



CITIZENS' NEWSLETTER

Keeping Our Citizens Better Informed.



HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY HALLOWEEN



The Odessa Chamber of Commerce, The Optimist Club and the City of Odessa will sponsor the "Downtown Trick-or-Treating Event" on Monday, October 31, 2016, from 5:00—7:00 p.m. Events being held that evening are:

The Optimist Club Train

Costume Contest (sponsored by the Optimist Club)

Trick-or-Treating at Participating Businesses

Mason Street will be closed from alley to alley from 4-8 p.m.



All children must be accompanied by an adult. Trick-or-treating is a family oriented event for children 12 years and younger. For more information, contact the Odessa Chamber (816)633-4044 or chamberodessamo@gmail.com.

If your older children are going out alone, plan and review a route that is acceptable and agree on a specific time when they should return home. When walking the streets, please avoid using electronic devices that cause you to keep your heads down. Outfit your trick or treater with costumes that allow clear vision and will not cause them to trip. Have reflective materials on the costumes or provide something for them to carry so they are easily seen by motorists.

MOTORISTS ~ Watch out for ghost and goblins that are walking on the roadways. In residential areas, drive slower than the posted speed limit. We want everyone to be safe and have a enjoyable evening. Remember to keep your cats and dogs inside on Halloween evening as well. With all the ghosts and goblins running around, your pet could get confused, frightened, or hurt and possibly bite someone. Your pets count on you to do the right thing for them.



COLDER WEATHER IS ON THE WAY



It is important to winterize your home and yard now before winter sets in. Here are a few starter tips.

Doors and Windows: Replace worn out weather stripping and broken glass. Weather stripping and caulking helps keep your house weather tight, and lowers your heating / cooling bills. Install storm windows or use window insulation kits.

Ceiling fans: Reverse your ceiling fan blades to keep the warm air down. (Blades should be turning clockwise.)

Gutters: Maintain and clean your gutters by removing all debris so water can properly drain.

Roof: Replace damaged shingles. If you have a fireplace, check for gaps around the flashing.

Water Heater: Wrap your water heater in an insulating jacket.

Furnace: Have your furnace and fireplace checked by a professional. Change furnace filters once a month.

Insulation: Check your homes insulation. Don't neglect basements or crawlspaces, if they are well insulated, your pipes stand a better chance of not freezing. Use heat tape where needed.

Siding: Repair or replace loose siding.

Exterior areas: Remove all brush piles and junk piles where rodents can hide. Roll up hoses and store them in a dry place. Pick up all debris from the yard.

Trees: Look out for loose branches. Inclement weather can cause weak trees or branches to break and damage your home, car, utility lines or someone just walking by your property.

Rodent Infestation: Seal possible entrances to your home by using expanding foam, sheet metal, steel wool, or concrete.





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SEVERE WEATHER SHELTER



The First Christian Church, located at 3rd & Dryden Street, is the City's Severe Weather Shelter.

WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM

The weatherization program is sponsored by The Missouri Valley Community Action Agency (MVCAA) and is a free service for homeowners or renters who qualify (renters must have approval of owner and owner participation). The program helps to make the homes of low-income people energy efficient. **If you qualify, all work and materials are provided at no or minimal cost to you.** If you are interested, please call Higginsville MVCAA at (660) 584-3131 for an appointment.



ODESSA MARCHING INVITATIONAL

Band Day is October 22, 2016. The parade starts around 9:30 am. Please come out and support the marching band kids as they perform in competition.

FROM ODESSA SENIOR CENTER ~ HOME DELIVERED MEALS

Home-delivered meals are available to qualified, homebound seniors in Lafayette County. If you or someone you know could benefit from these home delivered meals, call the Odessa Senior Center at 816-633-4161. The Odessa Senior Center is open from 7 am to 2 pm, Monday through Friday. Lunch is served from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm.

DOG TAGS ARE DUE OCTOBER 1, 2016



2016-17 Dog Tags are now available for purchase. All dogs within the City limits are required to have a yearly dog tag. The cost is \$3.50 per tag. Please bring your dog's current rabies vaccination receipt with you to City Hall to purchase the dog tag. Senior citizens, 65 years of age or older, are allowed one free tag. You will still need to bring a current rabies vaccination certificate for the dog. Please have your pet spayed or neutered.



COMCAST UPGRADE INFORMATION

Beginning October 25, 2016, some Comcast customers will be asked to upgrade their set-top boxes so they will be compatible with Comcast's new enhanced HD. To continue to enjoy the current HD channels, some customers will need to upgrade. To see which set-top boxes need to be replaced, go to channel 1995 on each of your TV's and follow the on-screen instructions. You can order a new box from your TV and have it shipped to your home. Call Comcast @ 1-800-XFINITY and select HD Enhanced.



DELINQUENT TAXES

If you owe unpaid personal property taxes, you will be turned over to collections at the end of the year. If you are unsure if you have delinquent taxes, please call City Hall (816) 230-5577.