

Community Notes

Issue 134
November 2013

MAYOR'S NOTES

By Phyllis Bolman, CMC, City Recorder

I am sure you have been visited by door to door solicitors trying to sell products you do not need or want! While many are courteous, I am talking about the "foot in the door", "won't take no for an answer" solicitors.

Are you aware, according to state law, a solicitor needs to let you know a few things within 30 seconds of starting the conversation? The person must tell you who they are, who then represent, explain why they are there, describe the goods or services they are offering for sale and **ask** if you are interested in hearing their presentation.

In addition to State Law the City of Monmouth has recently adopted a Solicitation Ordinance that requires all door to door solicitors to register with the City before they go out to solicit.

The City has adopted this Ordinance to help protect the citizens of Monmouth from disruption of "peaceful and quiet enjoyment of their property" and to help prevent possible criminal activity.

To be clear, this Ordinance **does not** apply to your neighbor's child fundraising for school, the Boy/Girl Scouts or any other non-profit organization or church group.

The Ordinance does apply to solicitors selling commercial products and services. It requires them to register with the City. The City will require them to provide names, addresses, etc. of everyone involved, how and

when they will be soliciting and the dates they will be soliciting in a specific area. A background check will be done on the people involved.

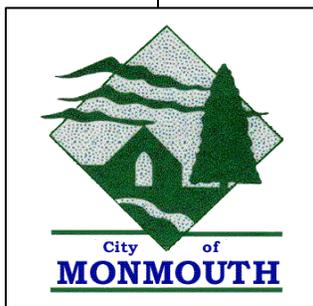
Once the solicitors are approved, they will receive a certificate of registration, which they must provide upon request.

The Ordinance limits solicitation to between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8:30 p.m. during daylight savings time or between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m. during standard time. Solicitation is not allowed on Sunday or legal holidays.

You have the right to post a "No Soliciting" or "No Trespassing" sign in a prominent place. Solicitors are prohibited from soliciting at a residence with one of these signs.

If a solicitor will not leave after you have asked him/her to leave, will not give you the information they are required to in the first 30 seconds or do not have a registration certificate, you have the right to call the Police. These are violations that can be prosecuted.

The full Ordinance is posted on the City's website at www.ci.monmouth.or.us under the "City Code" section. If you have any questions about this ordinance, please feel free to contact City Hall or the Police Department.



2

ANNUAL HOLIDAY BOOK SALE

The Friends of Monmouth Library will conduct their annual holiday book sale during the first week of December. The sale will include "nearly-new" and holiday books plus some collectibles. Sale hours will be Fri., Dec. 6 from 2 to 6 p.m. and Sat., Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. A special "members only" sale for Friends of Monmouth Library will take place Thur., Dec. 5 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. The sale is to be held in the meeting room of the Library.

Proceeds will benefit children and teen reading programs plus special activities for adults and the whole family. For more information call the Library at 503-838-1932.

EMERITUS SOCIETY

The Emeritus Society, sponsored by Western Oregon University, is an association of adults seeking and sharing intellectual pursuits and is open to members of our community as well as retired WOU staff and faculty.

The Society has been in existence for 30 years. It meets the first Monday of the month to hear a speaker and enjoy refreshments at the Community Room of Monmouth Public Library at 1:30pm. In addition members receive a monthly newsletter and have an opportunity to go on a field trip and lunch out every month.

Dues are \$30 per year and proceeds from dues go towards scholarships for Western Oregon University students. Guests are always welcome. You can join them November 4, at 1:30, Monmouth Public Library Community Room. Professor Emily Plec will be presenting "Human Animal Communication." If you have any questions, please call [503 838 9120](tel:5038389120).

COMMUNITY NOTES

If you would like to have an article included in the Community Notes regarding an event, please email your information by the 15th of the month prior to the event, to pbolman@ci.monmouth.or.us. We cannot guarantee publication.

www.ci.monmouth.or.us

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The Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign

Every year The Salvation Army raises funds through its Red Kettle Campaign to support local social service efforts. Money raised locally stays local to provide vital services to those in need in Polk County. Volunteer "bell ringers" are important to the success of this campaign.

The Salvation Army would like you to consider donating a 2 hour shift at one of your local locations, Bi Mart in Monmouth and Roth's in Independence starting November 25th through December 24th. They encourage you to recruit family, friends, service groups, or businesses to get involved. To sign up, go to www.ringbells.org.

EVENTS

The Monmouth Senior Center will be hosting a presentation on Social Security benefits after the monthly breakfast on Saturday, November 2 at 11:00 a.m. Registration is required and the presentation is free.

A "Photographic Memories" class will be held at the Monmouth Senior Center on Monday November 11 and 18 from 1-3 pm. The class is free. Bring your pictures; either hard or digital copies. Practicum student Megan Seifried will help organize them and burn them onto a CD. For more information contact the Center at [503-838-5678](tel:5038385678).

On Friday, November 15, 1:00 pm, John Hasbrook, Monmouth attorney, will give a presentation about Estate Planning. It includes wills, trusts and power of attorney. He will share valuable insight as to why it is important. All ages welcome to attend.

Utility Bill Inserts

For those of you wishing to put a full page insert in the utility bill, we are now taking reservations for the utility bill mailed out on the last day of May, 2014.