

# Mayor's Newsletter



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## First in Idaho

"911, what is the address of your emergency?" This is the first thing you hear when you call our Pocatello Dispatch Center during a time of need. Whether you've just witnessed an accident, been the victim of domestic abuse, experienced a burglary or had any type of 911 emergency, our dispatchers are there to help.

Dispatchers gather critical information and send police, firefighters and Emergency Medical Services to your aid. Dispatchers are the glue that hold it all together. They are the calm voices on the other end of the line who are always heard but rarely seen. They give life-saving instructions to callers and coordinate with first responders. They are truly the behind-the-scenes heroes. Pocatello's dispatchers are all of these things.

It's for these reasons and many, many more that our Dispatch Center is the first in Idaho to earn the Accredited Center of Excellence (ACE) certificate from the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED). IAED's Board

of Accreditation, established in 1992, sets standards for quality control, operations, case review, scoring and formal recognition as an ACE. "Accreditation is the highest honor that the IAED can bestow upon an agency, evidence of a commitment to excellence through compliance with the 20 Points of Accreditation," according to IAED's website. The 20 Points are "a rigorous and measurable set of globally recognized best practices."

Achieving the ACE certificate is the result of several years of hard work and dedication by our employees. The Police Department recognized the value of the certificate and the top 10 benefits of accreditation, which are

- Receiving external validation of performance
- Demonstrating to elected officials and others that the agency meets and exceeds the industry standards
- Promising to citizens that the agency will provide the highest level of care and professionalism
- Providing the community with a sense of security

- Ensuring industry best practice is our standard practice
- Confirming accuracy in call assessment
- Providing an established benchmark for performance
- Allowing agencies to compete in an age of consolidation
- Allowing for agency pride
- Providing accountability to ourselves and our stakeholders

Being ACE certified is an incredible example of leadership, which fits our Police Department perfectly. Our department is a leader across the state and, in my opinion, across the nation and the world. Please join me in congratulating the hard-working employees in the Pocatello Dispatch Center for becoming the first ACE certified department in Idaho!

It's a privilege to work with the women and men of the Pocatello Police Department, just one of the reasons I am proud to be your Mayor!

## Idaho's Heritage Conference

The Idaho State Historical Society, in partnership with the Idaho Heritage Partners and City of Pocatello, is hosting the 4<sup>th</sup> Biennial Idaho's Heritage Conference September 19-22 in Pocatello. Whether you are an historian, archaeologist, teacher, student, community leader, museum professional or volunteer, amateur preservationist or a local history

buff, we invite you to attend the conference. Registration details are available at [idahosh heritageconference.org](http://idahosh heritageconference.org).

If you're unable to attend the entire conference, be sure to join us at the kickoff celebration and community event September 19 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Bannock County Historical Complex, 3000 Avenue of the Chiefs. This event is free to the

public and includes food vendors, information booths and entertainment. All venues in the Historical Complex will also be open to the public free-of-charge, including the Fort Hall Replica, Pocatello Junction, Bannock County Historical Museum and Zoo Idaho.

We hope to see you September 19!

**Mayor's Youth  
Advisory  
Council**

Do you know a 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade student who wants to make a difference? Encourage them to look into joining the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council.

The Council meets September through May each year. Members learn about government and discuss topics important to Pocatello's youth. With the help of adult advisors, members also plan, coordinate and implement a variety of community projects.

Online, homeschool, private and public school students are welcome to apply. For more information, go to

[pocatello.us/280/Mayors-Youth](http://pocatello.us/280/Mayors-Youth).

**Warm Weather Safety Tips**

With summer in full swing and temperatures high, it's important to remember some basic safety tips to prevent heat related emergencies like heat stroke and heat exhaustion. Here is important information from the Pocatello Fire Department.

Extreme heat affects the body's ability to regulate temperature, which can create dangerous conditions if appropriate safety measures are not taken. Heat may have a stronger impact on the elderly, children and the sick. Below are basic steps you can take to reduce the possibility of a heat emergency.

**Stay hydrated:** Drink plenty of water or fluids with electrolytes. Don't wait until you're thirsty.

**Hydrate consistently** while working.

**Choose attire wisely:** Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose clothing. Also, protect your face by wearing a hat and sunglasses.

**Wear sunscreen:** Sunburns make it harder to cool down and can cause dehydration, so apply sunscreen rated SPF 15 or higher.

**Rest and cool down:** Be sure to rest and cool down during the day by taking breaks in a shady or cool area.

**Stay alert and know the signs:** Be alert for signs of heat illnesses such as headache, dizziness, fatigue or weakness, or a loss of consciousness. If you are suffering any of these

symptoms, cool down immediately and call for medical assistance.

**Leave pets home:** Even if you'll be gone for just a few minutes, leave your pets at home. Temperatures inside your vehicle can climb dramatically in a matter of minutes.

We urge all of you to take precautions to protect yourselves, your loved ones and your pets against heat related emergencies.

For more information on staying safe in the heat, contact the Pocatello Fire Department's Fire Prevention Bureau at 208.234.7083.

**City Wins More Awards**

Earlier this summer, the City received 2 City Achievement Awards at the 75<sup>th</sup> Association of Idaho Cities Annual Conference. These awards mean a lot to us, because we're up against other cities throughout Idaho.

The first award was in the Economic & Community Development Category for the Fleet Department's on-site parts store. The store is run by

NAPA Auto Parts, and they ensure parts for the 600 vehicles and equipment in our fleet, including police cars, sanitation trucks and street equipment, are readily available to our mechanics, which maximizes efficiency.

The second award, in the Youth Council Category, went to the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council for their Pen Pal Program. For the 2021-2022 year, the youth

corresponded with residents in a local assisted living center. The goal was to provide the center's residents with a human connection to the outside world during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The City's employees and volunteers work diligently for our community. It's nice to see them recognized for their innovative ideas to better serve our community.

**Did You Know. . .** Grizzly bears eat 40,000 moths a day during the moth migration in late summer? I wonder if Stripes and Shoni do? Stop by Zoo Idaho to find out and to learn more about other species of Idaho and the Intermountain West animals living at the Zoo. The Zoo is open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily through September 5 and then 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through October 30.

If there is a topic you'd like me to address in future newsletters or if you want to comment or ask a question, please use this sheet and send your comment to me. If you wish to call or e-mail, my number and address are listed on the front page. While I cannot respond to all comments individually, I do pass them on to the appropriate departments. V25,n8

My question/comment is \_\_\_\_\_  
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Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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