the ribbon, were also in attendance.



~ Thank you to **The Caufield House** for hosting November's *Chamber After Hours*. In addition to providing tasty refreshments, they also sponsored a food drive benefiting H.O.P.E. (Helping Other People Eat). Upon delivery of the significant amount of non-perishable items to our Oregon City food pantry, The Caufield House staff were informed that this was one of the largest donations H.O.P.E. had received this year. Thank you to all our generous Chamber members and guests who made contributions.

~ Congratulations to Linda Winnett who has been appointed the new Executive Director of **Parrott Creek Child & Family Services**. Jann Pittman's retirement was effective November 30 but she will be in the office through December 23 to help with the transition.

~ Heather Rike has been hired to do marketing for **Complete Health Chiropractic Center, LLC**. In addition, Dr. Charlie Goldston has moved on to a new endeavor.

CHAMBERWIRE

OREGON CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
 PO Box 226/1201 Washington Street
 Oregon City, OR 97045

Phone 503-656-1619
 Fax 503-656-2274
 www.oregoncity.org

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This could be your last print issue of the *ChamberWire*. See article on page 1.

December 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Inserts and articles for the January issue of the newsletter are due December 21		1	2 GMOC ~ 7:30 am Oregon City Evangelical Church 1024 Linn Avenue	3 Membership Comm. 7:30 – 9:00 am Singer Hill Café	4 Board Planning Retreat 8:00 am – 4:00 pm	5
6	7	8	9 GMOC ~ 7:30 am Hand Crafted For You 616 Main Street	10 GEAC 3:30 – 5:00 pm 7th St Fire Station	11	12
13	14	15	16 GMOC ~ 7:30 am Homewoods on the Willamette 17971 SE River Road Milwaukie 97267	17 Chamber After Hours 5:30 – 7:00 pm Chairman's Circle Recognition Ainsworth House & Gardens	18	19
20	21	22	23 GMOC ~ 7:30 am Location TBA	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day Chamber Office Closed	26
27	28	29	30 GMOC ~ 7:30 am Haggen Food & Pharmacy 19701 Highway 213	31 New Year's Eve		



2009 CHAMBER AWARD NOMINATIONS

Presented by the Oregon City Chamber of Commerce

Nominations may be submitted by an organization or individual. Nominee need not be a resident of Oregon City but must be a member in good standing and involved in the Oregon City Chamber. ***All nominations must be accompanied by supporting information about each nominee's qualifications.*** Please return all info to the Oregon City Chamber, PO Box 226, Oregon City, OR 97045, or fax to 503-656-2274, **postmarked no later than December 31, 2009.**

INFORMATION OF PERSON SUBMITTING NOMINATION

YOUR NAME _____ **BUSINESS** _____

PHONE # _____ **EMAIL ADDRESS** _____

Each nomination must include supporting information about the nominee's qualifications. Nominations will not be accepted without the supporting narrative.

BUSINESSPERSON OF THE YEAR

Nominee _____

- Businessperson must oversee at least one non-family employee
- Businessperson should have a successful record and length of time with firm
- He/she should visibly demonstrate community involvement and contributions

Narrative:

BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Nominee _____

- Business responsiveness & employee involvement in serving the community
- Business growth in the past year
- Participation in local schools, colleges - hiring/activities/internships

Narrative:

CHAMBER CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Nominee _____

- History of service and level of involvement in community projects or services
- Level of involvement in service groups
- Level of impact felt by others from the nominee

Narrative:

COMMUNITY ENHANCEMENT AWARD

Nominee _____

- Business utilizes sustainable building and operations practices
- Business has made beautification efforts or improvements
- Business has provided a positive, visible economic impact for community

Narrative:

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nominee _____

This award is designed to recognize excellence in 1st and 2nd year Chamber members who have demonstrated a desire to contribute to the Chamber and community, while developing a growing business with a desire to make a difference in Oregon City.

Narrative: