

LRAPA outdoor burning season further delayed

The fall outdoor burning season will begin on Saturday, Oct. 27, for many Lane County residents. The season was originally set to start Oct. 1, but was delayed until Oct. 13, has now been delayed until Oct. 27 due to continued dry weather and fire danger.

The Lane County Fire Defense Board and Oregon Department of Forestry decided to postpone the opening of the season in Lane County since weather conditions have been too dry. The limited precipitation and dew the county has seen are not

been enough to reduce fire risks and allow residential outdoor burning.

If the same weather patterns continue, the season could be delayed further.

Outdoor burning, also known as open or backyard burning, allows some Lane County residents to burn dry woody yard debris that was generated on their own residential property.

Rules concerning outdoor burning differ throughout the county, with some cities banning burning within city limits all together.

Before starting a fire, all

residents must check the daily burning advisory, which indicates to the community if burning is prohibited on a given day. The advisory also tells residents when all fires must be extinguished by.

The daily burning advisory can be found by calling Lane Regional Air Protection Agency's advisory line at 541-726-3976 or by visiting www.lrapa.org.

To prevent any uncontrolled fires, the Fire Defense Board reminds all residents that all outdoor burning must be constantly

attended until extinguished with water nearby.

Due to the heavy wildfire smoke intrusions this summer, LRAPA encourages residents to explore alternatives to burning. Residents can dispose of woody yard debris for a minimal charge at one of Lane County's various collection depots or with Rexius and Lane Forest Products. Chipping and composting are also alternative options to burning.

For more information, contact Jo Niehaus at 541-736-1056 ext. 217



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SHIBA to provide Medicare enrollment help in Yoncalla

Every year from Oct. 15 through Dec. 7, people with Medicare have the opportunity to change their health and drug plans. Companies that offer Medicare programs make changes in rates, co-

pays, deductibles, drug lists and provisions each year.

In Yoncalla, SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance) counselors are gearing up for appointments to be held next month.

SHIBA counselors meet with individuals to personally assist with Medicare choices, problems, enrollments, and questions. As trained volunteers serving under the direction of the Center for

Medicare Services, they offer free help and services.

Enrollment help will be provided Thursday, Nov. 19, at the Yoncalla Community Center, 400 Main St., beginning at 10 a.m.

BALLOT *from A1*

Mayor Jeff Gowing is running unopposed as is councilor for Ward 1 Jake Boone. Ward 4 candi-date Greg

Ervin was appointed earlier this year when former councilor Amy Slay stepped down after relocated outside of city limits making her ineligible for her seat. Ervin served out the remainder of Slay's term and will have to be re-elected. He is running unopposed.

Who's running:

Garland Burback: He has served on the council for eight years as the Ward 3 councilor after serving on the planning commission and South Lane School District Board. A 42-year resident of Cottage Grove, Burback is a shareholder and part-owner of Cottage Grove Garbage Service.

Jill Hermansen: She currently works for the South Lane School District as a speech therapist and grew interested in politics in

college when she interned for her local Congressman. She's been involved locally with her church and Habitat for Humanity. She is running for the Ward 3 seat.

Candace Lamb-Solsbee: A downtown business owner, Lamb-Solsbee has served on the local chamber of commerce board, including as its president. She has noted her interest in advocating for other small businesses in Cottage Grove should she be elected as the Ward 3 councilor.

Ray Ackerman: The owner of In-Style Tile works, Ackerman has tossed his hat into the ring for Ward 3.

Mike Fleck: Fleck has been elected to the city council's at-large position three times as well as hav-

ing served on the South Lane County Fire and Rescue Board of Directors, the fire budget committee, the Lane County Public Health Advisory Committee, the Cottage Grove Planning Commission and the city's budget committee. He is currently the head of Community Sharing, a local food pantry.

Ashley Rigel: A dental assistant, Rigel volunteers at Latham Elementary and has lived in Cottage Grove for 12 years, spending summers in the city as a child with her grandparents.

The general election on Nov. 6 will decide the make-up of the Cottage Grove city council moving forward. Councilors serve four-year terms while the mayor serves a two-year term.

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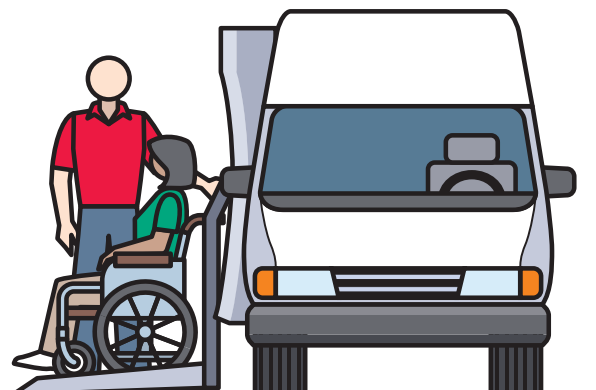
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