

Greetings and Happy July!

I hope you are having a great summer. Our community is full of great activities in July. Free City Band concerts in the park, The Ashland Chamber of Commerce's Amazing 4th of July Parade and Fireworks show (watch those highlights on channel **20** and **AshlandTV20.com**) and the Jackson County Fair, just to name a few.

Celebrating 150 years of Statehood!

The state of Oregon is officially celebrating it's sesquicentennial. It's a great time to learn about our state's history and share it with others. Visit **oregon150.org** to find out more and see all the great celebrations happening around the state. You can plan your summer staycations and visit some great communities in Oregon.

What's a DVR?

Most of you filled out the survey question, "what kind of DVR do you have?" with, "What's a DVR?". A DVR is a Digital Video Recorder. Think of it as a VCR with no tape and no flashing clock set to 12:00 am. People are buying DVR's to time-shift what they watch. You just ask it to record a show, or an entire series of shows so you can watch it when you want to watch it, and you can skip through commercials. Some of you have stopped me on the street to ask what kind of DVR to get. TIVO makes a great one but it has a monthly fee associated with it. Other people make their own because they like to tinker and because they can. We are currently looking at a DVR solution that will be very affordable and not require a monthly fee if you buy it outright. We are also looking at renting them. If you are interested in finding out more, please send me an email at **Jim@ProjectA.com**.

Computer Repair and Maintenance

Did you know we offer great computer repair and maintenance at a great price from an A+ certified technician? Have a problem, give us a call. Robert is friendly, nice, speaks human and very good at troubleshooting and repairing computers. Call our office for an appointment. **488-9207**.

FOOD AND TV

My favorite food show features Anthony Bourdain's "No Reservations" on the Travel Channel (channel 53). He is most irreverent and sophisticated with a no holds barred attitude and he travels around the world tasting both "what the populace eats" (street food) as well as high end eateries. He has a huge amount of experience in the restaurant business and has been a judge as well on elimination shows such as "Top Chef" on Bravo (channel 37). But he does have attitude! Recently he spent a whole hour on Chicago Food including the best hot dog in Chicago and I was fortunate enough to eat at a few of his recommendations... lots of neighbor color, terrifically fun, and we would have never known about these places if I hadn't seen them on Anthony Bourdain's show.

Ina Garten, The Barefoot Contessa on the Food Network (channel 55) is a kick to watch. She obviously loves to eat and we love to watch her as she throws 1/4 pound cubes of butter into everything! But she actually has some very good recipes and I've used many of them, just cutting down on the butter amounts. She used to have a gourmet food store in the Hamptons and her whole presentation reflects this area's refined attitudes.

Lastly, Top Chef which is featured on Bravo (Channel 37) is really a fun elimination show to watch. The contestants, on this show, now into their 6th season, have had much experience from all sorts of food establishments; they are all ages women are equally represented. We see behind the scenes events; some tension-filled but for the most part this is really an upscale food show to watch. The judges change every week and they are internationally known.

Want to get interviewed by Wendy? Just send me an email and I'll pass it on to her. She is looking to interview other customers to see what their favorite shows or channels are.