

THE CENTRAL POINT

COMMUNITY IN FOCUS

Firework Safety

As the 4th of July approaches, many of us choose to celebrate our independence by attending a professional fireworks display. To those who choose to use retail consumer fireworks, State Fire Marshal Mark Wallace reminds you to only use legal fireworks and know how to use them safely. Every year in Oregon, celebrations turn to tragedy due to fireworks injuries or fires. Most of the injuries were from using illegal mortars and legal sparklers. Over the past five years, fireworks-caused fires were responsible for more than \$3.5 million in property loss. If you choose to use Oregon legal fireworks, the best way to protect your family and property is to "Keep it Legal and Keep it Safe!"

Fireworks Safety - Promote & Practice the "4 BE'S"

BE PREPARED: Store fireworks out of children's reach. Always read and follow label directions. Place pets indoors; they are easily frightened by fireworks. Always have water handy (a garden hose or a bucket of water)

BE SAFE: An adult should always light fireworks. Light only one firework at a time & move away quickly. Keep children a

safe distance from fireworks. Do not throw fireworks or hold them in your hand

BE RESPONSIBLE: Soak used fireworks thoroughly in a bucket of water. Dispose of used fireworks & debris properly. Never re-light "dud" fireworks. Wait 15-20 minutes then soak it in a bucket of water

BE AWARE: Use only legal firework and use them only in legal places. Fireworks are prohibited on all beaches, state parks, & state or federal forest lands.

REMINDER: The board cancelled street sweeping. July 4th celebrations are quite common in our neighborhood. The CC&R's state that streets & sidewalks need to be kept clean and free from trash and debris at all times. We would like to remind everyone that ALL residents are required to clean up the sidewalk AND street in front of their house. This may apply to fireworks you did not set off.

CC&R Corner

Stay Safe in the Water – Please Follow the Pool Rules

Swimming is one of the many joys of summer, and we hope you're able to make good use of our association's pool. While

we want to make sure all our residents and guests have fun in and around the water, our top priority is safety. Please take note of the association pool rules and follow them to help keep everyone safe. Most of the pool rules are outlined in our governing documents, but following these tips will help ensure everyone's safety.

Pool rules promote safety, but safety is largely up to you: it's important to take precautions and be prepared for emergencies.

Make sure you, your family and your guests know how to swim properly. If you don't, there are plenty of swimming classes for people of all ages.

Always supervise children while they're around the pool, no matter how well they can swim. It only takes one misstep for someone to get hurt.

Take note where the reach pole and life preservers are located in the pool area.

Consider learning CPR. This simple life-saving technique could save a life.

There's plenty of fun to be had at the pool, and knowing how to stay safe in the water will help make this a great summer. For more safety tips, go to www.poolsafely.gov.

POINT ON ASSOCIATION BUSINESS

Fiduciary Duty?

From time to time you may hear that HOA boards operate in a fiduciary capacity for homeowners. Or you may read about a board's fiduciary responsibility in the governing documents. Just exactly what does this mean?

Fiduciary duty simply means the board has an ethical and legal obligation to make decisions in the best interests of the entire association. That's a small explanation for a big responsibility.

Fiduciary duty includes a duty of loyalty to the association, which means board members should never use their position to take advantage of the association. They should never make decisions for the association

which benefit themselves at the expense of the association and its members.

In short, boards must act in the best interests of the association and act reasonably.

Board members fulfill their fiduciary duty by: developing and using a formal budgeting process, establishing and adhering to budgetary guidelines, making sure the budgeting process reflects the wishes of the association members, promoting understanding and acceptance of the reserve accounts among the members, collecting sufficient fees to adequately operate the association, soliciting bids and negotiating appropriate contracts, and authorizing expenditures.

Our Manager Is Here To Help You

Our manager works on behalf of our board of directors to oversee the operational issues our association deals with on a daily basis. One of the most important roles our manager has is to act as the communication liaison between you, the homeowner or resident, and the board. If you have any association related questions or have an issue you would like the board to address, please take advantage of our manager's desire to assist you and contact her. It is always more effective if your concerns are communicated in writing and not submitted anonymously. That way there is a written record of your concern and you can be updated on the progress in resolving or addressing it.

**POINT ON THE
COMMUNITY**

Saving Energy to Stay Cool

Energy bills like the temperature always rise in the summer. But don't fret: there are many inexpensive energy solutions, as well as some simple and free steps you can take to cut down on energy costs and save money.

Turn it up. Set your thermostat as high as possible. Start with 78 degrees when at home and 85 degrees when away. For each degree above 72 you set the thermostat, you save between 1-3 percent. Be sure to take into consideration your health and comfort and drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated.

Circulate air. Use fans to create cool breezes and keep the air moving in your home. Ceiling fans, in particular, can create enough air movement to make it cooler by at least four degrees. This could translate into a significantly lower monthly electric bill, as ceiling fans only use about as much energy as a 100-watt light bulb.

Shut the shades. Windows allow a lot of heat into your home. Keep drapes and shades closed during the day to keep the temperature down.

Open nights. At night, if it's

cooler outside than in, open your windows. Not only will this bring some fresh air into your home, it will give you a chance to turn off that AC. Also, be sure to close your windows in the morning to keep the cooler air in longer.

**POINT ON THE
ROGUE VALLEY**

Fireworks

The Rogue Valley usually provides residents with great celebrations for Independence Day, and this 4th of July is no exception.

Central Point will host the Freedom Festival. The festival kicks off with a Freedom and Fun Run followed by a Parade on Pine Street and activities at Pfaff park.

Bring your friends and family to Red White and BOOM! At the Jackson County Fairgrounds for the **biggest fireworks show ever in Southern Oregon.**

Ashland's 2013 Fourth of July Celebration is over 100 years old. The festivities begin early with a run, followed by a parade, activities, food and entertainment in Lithia Park, and concludes late that evening with spectacular fireworks.

The Eagle Point 4th of July celebration starts at 7 am with the Boy Scout breakfast, followed with a fun run/walk and then an entire day and night fun capped off with fireworks at dusk at Eagle Point High School.

Click for more info:

www.hggv.org

**POINT ON
GOOD HEALTH**

Stay Safe in the Sun

Summer is here, the sun is shining, and most of us take that as our cue to get outside. It is important take care of our skin while in the sun. Before heading outdoors, take the proper steps to shield your skin from the sun's harmful UV rays that cause damage and can even lead to skin cancer. Apply sunscreen and wear sun protective clothing. Most experts agree that it is best to use sunscreen with a factor of 15+ SPF. When heading to the pool, make sure that your sunscreen is water resistant. It is ideal to apply sunscreen 15-30 minutes before going into the sun and reapply it every 2 hours. Remember, sunburn can double your risk of cancer, so take extra precautions to keep your skin safe.

July Calendar of Events

- 07/03 – Lone Ranger in theaters
- 07/04 – Independence Day (office closed)
- 07/12 – Office Closed
- 07/12 – Friday Night Festival Begins– movies & music in the park
- 07/13 & 07/14 – Oregon Lavender Festival
- 07/16 – Jackson County Fair begins
- 07/22 – Full Moon

FROZEN YOGURT DIPPED STRAWBERRIES

Cool off from the hot July 4th afternoon with these cute frozen strawberries covered in greek yogurt. The burst of berry juice mixed with the creamy dairy flavor is the perfect pick-me-up after a long day of watching parades.



Preparing them is quite simple; dip the strawberries into a batch of fresh greek yogurt and place them onto a baking sheet. Pop them in the freezer and soon you will have a tasty treat. The recipe is simple enough to get the kids involved by having them help. Since everything is better on a stick these days, you can also add lollipop skewers for an equally sweet presentation. Greek yogurt is full of protein and provides a healthier alternative to the traditional chocolate dipped berries.