

FYI Forest Grove... Join us...

At the Library for the

"IT'S FINISHED & WE'RE OPEN" CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2007

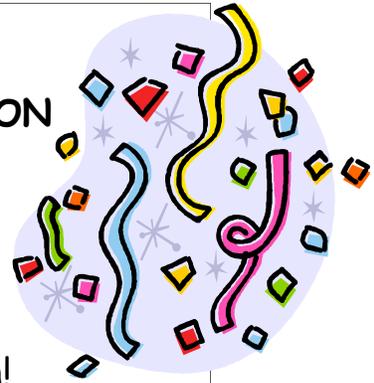
11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Community families are invited to visit
the Forest Grove City Library

to Celebrate the Re-Opening of the Renovation!

The celebration will include activities for children, prizes, music and food.

For more information, please contact the Library at 503-992-3247.



At the Fire Station for the

PUBLIC SAFETY OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, October 13, 2007

10 am to 2 pm

Annual Open House

Forest Grove Fire Station

1919 Ash Street



This event will be the finale of Fire Prevention Week activities and will include fire engine rides for children who completed the fire safety homework. Additionally, representatives from Library Services, Law Enforcement, Public Utilities, Emergency Medical Services, and the Military will be available with displays and equipment.

Everyone is invited to attend and visit with those that serve the community.



Smoke Alarms should be replaced every 10 years. For information on free smoke alarm inspections, contact Fire Department at 503-992-3240.



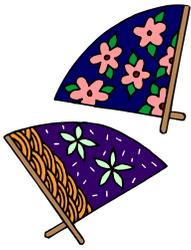
Forest Grove Sister Cities Association Offers

SUSHI CLASS

Saturday, October 6, 2007

Class Registration Fee \$15.00

(\$10 is tax deductible)



Bring your apron and get ready to learn how to make and roll sushi!

In this hands-on class, Ms. Ikeda, class instructor, will teach you how to make sushi and teach you rolling techniques.

- Lesson:** Hands-on Sushi
- Class Fee:** \$15.00 (non-refundable, \$10 is a tax deductible donation)
- Instructor:** Kazuko Ikeda
- Date:** Saturday, October 6, 2007
- Time:** 11 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. (Check-in begins at 10:45 a.m.)
- Location:** Community Auditorium, 1915 Main Street, FG



Small class offering, please register as soon as possible

The intent of the class is to learn more about international culture and the relationship that Forest Grove has with its Sister City, Nyuzen, Japan. **REGISTER TODAY!** To register, contact the Forest Grove Chamber of Commerce at 503.357.3006, info@fgchamber.org, or stop by the office at 2417 Pacific Avenue between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Class registration fee must be paid at the time of registration. To learn more about the Sushi Class, the Sister Cities Association, or becoming a member of the Sister Cities Association, please contact Sandy Garcia at graysp@pacificu.edu. The Sister Cities Association is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

SEEKING HOST FAMILIES FOR JAPAN STUDENT DELEGATION VISIT

The Forest Grove Sister Cities Association and the Forest Grove School District are seeking host families for the annual Nyuzen, Japan, Student Delegation Program. The students are tentatively planning to visit Forest Grove **October 26 through November 1, 2007**. The purpose of the program is to promote international understanding and friendship, and to give the students a chance to experience another culture firsthand. The program will provide an extensive array of educational programs, cultural activities, and field trips during their visit. The students will attend school during the day and share evenings and weekend with their host families. If you are interested in this exceptional international culture experience and would like to host a student, please call Sandy Garcia at graysp@pacificu.edu or 503.357.6536 (please leave a detailed message).

FYI Forest Grove...

The Forest Grove City Council has unanimously decided to refer a five-year local option public safety/community service levy to the voters on November 6, 2007.

Why? TO RESTORE and MAINTAIN SERVICES

- ⇒ The property tax levy is needed to restore public safety service levels and help maintain the level of services that the 2002 local option levy funded.
- ⇒ In November, 2002, the voters approved a five-year local option levy to:
 - help maintain City services,
 - add three police officers, and
 - add two firefighter/paramedics.
- ⇒ The 2002 levy expires this fiscal year.
- ⇒ The City has already reduced police, fire, library, aquatic and park services. Approximately \$500,000 in additional reductions would be necessary next year without passage of this levy.
- ⇒ Property tax revenue is the primary source of funding for police and fire services which are essential.
- ⇒ Forest Grove's property tax revenue collected for operations does not cover the combined budgets for the police and fire departments.
- ⇒ This levy would not add services. It would allow the City to restore the positions eliminated in July, 2007, and would help restore hours of operation at the pool and library.

When?

ELECTION DAY: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2007.

Ballots will be mailed October 19, 2007, and must be returned to the Washington County Elections Office or deposited in the ballot box by 8:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, November 6th**. The drive-by ballot box is located at 2102 Pacific Avenue in front of the Police Station.

Cost to Citizens?

This measure would renew the \$0.99 per \$1,000 of assessed value levy and increase it by \$0.36 per \$1,000 of assessed value.

A typical homeowner currently pays \$178 per year in property taxes for the \$0.99 levy. The increase in the levy rate of \$0.36 would cost typical homeowners an additional \$65 per year in property taxes. Assumes average assessed value (not market value) of \$180,000.

Frequently Asked Question

Why is the City asking again? In May 2007, the levy passed with 74% of the voters saying "yes" and 24% of the voters saying "no" but the election did not meet the 50% turnout requirement of Measure 50. The City Council has heard from voters who are concerned with the level of services and the additional reductions that may be necessary if the levy is not renewed.

More Information

The City is preparing a Question & Answer (Q&A) sheet to provide additional information about the levy. If you have a question you would like included in the Q&A, please contact the City Manager's office at 503-992-3234 or by email at bmaughan@ci.forest-grove.or.us.