

February

Chamber of Commerce 512 Main St. Rm.#5 P.O. Box 351 Ashton, Idaho 83420 (208)652-3355

Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce



The next Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce meeting will be **Thursday, February 16, 2023 @ noon @ in the conference room @ The Main Office on Main Street.** We will be having Board Elections at our March meeting. *We are looking for someone or a group who might be interested in being the 4th of July chairman. Please contact the Chamber @ 208-652-3355 for more information.*


Soup Challenge

Ashton Chamber of Commerce's **Soup Challenge** will be during the American Dog Derby once again. So all you wonderful cooks get those recipes out and be ready to compete Friday, February 17, 2023 with your best soup recipe! **Registration is \$5/soup and you must have an Ashton Business sponsor. Please register at Stronks & Sons by February 15th.** Winners will receive a cash prize of 1st-\$75; 2nd-\$50; 3rd-\$25. Admission is \$2/voter age 12 and up. Questions call Rachel @ (208)652-0144 or Andrea Simpson @ (208) 534 1165.



GROUND HOG SUPPER!

Menu includes:
Special Methodist Men Ground Sausage
Pancakes Fried Eggs Coffee Juice



Donations Welcome!

5-7 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 9

Ashton Community United Methodist Church
Corner of 5th and Idaho Streets

Information deadline for the Newsletter is due by 8 AM on the Saturday prior to the first Tuesday of the month. Please email anything you would like posted to info@ashtonidaho.com or leave a message at (208) 652-3355.

Spotlight:



The Historic American Dog Derby 1917-2023

From 1917 when Tud Kent won the first American Dog Derby during a blinding blizzard to this year's races, the running of the dogs in Ashton, Idaho is an exciting event rich in history.

The first race, held March 4, 1917, was run from West Yellowstone, MT to Ashton, a distance of 55 miles. The five participants stayed overnight at a fish hatchery when a blizzard slowed the course.

By 1921 an estimated crowd of 10,000 gathered to watch the races, now held entirely in the Ashton area. Special trains brought in hoards of spectators including motion picture companies. Hotels were overflowing. Bars and restaurants as well as gambling spots thrived during the event.

During the depression in 1933 the purse was below average and the entries were few. By 1934 the abundance of snow the previous year gave way to lack of snow, and the race was run with wheels. The mushers bolted their sleds to scooter wagons and ran on the highway leading out of Ashton.

The race discontinued during some of the war years but fully resumed in 1946. Two years later, musher Lewis Price dropped his dogs via parachute from a plane to the starting line! The big snow winter of 1949 had no races as the roads were blocked for an entire month. Even trains were unable to get through. The races struggled on during the 1950's with the last race held in 1961. Interest in the dog sled races waned as snowmobiles gained popularity.

In 1993 the Ambassador's Cup Sports Foundation reinstated the races. Twenty-one mushers participated that year on a 2-day, round-trip course from Ashton to Island Park. The course now runs from the city center of Ashton, through fields and forests, to the corner of Yellowstone. Participation since 1994 has been increasing as mushers come from all parts of the United States to run their dogs in this historic sled dog race.

The American Dog Derby is gearing up for another season. This year the races will be **February 17th & 18th.** There will be vendors at the event. To register your booth, please call Rachel Hatton @ 208-652-0144. Also, **we need sponsorships!** Anyone, business or otherwise that would like to donate to the Dog Derby it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact John Scafe @ 208-360-0988 or Kathy Scafe @ 208-681-0266 **The Mutt races will be Saturday, Feb. 18th. You will need to bring your own dog on a leash to participate. Sleds will be provided. There will also be a Snowshoe Race and a Weight Pull for those who wish to participate on Saturday. Dog Derby Buttons are 1 for \$3 or 2 for \$5.**

City of Ashton News



- * P&Z will meet February 16, 2023 @ 7pm.
- * City Council Meeting @ 6pm on February 8th.
- * City building will be **CLOSED** Feb. 20th.
- * Remember to renew your dog's licenses for the new year!



Come and enjoy some yummy Mexican food!
 Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner
 Mon.- Thurs. 11am-8pm ~ Fri- Sat. 9am-9pm
 Located at 580 Main St. Ashton, ID
 Call for your orders to go at 208-652-7225.

Community Calendar

- Feb. 2—Ground Hog Day!
- Feb. 8—City Council @ 6pm
- Feb. 8—N.F. Food Pantry 5-7pm @Ashton Community Center. Picture ID required.
- Feb. 9—Methodist's Ground Hog Supper 5-7pm
- Feb. 12—Abraham Lincoln's Birthday!
- Feb. 13—School Board Mtg. @ NFHS@5pm
- Feb. 13—Bond Info Mtg. @ NFHS @ 6pm
- Feb. 14—Valentine's Day!
- Feb. 16—P&Z Meeting @ 7pm @ City Building
- Feb. 16—Chamber of Commerce Mtg. @ noon
- Feb. 17—Soup Challenge! 5:30-7pm
- Feb. 17-18—American Dog Derby
- Feb. 20—President's Day!
- Feb. 20—George Washington's Birthday!
- Feb. 20—School Board Mtg. @ NFHS
- Feb. 22—N.F. Food Pantry 5-7pm @Ashton Community Center. Picture ID required.
- Every Wednesday—Ashton Rotary @ noon @ 511

**The next newsletter will come out on March 6, 2023. Please have information to the Chamber by the Saturday before. Thank you!



GO HUSKIES!!



Email info@ashtonidaho.com with your events time and description to get your event posted FREE!
 For more event details visit our on-line Community Calendar at www.ashtonidaho.com
 We place events on our community calendars for free!

J & B Floral Valentine's Flowers

Bouquets starting @ \$15.99
 Free Delivery Available In Ashton Area

See our catalog @ Shoppe on Main

5% discount on Orders paid for by February 7th

J&B Floral
 ~ Floral Arrangements ~
 ~ Centerpieces ~
 ~ Specialty Orders ~

Chocolate/Candy Bouquets

To Order - Stop in @ Shoppe on Main ~ (208)709-6124
 or Call /Text ~ Julie (208) 346-2144



Swiss Precision is pleased to offer Home Repair/Remodel; Snow Removal (plowing & shoveling); and have rabbit and chicken feed for sale.

Nursery Winter Hours are:
 9am-4pm.

208-652-7840

www.swissprecision.net

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LOCAL & AVAILABLE OUTSIDE OF NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS

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