

December

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

Ashton Area Chamber of Commerce



Ashton Chamber of Commerce monthly meeting will be Thursday, December 17th at noon at the Chamber office. Lunch will be provided by *Subway*.

Ashton's Spirit of Christmas

- Enjoy shopping for unique gifts.....9am-3pm
- Lunch with friends.....11 am-until food is gone
- Hosted by Hannah: benefitting the *Ashton Easter Egg Hunt*
- Silent and Live Auction.....beginning at noon
- A creative mix of Christmas décor items
- Fund starter for: landscaping + at pocket park on 5th and Main
- Entertainment.....1pm-1:30
- NHFS Show choir, jazz band, and elementary singers
- Santa's Visit1:30-3:00

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

9 AM-3 PM

ASHTON COMMUNITY CENTER

Sponsored by Ashton Community Foundation



Community Christmas Program 2015

Sunday, December 13th

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 December 5th:**



Katie Wynn @ 403-4770 or
Leslee Wilson @ 801-529-6878



Got Quilts?

Quilts will be for sale at the Ashton Annual Spirit of Christmas Craft Show Saturday, December 5th from 9am-3pm.

All proceeds will go towards the Randy Palmer Family Fund to help with Christmas for the family. Your support is very appreciated!

Christmas Cantata

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

When: Sunday, December 20th

Time: 7:00pm

Where: Zion Lutheran Church



Business Spotlight:



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, more than seventy-five 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**.

In the early part of the new millennium, the Cooperative had also been investigating the possibility of going into the business of providing propane. The Cooperative was moving forward on its intent to provide this service for its members, and at first it was created as a subsidiary department of **Fall River Electric**.



Fall River Propane, was formed. Personnel were hired and equipment was purchased, and the propane entity was off and running.

A manager was needed, so in September of 2001, J. T. Hill, who had been a member of the Board of Directors for several years, but was a qualified candidate, decided to apply for the position of manager of the new propane division. The board accepted his application, so it was necessary for him to resign as a member of the governing body of the Cooperative. His resignation was given on September 10, 2001, and he became the manager of the propane division. In 2003, it was determined that the propane division would operate better as a unique entity, separate from **Fall River Electric** though still owned by the Cooperative, and **Fall River Enterprises** was formed as a "for profit" company. A three member board of directors was selected for **Fall River Enterprises**, and it was decided that Fall River Electric's General Manager would always be a standing member of this board.

The new propane company provided installation, repair, and delivery, and prided itself on its good service reputation. By efficient management and attention to area needs, the propane company saw a 10% growth rate in its first year, and has maintained this growth rate each year thereafter, even through a downturn in the national economy. Public relations have been stressed, and the employees are very active in community activities. That, plus good marketing strategies, have made the company a success. One year ago, the propane board increased from three to five members, and the business continues to grow. The success of the company has relied on a well-earned reputation for excellent service and dependability.



GO HUSKIES!!



City of Ashton News



- * City Council will be Wed., Dec. 9th @ 7pm.
- * City Building will be **CLOSED** Dec. 24 & 25 for Christmas.



Located in the front of the Chocolate Moose is a full service **Floral & Gift Shop and a Greenhouse!** 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, funerals, or just thinking about you.. Give her a call at 652-5000 ! www.foreverbloomingflowers.com



Winter Hours started November 9th.
Come and enjoy some yummy Mexican food!

Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner

Mon.-Thurs. 11am-8pm

Fri.-Sat. 9am-9pm

Located at 514 Main St. Ashton, ID

Call for your orders to go at 652-7225.



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

FYI: Because of scheduling problems related to the holidays, the **North Fremont Food Pantry** will distribute food **only once** for December. On **Wednesday, December 16 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.** at the Ashton Community Center. Clients must present a picture ID. For more information or for emergency situations, call Frieda, 403-8916, or John, 709-4717. Also, please plan to participate in the **Great Turkey Drive**, an opportunity to help purchase turkeys for the Pantry's clients and to assist with other expenses as well, at **Dave's Jubilee Market** from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 12.



The Ashton Cut Above
208-652-3606
Hair Cuts, Perms,
Color & Highlighting, Tanning
Men, Women, & Children
appointments necessary after 5:00 pm
TAMMY LEHMANN & AMY CALONGE
83 North Second St. • Ashton

Community Calendar

- Dec. 3--American Dog Derby Mtg. @ 7pm
- Dec. 5—Ashton's Spirit of Christmas@9-3@ Ashton Community Center
- Dec. 7—Pearl Harbor Day!
- Dec. 9—City Council @ 7pm @ City Building
- Dec. 10—School Board mtg.@7pm @NFHS
- Dec. 12—N.F. Food Pantry's Great Turkey Drive @10-4@ Dave's Jubilee 
- Dec. 13—Community Christmas Program—N.F.H.S. @ 6pm.
- Dec. 16—N.F. Food Pantry 5-7pm @Ashton Community Center. Picture ID required.
- Dec. 17—Chamber of Commerce Monthly Mtg.
- Dec. 20—Zion Lutheran Cantata @ 7pm
- Dec. 21—First Day of Winter.
- Dec. 24-25—City Building will be **CLOSED**.
- Dec. 25—Merry Christmas! 
- Dec. 31—New Year's Eve!

The next newsletter will come out on **Dec. 15th. 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!



Fire, Water and Mold Cleanup. Roofing, decking, siding and repairs. Residential and Commercial Cleaning. 24/7 availability and fast response times. Let the Professionals Handle Your Disaster right here in ASHTON!

Call: 360-1238 for your restoration needs!



The nursery is open. **Swiss Precision** is geared up and ready for your winter preparation needs. They offer snow-plowing for residential and commercial locations. They are also where you can get your chicken and rabbit feed and now offer firewood for sale.

Swiss Precision is also available for home repairs or remodels.

Call Swiss Precision today at 652-7831



Now open! Serving Breakfast and Lunch. **New Winter Hours** are Thursday – Sunday from 7am-2pm. **Now serving dinner on Friday and Saturday from 5-9pm.** We serve Prime

Rib, Chicken or Fish with sides all for \$19 or less. Come check us out for dinner this weekend! Weekly drawings for 3 FREE breakfast (\$7 value). We look forward to seeing you soon!
For to go orders or catering please contact Ryan at 313-0851.