



• Our next meeting will be Thursday, November 21 @ noon at the Chamber office. Lunch will be from Frostop.

## **Trunk or Trea**



A sincere "Thank You" to all those who participated to make another safe and successful Trunk or Treat!



Thank you to the *Chamber of Commerce* for judging and providing the prizes for the wonderful decorated trunks.

# Christmas Cantata

Zion Lutheran church would like to cordially invite the public to attend their annual Christmas Cantata

When: Thursday, December 22nd

**Time: 7:00pm** 



Where: Zion Lutheran Church



### Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> NF High School Auditorium @ 6 PM

We are looking for classes, choirs, solos, duets, groups, families, dancers or anyone interested in performing. Please contact us **ASAP** or **BEFORE** November 25th:



Mamie Jorgensen 709-4092 Anne Marie Emery 520-6290



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.

### **Business Spotlight:**

Back in June Fall River Rural Electric Cooperation had a more exciting annual meeting than usual, they had their celebration of 75 years in business!



In the mid-1930s, nine out of ten rural homes across America had no electricity. While some rural towns like Ashton, Idaho had electricity, those living in outlying rural areas did not. Investor-owned utilities could not make a profit by bringing electricity to low density homes and businesses in the countryside.

That changed in 1935 when President Roosevelt established the Rural Electrification Administration (REA). The REA provided loan money and expertise to help rural communities bring electricity to their farms.

Only a few years later, in December of 1938, a group of neighbors met around the warm stove in the Howe Lumber Company in Ashton, Idaho. These men were from the outlying areas of Ashton, and had the dream of bringing electric power to their own homes. They formed **Fall River Rural Electric Cooperative**, **Inc.** and began signing up members for what was to be a locally owned electric company, relying on members to donate land for power line right-of-ways. The first board of directors set the membership fee at \$5.00, and loaned new members \$10.00 to help them wire their homes for electric service.

Fall River received their first REA loan of \$80,000 in 1939 to build the first 62 miles of power line. By fall of 1941, the areas surrounding Ashton, Rexburg, Ririe, and St. Anthony had electricity. That spring, the rural areas around Felt, Driggs, and Victor received power. In 1947, power lines were built to Island Park and West Yellowstone. In November 1960, Fall River Rural Electric Cooperative took over providing power to all of Teton Valley, where the towns had previously been supplied with electricity since 1913 through the privately owned Teton Valley Power & Milling Company.

Today, Fall River still provides safe, reliable, and renewable electricity at the lowest cost possible to thousands of members in three states. *Sources: "A Shot in the Dark," Teton Valley Magazine, Summer 2004; "Ashton, Idaho, The Centennial History 1906-2006," by Glade Lyon.* 

Beginning with about 80 members back in the late 1930's, seventyfive years later **Fall River Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.** now has about 13,000 members. They have 50 employees and 3 offices. The Ashton office is the headquarters and there is an office in Driggs and West Yellowstone.

You may have noticed the solar panels and windmill outside of Fall River Rural Electric, these are being used for educational purposes for the members. And for members information, rebates are available if you change your windows, doors, insulation, irrigation equipment, etc. to be more efficient. Just call the office to receive more information **@ 652-7431**.

Your Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce is honored to spotlight **Fall River Rural Electric Cooperative, Inc.** this month and recognize the great growth and wonderful milestone they have reached as a business in our area!

Visit their website at: www.fallriverelectric.com



Arts and Crafts Fair Arts Community Center Saturday, December 7th 9am-3pm.



Ashton Crafter's call Sara Reinke to reserve your space by Nov. 21st @ 652-7552. ASHTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWSLETTER— November 5, 2013 FREE COPY

City of Ashton News

- Nov. 5th City Elections. Go Vote! Living North of Main vote at Community Center; South of Main vote at Senior Center
- Nov. 8th the City Building will be CLOSED due to computer updates.
- City Council will be Wednesday, November 13 @ 7pm. There will be a public hearing on considering an update to City's Development Code.
- Planning and Zoning meeting will be November 13th @ 7:30 in the conference room at the city building.



4-8pm in November!

Dates for all noodle heads to remember....Nov. 7, 14, & 21!

Five 11 Main will be closed for Thanksgiving.

Holidays are coming and Five 11 Main would love to cater your holiday party! You can reserve the River Room (25 people) or if you need more space reserve the entire restaurant on Monday evenings. Call us at 652-2020 and reserve your holiday party today!

We look forward to serving you at Five 11 Main in Ashton!



Located in the front of the Chocolate Moose is a full service <u>Floral & Gift Shop</u> <u>and a Greenhouse!</u> Specializing in flowers for funerals, weddings, dances, and everyday

special occasions, Owner **Rebecca Siddoway** is excited to extend her business from Teton to Ashton and serve our community with her talented green thumb! She also delivers your order for special occasions like birthdays, anniversaries, or just thinking about you. **Call her today @ 652-5000**!



Come and enjoy some yummy Mexican food! Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner 11am-8pm Mon.-Thurs. & 9am-9pm Fri.-Sat. Located at 514 Main St. Ashton, ID Call for your orders to go at 652-7225.



Swiss Precision is gearing up to be ready for all your snow removal needs! They will plow residential or commercial and will also shovel roofs! They are also available for home repairs or remodels. So give them a call today and give your back a rest while they do the shoveling and work for you! Call Swiss Precision today at 652-7831

#### **Community Calendar**

- Nov. 5—Election Day!
- Nov. 11—Veterans Day!
- Nov. 13—City Council @ 7pm @ City Bldg.
- Nov. 13—P&Z @ 7:30 @ City Bldg.
- Nov. 13— N.F. Food Pantry 5-7pm @Ashton Community Center. Picture ID required.
- Nov. 21—Chamber of Commerce Monthly Mtg. @ noon @ Chamber office
- Nov. 21—School Board Mtg. @7pm @District office
- Nov. 27— N.F. Food Pantry 5-7pm @Ashton Community Center. Picture ID required.
- Nov. 27—Hanukkah Begins!
- Nov. 28—Thanksgiving Day!

\*\*The next newsletter will come out on **Nov. 19th.** Please have information to the Chamber by the Saturday before. Thank you!

#### 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!

**Something to be** *Thankful* **for**: A letter was received last month from some folks in Virginia to Dave Jacobson and it reads: *Many thanks for sending the finishers medal and age* group plaque. It was a joy to receive them and to remember once again what a nice experience it was to run in the Mesa Falls Marathon. The whole experience from arrival to departure was delightful.

We know you get a lot of good feedback on the race and the very special people who make it happen. We found everyone welcoming, good hearted, and helpful. And let me tell you we miss Ashton! What a sweet town. In the span of a dozen or so blocks you have everything necessary for a nice life: beautiful schools and library, nice churches, a great Mexican restaurant, root beet floats and huckleberry shakes, a great main street with real businesses instead of chains, mom and pop motels, the best grocery store anywhere, and cool grain elevators. Not to mention the glorious countryside. What's not to love! I hope your community can hold its ground and keep its character for many years to come. It's nice to know places like Ashton still exist in this great country of ours. Blessings and happiness to all, T & K As editor of the Chamber Newsletter I chose to publish this letter to remind us that there is still good around us. Hopefully I haven't overstepped my boundaries. —Rachel Hatton.





We are now accepting reservations for your holiday parties. Give us a call today to reserve your date and time!

