

# TOWN OF OAKESDALE NEWSLETTER

## OCTOBER 2009

### GOOD NEWS - BAD NEWS

Last month we brought you the good news that Oakesdale was again going to have a restaurant. It has been in business for a couple of weeks serving breakfasts (all day if you like), lunches and dinners. Hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

This month we bring you the sad news that Two Old Hammers (Terry and Suzanne) are closing their antique business. Their last day will be October 3rd.

### TOWN WIDE YARD SALE

Oakesdale is having a town wide yard sale on October 3rd from 9:30 a.m. to ?. Sign up at Crossett's if you want to be included.

### WHITMAN COUNTY LIBRARY

Our local library operates as a branch of the Whitman County Library. The Town furnishes the building, lights and heat and Whitman County Library furnishes the rest.

In the coming election, Whitman County Library seeks restoration of its Maintenance & Operations levy rate, an increase of 5.2 cents per \$1000 of assessed value. The rate has dropped to 44.8 cents as a result of the passage of I-474. With 14 countywide branches and increased usage, the district seeks these funds to maintain the number of locations, hours and services residents have come to expect. For more information, please visit our local library, go online at [www.whitco.lib.wa.us](http://www.whitco.lib.wa.us) or contact Kristie at 877-733-3365. This increase would amount to \$5.20 on a \$100,000 home.

### PROJECT NEWS

We hope to complete two of our summer projects this month. The project to remodel the area above the library for use as rental office space is in its final stages. We have not yet set a rental fee but if you know of anyone looking for approximately 900 square feet of office space have them contact City Hall.

The organic yard waste project will be completed in the next couple of weeks. The area has been paved and as soon as it is fenced we will be able to start receiving tree limbs and shrub clippings. This includes any clean tree branches, shrubs, and woody material that is free of dirt and rocks and not exceeding 15 inches in diameter. No trash or other non organic material is to be deposited at the site. We will periodically be using Whitman County's large chipper

to turn this into chips for use by those who have a need for wood chips. Some chips will be included in our composting piles. All we ask is that the limbs be small enough to be fed to the chipper by hand.

We will hold off on receiving any grass clippings until spring.

### WATER BILLING CHANGE

We have made some changes to our water/sewer billing procedure. The changes are shown in italics and underlined below. Our bills are due on receipt of the bill and past due on the 20th day of the month. If the 20th falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Holiday the bill is due on the next business day. A \$10 late fee is added to each bill not paid by the due date. When a past due bill remains unpaid for another month a notice of delinquency (shutoff notice) is mailed via first class certified mail to the owner or occupant of the property. The cost of mailing this certified notice will now be added to the delinquent bill. This notice advises that if delinquent bill is not paid within 15 days the water service will be turned off. During this 15 day period owners or occupants can be heard before the Mayor or Clerk/Treasurer as to why water should not be shut off. Before water service is shut off another notice will be served to the property advising occupant that water will be turned off unless all delinquent charges are paid by the next business day. The cost of serving this notice will also be added to the delinquent bill. If the water has to be turned off a \$10 charge for turning the water off and a \$10 charge for turning it back on will be added to the delinquent bill and all delinquent charges must be paid before water service can be restored

We regret having to do this but it will only affect the small number of customers who force us to go through this process month after month.

### BURNING

Oakesdale's "no burning ban" will be lifted on October 1st for backyard burning of organic yard waste. Our Municipal Code requires that piles not be larger than three feet in diameter, burning cannot begin until after 7:30 a.m. and all fires must be extinguished by 4:00 p.m. Any person starting a fire will be liable for damage to any other person's property. Also, the fire or smoke must not create a nuisance which directly impacts another person in such a manner as to bothersome, harmful, or offensive to another person. No burning Sundays and Holidays.

### Mayor/ Council Contacts

#### Councilmen:

George Dewan = 285-5282, Alan Evans = 285-4727, Tom Johnson = 285-4303

Dennis Palmer = 285-4209, Randy Robinson = 285-6750

Mayor: Russ Rickett = 285-4049, City Hall = 285-4020