

CITY OF IONE NEWS

December 2010

Published for the community of Ione
www.ione-ca.com

Volume 8, Issue 12

Preston Public Meeting in December

A public meeting regarding the proposed closing of the Preston Youth Facility is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, December 8th (time to be determined), and will be held at The Amador County Administrative building in Jackson. Assemblyperson Allyson Huber, an advocate for keeping the facility open, and representatives from the Department of Corrections will be in attendance. This is a public meeting with updates on the closure and an opportunity for members of the community to voice their opinions and ask questions. For more information, call City Hall at 209-274-2412, ext.100.

Veteran's Memorial Park Planned

Plans are underway for an Ione Veteran's Memorial Park to honor Ione veteran's who honorably served our country. The park will be located at Schmidt Park on the corner of Main Street and Preston Avenue.

The first phase is scheduled to be dedicated in early April 2011. This will include a bronze statue of a soldier's boots, bayonet and helmet mounted on a marble or granite base. The monument will honor veteran's killed in action from the Iraq conflict forward with a plaque on the base. The first honoree will be Jay-D Ornsby, son of Robyn Ornsby who served in Iraq and was killed in April of 2007.

Phase two will include a wall of veteran's names behind the monument with bricks for each veteran. Anyone serving while living in Ione, will have a brick placed on the wall at no charge. Veteran's who moved to Ione after service, will be able to purchase a brick to be placed on the wall. In addition, a sign that hung on the side of City Hall years ago listed Ione Veterans who served in WWII and will be replicated and hung on the side of the Bank of Amador.

Sponsors are key to this project, as it will be funded by private donations. A Wall of Sponsors' names will be placed behind the Veteran's Wall. Phase I will cost an estimated \$10,000, including donated material and labor. If you are interested in contributing to the Veteran's Memorial Park, contact Jerry Cassesi at 209-601-4079 or Sharon Long at 209-304-5118.

Two New Payment Services

The City will participate in a new service that automatically converts your check to an ACH Accounts Receivable Conversion (ARC) debit. When you provide a check as a payment, you authorize the City to either use information from your check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from your bank account to process the payment as a check transaction. With an electronics fund transfer, funds may be withdrawn from your bank account to cover the check as soon as the same day you make your payment, and you will not receive your check back from your financial institution. The transaction will show on your monthly bank statement as an ACH debit. For inquiries, or to opt out of the ACH conversion, please call Jane Wright at 209-274-2412, ext. 101.

Another new service is a Direct Payment Plan. You can now have your payment made automatically from your checking or saving account. The Direct Payment Plan will save you time, postage, and your payment will always be on time. For your convenience, the Authorization for Direct Payment Form is enclosed with your sewer statement. For inquiries regarding this service, call City Hall at the number above.

Hustle for the Hungry Run/Walk

This event collected 22 turkeys, over 1000 pounds of food and \$350 in cash, all donated to the Interfaith Food Bank in time for Thanksgiving. A black powder rifle donated by Rendezvous Primitive Arms was won by Cody Gold. Thank you to all who participated.

Annual Ione Christmas Parade

Saturday, December 11th at 2:00 PM
Main Street in Ione
Sponsored by the
Ione Business & Community Association



Around Town

Christmas angels are on the trees at City Hall, Pizza Factory, Bank of Amador, & Caddy's Restaurant at the golf course. Your generosity will ensure a child that may go without presents, a very Merry Christmas. Each angel has information about a child that includes gender, age, size and a gift wish. The maximum dollar value for each gift is \$35. Please pick your angel from the tree, purchase a gift, and return it unwrapped with the paper angel attached, no later than December 9th. For more information, contact Jean O'Donnell at 209-763-2794.

Celebrate the New Year at ACRA's Blue Moon Bash!

Usher in the New Year with an evening of celebration, great food, fine refreshments and live music. The gates to the Amador County Fairgrounds will open at 7:00 PM on New Year's Eve with dinner served at 9:30 PM. Tickets are \$40 per person or \$75 a couple if purchased before December 10th. After this date, the price increases to \$50 per person. Tickets are on sale at the following locations: Bank of Amador, City Hall, Clark's Corner, and Curves or on the web at www.highsierratickets.com. Shuttle pick-ups will begin at 6:00 PM. For pick up locations, visit the website. For more information, check out www.goacra.org or call 209-223-6349.

Medicare Part "D" Open Enrollment is scheduled through December 31st. It is time to get your current plan reassessed through Health Insurance Counseling & Advocacy (HICAP) counselors who can help with options and any change to your plan. It is up to you, the Medicare beneficiary, to know what your options are. After January 1, it is too late to change your plan for another year. Every year, the Prescription Drug Plans can change, and having your Part D plan reassessed could help to keep you out of the "donut hole" where you pay full price for your medications. In 2011, if a client reaches the "donut hole", brand name medications on the plan formulary will be 50% co-pay and 7% reduction in price for generic medications. To find out if your plan is the best option, call HICAP at 800-434-0222 to schedule a one-on-one counseling appointment. This is a free service provided by Area 12 Agency on Aging.

Food Distribution & Service is available at the United Methodist Church in Lone. Interfaith Food Bank distribution is the third Saturday of the month from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM. The EFAP food distribution will be distributed on the same day and time. Senior (over 60) Food Bank distribution will be on the first Thursday of the month at 11:00 AM. Senior meals from Common Ground are served each Thursday at 11:30 at the Church. Reservations may be made by calling Candice at 223-3015.

Legal parking on Main Street means parking your vehicle between two white "T" markers along the curb side of the street—one "T" marker in front of your vehicle, and one behind your vehicle. Do not park on corners with only one "T" marking. Also, to legally park you must be within 18 inches from the curb. This keeps your vehicle out of the roadway, and allows the trucks ample room to turn onto Main Street. Thank you for your cooperation. Let's keep Lone safe.

City Meetings – December

Meetings are held at City Hall at 6:00 PM

City Council	December 7 & 21
Planning Commission	December 14
Parks & Recreation	Cancelled

Organization Meetings & Activities

Bingo, Raffle, Food & Drinks – 209-274-6075

1st Saturday, 7:00 PM - Camanche Community Center

Castle Oaks Women's Club Luncheon –

3rd Monday – 11:30 check-in.

Reservations 209-274-2668 or 408-219-0279

Castle Oaks Women's Bible Study Group

Wednesday beginning Sept 15 - 10-11:30 AM. Call 274-0600

Grange & Jr. Grange Meetings & Potluck

2nd Thurs – 6:00 PM – VFW Hall – Info 209-610-9415

IBCA Board Meeting

3rd Thursday – 8:30 AM – Castle Oaks Golf Club

Dec 10th Christmas Dinner Castle Oaks Golf Club 5pm

Ione Community Program (City Revitalization)

4th Monday – 5:30 PM - City Hall - 274-2777

Ione Homecoming Picnic Association

1st Wed – 6:30 PM – VFW Hall

Ione Masonic Lodge #80 – 274-0354

2nd Wednesday – 8:00 PM – Ione Masonic Hall

Eastern Star Meeting – 274-4289 or 274-0354

3rd Thursday – 7:30 PM – Ione Masonic Hall

Native Sons Parlor 33

1st & 3rd Wednesday – 7:00 PM – Native Sons' Bldg, Ione

Preston Castle Foundation Meetings

1st Wed - 6:30 PM – Cornerstone Church

Rotary Club Meeting

Thursdays – 12:00 Noon – Ione Hotel Restaurant

Veterans of Foreign War Meeting – Ione Memorial Hall

2nd Friday – Family dinner 6:00 PM – Meeting 7:00 PM

Upcoming Activities

E-Waste Collection *

Sponsored by Preston Castle Foundation & Ione Rotary

1st Saturday 9:00 to 11:00 AM - Preston Castle

Important Numbers

City Hall 209-274-2412

Emergency 911

Non-emergency 209-223-6513 or 209-223-6500

City of Ione NEWS

The deadline for input is the 20th of each month. Input forms are available at City Hall, on the City website or email Sharon Long, at ionecitynews@ione-ca.com.

Santa's Route by Ione Fire Department

The Fire Department and their families will leave Fire Station No.1 at 6:00 PM on the following nights to visit each neighborhood with music, candy canes and Christmas wishes.

- Dec 12 SE of City – Main St. S/E
- Dec 13 SW of City – W. Marlette Area
- Dec 15 North Side – Preston Ave Area
- Dec 16 – Edgebrook Subdivision
- Dec 17 – Castle Oaks Subdivision
- Dec 18 – Make up Rain Day

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City Wastewater – An Overview

The City of Ione has been working on addressing the City's wastewater issues. The following is intended to be an overview and timeline of activities that surround the wastewater issue that the City is facing.

2003 - The State Water Quality Control Board, specifically, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) issued a cease and desist order directing the City to address issues involving the wastewater treatment plant at 1600 West Marlette. There are issues with impacts to groundwater table due to the proximity of wastewater effluent being stored in treatment ponds. In addition, there is the potential seepage from the treatment ponds to Sutter Creek, which is a violation of the City's wastewater treatment permit. The City has a problem with storage and disposal of the current secondary effluent in the storage ponds at the wastewater treatment facility.

2005-2006 – The City granted development entitlements for new housing and commercial properties, up to 1200 sewer connections. In 2006, the City determined that it only had capacity at the current wastewater facility for approximately 700 connections.

2006-2007 - A settlement agreement as the result of litigation with neighbors adjacent to the wastewater treatment plant required the City to conduct environmental studies prior to undertaking any work at the wastewater treatment facility.

2009 – 2010 - To address the above issues the City completed the Wastewater Master Plan and Environmental Information Report (EIR) in 2009. In March 2010, the City submitted a Report of Waste Discharge to the Regional Board for the new wastewater treatment permit for the wastewater treatment plant improvements. The Wastewater Master Plan is to develop a facility to treat 0.8 million gallons per day (mgd) of wastewater to tertiary water, decommission Ponds 1-4, fill-in a portion of Ponds 5 and 6 to ensure they are 200 feet from Sutter Creek, and construct a new pond (Pond 8). These reports are

available for review on the City's website under sewer and provide significant information on the issues surrounding the need for the improvements.

Additionally, the City released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in late 2009 to construct the new facility. The City received three responses to the RFQ and allowed all three bidders to participate in the Request for Proposal (RFP). The City released the RFP in 2010 and received only one response in October 2010 with the other two firms withdrawing from the process. The City is currently working with the bidder, PERC Water, to refine the project to meet the concerns from the Regional Board and to develop the best project for the City. The City Council has not received a final project description or costs to construct and there is no project or contract signed to date.

In November 2010, the Regional Board notified the City of its concern with the construction of a new pond (Pond 8) and seepage from the wastewater treatment plant now, and after the improvements, into Sutter Creek. Due to these concerns, the City is looking to eliminate the need for Pond 8 and reduce the treatment capacity from 0.8 mgd to 0.55 mgd for the new facility of tertiary effluent and use Ponds 5, 6, and 7 only. There is the outstanding issue of seepage into Sutter Creek. The City has commissioned an isotope study to determine conclusively that there is, or is not, seepage to Sutter Creek. There is a history of damp dirt along the bank of Sutter Creek, but all the tests have been inconclusive if it is wastewater or ground water. The next steps are to ensure that the Regional Board will issue a wastewater treatment permit for the selected facility to the City after addressing their issues.

During the past three years, the City has discussed partnerships with California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and Amador Regional Sanitation Authority (ARSA) to determine if a partnership is a viable option. Currently, the City treats the secondary effluent from Mule Creek State Prison and ARSA to tertiary water for application to

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Wastewater Issues & Overview

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the Castle Oaks Golf Course. The City has also looked at potential partners to receive the City's tertiary treated effluent for land application or recycling to eliminate or reduce the need for storage. These discussions are on-going and would provide a regional solution to wastewater in the Lone Valley. If the City is able to dispose of the tertiary effluent without the need for storage ponds, then the City will receive the necessary permit from the Regional Board for the new facility.

In summary...

The City Council has been involved in this process since 2003. They selected the elements for the above project in October 2007. City staff has been working to complete the necessary studies, gather the appropriate information to implement the wastewater project, and to seek the most cost-effective and efficient wastewater solution for the City and its wastewater users. There will be a public meeting to discuss issues prior to the final selection, and explanation as to why the City selected the Design-Build-Finance-Operate (DBFO) process for the project. A breakdown of the final project design and costs will also be presented for discussion.

Kim Kerr
Lone City Manager

For additional information, log on to the City of Lone website: www.ione-ca.com

Applicable Links: Sewer Information

- Wastewater Master Plan and Final EIR
- Sewer Request for Qualifications for Design-Build-Operate-Finance Services

For the State Water Resource Control Board, Log on to: www.swrcb.ca.gov

City of Lone contact: Kim Kerr, City Manager