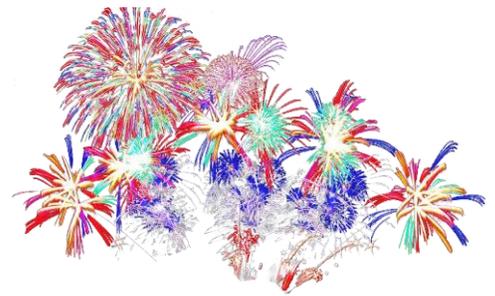


CITY OF ATHENA NEWSLETTER

JULY/2021



CITY COUNCIL

Rebecca Schroeder, Mayor

Wayne Kostur, Commissioner
of Police

Gene Wright, Commissioner
of Public Works

Katie Zmuda,
Commissioner of Library

Sally Thompson,
Commissioner of
Administration

Jesse Bonifer,
Commissioner of Fire
Services

CITY HALL HOURS

Monday-Friday

8:00am-5:00pm

(closed all federal holidays)

CITY PHONE NUMBERS

City Hall: 541 566-3862

City Shop: 541 566-0228

Library: 541 566-2470

Emergency: 911

Non-Emergency Dispatch:

541 966-3651



JULY MEETINGS

Library Board

Monday, July 19th at 6:00pm @ Library

Planning Commission

Wednesday, July 7th at 6:00pm @ City
Hall

City Council

Thursday, July 8th at 6:00pm @ City
Hall

Cemetery

Tuesday, July 15th at 5:00pm @ City Hall

ATHENA CITY POOL

Monday-Friday

Open Swim: 1:00PM-4:00PM

Family Swim: 4:00PM-5:00PM

Cost: 3 years and up \$2.00

2 years and under, Free

Water Aerobics: Monday-

Thursday 6:00PM-7:00PM

(\$2.00 admission fee)

Saturday- Open Swim

1:00PM-5:00PM

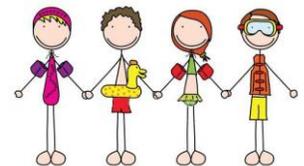
Sunday- CLOSED

Pool Rentals Available-

Saturdays and Sundays (call
City Hall for pricing/availability)

Sign up at City Hall for Season

Pass (\$100.00)



★ Athena Business Spotlight ★



The Doubletree Restaurant and Bar has been a fixture on Main Street for many years but in February of 2020 it was bought by Dwayne and Heather McDonald. This husband-and-wife duo, despite starting a new business venture during a pandemic, has brought many changes to this business. They have completely renovated both the bar and restaurant inside and out, added new menu items, serve breakfast on weekends and are hoping to add an outdoor eating and sitting areas in the future. They both love being part of our downtown and participating in community events. If you have not been in to see the changes, it's worth the stop!

🕒 Hours: Restaurant Tuesday-Friday 11am-2pm & 4pm-8pm. Saturday 8am-2pm & 4pm-8pm. Sunday 8am-2pm Bar Monday- Saturday 4pm- close. Closed on Sundays.

☎ 541-566-3431

🍔 They offer dine in and to-go orders

🎁 Gift certificates are available

🍷 They offer daily specials. Check out Friday's seafood dinner special.



**UMATILLA COUNTY SHERIFF'S
REPORT FOR THE CITY OF ATHENA
Total Calls for Service/Incidents (MAY):**

92

Congratulations to Athena's 2021 Youth Citizens of the Year!! Thank you for your volunteerism in our community.



Brooke Dornberger



Victoria Vandebos

Brooke Dornberger has been involved in the Out of the Darkness suicide prevention and awareness walk in Pendleton for many years and the top earner bringing in thousands of dollars to this program. She also has worked with Umatilla County to bring education about suicide prevention and mental health to the community and her peers at school. Besides her hours volunteering for this cause, she is there personally for many friends and classmates who are struggling with mental illness. She has a huge heart for others and truly deserves to be awarded Athena's Youth Citizen of the Year.

Victoria Vandebos is involved in school government, putting on the blood drive and anywhere and extra hand is needed with a smile on her face. She helped with yard work for elderly community members and keeping the flowers and plants on Main Street watered. Her dedication and positive attitude to helping others earned her the Athena Youth Citizen of the Year award.



The City of Athena is pleased to announce a partnership with Walla Walla YMCA in offering Swim Lessons at Athena Pool this summer.

American Red Cross Trained Water Safety Instructors from Walla Walla YMCA will be on hand this summer at Athena pool. We are excited for the opportunities this partnership brings as our staff will be able to learn from experienced and highly trained instructors. This partnership also means a higher-quality swim lesson program as communities work together to lower drowning statistics across our nation.

Swim Lesson Dates:

Session 2: July 12-July 23

Session 3: August 2-August 13

\$25.00 per child per session

Call City Hall to sign up: 541-566-3862

CODE ENFORCEMENT CORNER

FIRE SEASON IS UPON US!

Federal, State and Local fire regulatory agencies, in collaboration with the National Weather Service (NWS), have described this summer as potentially the worst fire season for many years. There is a COUNTY WIDE BURN BAN in effect, including the city of Athena. It is also very important to check the position of outdoor grills before you fire one up for your backyard BBQ. Make sure they are used/stored in areas clear of dry grass and other flammable debris.

Gina Miller, Athena's Code Officer, would like to remind everyone not to forget their alley ways when mowing their front yards. She has noted many areas around the city where the alley ways have very tall, extremely dry grass/weeds. This presents an extreme fire danger to both you and your neighbors. Additionally, when checking for tall/dry grass and weeds in your back yard and alley ways, remove and discard any unwanted items as this can add to the fire danger.

Officer Miller would also like to remind residents of Athena that unlicensed and/or inoperable vehicles may be considered "SOLID WASTE" according to the city ordinance and cannot be stored on your property. Warnings for these vehicles are going out over the next few weeks. If you have any questions, please contact Officer Miller at (541)278-6300.



Br-r-r-r-ring on the Games!
Athena Caledonian Games
July 10, 2021
Athena City Park
Athena, OR 97813

Athena Caledonian Games continues its long history of Highland Gatherings in Athena, Oregon with a day of family fun at Athena City Park on Saturday, July 10. Starting with our parade on Main Street at 9:00 AM, you are invited to go to City Park for an Old Car Show, a Kiddie Bike Parade, a Pet Parade, contests and games for kids and a Bonniest Knees Contest,,,,well, everybody is wearing kilts or at least shorts, right? (Judged by the senator's wife, who will be blindfolded, that should be something to see!) Touches of Old, traditional Scotland will be evident with lots of kilts, piping, an athletic competition where he-men throw hay bales, hammers, stones and telephone poles (cabers), music of the Tri-Cities-based Celtic Band, Skweez the Weezle, a demonstration by the Tri-Cities School of Highland Dancing where you'll see the Highland Fling, and enjoy family fun. Caledonian Games is hosting the Big Idaho Potato Truck.....an opportunity to snap family and friends with the famous truck from Idaho Potato ads on TV. Free Caledonian Games Programs, sponsored by Umatilla County Cultural Coalition, list the full schedule and feature our 20th Century Caledonian Love story of a Highland dancer from Portland and a wheat farmer from Helix.

Caledonian's Chieftains of the Year, and elected by Main Street Association (formerly Athena Chamber of Commerce) are Alan and Chrissy Froese. Caledonian Games continues to honor them for their services to Athena. Honorary Chieftains of the Day, elected by Athena Caledonian Games Association, are Michelle Kirby, graphic artist and all-around Caledonian supporter and R. Lee Friese, Music Director and Conductor of Inland Northwest Musicians and all-around assistant to the Games. They will be introduced and honored at an Athena Christian Church service on July 4th at the end of the 10 am service in the park. Master of Ceremonies, Senator Bill Hansell, will introduce them at a Caledonian Games ceremony (July 10) in City Park after the Caledonian Games 9 AM parade. The responsibility and prerogative of the Chieftains all-together is declaring, "Let the Games begin!"

Kindly check www.athenacaledonian.org and Facebook for information. Hoot, Mon, the event is free. A Highland Games experience at Athena Caledonian Games from 9:00 to 5 PM will include food, vendors, Scottish music, dancing, sport and a good gathering of friends.

THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ATHENA CITY COUNCIL

June 10, 2021

Attendance: Mayor Becky Schroeder called the regular meeting of the Athena City Council to order at 6:05 pm. Roll was taken with Councilors Katie Zmuda, Wayne Kostur, Sally Thompson, and Gene Wright present. City Recorder

Michelle Fox and two guests were also in attendance. Mayor Schroeder led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Business from the Public:

Athena Mainstreet Association (AMA): April Vorhauer Flatt with the Athena Mainstreet Association updated the Council on their events. They are excited about how the Stahl building restorations are coming along. Tuesday Market has begun and will run through July. April asked permission to close Main Street between 3rd Street and 4th Street, and also 4th Street from Main to the alley for Community Night Out on July 30, 2021 from 6:00-9:00pm. A motion was made and seconded to grant AMA permission to close those sections of the streets for Community Night Out. Motion carried – 4-0.

April announced Brooke Dornberger and Victoria Vandenbos had been chosen as the Youth Citizens of the year. Congratulation's girls!

Consent Agenda: A motion was made and seconded to approve the council meeting minutes of the 5/13/21 meeting, the financial statements, and bills. Motion carried 4-0.

Actionable Items:

A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution #2021-05, Declaring City's Election to Receive State Revenues. Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution #2021-06, Adopting the Budget, Making Appropriations, Imposing & Categorizing the Tax. Motion carried 4-0.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution #2021-07, Representation in the Umatilla County Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan. Motion Carried 4-0.

Committee Reports:

Planning Commission: Permit #2021-03 for Rena Olson for a variance to allow occupants to sleep in a camper that is parked beside her house on the city easement was denied.

Lot #1500 owned by Larry Beamer was discussed concerning rezoning the property from Commercial Industrial to Residential. The Planning Commission asked for input from the City Council on this topic. The city councilors discussed and several members will attend the next planning commission meeting for further discussion before any decisions are made.

Old Business: Garbage Receptacles for Main Street: It was decided that 10 new garbage receptacles are needed for Main Street. These will replace the existing garbage containers on Main Street.

New Business: A motion was made and seconded to grant permission for the Caledonian Games Parade on Main Street on July 10, 2021. Motion carried 4-0.

Business from the Departments & Councilors:

Library: Kristin's new Book Bike was on display for the councilors. Kristin will be hosting a "Community Conversation" on July 30, during the Athena Night Out. The topic of discussion will be how as a city can we continue our traditions while welcoming new people, and ideas.

Parks & Rec: Swimming Pool is up and running.

Public Works: They are busy as usual. They will be working on the snack shed at the softball field and putting up the new playground equipment in the park.

Fire: No Report

Sheriff: The Umatilla County Sheriff's office monthly report was included in packet.

Administration: Brian Freels is finishing up the signs for the pool.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm. The next regular council meeting will be **July 8, 2021 @ 6:00 pm**

4th of July Fireworks Update as of 6/30/2021

The commissioners took action this morning to impose a ban on the use of fireworks in all unincorporated areas of Umatilla County effective immediately and until September 30 or sooner if conditions change. The ban does not include the sale of fireworks.

Failure to comply is a violation that could be accompanied by a \$500 fine.

This decision is based upon drought and potential wildfire conditions. Commissioners stated that the order is designed to protect our most vulnerable resources including forests, cropland, pasture, and rangelands.

Commissioners further added that Umatilla County has suffered an unreasonable number of disasters and emergencies in the last two years and we should do everything possible to avoid another.