



EVERY SMOKE ALARM HAS AN EXPIRATION DATE: WHAT'S YOURS?

Portland Fire Department urges all residents to know how old their smoke alarms are, and to replace them every 10 years.

Does your home have a smoke alarm? According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the answer is likely yes: NFPA research shows that most American homes have at least one. But do you know how old your smoke alarms are? If you're like most people, you're probably not so sure.

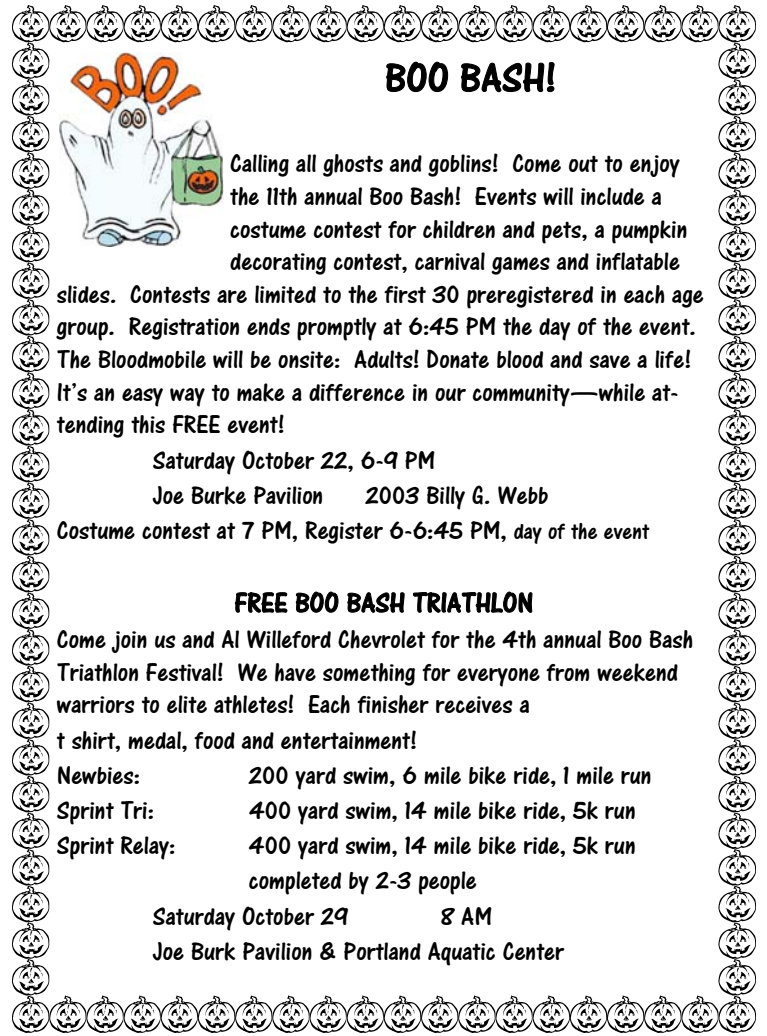
Time and again, we've seen the life-saving impact smoke alarms can have in a home fire, but we've also seen the tragedy that can result when smoke alarms aren't working properly. That's why we're making a concerted effort to educate residents about the overall importance of smoke alarms, and that they do have a life limit.

NFPA 72, *National Fire Alarm Code*[®], requires smoke alarms be replaced at least every 10 years, but because the public is generally unaware of this requirement, many homes have smoke alarms past their expiration date, putting people at increased risk.

As the official sponsor of Fire Prevention Week for more than 90 years, NFPA is promoting this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Don't Wait - Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years," to better educate the public about the critical importance of knowing how old their smoke alarms are and replacing them once they're 10 years old. Fire Prevention Week is October 9-15, 2016.

To find out how old your smoke alarm is and its expiration date, simply look on the back of the alarm where the date of manufacture is marked. The smoke alarm should be replaced 10 years from that date (*not* the date of purchase). The Portland Fire Department also says smoke alarms should be tested monthly, and that batteries should be replaced once a year or when they begin to chirp, signaling that they're running low.

For more information on smoke alarms and this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Don't Wait: Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years", visit www.firepreventionweek.org. You may also contact the Portland Fire Department at 361-643-0155 if you have any questions or concerns about your smoke alarm.



BOO BASH!



Calling all ghosts and goblins! Come out to enjoy the 11th annual Boo Bash! Events will include a costume contest for children and pets, a pumpkin decorating contest, carnival games and inflatable slides. Contests are limited to the first 30 preregistered in each age group. Registration ends promptly at 6:45 PM the day of the event. The Bloodmobile will be onsite: Adults! Donate blood and save a life! It's an easy way to make a difference in our community—while attending this FREE event!

Saturday October 22, 6-9 PM

Joe Burke Pavilion 2003 Billy G. Webb

Costume contest at 7 PM, Register 6-6:45 PM, day of the event

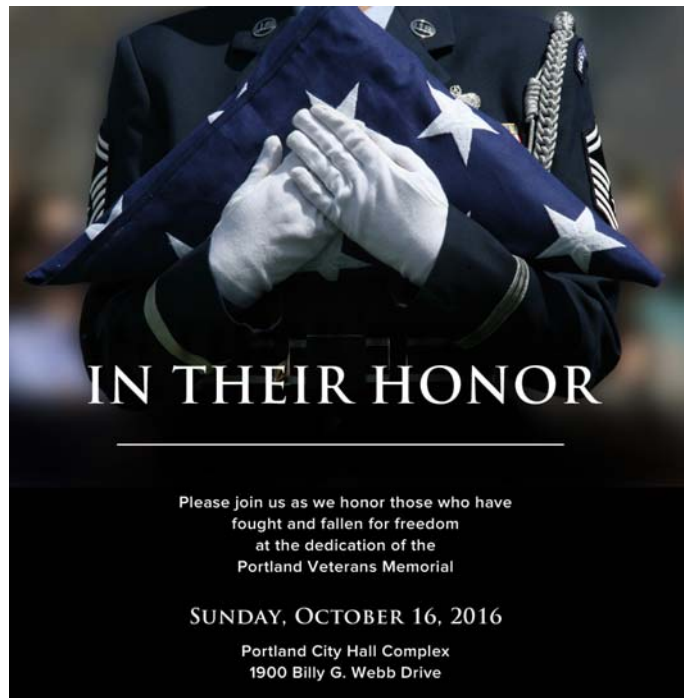
FREE BOO BASH TRIATHLON

Come join us and Al Willeford Chevrolet for the 4th annual Boo Bash Triathlon Festival! We have something for everyone from weekend warriors to elite athletes! Each finisher receives a t shirt, medal, food and entertainment!

Newbies: 200 yard swim, 6 mile bike ride, 1 mile run
Sprint Tri: 400 yard swim, 14 mile bike ride, 5k run
Sprint Relay: 400 yard swim, 14 mile bike ride, 5k run
completed by 2-3 people

Saturday October 29 8 AM

Joe Burk Pavilion & Portland Aquatic Center



IN THEIR HONOR

Please join us as we honor those who have
fought and fallen for freedom
at the dedication of the
Portland Veterans Memorial

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2016

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Senior Services Events



Silver Sneakers

This is a comprehensive fitness program for older adults that addresses the needs of the Medicare (65+) population. The Silver Sneakers aerobics is a chair-based fitness class. The program focuses on retraining useful movements that decline with age. This is a great class with activities paced for you, set to fun, catchy tunes.

- * Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10:30 AM
- * Portland Community Center
- * No cost to Silver Sneakers members; \$4 for Senior Citizens

A Matter of Balance

This FREE program, especially designed for seniors, emphasizes practical strategies for managing concerns about falling. Join us and learn some valuable tips!

Tuesdays and Thursdays

- * October 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 25
- * 12:30 to 2:30 PM
- * Senior Center
- * Call to register at 643-9431



Senior Dances

Join us at the Portland Community Center for our monthly Senior Dances. Grab your dancing shoes and come out for live music, snacks, dancing and lot of fun!

- * Friday, October 7
- * Senior Center
- * 6:30 - 9:30 PM.
- * Cost is \$3.00 per person.



Free Game Days

Games Galore! Don't want to be stuck playing the same old games? We have Game Days at the Senior center on the second Wednesday of the month. Come join your friends for light refreshments, cards, dominoes and bingo.

- * Wednesday, October 12 1:00 PM
- * Senior Center

Portland Opry

Did you know there is an Opry in Portland? We have joined the Opry circuit of the Coastal Bend to bring you evenings filled with entertainment and fun! So come on down and enjoy the show!

- * Thursday, October 13
- * 7:00 PM (Doors open at 6 PM)
- * Hot food for sale
- * \$7.00 per person



Bell/Whittington Library

After School Program with Mrs. Dorothy

After School Program every Monday. Join us for crafts, science fun, movies and snacks!

- * October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 4-5 PM, K through 6th grades.

Toddler Time with Mrs. Dorothy

Toddler Time meets every Tuesday. Stories, finger plays and crafts for little ones.

- * October 4, 11, 18, 25, 10-11 AM
- * Babies, toddlers & preschool age children



Story time with Mr. Kippy

Join us for stories, songs, laughs and reading fun every Thursday.

- * October 6, 13, 20, 27; 9 & 10 AM

Teen Library Lounge with Mrs. Ledezma

- * October 6, 13, 20, 27 4:30-5:30 PM
- * Games, food and fun for kids in grades 7-12

MAKER SPACE: FABRIC PUMPKINS

- * Saturday October 1, 10:30 AM
- * Thursday October 13, 6:00 PM



YOGA AT THE LIBRARY



- * Tuesday, October 11, 1:30 p.m.
- Practice basic yoga. Call the library to register.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE

- * Great books, DVD's, and more! All at low prices! Join the Friends of the Library and attend preview night!
 - * Wednesday October 19 7:00 PM
 - * Regular sale runs October 20-24 during Library hours
- All proceeds go to help support the Bell/Whittington Library!**

BOOK-A-PALOOZA IS COMING!!!

- * October 22, 11AM to 3:00 PM, T. M. Clark Elementary School



This is an awesome event! Storybook characters, games, and best of all, FREE BOOKS!!!!!! Magik Theater will present its version of "The Three Little Pigs" as the finale. Join us as we join forces with the G-P ISD to promote early childhood literacy with lots of reading fun for the little ones!