

CitizenNews



Fuel tax set for ballot; Voters to decide on road funding

It seems with every newspaper you pick up you read about the problem of maintaining the roads we all rely on every day. It's an issue everywhere, but it's a severe problem in Clackamas County because we don't have a local source of road funding like our neighboring counties do. This problem has been growing for years. The county is not allowed to use property taxes to fund road maintenance and we are now facing a huge shortfall. It has reached the stage that if we don't address it now, it will be a much larger and more expensive problem later.

To help address this urgent and growing problem, the Board of County Commissioners will be asking citizens to vote on a countywide fuel tax in November.



The proposed fuel tax would be six cents per gallon for seven years. The tax would be collected throughout the county in both cities and unincorporated areas.

The tax would raise an estimated \$9 million per year countywide, for a total of \$63 million over seven years. Revenue would be split, with 60 percent (\$37.8 million) going to the county for road maintenance and 40% (\$25.2 million) going to cities for their own transportation projects.

The county has prepared a detailed list of specific maintenance and safety projects to be completed with the potential revenue. In short:

- \$34.1 million would fund seven paving packages (one per year) representing maintenance on more than 115 miles of roadways around the county. Projects were carefully chosen after a great deal of analysis and study that considered road conditions, safety, average daily traffic and other relevant factors. Details can be found at TheRoadAhead.us/projects.

cont'd on page 6



Sunrise Expressway project opens!

See page 4.

Left to right: Fred Meyer's Mike French; former Oregon House Speaker Dave Hunt; Com. Paul Savas; ODOT Director Matt Garrett; Com. Jim Bernard; Chair John Ludlow; Com. Tootie Smith; Gov. Kate Brown; Metro's Carlotta Collette; ODOT's Rian Windsheimer; North Clackamas Chamber's Laura Edmonds; Former State Senator Bruce Starr; Com. Martha Schrader; Happy Valley Mayor Lori DeRemer.

Marijuana sales tax measure headed for November ballot

The Board of County Commissioners have set the wheels in motion for voters to approve a 3 percent sales tax on recreational marijuana items in unincorporated Clackamas County.

If enacted, the 3 percent tax would add to the 17 percent state tax already in place (for a total of 20 percent). It would apply, according to state law, to "marijuana, cannabinoid products, cannabinoid concentrates and cannabinoid extracts".

If approved by voters, the tax would take effect in January.

The board reviewed the ballot referral process on July 12 and, as of this writing, is expected to take formal action on July 19. Materials for each of these policy session meetings, along with audio recordings, are available at clackamas.us/bcc/presentation.html.

The move comes after the board approved enhanced code enforcement for marijuana-related businesses (see page 3).

The board plans to spend the tax revenue for code enforcement, law enforcement, addiction treatment, and related public health and safety needs.

Late last year, the board finalized new land use regulations allowing marijuana businesses to conduct retail, wholesale, processing, and production/growing activities in various designated zones. The ordinance included requirements for marijuana businesses on a variety of time, place and manner issues, including odor, lighting, minimum lot sizes, security, waste management, minimum separation distances, water, access and hours. Details are available on the county's Marijuana Land Uses webpage at clackamas.us/planning/marijuana.html.

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COUNTY FAIR!

The fun begins on Aug. 16!

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TURNAROUND FOR YOUTH OFFENDERS

Juvenile Department succeeds

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CAPACITACIÓN EN SALUD MENTAL

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More than 80 county volunteers and family joined commissioners on May 19 for a special thank you celebration.

Krupp's Korner: Keep connected to your county by volunteering

by County Administrator Don Krupp

Summer is off to an eventful beginning and I want to share with you some of the county's highlights from recent weeks. The Board of County Commissioners approved the county fiscal year 2016-17 budget on June 29. This was the result of weeks of careful planning from county finance staff. Commissioners met with other members of the budget committee for daily meetings and public testimony for several days. If interested, all budget documents are posted online for public review at clackamas.us/budget.

I especially want to recognize the volunteer members of the budget committee for their hard work and thoughtful consideration.

This brings me to what I really want to highlight in this issue of Citizen News: our county volunteers and how citizens can get involved. The budget committee is just one of dozens of Advisory Boards and Commissions (ABCs) whose members are county residents that volunteer their time to participate and make recommendations to the commissioners.

There are ABCs focused on just about every county service area: health care, public safety, the arts, transportation and more. Read about all of them at clackamas.us/citizenin.

Additionally, the county's Volunteer Connection program can place interested volunteers with

staff in our Social Services Division and other county programs to help families and the elderly with a wide range of services including money management, delivering Meals on Wheels, and other health needs.

There are volunteers who help enhance the county's responsibility to public safety, too. Specially-trained volunteers augment the sheriff's staff, lend search and rescue expertise, or work with youth in the Juvenile Department.

There are many other county initiatives that value and respect the time and commitment of volunteers. Dog-related services, parks, libraries, water and environmental resources ... the list goes on and on.

On May 19, the county commissioners extended an invitation to the more than 1,700 volunteers who share their time with staff in order provide exceptional service to those in need.

Commissioners held a special celebration after their business meeting and publicly thanked all county volunteers for the work they do – which, if paid, would amount to several million dollars!

Thanks again to volunteers in the county – and if you have an interest, please visit one of county websites below to learn more. You can help your friends and neighbors, and make the county an even better place to live.

clackamas.us/socialservices/volunteer.html

clackamas.us/citizenin

clackamas.us/sheriff

Sincerely,



Don Krupp, County Administrator



COMMISSIONERS ADOPT FY 2016-17 BUDGET

The Board of County Commissioners has adopted the county's fiscal year 2016-17 proposed budget of approximately \$722 million, and an all-funds proposed budget – including other county agencies and service districts – of about \$945 million.

A budget committee of the five county commissioners and five citizen members held public meetings and took testimony in June before approving a budget. The budget was formally adopted on June 29.

The new budget funds:

- Seed money to address the homeless shelter needs of veterans
- A part-time heritage coordinator for two years
- Positions for a deputy district attorney and a sergeant at A Safe Place: Family Justice Center for domestic violence response
- Services for groups that face barriers to enter the workforce
- The multi-department Clackamas River Enforcement and Ecology Workgroup (CREEW), which works together for safe and litter-free use of county rivers and parks

Read about the budget process, view budgets and presentations, and find the county administrator's budget message at clackamas.us/budget.



MORE COUNTY DEPARTMENT PLANS ONLINE

Two years ago, Clackamas County instituted Performance Clackamas – a results-oriented strategic plan developed by commissioners after considering public input through surveys, meetings and other community outreach. Through this process, commissioners determined five strategic priorities:

- Build public trust through good government.
- Grow a vibrant economy
- Build a strong infrastructure
- Ensure safe, healthy and secure communities
- Honor, utilize, promote and invest in our natural resources

This system ensures that the public can track how Clackamas County is effectively using taxpayer dollars. Cornerstones of the plan include that by next July, all county department budgets will be matched to goals, results and outputs, and that progress toward those performance measures will be publicly available.

We're well on our way to meeting our goals. As of July 1, six plans were available online. Log on today to clackamas.us/performance to read some department plans.



The Citizen News is produced quarterly by the Public and Government Affairs Department (PGA). It is mailed to nearly every household in the county.

Contact PGA about stories in the Citizen News:

Amy Kyle at 503-655-8751 or akyle@clackamas.us

Contact your commissioners at:

bcc@clackamas.us

503-655-8581

2051 Kaen Road
Oregon City

ELECTED OFFICIALS

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Commissioner

Jim Bernard

Commissioner

Paul Savas

Commissioner

Martha Schrader

Commissioner

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Justice of the Peace

Karen Brisbin

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Craig Roberts

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Shari Anderson



Commissioner Actions

County hosts Veterans Covenant signing at CCC

Clackamas County hosted the signing of the Veterans Community Covenant on May 16 at Clackamas Community College (CCC) in Oregon City.

The Veterans Covenant is a pledge by the county and partners to support military veterans and their families. It was co-sponsored by CCC, coinciding with the college's 50th anniversary celebration in May. The first covenant was signed by community representatives in 2009.

"We have over 35,000 veterans living in Clackamas County, so it's only appropriate we come together to reaffirm our commitment to our veterans and their families," said Commissioner Martha Schrader, who signed the covenant on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners.

She continued, "Clackamas County and our partners pledge to provide free assistance to veterans through our Veterans Services Offices, advocate for state and federal VA benefits, and work with business

and community partners to connect veterans to employment, education, and community, ensure veterans receive the assistance they are entitled to, and that they are well-served and respected members of our Clackamas County community."

All five County Commissioners attended the event.

CCC Student Government President Brent Finkbeiner, who served in Iraq, said he was grateful for services he received both as a student and a veteran.

"Much of our lives are guided by the hands of strangers, and veterans are the strangers that swear their own lives for us," he said. "Today, we pledge to honor those who work so hard for us and provide vital services to those would give their lives for us."

VA benefits are not received automatically and navigating the benefits process can be confusing. Clackamas County Veteran Services officers can explain eligibility requirements for various state and federal benefits and help



Commissioner Martha Schrader (5th from left) signed the covenant.

veterans and their families through the entire claims process.

Benefits might include compensation, pensions and homeless assistance.

To learn more about veterans services, contact clackamas.us/social_services/veterans.html. If you are a resident, call 503-650-5631 to schedule an appointment.

QUARTERLY NOTEBOOK

BOARD APPROVES ENHANCED CODE ENFORCEMENT FOR MARIJUANA-RELATED BUSINESSES

In May, the Board of County Commissioners revised guidelines to support code enforcement of marijuana-related businesses. This means that county staff now:

- Respond to confidential complaints about marijuana-related issues with one complaint, as we do for other high priority cases (rather than requiring two complaints)
- Report suspected marijuana violations they observe during the course of their regular duties
- Refer unresolved marijuana cases to a hearings officer after the first citation, rather than after the second citation
- Report violations determined by the hearings officer to the appropriate state agency (the Oregon Liquor Control Commission or the Oregon Health Authority)
- Hold code enforcement hearings every week, rather than twice a month
- Set citation fines for marijuana violations (related to ZDO-841) at \$1,000 for a first violation, \$5,000 for a second violation, and \$10,000 for a third violation
- Use collection techniques to collect fines, civil penalties and other money owed the county as ordered by the hearings officer

For more information, contact Code Enforcement at CodeEnforcement@clackamas.us or call 503-742-4452.

VILLAGES KEPT ON 'HIATUS' BY COMMISSIONERS

The Board of County Commissioners voted June 28 to keep the Villages at Mt. Hood board of directors on hiatus.

Commissioners voted 4-1 with Commissioner Paul Savas dissenting following attempts at mediation. Commissioners urged county staff to continue working with the community on a path forward. There is no immediate timetable for resolution.

The county hired the consulting firm EnviroIssues to conduct a survey of mountain residents and stakeholders to provide feedback regarding community priorities and awareness about the Villages at Mt. Hood board. Based on feedback, the firm recommended holding off on an election until later in the year.

The hiatus began in February when three members of the Villages board resigned. County staff will continue working with the Villages community on a path forward.

TOWN HALL SET FOR AUG. 3

Commissioners host quarterly town hall meetings in different communities throughout the county. The meetings are an opportunity for all county residents and stakeholders to ask questions directly to their representatives.

The next Town Hall will focus on two issues coming up on the November ballot: The fuel tax measure and the marijuana sales tax (see page 1). Come join us and voice your opinion!

Wednesday, Aug. 3, 6 p.m.
West Linn High School, Room F201
5464 W. A Street, West Linn

PINWHEELS RAISE AWARENESS ABOUT CHILD ABUSE

In early spring, commissioners helped plant 423 blue pinwheels at the Red Soils Campus in Oregon City to raise awareness of National Child Abuse Prevention Month. The pinwheels were up throughout April.

The 423 pinwheels are representative of the 423 children who received a child abuse assessment by the Children's Center in Oregon City last year. That organization, a child abuse intervention center, coproduced the event.

Pinwheels are a national symbol of child abuse prevention. They were planted along the Circle of Honor, a grassy area between the county's Development Services Building and Public Services Building. This event raised awareness of this terrible problem and reaffirms commissioners' and the county's commitment to ensuring safe, healthy and secure communities – one of five priorities detailed in Performance Clackamas, the county's results-based strategic plan.

The Children's Center's services include abuse evaluation, family support, and community outreach and prevention. Children are referred to the center when there is a concern of sexual abuse, physical abuse, neglect, and emotional abuse.

Report any concern of abuse to the Clackamas County Child Abuse Hotline at 971-673-7112 or the Oregon Child Abuse Hotline at 855-503-SAFE (7223).

Learn more at childrenscenter.cc or clackamas.us/childreneyouthandfamilies.



Commissioners Paul Savas, Jim Bernard, Tootie Smith, and John Ludlow plant pinwheels.

Oregon Legislature gives Willamette Falls Locks \$500K

Clackamas County has received \$500,000 on behalf of the Willamette Falls Locks Working Group to support an economic-potential study and to explore limited temporary repairs for the Locks, which have been closed since 2011.

The funding secured from the Oregon Legislature is a big victory for local communities who believe reopening the Locks can support local economic development.

The county identified the repairs as a priority earlier this year for its state legislative agenda, actively advocating for the request throughout the session. The Army Corps of Engineers, which manages the Locks, closed them five years ago for life-safety reasons.

The working group is co-chaired by Commissioner Tootie Smith and is a coalition of regional advocates that support the facility's reopening. During testimony to the Legislature, group members recommended funding both the study and the exploration of stopgap repairs (with the Corps) for temporary minimal use (to demonstrate economic viability). Working group staff are collaborating with the Corps on the repair funds.

The working group intends to use \$100,000 of the funding to complete the economic potential study, leaving \$400,000 for the stopgap repairs.



The Locks have been closed since 2011.
Photo courtesy of ODOT

The Locks first opened in 1873. This new funding compliments the Legislature's creation of the Willamette Falls Locks State Task Force in 2015, which is studying the state's level of interest in the Locks and will report its findings to the Legislature next year.

WF LEGACY SITE/MCLOUGHLIN BLVD GETS \$600K EPA GRANT

In news related to the Willamette Falls area, the Environmental Protection Agency awarded Metro \$600,000 in May. The funds come from the EPA's Brownfields grant program and will be used

to perform environmental assessments at the Willamette Falls Legacy Site in Oregon City and along McLoughlin Boulevard between Oregon City and Milwaukie.

Clackamas County is a proud partner with Metro, Oregon City, and Oregon in supporting the Legacy Project and redevelopment of the McLoughlin corridor.

The county funds the federal lobbying for the Legacy Project effort. This grant award showcases how county financial contributions to the Legacy Project and other regional programs are a good return on investment for residents.

Sunrise Expressway opens

Residents, freight traffic and visitors can now travel more quickly, efficiently and safely through the Clackamas Industrial Area thanks to the July 1 opening of the Sunrise Expressway. Several nearby and related county projects are already completed or underway.

The new two-mile, four-lane Sunrise Expressway, with an adjacent multiuse path, runs from the Milwaukie Expressway at I-205 to SE 122nd Avenue at Highway 212/224.

This Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) expressway is enhanced by several Clackamas County projects on adjacent roads.

- During the last several years, we completed a three-phase project that provides wider, smoother and safer travel for freight, passenger vehicles and pedestrians by connecting Highway 212/224 to SE Lawnfield Road by way of 102nd Avenue, Clackamas Road and Minuteman Way. Further, 98th Court, Lawnfield Road and the 97th Avenue intersection were also improved as a part of the project.
- The county is currently extending and improving Tolbert Street from 82nd Drive to Minuteman Way. That project, scheduled to be completed in early 2017, includes: a new traffic signal at the Tolbert Street and 82nd Drive intersection; a new bridge over Union Pacific Railroad tracks; a new bridge over 94th Avenue; a new intersection at Minuteman Way and the Camp Withycombe main gate; bike lanes and sidewalks; and the reconstruction of 93rd Avenue and 94th Avenue from Tolbert Street south to Clackamas Road and Church Street from 82nd Drive to 94th Avenue.



Photo courtesy of ODOT

The Clackamas Industrial Area is home to some of the state's busiest and most critical freight distribution centers. The new and improved roadways in the area are and will make a positive difference for businesses, as well as for people who work, live in or travel through the area. These improved roadways will support thousands of area jobs, reduce hundreds of thousands of hours of delays, relieve congestion and create long term employment opportunities.

These projects are part of the Sunrise Jobs and Transportation Act (JTA) family of projects that was approved by the Oregon Legislature in 2009.

Commissioners joined Oregon Governor Kate Brown, state legislators, local elected officials and congressional aides at the grand opening of the expressway in late June.

In her comments, Governor Brown noted: "Rarely is the opening of a highway greeted with such community fanfare ... the Clackamas Sunrise Corridor is an essential freight route from I-5 and I-205 to U.S. 26 and eastern Oregon."

Commissioner Paul Savas pointed out that "The opening of the Sunrise Expressway is a great example of how joint planning, collaboration and a shared vision can lead to great improvements for residents and businesses in Clackamas County and throughout the region."

After the ribbon-cutting, the new expressway was "broken in" with a mini-parade of a Fred Meyer truck, road maintenance vehicles from the county and ODOT, and a trolley car filled with dignitaries led by a motorcycle. The adjacent multi-use path got its first use that evening, with a public bike ride to and from Clackamas Town Center.

Sellwood Bridge comes down

A local business took a lead role in demolishing the old Sellwood Bridge that crosses the Willamette River in Multnomah County.

Clackamas County-based Emmert International headed the effort that involved removing giant sections of the 1,100 foot bridge and floating them downriver by barge for recycling. The first section – a 68-foot steel truss – was removed in early June, and completion of the project is slated for around the time of this Citizen News edition's publication.

The 90-year old bridge has been replaced with a new state-of-the-art span, a popular route for county commuters.





WES first in Oregon to test safer process

Clackamas County Water Environment Services (WES) prides itself on consistently exploring new ways to better serve its 150,000 customers. The latest example of WES' innovative approach is the Peracetic Acid Disinfection Pilot Project, which could revolutionize wastewater treatment practices in Oregon.

WES is the first water-treatment utility in the state to begin a full-scale pilot testing program using peracetic acid (PAA) as a sole means of disinfecting wastewater. PAA is a safer, more environmentally-friendly alternative to chlorine – the industry standard in the country. Switching to PAA would eliminate existing risks involved with chlorine, such as threats to the environment. By comparison, if there were a PAA spill, the result would be a harmless vinegar-like odor.

How does PAA work? The colorless liquid is a strong oxidant that kills dangerous organisms in wastewater. Its main ingredients are easily biodegradable.

Despite being used as a wastewater disinfectant in Canada and Europe for decades, PAA had not garnered much attention in the U.S. until now. WES was among a small number of utilities to first recognize its potential and contact manufacturers to explore the possibility of converting from chlorine to PAA.

WES later received approval from both the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality



The footprint of the peracetic acid process is quite small.

(DEQ) to begin testing. The process is underway at the Tri-City Treatment facility in Oregon City. The physical differences between the PAA setup and traditional disinfection operations are considerable.

"The peracetic acid footprint is very small – 6 feet by 14 feet – but it would actually replace our entire chlorine disinfection building," said WES Water Quality Manager Greg Eyerly. "This is a very exciting prospect with long-term savings that would come from much lower operating costs."

Switching to PAA would save \$150,000 annually in energy costs while improving Tri-City's overall disinfection performance, which is the final stage of the wastewater treatment process. The cleaned water, or "effluent," is then released into the Willamette River.

This summer, WES will begin running the PAA equipment for 180 days as the next phase of testing gets underway. Once complete, WES will file a report on the test results with the DEQ. WES staff is optimistic that the testing will be successful and the pilot system will become permanent.

The project's success could ultimately help establish new wastewater disinfection standards for Oregon. Other wastewater treatment utilities have already contacted WES seeking information about the project.

"WES is honored and proud to be in a position that could positively change the future of disinfection in Oregon and make it safer, more efficient, and more cost-effective," said WES Director Greg Geist.

Stream study reveals pesticides in water

A recent study found levels of pesticides in Clackamas County streams that put aquatic life at risk.

The study, which was conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), analyzed samples of stormwater runoff, creek water, and bed sediments from 15 creeks and five storm sewer outfalls for the presence of nearly 120 pesticides. The study detected active ingredients from the widely used insecticide bifenthrin, which appears to be the most harmful because small amounts can kill aquatic insects that are food for other wildlife, including fish.

Clackamas County Water Environment Services (WES) Surface Water Manager Ron Wierenga described the study as very important because it shows the connection between land and water.

"We remind people that 'the river starts here,' with you and me and our homes and businesses," said Wierenga. "A lot of folks think that agencies like WES manage stormwater systems to remove these chemicals, but even our best runoff treatment systems can't catch it all. This problem is collectively created and it needs a community supported solution."

WES advises the public to carefully select and appropriately use chemicals to control pests. Tips to help prevent water pollution:

- Use natural gardening practices
- Follow label directions when applying chemicals

- Prevent erosion of contaminated soils
- Avoid using pesticides on windy or rainy days
- Clean driveways and sidewalks with a broom
- Choose landscapers that are EcoBiz.org certified

Go to clackamas.us/wes for more information and to read the study.



Our wonderful parks

Remember – the wonderful parks of Clackamas County are open for camping! Lots of people have visited and stayed in our beautiful settings this year to beat the heat and relax.

Need another incentive? How about movies in the park! That's right, there are free movies to be watched under the stars for all Saturday night campers at Barton Park or Metzler Park (starting at dusk). This promotion runs through Labor Day weekend. Check out clackamas.us/parks and reserve your spot today!

ENHANCED: SPRING PARK NATURAL AREA

In June, the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD) hosted a restoration project opening for the Spring Park Natural Area in Milwaukie. Enhancements include habitat restoration for fish and wildlife, educational and interpretive signs, improved trails, and overlooks.

NCPRD would like to thank its many partners that helped to realize this goal. We welcome all residents to please come out and enjoy the enhancements! More information is available at ncprd.com.

Gas tax cont'd from page 1

- \$3.7 million on safety improvements, including curve warning signs on rural roads and intersection notification signs. These will help make roads safer, and are required by the federal government to be in place by 2019.

The public has shown support for funding the much-needed road improvements. In May, more than 68 percent of county voters supported the following advisory question: "Shall the county pursue voter-approved funding for a limited number of years, for deferred road maintenance?"

In light of that positive response and the recognition that there are pressing road maintenance needs, county commissioners met with elected officials from cities and gathered input from community leaders to discuss how best to move forward. Many of those conversations suggested a countywide fuel tax as a solution.

Clackamas County is responsible for more miles of paved roads than any other Oregon county, and more than half of them are in fair-to-poor

condition. The county relies on three primary sources of revenue for road maintenance – state fuel taxes, state heavy-weight mile taxes (from trucks) and state vehicle registration/title fees.

State fuel taxes have only increased once since 1993 and are not adjusted to inflation. Since the county is not allowed to pay for road maintenance with property tax revenue, and since road funding revenue has remained nearly static for more than 20 years, there is now a \$265 million gap between the amount of road maintenance needed and available funds.



More information about the specific county road maintenance projects that would be funded with the county's portion of the revenue is available at TheRoadAhead.us.

Safe Driving contest winners focus on dangers of texting

Almost 150 high school students in Clackamas County entered the spring 2016 Posters and Coasters Safe Driving Media Contest sponsored by Clackamas County Drive to Zero, a program focused on reducing severe and fatal injury crashes.

The goal of the contest was for students to create artwork promoting safe driving by focusing on one or more of the following:

- Risk factors such as speed, distracted driving or impaired driving
- Prevention strategies such as seat belt use, parent support or graduated driver licenses

First place winner Alyssa Bigelow, a sophomore at Sandy High School, created a dramatic image of a driver wearing a blindfold with the message, "Texting While Driving is Like Being Blindfolded."

Alyssa said, "I wanted to let people understand that texting and driving is dangerous, to not only themselves but to others around them".

The contest's winning entry, by Sandy High School's Alyssa Bigelow.

Second place winner Ayla Nguyen, also a sophomore at Sandy High School, created a poster that also reminds drivers not to text and drive. Myles Grant Lowrie-Otter, a junior at the Milwaukie Academy of the Arts, took third place.

Seven students also received an honorable mention:

- Savanna Castillo, Sandy High
- Michaela Dorsey, Sandy High
- Tana Eri, Sandy High
- Chloe Hanson, Sandy High
- Aryeh Masters, Oregon City High
- Brady Jo McLain, Rex Putnam High
- Jonathan Scudder, Molalla High



Patty McMillan, program coordinator for Drive to Zero, stated, "We were overwhelmed by the number and quality of submissions. Our judges had a difficult job."

State Farm Insurance supported the project by providing cash prizes and funding ways to publicize the posters. For more information, call 503-742-4661 or email SafeCommunities@Clackamas.us.

County road construction projects

A number of road projects are underway this summer. These projects will improve safety, repair past damage and reduce congestion. Current projects include the following:

East Barlow Trail Road: Construction began in July to restore the embankment damaged during the 2011 floods. The project requires closure of the road through October 2016.

Whiskey Hill Road Bridge over Pudding River: Replacement of this narrow, curvy bridge is expected to be completed by June 2017. The road is closed until the end of January 2017.

Otty Street Realignment: Realignment of SE Otty Street at the 82nd Avenue / Otty Road intersection began this month and will continue through December 2016.

Bell Ave Improvements, Phase II: By the end of this summer, Phase II of Bell Avenue improvements should be completed. Phase II, from SE Sandview Street to SE Brehaut Street, is adding sidewalks on both sides of Bell, improved stormwater collection, sidewalk ramps, and striping for bike lanes.

Carver Bridge opened to traffic in 2014. Project completion has been delayed because of a contract dispute. In the meantime, we will improve safety and traffic flow by installing a traffic light at the Highway 224 / Springwater Road intersection in Carver.

In addition to these current projects, planning is underway to identify projects needed in and near the Sunnyside Road/Harmony Road/82nd Avenue intersection. These are part of the county's Clackamas Regional Center Mobility Improvements Project. The project is considering past studies and plans (such as the county's Transportation System Plan) and public input to identify the highest priority needs. Public input is being gathered now, and construction on the final approved projects is planned for 2017-18.

Lastly, our limited road funds are being used for a variety of paving and chip-seal projects. You can read full details at clackamas.us/roads/workprogram.html.

I-5/CANBY TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS

As part of Performance Clackamas (see page 2), the county has set a goal of improving I-5 access to Canby. To do this, the county must pursue improvements to Arndt Road that would allow for improved traffic flow and meet the needs of a growing city.

In order to be eligible for certain funding the road project will need to be prioritized within Oregon's Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). Recently, the county received administrative approval from the Oregon Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) to move forward to the next phase of the project.

While several complicated procedural steps remain in a years-long process, the county is working hard to move this project forward. The next step is to achieve a land use goal exception to identify a new Arndt Road corridor into Canby. We will keep you updated!



County Fair & Rodeo Aug. 16-21

Who loves carnival games? Pony rides? Elephant ears? Think you have what it takes to make the best blueberry pie this side of Mount Hood?

It's that time of year again! The annual Clackamas County Fair and Rodeo is slated for Aug. 16-21. There is something fun for everyone to get out and enjoy at our region's flagship annual event.

ADMISSION AND SPECIALS

The Fair is affordable! The following prices are good for single-day admission:

Adult (13+)	\$9.00
Juniors (7-12)	\$5.00
Children (under 7)	FREE!
Sen. Citizens (65-74)	\$5.00
Diamond Jubilee (75+)	FREE!

There are great discounts and specials on certain days for children, senior citizens, first responders and veterans! Check out clackamas.us/fair.

But that's not all! Anyone who attends the county commissioners' weekly business meeting at the Fair, slated for 10 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 18, will receive free admission! Be sure to arrive by 10!

Details about the food, rodeo, entertainment, musical acts and parade can be found at clackamas.us/fair.

Events & Needs

COUNTY COMMUNITY FESTIVAL AUG. 24

The county's employee-based Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Council (EDIC) will host its annual Community Festival for employees and the community on Aug. 24 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the grassy courtyard between the Public Services Building and Development Services Building at 150 Beaver Creek Road in Oregon City. This event is meant to foster appreciation for the rich culture and heritage of our region. Come join us for an afternoon of networking, live music, tasty local food, and fun! For more info, or to register for a booth, contact Maria Magallon, 503-650-5693 or MariaMag@clackamas.us.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! DHS DISABILITY SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Disability Services Advisory Council of Clackamas County, facilitated through the state Department of Human Services, invites applicants to serve a two-year term. The DSAC reviews Medicaid, state and local issues that may have an impact on programs for the disabled. The council promotes advocacy by working with local partners as well as the state legislature and local government on important issues affecting the disabled, their families and caregivers. All are welcome to attend monthly meetings on the third Tuesday at 221 Molalla Ave., Suite 104 in Oregon City from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

If you are interested in being a member and for more information, please contact Georgianne Obinger at 971-673-6621 or georgianne.obinger@state.or.us.



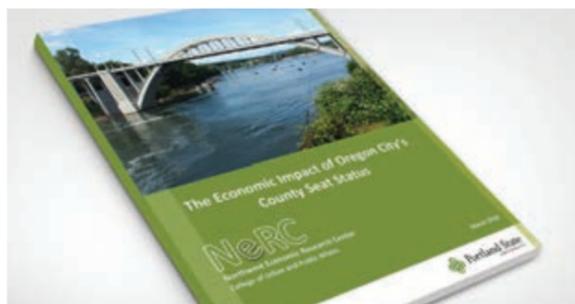
County economic impact on Oregon City 'broadly positive'

An unbiased, third-party report illustrates that the Oregon City economy is significantly and positively affected by being the county seat.

The new analysis details how county facilities' locations within the city strongly impacts employment levels, generates an influx of spending from non-city residents, and provides economic stability during times of economic downturn.

For example, the county employs 454 Oregon City residents. Those jobs indirectly support another 132 jobs within the city. This combined economic impact, according to the report, "exceeds \$58 million in economic output in the city."

That figure doesn't take into account the spending of the remaining county workforce who commute into the city. Those employees support an additional 103 jobs within the city and spend an estimated \$29.7 million annually within the city.



The report was researched and produced by the Northwest Economic Research Center, based within the Portland State University College of Urban and Public Affairs. The county commissioned the analysis.

The county has previously come under criticism for its administrative presence within city limits. But the report finds that the county occupies small portions of the city's tax lots, that the areas in question are "largely outside the desirable central commercial district," and that the "administrative structure has a relatively light physical footprint."

The report features a handy one-page executive summary and one-page conclusion. Check out the report at bit.ly/1UqQbYX.

Sewer rates increase for service district customers

Starting this month, you will notice a \$1.50 rate increase for your monthly sewer bill if you live in the Tri-City Service District (TCSD) or Clackamas County Service District No. 1 (CCSD#1).

The Board of County Commissioners approved the rate adjustment recommended by Water Environment Services (WES) and budget committees for both service districts. The rate increase will help ensure that WES, which operates and manages both districts, can provide the same treatment services while protecting public health and the environment.

Also beginning this month, Happy Valley residents will pay up to an additional \$2.73 on their monthly wastewater bill after the City Council approved a new right of way fee. Happy Valley's fee is in addition to the county-approved \$1.50 rate increase for CCSD#1.

The city's new fee charges utility providers for operating in city-owned rights of way. Because utilities do not own the streets under which the wastewater conveyance infrastructure is located, the fee is for use of the right of way. The new fee will appear on monthly bills as "HV1 RIGHT OF WAY FEE." Customers who have a Happy Valley mailing address but do not live within city limits will not be affected by the right of way fee increase.

Last year, Oregon City approved a right of way fee for TCSD. The district filed a lawsuit that sought to either eliminate or reduce the impact of the fee on district ratepayers. Clackamas County Circuit Court ruled in favor of Oregon City, but TCSD appealed the ruling on the grounds that it is inappropriate for a city to charge its residents for equipment needed to provide vital services. The ruling on the appeal is pending.

The city of Gladstone is currently considering the approval of a right of way fee which could go into effect in October.

If you have questions about the fee increases, please contact WES at 503-742-4567, Monday – Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Cascadia Rising preps county for catastrophe

Imagine you're at home one afternoon and your entire house starts shaking. A violent earthquake is happening. As you protect yourself by dropping and crawling under a table, the electricity goes out. The shaking lasts for minutes.

Once it stops, you make your way outside. There are cracks in the street and poles are down. You want to reach out to your loved ones, but cellular service has been knocked out. You start to worry.

You probably haven't imagined this scenario very often. But this type of incident is constantly on the minds of staff at the county Disaster Management Department, which is dedicated to minimizing the impact of natural and human-caused incidents. These employees are tasked with ensuring that all county staffers who would help respond to a catastrophe are as ready as possible.

So just how does a government ready itself in case "the big one" strikes? In early June, 98 county staff – along with those from local cities (Estacada, Happy Valley, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Oregon City, West Linn and Wilsonville), countless first responders and state personnel – participated in "Cascadia Rising," a large-scale mock exercise designed to test the county's ability to coordinate disaster operations in the wake of a 9.0 magnitude earthquake and tsunami emanating from the Cascadia Subduction Zone.

This very real threat was detailed by major media articles last summer. Oregon State University found that a 40 percent chance exists of a powerful earthquake striking our beautiful state in the next 50 years.

Cascadia Rising brought together an estimated 20,000 people from federal, state and local governments – as well as officials from tribes, private organizations and nonprofits – from Oregon, Idaho, Washington and British Columbia.

Why did so many staff from the county and

throughout the Pacific Northwest participate? Simple. The success of life-saving and life-sustaining actions in the aftermath of a cataclysmic event is directly tied to the effective coordination and integration of all levels of government. We must have active, efficient and accurate lines of communication to help residents when time is of the essence.

There's a lot of things to consider. In the mock exercise, the four-minute earthquake encompassed 140,000 square miles. More than 10 million people reside in the direct impact zone (which includes all of Clackamas County). We had to assume that critical infrastructure suffered damage, and thousands were killed or injured.

Just some of the challenges our county staff and departments faced included:

Basic communications: How can the county and cities provide critical information if both electricity and telephone lines are out?

Shelters: Where can (potentially) thousands of displaced residents go?

Food/water/medicine/fuel: If the water system is damaged and the regular shipping process is interrupted, who does the county coordinate with for emergency relief supplies?

Road/bridge/building inspections: What is the optimal logistical process to verify which roads and bridges are passable? How will detours be created? How will we efficiently verify that housing structures and offices are safe to return into?

Wastewater systems: If wastewater systems are damaged and sewage systems are disrupted, how will sewage be handled for residents and businesses?

The deceased: The Clackamas County Medical Examiner does a lot (see right-hand column), but how can that office respond to a mass causality event?

These kinds of exercises are not foreign to county staff. The Disaster Management Department makes sure that key county response personnel are regularly tested through mock exercises like this,

primarily to identify gaps in service and incorporate solutions. The work is grueling and often thankless, but the department plays a crucial role in keeping our communities safe, healthy and secure.

In short, we're dedicated to making sure we help you as quickly and efficiently as possible should the unthinkable occur.

Want to be more prepared? The department offers extensive online information about how you can better prepare your family by developing a disaster plan, putting together kits ahead of time, and signing up for the county's emergency notifications system. Visit clackamas.us/emergency today.

You can also receive regular tips on events and preparedness by following the department on Facebook and Twitter (both @ClackamasDM) or signing up to receive notifications over email (click on "Get email updates" at the bottom-right of clackamas.us).



What does the county medical examiner do?

Many residents may not be aware of the county's medical examiner, whose office investigates and determines the causes, circumstances around, and manner of sudden, unexpected, violent or suspicious deaths.

An agency within the county Disaster Management Department, the Medical Examiner's Office works in close collaboration with law enforcement and fire agencies.

Specifically the medical examiner is required, but not limited to, investigate deaths that involve:

- Homicide or suicide
- Accidents or injuries
- Unlawful use of controlled substances, or the use of a chemical or toxic substance
- Persons who die unexpectedly in good health not under the care of a physician
- Persons who die while incarcerated in jail or prison, or in police custody
- Contagious diseases that may pose a public health threat
- On-the-job activities

During an investigation, a deputy medical examiner may respond to the scene, interview witnesses, take photographs, obtain evidence and property, and notify next-of-kin. The medical examiner also prepares for mass fatalities to better serve the public if catastrophes should occur. (Staff from the Medical Examiner's Office participated in Cascadia Rising. See left-hand story.)



Clackamas County Medical Examiner's Office
13309 SE 84th Ave., Suite #100 - Clackamas, OR
503-655-8380

Save the date for two upcoming workshops on flood safety

Clackamas County will sponsor two area specific workshops – A Flood of Information 2016: Preparing for Winter on the Rivers – this fall for county residents.

Meetings are scheduled for Sept. 24 at the Resort at the Mountain in Welches, and Oct. 1 at the Clackamas County Development Services Building in Oregon City.

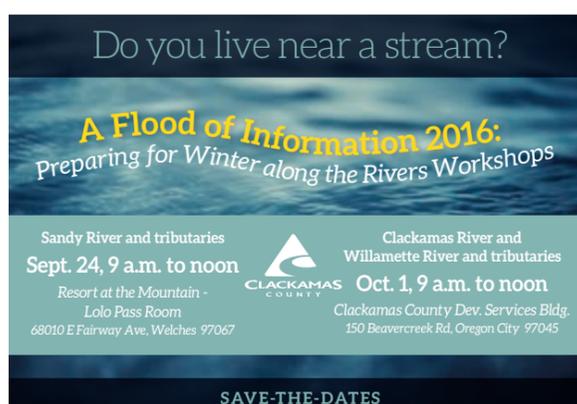
The first workshop will focus on the Sandy River and its tributaries, while the second will center on the Clackamas and the Willamette rivers and tributaries. Both events will run from 9 a.m. to noon.

Workshops are open to all county residents, property owners and businesses interested in learning how to prepare for winter weather conditions and emergencies in any flood-prone area.

Workshop education stations will include information on ways to minimize risk featuring experts from local and federal agencies such as the National Weather Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development, and Hoodland Fire District, as well as several county departments and divisions including Disaster Management, Planning, Transportation and Development, and Water Environment Services, plus local watershed councils.

Historic and current information concerning the volatility and dangers associated with the rivers will be available, including stories and videos of past flood events, studies, surveys, the latest on flood insurance, maps and much more.

For more information about the event, contact Disaster Management's Jay Wilson at 503-723-4848 or jaywilson@clackamas.us.



Do you live near a stream?

A Flood of Information 2016:
Preparing for Winter along the Rivers Workshops

Sandy River and tributaries Sept. 24, 9 a.m. to noon Resort at the Mountain - Lolo Pass Room 68010 E Fairway Ave, Welches 97067		Clackamas River and Willamette River and tributaries Oct. 1, 9 a.m. to noon Clackamas County Dev. Services Bldg. 150 Beaver Creek Rd, Oregon City 97045
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SAVE-THE-DATES



Offering youth offenders a fresh start

If you've frequented the Oregon City Farmers Market this season or in years past, or other outdoor events, you may have noticed a coffee/smoothie cart and veggie stand run by "GREEN Corps." But you probably didn't realize that this small enterprise is completely staffed by youth involved in the juvenile justice system. These youth have made a choice to participate in bettering themselves by gaining occupational, life and leadership skills, and giving back to their community.



A GREEN Corps participant at the Oregon City Farmers Market.

Aligned with restorative values and principles, this program is one of the only voluntary participation programs of its kind in Oregon. GREEN Corps-Fresh Start is a collaboration between our Juvenile Department, Oregon State University Extension Service and the nonprofit Schoolyard Farms. The program is dedicated to helping youth empower themselves and increase their ability to sustain meaningful relationships.

The GREEN Corps cart and produce stand trains youth in food and drink preparation, customer service and money management. Another key component of the overall program includes the production of vegetables, which are directly grown and harvested by youth and sold at market or provided to food insecure families.

The program also encompasses vocational training at a bike repair shop geared toward providing transportation insecure families with refurbished bikes.

While GREEN Corps started out as simply a job preparation program, it has evolved to encompass important life skills as well. For many participants, the program provides a method to become activity engaged with their community in a completely new way.

"GREEN Corps showed me that I am more than my past decisions," said one involved youth. "It instilled a sense of stability, accountability and most importantly it gave me a second chance at being able to live a healthy and happy life."

In addition to the acquired skills and experience, the program provides youth with a method to pay restitution to victims, reduces recidivism, and breaks down barriers to future employment.

This positive program is just one of the many ways that our Juvenile Department helps get youth back on track to becoming independent, confident and productive members of society. To see how else we help our community and youth, or to get involved in programs yourself, check out clackamas.us/juvenile.

Small Claims mediation

Did you know that, in most cases, if a small claims case is filed in either Clackamas County Circuit Court or Justice Court, then the case must first go to mediation before trial?

What sense does that make? Actually, a lot. Our Resolution Services Department handled approximately 500 mediations last year. At these guided discussions, two parties sit down at length with an experienced individual trained in mediation techniques. While room for any potential agreement is explored, mediators never wade into making recommendations or providing legal advice.

If the two parties reach an accord, the mediator helps write up an agreement, which a judge can then approve and finalize. If no accord is reached, a trial is scheduled, typically 4-8 weeks later. Last year, our trainers helped resolve nearly 66 percent of all cases. That's a lot of time and effort saved by avoiding long, drawn out procedures.

What is the small claims process? For a full explanation, visit www.clackamas.us/ccrs/scmediation/. But in general, a small claims case can be filed in either Clackamas County Circuit Court or Justice Court if the defendant resides in the county, OR the incident happened in the county, OR if the case is based on a contract where the defendant agreed to perform services in the county.

Please note that filing fees are required from both the plaintiff and defendant. Circuit Court filing fees are \$53 for cases where the amount at issue is less than \$2,500, and \$95 for more than \$2,500. At Justice Court, the fee is always \$35. Further, Justice Court pays for the county mediation, but Circuit Court does not (fees are either \$50 or \$90). In some circumstances, a case from the Justice Court may be appealed to the Circuit Court, and additional fees may apply.

Get involved! All mediations conducted by Resolution Services are performed by experienced and trained volunteers. Sound like something you'd be interested in? If so, we have an excellent opportunity coming up in September! Check the panel to the right for details.

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT/MEDIATION TRAININGS

Learn a practical and structured process for helping people in conflict find mutually agreeable solutions! Upcoming Courses:

Conflict Management Training: For those interested in managing interpersonal conflict in the workplace or at home, this two-day training provides conflict resolution models and interactive exercises. Sept. 14-15, \$400.

Mediation Training: Learn the process and skills of mediation through roleplay exercises with professional coaches. The prior week's training on Sept. 14-15 (above) is required to complete this five-day, 40-hour training. Sept. 20-22, \$1,000.

Limited scholarships available. Participants eligible for continuing education units through Clackamas Community College. Contact Amy Herman at 503-655-8700 or [cds@clackamas.us](mailto:cdrs@clackamas.us).

County looking at homeless displacement

In late spring, the city of Portland contracted with Oregon Consensus, a community solutions facilitator, to convene the five jurisdictions which the 21-mile Springwater Corridor trail passes through to discuss livability and homelessness impacts.

Clackamas County joined Multnomah County and the cities of Portland, Milwaukie and Gresham in seeking out social services, public safety and housing solutions for the hundreds of people experiencing homelessness on the trail.

As a part of this process, the county Health, Housing and Human Services Department has conducted extensive outreach to this population, conducted surveys, and connected homeless residents to services. Large majorities of survey participants on the corridor are chronically homeless (a year or more), longtime residents of Oregon, were previously housed in the neighborhoods in which they now camp, and are disconnected from services. About 60 percent are 41 or older, and

the two most commonly identified contributors to homelessness were job loss and eviction.

The county values this opportunity to partner with neighboring jurisdictions regarding social services and to explore solutions.

"The human services problem represented by the population experiencing homelessness along the corridor is a regional one," said county Housing Policy Coordinator Vahid Brown. "The coordination we're developing during this process will improve our ability to contribute to regional health and human service needs going forward."

Clackamas County is taking a lead and identifying service gaps and working with partners regarding livability and accessibility in this regional recreation and transit corridor.

The regional partners are working to identify housing options and alternatives for the community experiencing homelessness on the trail, and hope to agree on specific proposals later this summer.

HAMLETS: UPCOMING EVENTS!

The Hamlet of Mulino will be sponsoring the "Hamlet of Mulino Community Movie Night" on Aug. 27 at 7 pm. Details forthcoming on their Facebook page! (bit.ly/29F6mmm)

The Hamlet of Beavercreek will be celebrating its tenth anniversary on Aug. 13! Come one, come all to a Stars in the Park Concert starting at 4 p.m. Featuring the Seymour Baker Band and the Ellen White Trio, the fun festivities will begin at Korner Park (at Beavercreek Road and Leland Road) at 4 p.m.!

Check out Beavercreek.org for more.

School + Library = Success!

Getting ready for the new school year? Your local LINCC library (Libraries in Clackamas County) is here to help. We've got lots of friendly staff to help you find information for yourself and your family! Here are some common questions that we have answers for:

Q: My child will be writing BOOK REPORTS this year. Can you help me find good books they can read based on their age and interests?

A: YES! Our librarians love to help people find books they might enjoy reading – just think of us as your personal book finders.

We've got booklists with suggested reading by age and interest.

We've got the books that won the awards you might have heard about like Oregon Battle of the Books, Oregon Reader's Choice Award, and the Beverly Cleary Children's Choice Award. Many are also available as eBooks.

Q: What about help with HOMEWORK?

A: YES! Our librarians can help students find the information they need for their homework.

Need information about countries – we've got it! Need information about an historical event – we've got it! Writing about the pros and cons of an issue – we've got information about all sides! Something else – we've probably got it, or we can help you find a great resource.

Q: Can I get information when the library isn't open?

A: YES! We've got thousands of reliable resources available 24/7 on our website. Go to lincc.org and click on the link for "Online Resources."

Q: Do I need a library card to access all these services?

A: YES! It's super easy to get a library card, and in most cases they are absolutely free. Sign up at your local LINCC library today.

Discover more! Visit your local LINCC library, or check out our website for more information at lincc.org.

EVENTS AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY!



Canby Public Library

A new library is coming soon for Canby! Check out the website for updates about the move and grand opening! canbylibrary.org

JULY 27

Estacada Public Library Wednesday, July 27

Presto the Magician performs at 1:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.! He'll bring the wonder of magic, a unique comedic style, and an enthusiasm for reading to our library for the third straight year.

AUG 3

Gladstone Public Library Wednesday, Aug. 3

End of Summer Celebration with the Gladstone Fire Department kicks off at 3 p.m. Stop by for storytime with a Gladstone firefighter, come see a firetruck and learn all about it, and check out our other family friendly activities!

JULY 26

Happy Valley Public Library Tuesdays, July 26, Aug. 2 & 9

Field Days start at 10 a.m.! Crafts, sports, and games with the library in Village Green Park (next to the library).

AUG 13

Hoodland Public Library Saturday, Aug. 13

Lego Club for Kids starts at 1 p.m. Join us for making Lego creations!

AUG 24

Lake Oswego Public Library Wednesday, Aug. 24

End of Summer Reading Party at Rossman Park at 2 p.m.! There will be a Border Collie international performing canine team, field games, snacks, and more!

JULY 26

Milwaukie Ledding Library Tuesdays, July 26, Aug. 2 & 9

The North Clackamas Parks RecMobile stops by at 2 p.m.! Enjoy games, sports, snacks and crafts in the park adjacent to the library.

AUG 13

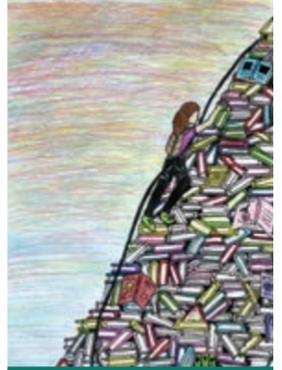
Molalla Public Library Saturday, Aug. 13

The Teen Bowling Competition at Molalla Bowl starts at 2 p.m.! Come bowl with us! We'll have eight teams with three people to a team, and we'd love to see you.

AUG 3

Oregon City Public Library Wednesday, Aug. 3

Mad Science Olympics at the Pioneer Community Center starts at 11 a.m.! Get movin' and groovin' in this awesome Olympic-themed show! Watch Eggbert take a high dive, discover the wonders of air pressure in our Mad Science Tug-of-War, and be a part in the best closing ceremony anywhere!



The winning entry of LINCC's Teen Summer Reading Artwork Contest by Damascus resident Katie Sherman, 14.

AUG 4

Oak Lodge Public Library Thursday, Aug. 4

Henrik Bothe's Juggling Show starts at 1:30 p.m.! Anything's possible in this variety show featuring unicycling, magic and plate spinning.

AUG 9

Sandy Public Library Tuesday, Aug. 9

Scratch Coding Workshop at 2 p.m.! Come learn about this free programming language you can use to create your own games and animations!

AUG 17

West Linn Public Library Wednesday, Aug. 17

Stuffed Animal Sleepover Storytime starts at 6:30 p.m. Bring your favorite stuffed animal to the library for storytime and leave them overnight for a sleepover. Pick up your animal, and a photo of their library adventure) the next day.

JULY 28

Wilsonville Public Library Thursday, July 28

The Reptile Man will appear at Murase Plaza at Memorial Park at 11 a.m.! Bring your friends and a picnic lunch, and join us for reptile fun in the park.

For more information about these and other events happening at our libraries please check out our website at lincc.org and select "Library Events."

Don't get caught harboring a fugitive. License your dog.



It is law to license your dog in Clackamas County.
But dog licensing also...
Promotes responsible dog ownership
Helps prevent spread of disease by ensuring up-to-date vaccinations
Supports investigations of animal cruelty, abandonment and neglect

Buy or renew licenses:
Online at www.clackamas.us/dogs/license.html
At many Clackamas County vet clinics
Or at the shelter - 13141 SE Highway 212, Clackamas, OR 97015

	Altered dog w/ microchip	Altered dog w/o microchip	Fertile dog w/ microchip	Fertile dog w/o microchip
1 year	\$19	\$24	\$36	\$41

*Prices based on one year. Discounts offered for multiple years.

County participating in 2016 Street of Dreams

The 2016 NW Natural Street of Dreams will feature five stunning homes, ranging from \$3 to \$4 million and 5,000 to 8,000 square feet.

It will be held from July 30 to Aug. 28 and set on a scenic vineyard development on Pete's Mountain in West Linn. The show runs from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. every day.

The county will have an information table on select weekends. On Aug. 11, organizers will hold a Veterans Honor Day. The county's veterans services staff will be there with information. All current and former military members receive complimentary admission for themselves and three family members.

Visit streetofdreamspdx.com to learn more.

Don't leave a pet in a parked car on a hot day.



Temperatures inside a car can soar quickly to dangerous levels even if the outside temperature is in the 70s.

Keep your pets safe. Leave them at home.





Avanzando en el reconocimiento de la Salud Mental entre la comunidad Latina

Hace dos años que existe un recurso comunitario acerca de problemas de salud mental. Primeros Auxilios para la Salud Mental es una clase de ocho horas que se enfoca en los síntomas y señales de los problemas de salud mental más comunes como la depresión y el abuso de sustancias. Se aprende reconocer cuándo una persona pueda estar pasando por una crisis de salud mental y cómo ofrecerle apoyo.

Se ofrece Primeros Auxilios para la Salud Mental en español gracias a una colaboración entre la División de Salud Mental del condado de Clackamas (Behavioral Health Division en inglés) y organizaciones e individuos que tienen experiencia proveyendo servicios a la comunidad Latina.

Kimberly López, una de la maestras de la clase dice que en cada clase hay varios participantes quienes han sido afectados directamente por la depresión, adicción, el suicidio y otros asuntos que tienen que ver con la salud mental. "Todavía existe mucho estigma acerca de problemas de salud mental en nuestra comunidad. Miembros de la comunidad buscan oportunidades de hacer preguntas y aprender en un ambiente de apoyo para poder hablar acerca de lo que ellos y sus familiares están experimentando. Quisieran saber cómo pueden ayudar y dónde pueden buscar apoyo adicional."

Las maestras actuales de las clases son Kimberly López, Dirigente del Programa de Recursos de Salud de Northwest Family Services; Celina Bonnie, Especialista de Apoyo para la Salud Mental de Northwest Family Services; y Amanda Wheeler-Kay, actual Directora Ejecutiva de Los Niños Cuentan. Ellas tienen años trabajando con la comunidad hispanohablante en diferentes aspectos.

Cualquier miembro de la comunidad quien tiene interés en el tema puede inscribirse en el curso. No se necesita conocimiento previo de asuntos de problemas de salud mental. La colaboración entre el condado de Clackamas hace que se puede ofrecer las clases gratis, y se llevan a cabo en varias comunidades en el condado de Clackamas.

Para más información y para saber el horario de clases futuras, comuníquese al 503-546-6377 o al klopez@nwfs.org

gettrainedtohelp.com



Get involved with the county

The **Hamlet and Village** program was initiated in 2006 in response to grassroots efforts by residents to become more involved with county government and to help support their community. While each hamlet or village has unique goals and activities, they share a common interest in retaining the flavor of their community, promoting activities to benefit the community, working with the county and outside organizations, and providing their residents increased access to (and information about) the County.

Community Planning Organizations (CPO) are advisory to county commissioners on land use matters affecting their communities. CPOs are notified of proposed land use actions and legislative changes within their boundaries. They may review these applications and provide recommendations to the board.

Find out more about these groups on our citizen involvement page! Visit clackamas.us/citizenin today!

VOLUNTEER

ON CLACKAMAS COUNTY ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS!

Interested in volunteering for your community? Clackamas County offers nearly 50 different boards or commissions where you can personally make a difference in your government's direction.

Explore all the options at clackamas.us/citizenin/abc.html today!

First-time homebuyer? County may help

Did you know that the county runs the Clackamas Homebuyer Assistance Program (CHAP), which helps first-time homebuyers with down payment and closing cost assistance up to \$14,000 in the form of a loan?

To qualify, the purchase price cannot exceed \$290,000. The home also must be the primary residence of the buyer for the life of the loan. Loans are zero percent interest, payments are deferred and due upon sale, transfer of title, change of use or refinance.

"Affordable homeownership benefits families, neighborhoods and communities," said Clackamas County Community Development Manager Kevin Ko. "But for many lower income households, the dream of homeownership could seem unattainable. CHAP may provide the financial assistance necessary to bring the dream within their reach."

Annual gross income limits as determined by HUD are as follows: one person \$41,100; two persons \$46,950; three persons \$52,800; four persons \$58,650. Income eligibility is based upon current gross income projected for the next 12 months and must include all household members and all sources of income.

Funding for CHAP is provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development through the HOME Investment Partnerships Program.

For more information on the CHAP program, please visit clackamas.us/communitydevelopment and click on homebuyer. Inquiries can be made by emailing Community Development at CDGeneral@clackamas.us or by calling 503-655-8591.

Loans in the North Clackamas Revitalization Area

The county also offers down payment assistance loans to first-time homebuyers to purchase homes in the North Clackamas Revitalization Area. The program is financed by urban renewal funds generated in the North Clackamas Revitalization Area. For more information, including a boundary map, please visit clackamas.us/development/downpaymentloan.html and click on NCRA Homebuyer Assistance.

New eWIC benefits, programs announced

Earlier this year, the Clackamas County Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program upgraded to eWIC, an electronic benefit system. The new system has made paper vouchers a thing of the past as participants can now utilize their electronic benefits transfer card that is loaded each month with client-specific products. Families now have the choice of buying just a few WIC foods at a time.

Also, the Farm Direct Nutrition Program is up and running! WIC participants are eligible for \$20 in Farmers Market coupons to spend on fresh produce from participating farmers. Plus, WIC will celebrate World Breastfeeding Week (Aug. 1-7) and National Breastfeeding Month next month. This celebration annually encourages breastfeeding as a key element of health and wellness to improve babies' health.

For more information, email WIC@clackamas.us, call 503-655-8476, or go to clackamas.us/publichealth/wic.html.

Heritage grants!

County Tourism Heritage Capital Grants for fiscal year 2016-17 are now available! Grants are for county-based cultural/heritage organizations seeking capital improvement projects for heritage sites, including museums and other facilities that attract and serve visitors. The \$50,000 annual grant program is funded through the county Transient Room Tax and is allocated by Clackamas County Tourism & Cultural Affairs (CCTCA).

"Our heritage sites are vital assets to the county and to visitors interested in learning more about the rich history we have," said CCTCA's Samara Phelps.

Prior grant awardees/projects include the Mt. Hood Cultural Center & Museum in Government Camp (for painting), the Molalla Log House Project (relocation), and the McLean House in West Linn (much-needed repairs). To learn more or apply, contact Phelps at 503-742-5910 or visit the "Partners" section of MtHoodTerritory.com.

Damascus disincorporates

For just the fourth time since Oregon's founding in 1859, a city has disincorporated. Just this month, with the finalization of disincorporation, the city of Damascus's lands, businesses and residents have reverted to Clackamas County jurisdiction.

So what does this mean? Understandably, there are many questions about this transition. Clackamas County has created a new, thorough Damascus FAQ page, clickable from our front page at clackamas.us. Popular questions and answers include:

Q How will property tax rates change?

A Damascus last levied a tax rate of \$2.80 per \$1,000 of assessed value. Currently, the county property tax rate within city limits is \$2.40. Upon disincorporation, the county rural rate of \$2.98 applies.

The net effect of eliminating the Damascus city tax and applying the rural tax rate is a reduction of \$2.23 per \$1,000. Damascus had an actual average

assessed value of \$260,500 last year. For a house at that value, the approximate savings is \$580.

Q What will happen to city funds?

A Three million dollars has been placed in a special county account and will be used to pay certain obligations related to transitioning Damascus employees to the county payroll (for up to one year), the continuation of law enforcement, and other services to be integrated into the county's structure. Approximately \$2.5 million in the city's road fund will be transferred to the county for exclusive use on roads within the former city. Once all financial obligations are realized, unspent money will be refunded to property taxpayers (who meet certain criteria) based on previous taxes paid. There will be an announcement about this in the future from the Clackamas County Assessor.

Q What's the effect on the zoning regulations for marijuana-related facilities and businesses?

A Damascus did not adopt any land use regulations restricting marijuana production, processing, wholesaling or retailing facilities.



County commissioners have voted to apply the county's current Comprehensive Plan and Zoning and Development Ordinance, including recently-adopted marijuana land use regulations, to land de-annexed or disincorporated from Damascus.

Q Will Damascus still receive law enforcement services?

A Yes. There will be no interruption in law enforcement services within the disincorporated area. The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office will continue to provide dedicated patrols and police services for one year. At that time, Damascus will return to a rural level of service similar to the level that existed prior to incorporation.

For more questions and answers, visit clackamas.us/pga for a link to the full FAQ page.

Three rural reserves under review

Clackamas County is dedicated to finding a solution to its current lack of long-term employment lands. The future prosperity of our residents and businesses will be built on access to and availability of family-wage jobs.

Ideally, a 20-year supply of industrial land is needed to ensure the demand to meet future employment needs. As astute *Citizen News* readers may recall, we're short by approximately 1,100 acres to meet demands of the coming decades.

Essentially, this issue comes down to the regional designation of lands in 2010 as being either urban reserves (which may be used for potential urban development in the next 50 years) or rural reserves (which may not be used for urban development

in the next 50 years, and may have working farms, forests or natural features like rivers, wetlands, or buttes).

We are reviewing the following three rural reserve areas to determine if removing the rural reserve classification (resulting in the land being undesignated) would be more beneficial for economic growth by providing future flexibility:

- 800 acres in the Wilsonville area on either side of I-5, south of the Willamette River, roughly between Boones Ferry Road and NE Airport Road
- 400 acres east of Canby, one-quarter to one-half mile east of Canby's urban growth boundary
- 425 acres along both sides of S. Springwater Road, south of the Clackamas River, from the Carver Bridge 1.4 miles to S. Stevens Road and S. Bakers Ferry Road



Public open houses were held in each area in late June. The results of the staff review and public input will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners in August to determine whether to further move forward the process of removing the rural reserve designation from all or part of the three areas being studied.

Find out more at clackamas.us/planning/reserves.html.

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VIDEO SPOTLIGHT

TRILLIUM LAKE

Thinking about a trip to Trillium Lake, but never been? Take a tour of this beautiful local treasure and learn all about the activities you can enjoy at this unique spot. This video was produced as part of our Inside Clackamas County series that highlights the recreational activities, landmarks and more that make our county such a great place to live, work, play and visit.



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