



# AMITY GRAPEVINE

May 1, 2020

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## MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MICHAEL CAPE

Welcome to May! May is typically a busy month for the City, now more than ever. It's budget season and the City still needs to create its plan for this next fiscal year, beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>. We still need your help with the budget, so if you're interested in joining the budget committee, please contact City Hall. The budget this year will be tight, as cities across the country see both increasing costs and declining revenue as a result of the pandemic. Amity is no different, but our last few years of good financial management have given us a bit of a monetary cushion to get through until things recover.

But to fully recover, we need to re-open Amity. I can assure you we all want to do this soon! But we need to be smart and safe about it. I've asked City Staff to prepare for reopening the Library, City Hall, and our park and they are establishing a way to do so. When the State starts to lift restrictions Amity will do the same. It is likely reopening will begin this month, but it may not occur until June. We will keep you posted; check our Facebook page, website, sign board, and future newsletters.

For now, we must do what we can to keep Amity moving forward. We may be social distancing and working remotely, but we're conducting a Council Meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup>, a Planning Commission Meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup>, and our budget meeting is on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Oregon's primary elections are the 19<sup>th</sup> and, nationally, the 2020 Census is on-going. I encourage you to get involved and be a part of your community this month!

## AMITY INFO CORNER

### UTILITY PAYMENTS & SHUT OFFS AS WE RE-OPEN OREGON

As Oregon slowly reopens the City will lift its restrictions, too. While we've been battling the pandemic, the City suspended water shut offs; as the pandemic abates, we will resume shut offs. We understand that although *charges have accrued* during this time, you may not have had the ability to pay. We do not want people to panic about this! The day after we resume normal service we are **not** going to immediately shut off your water if you have a "past due" amount.

The City expects you to pay your both your "past due" and most current charges, when normal service resumes. But, if you are "past due," please drop by City Hall and our staff will work with you to establish a payment plan for the "past due" amount. As long as a rate payer is able to make consistent payments and works towards paying off any "past due" amount – using an agreed to plan – the City will ensure that the water keeps flowing. Without a plan in place, if one's "past due" amount increases, we may be forced to shut off the water. We don't want to do that!

With a payment plan in place, we hope that you'll have one less stressor as Amity and Oregon move beyond the pandemic.



### AHS BANNERS

You may see some different banners around town this month. Public Works, Amity High School, the Seniors Parent Group, and DIG are partnering to showcase our graduating seniors (Class of 2020) as the school closures have eliminated much of their graduation traditions. So, we hope to offer this small honor to our graduates during this pandemic.

# FROM AMITY DIG

Amity Downtown Improvement Group welcomes the newest restaurant business, **El Toro Loco**, 615 South Trade Street (former Maria's and Amity Pub site). They are open for take-out lunch and delivery. You can check their Facebook page for the menu. Phone is 971-259-1024.

The following food establishments are open...yet some have limited hours so phone, or check social media, for updated information as things change frequently these days: Amity Bakery & Café, Amity Market/Deli and Liquor, Blue Raven, Coffee Town, El Toro Loco, the Common Cup, Tacos Burros, and Trade Street Taphouse. The Blue Goat is temporarily closed during the coronavirus outbreak.

While the winery tasting rooms are closes, some of the wineries are open for pick up orders: Coelho Winery, Dukes Family Vineyards, Keeler Estate Vineyard, Kristin Hill, The Bramble. Phone for information or review websites and Facebook pages for updated information.

Rainflower Florist & Sweets will deliver floral arrangements to let your friends and loves ones know you are thinking of them during these "stay at home" times. Phone 503-435-8589 to place an order.

Keep your eyes open towards the end of the month for the hanging flower baskets. The students planted a mix of perennials and annuals and John Stables, the FFA teacher, has been tending them after schools were closed.

*Submitted by DIG*

## EVENTS/CLOSURES

**YCSO Open House** – May 1 at 5:30

**Council Meeting**- May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7pm  
This meeting will be held over ZOOM.

**Planning Commission** - May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm  
This meeting will be held over ZOOM.

**Committee Meetings**- May 20<sup>th</sup> at 5pm

- **Police committee**
- **Ordinance committee**
- **Parks/streets committee**
- **Water/sewer committee**
- **Community engagement committee**
- **Finance committee**

**City Hall Closed**- May 25<sup>th</sup> in honor of Memorial Day.

**Budget Committee Meeting**- May 27<sup>th</sup> at time to be determined

**Council Meeting**- June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm

**[www.cityofamityoregon.org](http://www.cityofamityoregon.org)**

**Amity City Council:**

Nickolas Wilkinson, Ryan Lehman, Napua Ann Rich, Jenna Goings, Sandy McArthur, Robert Andrade, and Mayor Michael Cape.

## PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

**W**ant to make a difference in your community? There is a vacant position on the Amity Planning Commission. To qualify, you must be a registered voter; preferably also a resident living inside City Limits. If you are interested, please obtain an application from City Hall. The position will remain open until filled.