

January 3, 2012

www.ashtonidaho.com

January

Chamber Of Commerce (208) 652-3355 714 Main St. P.O. Box 351 Ashton, Idaho 83420

Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce



- ♦ **FYI:** Last year your Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce responded to over 300 phone calls, mailed over 50 relocation/vacation packets, and we had over 7,000 visits to our website and 80% of those visitors were new inquirers of our area!
- ♦ We are gearing up for our Membership drive and budget meeting! Come and be involved with your Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce! Come and learn the benefits of membership and involvement! **Membership dues are \$75/business; \$50/non-profit.**
- ♦ **Come one, Come all! To the 1st Soup Challenge on Friday, February 17th @ 5pm @ Ashton Community Center.** This is a new event in place of our snow sculpture contest during the Dog Derby. We still encourage snow sculptures to be made during the Dog Derby in spirit of the festivities, however the contest will be between the many wonderful soup makers in our community. Entry fee is \$5 by the individual who wishes to compete with their best soup and each cook must have a business sponsor (only their name to display by your table-no money from the business) this is to encourage all businesses and community members involvement during the dog derby. If you would like to come and taste the soups, the charge will be \$2/ person at the door. Prizes: 1st -\$75; 2nd- \$50; 3rd-\$25. More details to come. Questions, please call Sara Etheridge@652-0134 or Rachel Hatton@ 652-0144

Business Spotlight:

It is our delight to spotlight the **American Dog Derby** this year as they are busy preparing for their 95th anniversary. That's right in five years Ashton will be



AMERICAN DOG DERBY

celebrating 100 years of the American Dog Derby and the committee is working hard to build and work up to this exciting milestone! Co-Chaired by John Scafe and Rhonda Bell (aka: King and Queen with the wife/mother Kathy Scafe by their side) they are really working hard to keep the tradition alive. Started back in 1917, the **American Dog Derby** has lots of history behind it and many volunteers who have come and gone dedicating many countless hours to this nationwide known event! Here in Ashton, our race is the oldest American Dog Sled race nationwide! Our race and Ashton has been published nationwide as well because of the Dog Derby; some places would include Musher Magazine, Anchorage Alaska, California, and recently in the Rails to Trails magazine. We are also very well known on sleddogcentral.com! Do you have any fond memories of the races? Have any of your relatives participated through racing or volunteering? What is your favorite part about the dog derby? This year the committee is working hard and looking forward to some new and fun changes like the soup challenge and handing out awards Saturday afternoon on Main Street after all the mushers are in, and eliminating the banquet that night. This is for the convenience of the mushers so they are able to return home earlier. The committee is small right now with a lot of heart and welcome anyone who feels like they could help out, whether it be selling those collector buttons or chairing the snowshoe race on Saturday, there are many jobs still needing bodies to fill!! The race this year will be **February 17 & 18 both mornings beginning at 8:30**. A meet the musher night will be Thursday, February 16th at the Ashton Community Center. *Booths/Vendors are welcomed during the races on Main St. and Nathan Ricks is the one to contact if you are interested. It is \$10 a booth per day. He can be reached at 652-0299. Parking will be marked on both 6th and 7th street. Please watch for signage. Main Street will be closed for parking.* The Flea Market will be opened that weekend as well with proceeds all going for the Dog Derby. The committee wishes to express appreciation to the many donations, sponsorships, businesses, mushers, and spectators each year. Without any of you there wouldn't be a race and the tradition would die! Thank You! The Dog Derby committee will be meeting every Thursday until the race at 7pm at the Senior's Center. Please come and see how you can help! For any questions or more information please contact Rhonda Bell @ 360-0921 or 652-7992, John Scafe @ 360-0988, or Kathy Scafe @ 681-0266. You can also check out their website @ www.americandogderby.com

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

City of Ashton News

- ◆ **City Council will be January 11th @ 7pm.**
Three of the City Council and the Mayor will be sworn in this evening. Mayor Stronks will give his State of the City address.
- ◆ *The Recycling Bins have been moved to the east side of the Community Center for the remainder of the winter season.*
- ◆ Please remember to move your cars out of the way as plowing season is approaching us. *Thank You!*

Mountain Bike Raffle

A Mountain Bike is going to be raffled off by the American Dog Derby on Saturday, February 18th during the races. Raffle tickets can be purchased at the Flea Market for \$1/1 ticket or \$5/6 tickets. A sincere thank you to the Red Hat Ladies and to the anonymous donor of the bicycle from the Dog Derby Committee! Get in on the drawing today!

Thank You!

Thank you to all who donated food, money, or time to the North Fremont Food Pantry during the holidays. It was such a heartwarming outpour of kindness and generosity. It was overwhelming to all of us. Thanks so much! -The North Fremont Food Pantry Committee



108 S. Hwy. 20—Ashton, ID (208) 652-7771

Community Calendar

- **January 11—City Council @ 7pm**
- **January 11—Food Pantry Distribution 5-7 Photo ID. Required**
- **January 16—Martin Luther King Jr. Day**
- **January 19—Chamber of Commerce Monthly Meeting @12@Chamber office**
- **January 19—School Board Mtg. @ 7pm @ District Office**
- **January 25—Food Pantry Distribution 5-7 Photo ID. Required**

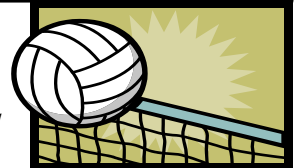
The next newsletter will come out on **Jan. 17th. Please have information to the Chamber by the Saturday before. Thank you!

Item up for auction @ Ashton Elementary now is 2 sweaters and 2 beanies from Targhee Ridgerunners

We encourage all to continually support our Ashton Businesses!!

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!

North Fremont Club Volleyball



North Fremont Club Volleyball registration forms are due

January 20th. Forms have been distributed at school. N.F. Club Volleyball is for girls in grades 4-11. Homeschooled students are welcome. Practices begin the end of February. If you need a form or have any questions please call Leanna Trosen @ 652-7995. *No late registration forms will be accepted!*

Chriswell's Trail's Inn



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Open All Week Sun.-Sat. 6am-10pm**