The City of Wendell is now accepting bids for the position of Irrigation Ditch rider for 2017. This position is contracted with the city, and it is not a city personnel position. Bids will be accepted at City Hall through January 3rd, 2017. Job description and information available on-line at www.wendell.id.gov

Wendell City Mayor & Councilmembers
Mayor Lori Swainston
Council President Don Dune
Councilman Jason Kooser
Councilman Herb Allred
Councilwoman BJ Marshall

December

Don't forget, Wendell Senior Center serves lunch on Mondays and Fridays, public is welcome. Suggested donation for under 60 is $5.00 and over is a suggested donation of $4.00. The food is good homemade cooking, always delicious and good company to enjoy while dining!
380 1st Ave East 536-9951

Wendell Food Pantry
Providing food assistance to anyone in need. We are located at 335 1st Ave East in Wendell. Assistance is available every Thursday from 3-6 PM. Check out the Wendell Food Pantry face book page for updated information.

It is recommended that you change your smoke detector every 10 years. Locate all your smoke detectors and check for the manufacturer date on them. If you find a detector older than ten years you should replace it. Ten years equals 87,000 hours of working, time for a fresh one!

Brad Christopherson, Wendell City Administrator received GREAT NEWS the first of November. As many of you may know, Brad has been on a waiting list for a kidney transplant and he received the call to be in Salt Lake City immediately on November 1st. He received a new kidney in the early hour of 1:30 am, November 2nd. The kidney is working well so far and has not tried to reject it’s new home. After a few days in the hospital, he was finally able to move to a hotel nearby for recovery and to be close to the doctors to monitor the new kidney and his progress. His wife, Joanne, has been there with him and they should be home soon. In the meantime, there has been a movement here in town put on by “Friends of Brad” who are raising funds to help off set some of the expenses of this new kidney. With out of pocket expenses of at least $30,000, “Friends of Brad” are raffling off gift baskets and they also had a successful baked goods sale at the Wendell Chamber of Commerce annual Holiday Bazaar. The raffle will continue through December 15th, at which time winners will be announced at the regular 7:00 meeting of the Wendell City Council. A Go Fund Me account is active on-line, and there is an account at Farmer’s National Bank if anyone would like to make a donation there. Send checks to “Bucks for Brad” or Farmer’s National Bank, PO Box 548, Wendell, Id. 83655. If you would like to be involved or help out some other way, please call Beeky @ 536-2446 or Shara @ 536-6159.

Raffle Tickets can also be purchased at City Hall. Tickets are $1 each or 6 for $5.
2016 Dog licenses are now available at City Hall.
Dog licenses are to be renewed annually by the end of January each year.
Licenses are $5.00 each for a neutered male or a spayed female. Not neutered or spayed then the fee is $10.00 each.
Please bring in proof of rabies shots and information on microchips if the dog has been chipped. On February 1st there is a late fee of $5.00 added to the cost of the license. City ordinances do not allow for licensing kennels in the city limits and restricts dog and cat ownership to three per household.

Area Code Overlay Approved for the Idaho 208 Area Code

To ensure a continuing supply of telephone numbers, the new 986 area code will be added to the area served by 208. This is known as an area code overlay. Get ready to change the way you dial your local calls!

What is an area code overlay?
An overlay is the addition of another area code (986) to the same geographic region as an existing area code (208). An overlay does not require customers to change their existing area code.

Who will be affected?
The 208 area code covers the State of Idaho. The new 986 area code will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 208 area code.

What will be the new dialing procedure?
To complete local calls, the new dialing procedure requires callers to dial the 10-digit telephone number (area code + the 7-digit telephone number). This means that all calls in the 208 area code that are currently dialed with seven digits will need to be dialed using 10-digit telephone number. The same dialing procedure will apply to telephone numbers assigned to the new 986 area code. Calls that are currently local will continue to be local, even though 10-digit dialing will be required.

When will the change begin?
Effective September 5, 2016, you should begin using the new dialing procedures whenever you place a call from the 208 area code. If you forget and dial just seven digits, your call will still be completed.

Beginning August 5, 2017, you must use the new dialing procedures, as described above for all calls. After this date, if you do not use the new dialing procedures, your calls will not be completed and a recording will instruct you to hang up and dial again.

Beginning September 5, 2017, new telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers using the new 986 area code.

What will you need to do?
In addition to changing your dialing procedures, all services, automatic dialing equipment, or other types of equipment that are programmed with a 7-digit number will need to be reprogrammed to use the new dialing procedures. Some examples are life safety systems, PBXs, fax machines, Internet dial-up numbers, alarm and security systems, gates, speed dialers, call forwarding settings, voicemail services, etc. You may also want to check your website, business stationery, printed checks, contact information, pet ID tags, or advertising materials to ensure the area code is included. Important safety and security equipment, such as medical alert devices, and alarm and security systems must be programmed to use 10-digit dialing. Many systems operate on 10-digit dialing by default but some older equipment may still use 7-digits. Please contact your medical alert or security provider if you don’t know whether your equipment needs to be reprogrammed to accommodate the upcoming change to 10-digit dialing.

What will remain the same?
- Your telephone number, including current area code, will not change.
- The price of a call, coverage area, or other rates and services will not change due to the overlay.
- What is a local call now will remain a local call regardless of the number of digits dialed.
- You will still have to dial 1+area code + telephone number (11-digit dialing) to place long-distance calls within the 208/986 Area Code.
- You can still dial just three digits to reach 911.
- If 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711 or 811 are currently available in your community, you will still dial these codes with just three digits.