Winter 2016

Volume 17, Number 1

CLACKAMAS COUNTY

CitizenNews

COUNTY RESIDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR DISCOUNTS ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

Are you, or is someone you know, paying too much for prescription drugs? Does your health care plan not provide enough prescription drug coverage? Clackamas County wants to help!

Live Healthy U.S. Counties

Residents are now eligible to sign up for a free program to receive discounts on prescription drugs. The program aims to help those that are uninsured or underinsured for health care, but anyone living in the county can participate and potentially save money.

cont'd on page 9

NEW MARIJUANA LAND USE ORDINANCE SPECIFIES OPERATIONS IN UNINCORPORATED AREAS

The Clackamas County Commission approved an ordinance with regulations for recreational and medical marijuana businesses in unincorporated Clackamas County on Dec. 17.

cont'd on page 12

WES Director Greg Geist presents MWH scope of work to the Regional Wastewater Treatment Capacity Advisory Committee on Dec. 10.

WES presents plan for solving wastewater treatment capacity problem

Water Environment Services (WES) unveiled a scope of work from engineering firm MWH Global designed to solve an urgent wastewater treatment capacity problem affecting 150,000 customers in Clackamas County. WES Director Greg Geist presented the plan during a Dec. 10 meeting of the Regional Wastewater Treatment Capacity Advisory Committee, which is comprised of elected officials from affected cities and a representative from unincorporated Clackamas County.

The problem is a shortage of capacity to handle and treat solids, which are a by-product of waste from homes and businesses in the county's largest service districts - Clackamas County Service District No. 1 and the Tri-City Service District. Without additional capacity, public health and the environment could be at risk if the solids handling system experiences a catastrophic failure caused by a lack of capacity.

"We don't solve these kinds of problems in a piecemeal fashion," said Geist. "We have facilities on the solids handling side that have accepted 30 years worth of population growth. We are firmly at capacity and absolutely need to stay on the critical path to adding a significant amount of capacity."

cont'd on page 14

2 **KRUPP'S KORNER:** News from County Administrator Don Krupp

7 **HEALTHY LIVING:** Radio host shares her story

10 **TRANSPORTATION:** Preventing roadway crashes

16 **BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY:** Land to grow jobs

CLACKAMAS COUNTY
Citizen News
2051 Kaen Road
Oregon City, OR 97045
clackamas.us

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Portland, OR
Permit No. 700

ECRWSS
Postal Customer

Community Events and Happenings

KRUPP'S KORNER

A message from County Administrator Don Krupp

Partnership in wastewater treatment upgrade will save ratepayers millions of dollars

It seems like things have never been better for customers of our two major wastewater service districts in Clackamas County.

A recently-completed survey of Clackamas County Service District No. 1 and Tri-City Service District customers showed overwhelming satisfaction with their service and the quality of life in our county. The survey also revealed that an equally overwhelming majority have no idea who provides this necessary service.

There's really no need to know – unless there's a problem. But there are important reasons to be paying attention to sewer service right now. A significant investment is needed to expand the region's wastewater treatment capacity, and every home and business has something at stake.

Most of the sewer service in the North Clackamas area is provided by these two service districts operating in partnership with the cities and communities:

1. Clackamas County Service District No. 1 serves Milwaukie, Happy Valley, Boring, Hoodland, Johnson City, Fischer's Forest Park, the western edges of Damascus and unincorporated North Clackamas County.
2. Tri-City Service District serves the cities of Gladstone, Oregon City and West Linn.

The districts are operated by Water Environment Services, the Clackamas County department assigned to protect public health and the environment at the most economical cost. The Board of County Commissioners serves as the governing body for both districts.

From cities and unincorporated neighborhoods, wastewater is conveyed to the districts' treatment facilities along the Willamette River in Milwaukie and the Clackamas River in Oregon City. There, wastewater is cleaned to meet strict regulatory standards before it is returned to the river.

While the treatment facilities consistently comply with all regulations, both districts have exceeded their capacity to handle solids, which are by-products of sewage from houses and businesses. If the overloaded system were to fail, untreated wastewater could end up in our rivers.

The best and lowest-cost solution is to build new solids handling capacity at the Tri-City plant in Oregon City. Both districts would share the cost through an equitable cost-sharing formula.

The bottom line: This partnership approach would save ratepayers millions of dollars.

Through research for the project, we will soon understand projections for population growth and future solids handling demands for each district. This is vitally important in determining future capacity needs for each district, the cost of building that additional capacity, and how to best apportion costs among current and future ratepayers between the districts.

Back in the 1980s, the three cities in the Tri-City Service District (Gladstone, Oregon City, West Linn) could not afford to "go it alone" so they joined forces. In 1986, the Tri-City facility went online.

Twenty years later, Clackamas County Service District No. 1 picked up most of the cost to expand capacity at the Tri-City plant – and benefitted from a proportionate gain in liquids-handling capacity.

This unique arrangement saved ratepayers in both districts millions of dollars.

Now it's time to invest again to increase capacity and upgrade the aging infrastructure which has served the districts exceptionally well for 30 years.

A regional advisory committee, with representatives from every city, has been exploring opportunities for the two districts to collaborate on this investment.

A partnership approach still makes the most sense.

Our goal is to reach timely and affordable solutions for Clackamas County's most pressing wastewater treatment capacity needs. On behalf of the dedicated staff at Water Environment Services and the Board of County Commissioners, you have our pledge to always protect the best interests of ratepayers, and to continue to provide the outstanding service that helps preserve the high quality of life we all enjoy in Clackamas County.

You can find more information on the solids handling project at **www.clackamas.us/wes/capacity.html**

CitizenNews

This publication is created quarterly by Clackamas County Public and Government Affairs and is mailed to nearly all households in the county.

Citizen News
2051 Kaen Road
Oregon City, OR 97045

www.clackamas.us
503-655-8751

Commission Chair
John Ludlow

Commissioners
Jim Bernard
Paul Savas
Martha Schrader
Tootie Smith

Contact the County Commission
bcc@clackamas.us
503-655-8581

Get email updates about issues and services of interest to you!
www.clackamas.us/govdoc.html

Citizen News has a new look for 2016! Let us know what you think: citizennews@clackamas.us

Volunteers Needed!

ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

The Clackamas County Commission is seeking residents to serve on Advisory Boards and Commissions:

Compensation Board for County Officials: There is one vacancy on this three-member board, which annually reviews Clackamas County elected officials' salaries. The board meets between early April and mid-May each year. Members serve for four years. Application deadline is Thursday, Jan. 28. For more information, contact Heather Pedersen at 503-742-5484 or heatherped@clackamas.us.

Housing Advisory Committee: The Clackamas County Health, Housing & Human Services Department is seeking applicants to serve two-year terms and recommend a final set of principles, goals and policies for affordable housing in the county. Applications will be taken until the positions are filled. Members are needed from the following groups:

- One local elected official or city manager
- One member from the legal profession

For more information, contact Elizabeth Miller at 503-655-8279 or emiller@clackamas.us.

Community Health Council: This council has five openings, each with a three-year term. Council members and commissioners are responsible for the oversight of a federally-funded grant that provides primary care, dental and behavioral health services to residents. Applications will be taken until the positions are filled. For more information, contact Julie Hertel at 503-742-5339 or JHertel@clackamas.us.

Mental Health and Addictions Council: This council has several openings with three-year terms. The MHAC advises commissioners and county staff on community needs, gaps in services, barriers and priorities related to providing mental health and addictions services. Applications will be taken until the positions are filled. For more information, contact Natalie Spilman at 503-742-5924 or Nataliespi@clackamas.us.

Clackamas County Service District #1 Budget Committee: This committee has two openings, each with a three-year term. The committee reviews the proposed fiscal year budget and any supplemental budgets, and recommends revisions to the County Commission, which serves as district's governing body.

CCSD #1 provides sanitary sewer and surface water management services to areas of unincorporated north Clackamas County, Happy Valley, Boring and communities of the Hoodland Corridor. Interested ratepayers who live within CCSD #1 are encouraged to apply. Applications will be taken until the positions are filled. For more information, contact Katie Wilson at 503-742-4592 or KWilson2@clackamas.us.

Tri-City Service District Budget Committee: There are two openings, each with a three-year term. The committee reviews and recommends fiscal year and supplemental budgets to the County Commission, which serves as the district's governing body.

The service district provides wholesale wastewater treatment services to the cities of Oregon City, West Linn and Gladstone. Interested ratepayers who live within the district's boundaries are encouraged to apply. Applications will be taken until the positions are filled. For more information, contact Katie Wilson at 503-742-4592 or KWilson2@clackamas.us.

Surface Water Management Agency of Clackamas County Budget Committee: This committee has three openings, each with a three-year term. The committee reviews the proposed fiscal year budget and any supplemental budgets, and recommends revisions to the County Commission if necessary. The agency provides surface water management services in unincorporated areas of Clackamas County within the Tualatin River Watershed and the city of Rivergrove. Applications will be taken until the positions are filled. For more information, contact Katie Wilson at 503-742-4592 or KWilson2@clackamas.us.

If you are interested in applying for any of the above committees, complete and submit an online application at **www.clackamas.us/miscapp/application.jsp** or pick up a printed application at the county Public Services Building, Public & Government Affairs office, 2051 Kaen Road in Oregon City.

SIGN UP FOR COUNTY EMAIL UPDATES!

Would you like to receive updates from Clackamas County about road closures, job openings and local events? Point your browser to www.clackamas.us and click on the link near the right-hand bottom of any page to get email updates!

Sign up for notifications about the topics you want to hear about, including emergency preparedness, County Commission actions, and media releases! And be sure to check the box for our monthly eNewsletter, which highlights some of the most important things the county is doing for you every month!

CLACKAMAS COUNTY RETIRED TEACHERS ORGANIZE

A new unit of the Oregon Retired Educators Association (OREA) is being organized for Clackamas County residents. The new unit, Clackamas County Retired Educators Association (CCREA), Unit #39, has held two organizational meetings.

CCREA is a service organization under the auspices of the National Retired Educators Association. (Not a Clackamas County program.)

It is a non-profit, educational, charitable group. There are currently 12 units throughout the state of Oregon. Anyone interested in education is invited to join.

CCREA provides a framework through which members can contribute to their community, fellow educators and local schools; supports those who are choosing education as a career, and provides scholarships and donations to community organizations through fundraising, dues and donations.

For more information, contact Linda Howland at howland1620@comcast.net or 503-974-9869.

If you are a member of a non-profit organization in Clackamas County, and would like to announce meetings or events in Citizen News, email Tracy Moreland at tracymor@clackamas.us.

PROPERTY TAX STATEMENTS MAILED

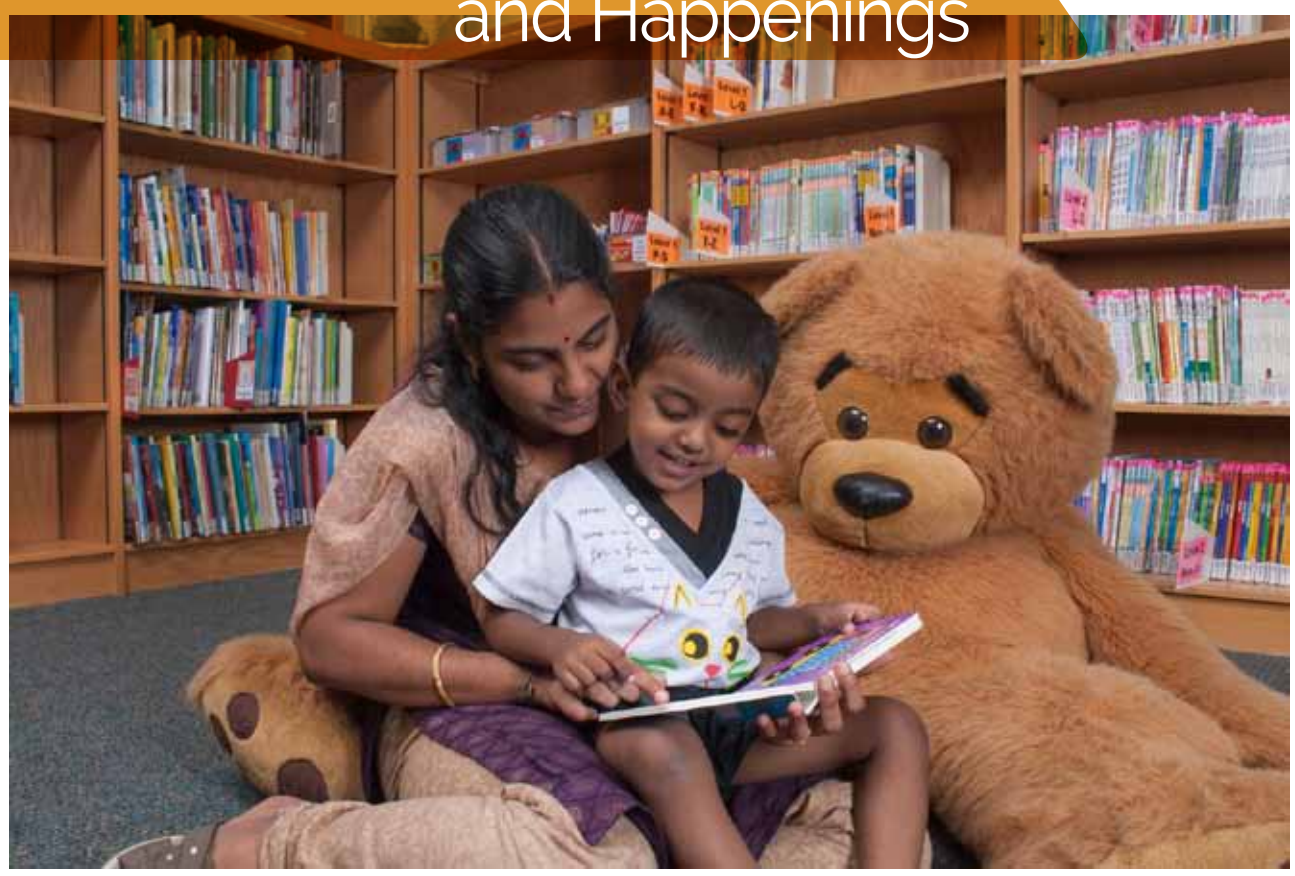
In late October, Clackamas County mailed out 2015-16 property tax statements to more than 171,000 real and personal property owners. Did you know that the county makes it very easy to pay your taxes by offering several payment methods? We encourage you to check out our Assessment & Taxation webpage at **www.clackamas.us/at/** for several resources, including online payment options and your personal tax statement. Check it out today!

APPLY FOR THE CLACKAMAS COUNTY CITIZEN ACADEMY

Are you interested in learning more about county departments, programs and services? Do you want to know about the role of your county's elected officials?

Consider applying to be part of the Clackamas County Citizen Academy! Applications are being accepted until Feb. 29, 2016 and the first session will be in April. Sessions will be held once or twice per month on a weekday evening, focus on different county department services, and include tours and group interaction. Visit **www.clackamas.us** for more information or to complete an application. Applicants can also contact Tracy Moreland, Community Relations Specialist, at 503-655-8520 or email tracymor@clackamas.us.

Community Events and Happenings



Reading together during Wilsonville Public Library storytime.

Early literacy: Planting the seeds for a harvest of reading

Each week, more than 1,000 kids enjoy storytime at your local LINCC libraries (Libraries in Clackamas County).

LINCC storytimes are great fun; incorporate books, music, and rhymes and feature early literacy practices designed to provide rich learning opportunities for young children.

Early literacy refers to the knowledge and skills children develop before they learn to read. Early literacy is important because your child will need to be ready to learn to read by the time they enter kindergarten. If you think of your child as a garden and reading as the harvest, early literacy is the preparation you put in before you enjoy the fruits of your labor.

Storytime presenters are experts in early literacy and thoughtfully prepare programs for you and your child. Staff will show you how you can seamlessly integrate early literacy activities into your daily routine. Reading to your child every day is a wonderful start, but there are more fun ways to help your child get ready to read.

Did you know that playing with kids builds vocabulary and listening skills? Singing develops a child's ability to identify sounds, and the rhythm of language and simply talking with your child is a powerful vocabulary builder? Kids can even develop pre-writing skills when they scribble with crayons!

Children under five have a lot to learn! The good news is that it's easy and fun. These crucial early literacy skills develop through simple activities that you and your kids already love to do: read, play, talk, sing and write!

For more information about LINCC storytimes, check out our events calendars on **www.lincc.org** or visit your local library. Storytimes are free and you don't need a library card to attend, but you might want to get one once you see all the books and other materials we have to offer. We invite you to join us!

TOURISM EMPLOYEE EARNS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

Oregon's Mt. Hood Territory, the tourism marketing arm of Clackamas County, has yet another accolade to add to the growing list of recognition earned this year. Tourism's Public Relations Coordinator Anne Austin was named one of PR News' Rising Stars 30 and Under.

PR News is an "intellectual hub" that serves PR professionals worldwide by keeping them informed of the latest in the communications industry and improving the skills of PR practitioners through conferences, webinars, workshops and books. The Rising Star program honors budding PR leaders and creative practitioners age 30 and under across the globe each year.

"I'm incredibly honored to receive this acknowledgment of my PR efforts from such a reputable organization and in such great company," said Austin. "I am proud to promote Oregon's Mt. Hood Territory and am humbled by this national recognition. It really is a team effort."

Austin's PR efforts in 2014-15 alone generated media coverage that reached more than 364 million people. If the organization were to purchase ads that reached that many people, it would cost nearly $5.4 million, which is known as "ad value equivalency" in media tracking terms.

Austin's recognition is one of several awards that Clackamas County's tourism marketing arm has received this year. In April the organization was recognized by the state's tourism marketing agency, Travel Oregon, for both its social media efforts and its Austin, TX marketing campaign. That campaign also received national distinction in August from the U.S. Travel Association, as did Tourism's 2015 Travel Planner.

"We have an incredible staff here that are doing amazing things," said Tourism's Executive Director Danielle Cowan. "The awards are incredibly gratifying, but what speaks volumes are the results, and tourism in Clackamas County has been growing steadily."

Transient Room Tax revenue, the tax paid by all travelers booking overnight stays in Clackamas County, has increased steadily since 2008-09. It broke records in 20014-15, reaching nearly $3.8 million.

Learn more at: **www.mthoodterritory.com.** *Clackamas County Tourism & Cultural Affairs (branded "Oregon's Mt. Hood Territory"), is dedicated to economic development through visitor spending, and is funded by transient room taxes from area lodging facilities and campgrounds.*

Grant For Local Tourism Projects

Applications for local tourism projects are being accepted Jan. 4 through Feb. 12, 2016. Eligible projects are those with an ability to increase overnight stays in Clackamas County. For more information, go to **www.mthoodterritory.com/LocalCPPContacts**.

SAT JAN 28

CANBY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Music in the Stacks; 2:30 p.m.

Grupo Condor will take listeners on a high-energy journey through Latin America.

DEC 22- MAR 20

GLADSTONE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Adult Winter Reading Program

Complete an adult winter reading bingo card anytime during the winter to be eligible for a prize! For more information, stop by the information desk.

THURS FEB 18

HAPPY VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Rock Art of the Columbia Plateau: Images of Forgotten Dreams; 6:30 p.m.

Join Jim Keyser for a journey back into the past that will enable you to better understand Indian pictographs, petroglyphs and the cultures of the tribes that occupied this area prior to the entry of Europeans.

WED JAN 27

HOODLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

Teddy Bear Sleepover; 6 p.m.

Bring your second-most favorite stuffed buddy (make sure it's a buddy that can spend time away from you) to the library for a "special evening" storytime. Come in your pajamas and your stuffed animal will stay overnight for a special party. Pick them up the next day, along with pictures of their adventures! Light snack for humans provided.

FEB 2016

LAKE OSWEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Lake Oswego Reads

Lake Oswego Public Library has selected *Short Nights of the Shadow Catcher: The Epic Life and Immortal Photographs of Edward Curtis* by Timothy Egan as the book for the 2016 annual citywide reading program. More information at **www.lakeoswegoreads.org.**

THURS MAR 24

LEDDING LIBRARY OF MILWAUKIE

Spring Break Puppet Show; 2 p.m.

Dragon Theater Puppets presents "The Reluctant Dragon" in the Children's Library. Ages 3+

THURS JAN 28

OAK LODGE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Introduction to Genealogy; 6:30 p.m.

Have you always wanted to research your ancestral past, but had no idea how to get started? Or did you get started once, but were stalled? Genealogical Forum of Oregon President Laurel Smith will explain the basics of beginning genealogical research and organization. She will show you some of the common mistakes made by beginners and reveal what you can do to avoid them. You will also learn how to improve your research skills and how you can access some great genealogical databases for free.

THURS FEB 25

OREGON CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Author Jane Kirkpatrick discusses "The Memory Weaver"; 7 p.m.

The New York Times bestselling author Jane Kirkpatrick returns to Oregon City to discuss her new book "The Memory Weaver." Based on true events, the emotional journey follows Eliza Spalding Warren as she is forced to confront her past. Don't miss this popular author and terrific speaker on her return visit to Oregon City!

WED FEB 10

SANDY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Composting With Worms; 4 p.m.

Grades K-5: explore composting with worms and the entire worm bin ecosystem. During this lesson, kids examine worms and compost on a placemat and learn about the composting process.

SAT JAN 23

WILSONVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Wilsonville Book Club Discussion – Eating Healthy, Affordable Options; 1 p.m.

Learn about healthy food options and how to make the most of your food budget. Bring your questions as we talk about these topics and enjoy tea and soup. This event is free and open to the public.

TEEN ART CONTEST - ALL LIBRARIES: Visit **www.lincc.org** under "Library Events" to learn more about how the teen in your family could have their art featured in the summer reading program materials!

Victim Assistance program helps Roseburg families

When news broke of the Umpqua Community College mass shooting in Roseburg, Diane Wehage immediately alerted her team to prepare for a possible response.

Wehage, program manager of the Clackamas County District Attorney Office's Victim Assistance Program (VAP), leads a team of "victim advocates" who assist people affected by crimes. A relatively low-profile county program, this team has a tremendous impact with people who are confronted with the trauma and aftermath of many kinds of victimization, including those who suffer violence, abuse, stalking and assaults. Victim advocates assist people in addressing immediate needs, which in turn empowers them in facing difficult days ahead.

Wehage was the lead for the trauma response three years ago at the Clackamas Town Center shooting. As a result, she immediately recognized that Douglas County would need additional resources to support victims and the community.

Five VAP advocates and Wehage responded to Roseburg within five hours of the shooting. While Wehage assisted Douglas County officials at the incident command post, each victim advocate was assigned as a lead for a family of the deceased victims.

Each mass fatality incident brings different community needs. In Roseburg, victim advocates conducted twice-daily basic assessments of families and the community. They assisted with death notifications to families, coordinated burial and funeral arrangements, facilitated financial assistance for families, made travel arraignments for out of town families, requested acute mental health specialist responses, and delivered food boxes provided by the Red Cross.

"Not everyone can work as a victim advocate," states Wehage. "It requires a passion for supporting people in trauma and strong moral character. This job is an emotional and exhausting experience for all parties involved."

Clackamas County victim advocates remained in Roseburg for four days, returning to continue their daily work of assisting our own county residents. Daily advocate tasks include providing crisis intervention, victim rights information, safety planning, assisting with protective order applications, and accompanying victims to court. See **www.clackamas.us/da/victimassist.html** for a full list of services.

"Our VAP advocates were able to respond to the families of Roseburg because of the encouragement and support of Clackamas County District Attorney John S. Foote," stated Wehage. "While the community remains in pain, the advocates know that they made a difference for the families they supported."

If you are a victim of a crime, or are interested in being a volunteer victim advocate, please call 503-655-8616, a 24/7 office and crisis line for your convenience. For full program information, please visit **www.clackamas.us/da/victimassist.html**.

RESOLUTION SERVICES OFFERS TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEER MEDIATORS

Conflicts arise in everyday life that can be thoughtfully managed, resulting in improved understanding and better outcomes for all involved. When conflict is managed well, everyone benefits from safer and more peaceful communities. Costs associated with conflict are kept to a minimum. Mediators help you develop your own solutions to challenging situations, documenting any agreements you reach.

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer mediator for your community mediation program? Clackamas County Resolution Services is offering training in March which will provide you with the tools you need to begin developing your mediation skills. These skills will benefit you in all aspects of your life; at home, at work and in community settings. Become part of the solution by aiding people in conflict. Help them talk in person to one another, share information with respect and explore options for resolution. Common community mediation issues include neighbor disputes about property, noise, animal control and relationships. Small claims issues are also mediated at Resolution Services.

Conflict Management and Mediation Training is scheduled for March 9, 10, 15 16 & 17, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Clackamas Community College. See **www.clackamas.us/ccrs/** for more information.

We also offer Facilitation Training for Victim Offender Dialogues between youth offenders and the people they have harmed. This five-day training will be held May 5, 6, 11, 12, & 13, 2016. For more information, call Amy Herman at 503-655-8700 or aherman@clackamas.us.

Resolution Services handles neighbor to neighbor disputes, small claims mediation, family law mediation, relationship coaching, parent education and more. Visit our website at **www.clackamas.us/ccrs/** for more information about our array of services.

Metro grant will help fund North Milwaukie Industrial Area Plan

Metro Councilor Carlotta Collette presented the Clackamas County Commission and representatives from the City of Milwaukie with a check for $250,000 to help fund the North Milwaukie Industrial Area Plan in December.

The goal of the North Milwaukie Industrial Area Plan is to produce creative development strategies for the North Milwaukie Industrial Area to enhance economic opportunities and spur job creation and investment.

In 2013, Milwaukie adopted the Tacoma Station Area (TSA) Plan which added flexibility to the list of uses allowed in the industrial zone near the new Tacoma light rail station. The North Milwaukie Industrial Area Plan project will build on the TSA Plan to include west of McLoughlin Boulevard, and will go beyond addressing land use – to include economic challenges that might exist in planning for an urban area that could include industrial, commercial and residential development.

The project team, including staff members from Clackamas County and the City of Milwaukie is scheduled to begin work in January.

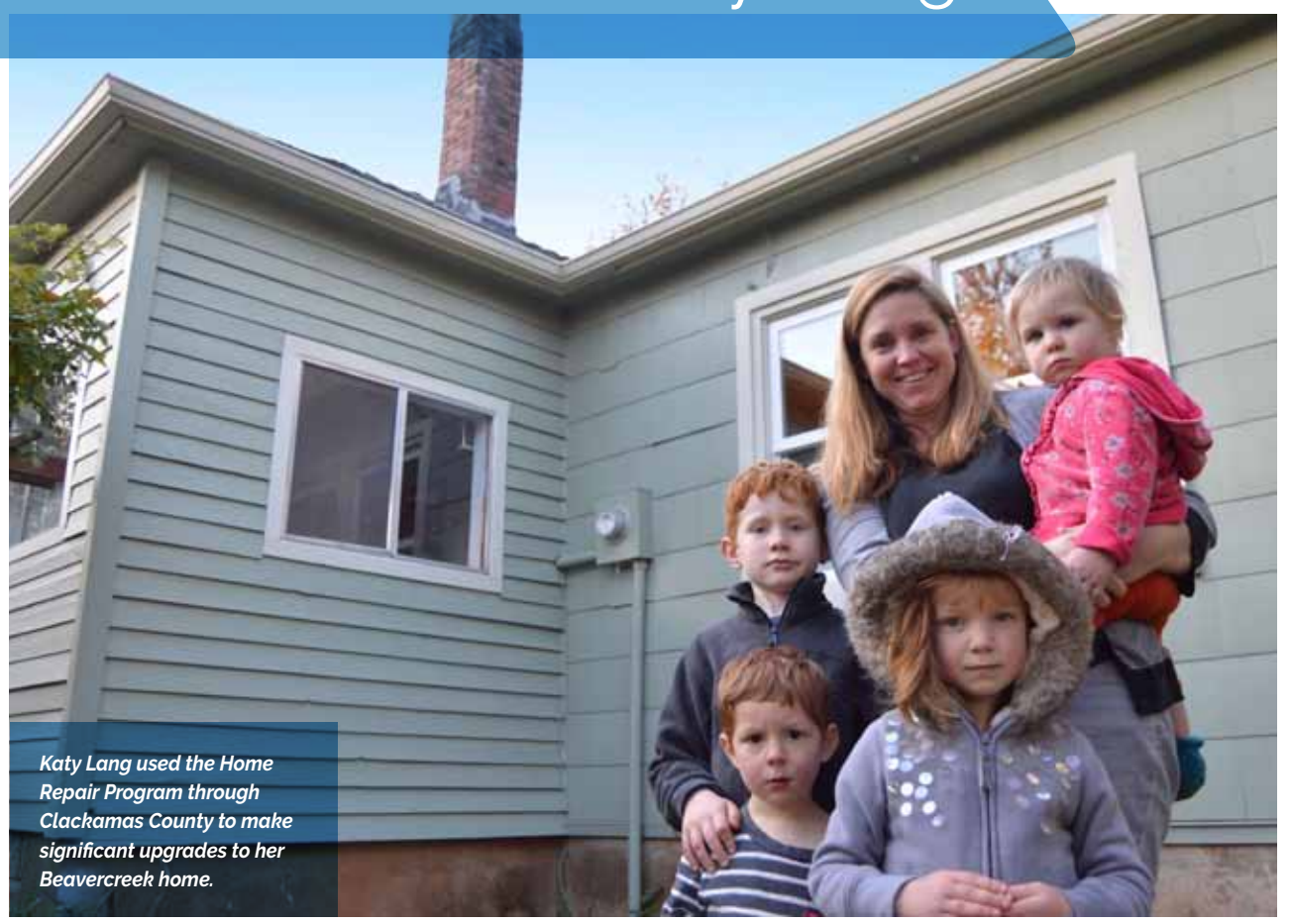
The grant, announced in September, is one of 16 grants totaling approximately $4.7 million for the fourth cycle of Metro's Community Planning and Development Grant program.

Metro established the Community Planning and Development Grant program in 2006 to help local communities plan for development and collaborate with regional partners. Funded by a regional construction excise tax, these grants are critical planning resources that help communities revitalize existing neighborhoods and plan for the development of new urban areas. Local governments (cities and counties) can apply, either solely or in partnership with other government entities, non-profit organizations or businesses.

For more information:
www.clackamas.us/business/
www.oregonmetro.gov/

ABOVE: Metro Councilor Carlotta Collette (front, second from right) presents County Commissioners and the City of Milwaukie officials a grant for $250,000 for North Milwaukie Industrial Area Plan.

Healthy Living



Katy Lang used the Home Repair Program through Clackamas County to make significant upgrades to her Beavercreek home.

Clackamas County Community Development: Making a house a home

Katy Lang knew her home was in need of repair.

She lives on a two-acre Beavercreek farm with her husband and four young children. The family moved into the two-story home more than three years ago and began to make some repairs. They soon learned about significant wiring issues, bad plumbing, damaged siding and windows, and numerous health and safety problems – including deteriorating lead-based paint.

With all of the issues creating problems for the home and family, Lang began searching for assistance. She went to the Clackamas County website and found the Housing Rehabilitation Program page at **www.clackamas.us/communitydevelopment/repair.html .**

Lang applied for a loan to repair her home through the program. County Housing Rehabilitation Specialist Jayson Tidland inspected the house and met with Lang and her family. Together, they outlined a plan to accomplish all work to be done.

Tidland said, "With the home repair loan, we were able to address a long list of health and safety concerns and resolve major deterioration issues. The home is in much better shape now, and it is safe for the whole family."

Tidland also coordinated with Weatherization Services to make the home more energy efficient.

"I'm very proud of these clients for taking the initiative,and reaching out to us," Tidland said. "It's a great privilege to be able to help this family and so many others in our county with these resources."

Although it was a long process, Lang, a teacher at Oregon City High School, said it was worth it.

"It was definitely a 10," Lang said in rating her experience with the program. "I've been really happy. I was really anxious at first about having contractors here all of the time, though, but all of them – the plumbers, painters and everyone else – were really nice."

Lang said when her friends come over to visit, they can't help but marvel at the difference the improvements made to her home.

"They're all like, 'Wow! I can't believe how great it looks!" she said.

Funding for the program is provided by the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Community Development Block Grant Program.

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

For more information about the Housing Rehabilitation Program, go to www.clackamas.us/communitydevelopment/repair.html where you can fill out an online inquiry to start the process, or call Community Development at 503-695-8591.

WIC MAKES IT EASIER FOR FAMILIES TO GET HEALTHY FOOD

The Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, Oregon's public health nutrition program, is offering its families a new way to shop for food benefits using an electronic benefit transaction (EBT) card.

The new program, called e-WIC, will come to Clackamas County on Feb. 1. Clackamas County's WIC program, located at 999 Library Court in Oregon City, will assist WIC participants on how to use the program.

Currently, WIC participants use paper vouchers to buy healthy foods. Using this new card, shopping will be easier and families will be able to better track their monthly food balance. Participants will also have access to a new WICShopper smartphone app allowing them to scan a food's bar code to determine if it is a WIC-allowed food.

In Clackamas County, 9,343 women, infants and children participated in the WIC program in 2014. Also in 2014, almost $3.5 million was spent for healthy foods at WIC authorized grocery stores and farmers markets in Clackamas County.

A WIC participant from another county already using the program states, "I'm so happy with the new e-WIC cards! It has made shopping so much easier for busy moms and dads. I don't have to buy everything at once, I only have to buy what my kids use, as they need it."

For more than 40 years, Clackamas County WIC has offered participant-centered nutrition services, including education, healthy food and breastfeeding support. The program has also served as a gateway for preventative health and is considered one of the most successful, cost-effective and important nutrition intervention programs in the county.

Clackamas County WIC has appointment openings. For more information about WIC, call 503-655-8476 or visit **www.clackamas.us/publichealth/wic.html.**

Author, radio host shares personal story of mental health, suicide

Sheila Hamilton knows tragedy. She's one of millions of people across the country who has contended with a family member's suicide.

Hamilton, a morning show host at KINK FM in Portland, recently wrote a book about her late husband's mental illness, and ultimately his suicide, in "All the Things We Never Knew: Chasing the Chaos of Mental Illness."

Hamilton read excerpts of her book at a December event at Clackamas County, sharing her intensely personal journey of living with her late husband's battle with mental health issues, detailing her ups and downs and everything in between.

"Listening to Sheila's story was deeply moving and motivating," said Clackamas County Behavioral Health Division Director Mary Rumbaugh. "Hearing these powerful stories helps us remember to notice, to listen and to care when someone near us is suffering.

Rumbaugh said suicide and mental illness touch a wide variety of people in the community. Having conversations – much like the event Hamilton spoke at – is the first step in debunking stigma associated with mental illness and increasing awareness.

"We can encourage people to learn more and to get help early, and ultimately prevent suicide and save lives," Rumbaugh said.

One way that people can help prevent suicide is to attend one of the county's free suicide prevention and mental health first aid trainings. To learn more or to register for a training, go to **www.GetTrainedToHelp.com**. These trainings, which are available to adults, are offered in English and Spanish.

Contact Youth Suicide Prevention Coordinator Galli Murray at GalliMur@clackamas.us to learn more or get involved in local efforts to prevent youth suicide, or visit our website at www.clackamas.us/behavioralhealth/suicideprevention.html .

Sheila Hamilton read excerpts from her book 'All the Things We Never Knew: Chasing the Chaos of Mental Illness.'

From Iceland to Mount Hood:
Veteran finds helping hand from Community Solutions

It seems Tiffany Johnson has never had a shortage of life experiences.

She's worked in community outreach. She's been a pre-med major in college. She's a mother and an Air Force veteran, among other titles she's held.

Add coffee roaster to her resume now. Johnson has been roasting beans, filling up cups and learning a variety of information relating to the world of coffee since early November when she joined Mount Hood Coffee Roasters.

She got the position through Clackamas County's Veterans Workforce Program, which provides intensive one-on-one workforce services to county veterans. The program also serves veterans living with post-traumatic stress disorder and/or a traumatic brain injury. The program is operated by Community Solutions for Clackamas County (CSCC), a division within the county Health, Housing & Human Services Department.

Johnson served four years of active duty in the Air Force as a senior airmen and, at one point, was stationed in Iceland. She trained fighter pilots and intelligence officers. Johnson also worked on data links and kept track of Air Force 1 via her security work.

Johnson got out of the Air Force Academy in 2007. She entered a whole new world in civilian life.

"I had no idea what I was doing and dealing with when I got out," she said.

Johnson eventually transitioned into the medical field and found herself employed in pain management before enrolling at Portland State University as a pre-med major. At the time, she was also working at the Women's Veterans Service Outreach office at the school. Then, through a variety of circumstances, Johnson could no longer attend school and her job lost its funding.

"The universe has a unique way of doing things," Johnson said. "Basically, all of the switches turned off. It was like they were closing the door on me and so I had to find something else."

Johnson was at a crossroads in her life. A friend knew of the Veterans Workforce Program and referred Johnson, an Oregon City resident, to Ken Bietschek, who works in the program assisting veterans to find employment.

Admittedly, Johnson didn't know what her next step would be, but Bietschek worked with Johnson to figure out where she would land. The spot? About an hour's drive from Oregon City at Mount Hood Coffee Roasters in Rhododendron.

"I thought it sounded like a great environment and I thought I could roast some coffee beans up in the mountains for awhile," she said. "It sounded really nice."

Johnson's bosses are Rick and Jiyeon Applegate, who own Mount Hood Coffee Roasters. For the past decade, the Applegates have worked with several county programs to assist jobseekers. Johnson is the first veteran they've have helped.

"We're enjoying the experience of working with veterans, Because I'm a veteran, too, it's really easy to see where Tiffany is coming from and the challenges of reintegration back into the community. I know from my own experience how difficult it is." ~ Rick Applegate

Through the program, trainees are placed in paid work experience, meaning that the county pays for Johnson's training for the first two months and provides worker's compensation coverage. After that, veterans may be placed in on-the-job training where CSCC reimburses employers for half of wages for anywhere from 2-4 months.

In short, Johnson is learning a new skill set and Mount Hood Coffee Roasters isn't taking a financial risk by hiring a new employee.

"It's really a win-win situation," Rick Applegate said. "We need someone who can train for a number of different skill sets and within 4-6 months, have them take on additional jobs. The goal is to have them be part of the family."

Overall, Johnson said she is thankful for the opportunity the county gave her. She hopes other veterans take advantage of the program.

"Programs like this and people like (Bietschek) are such a valuable thing in our community," she said. "He understands us as veterans and he's done a lot for us."

For more information on the Community Solutions County Veterans Workforce program, call 503-655-8848 or visit **www.clackamas.us/communitysolutions/employment .html**

Healthy Living

Gladstone Health Clinic welcomes second pediatrician

Dr. Sarah Powers is on the move.

Powers became the second pediatrician at the Clackamas Health Centers Gladstone Health Clinic, starting in January, along with Dr. Mary Miller.

Powers attained her undergraduate degree from Portland State University, went to Oregon Health & Science University for medical school and completed her residency at the University of New Mexico in 2012. Miller and Powers are connected by more than their profession and current workplace, though. Miller also went to the University of New Mexico, but left the year prior to Powers starting at the school.

Powers, who is board certified in general pediatrics, came from Metropolitan Pediatrics in Happy Valley. At Gladstone, the range of patients she'll work with are newborns through adolescents. She has interest areas in preventive health and reproductive health within the broader aspect of pediatrics.

"They've always been an interest," Powers said.

Powers, who lives in Portland with her husband and their two-year-old son, will work 2.5 days per week at Gladstone.

With Powers now on board, Gladstone will offer pediatric services Monday through Friday.

Gladstone Health Clinic Manager Janelle McLeod said the addition of Powers provides the residents of Clackamas County another venue to receive necessary healthcare.

"We are excited to have both Dr. Miller and Dr. Powers here to serve our pediatric patients – they make a great team with excellent experience with this population," McLeod said. "Given that we are adding additional days of clinic, we are welcoming new patients."

Please call the Clackamas Health Centers Gladstone Clinic at 503-655-8471 to schedule an appointment with the pediatric team.

Clackamas County presents

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Coffee Hour

Raising children can be difficult and challenging. Raising them at a time in your life that you didn't expect to have kids can be overwhelming and frightening.

Good news! You are NOT alone!

Join us at the monthly Grandparents Raising Grandchildren coffee hour where you can share, support and embrace your lives together with others who are going through the same experiences! The vast emotions and situations that you experience as a grandparent or relative raising a child can be overwhelming.

Call Clackamas County at 503-650-5724 for more information.

Third Tuesday of every month
10-11:30 a.m.
Singer Hill Café, 623 7th St., Oregon City

Taking Stock: Check your emergency supplies and kits several times per year

Winter has just started and Clackamas County has already seen severe weather and record rainfall. Flooding and power outages have occurred in parts of the county and more extreme weather could be in store for residents in coming winter months.

You've completed the important task of creating emergency supply kits for your home and car, and made sure that you and your family will have basic needs and essential items if there's a weather-related incident or emergency. The hard part is done, but it is important to check your stockpile of supplies throughout the year, and take the time to make sure items aren't too old to use.

- If food and liquids in your stockpile are close to their expiration date, donate or consume them now - and replace with new items.
- Discard anything that has expired, is leaking or damaged. Place the newer items in the back of your stockpile and rotate the older items to the front.
- Replace emergency supply batteries with new ones every few months and use the older batteries for some other purpose in your home.
- Don't forget to check waterproof containers/matches, medications, personal hygiene products and pet supplies. They can also get too old to use or be effective.
- If you've borrowed items from your stockpile, make sure to replenish them.
- If you live in a part of the county prone to flooding, please consider adding sandbags to your emergency supplies. If you have sandbags already, keep them for the season - they can be reused.

With luck, your family won't need to use your emergency supplies. But if you do, it will be a relief to know you checked the expiration dates and made sure you had an adequate stockpile of essentials.

More information about preparing for emergencies and other resources can be found online at the Clackamas County Emergency Management web page: **www.clackamas.us/emergency/.**

'County residents eligible for free discounts on prescription drugs ' // cont'd from page 1

The Prescription Discount Card Program, run by the National Association of Counties (NACo), is free to all residents because Clackamas County is a NACo member.

By simply presenting a discount card at one of many participating pharmacies, card users can save 24 percent (on average) off the regular retail price for prescriptions. If a resident has health insurance, they can alternatively use the card in case it offers a greater discount than they would receive otherwise.

Using the program is simple. Point your browser to **www.clackamas.us/livehealthy**, where we'll walk you through how to enroll in less than two minutes. Residents only need to provide their name and zip code. Then print out a card, and you're ready to save immediately.

Residents without web access can call 877-321-2652 (toll-free) to enroll. Callers will reach CVS Caremark, which works with NACo to administer the program.

More than 68,000 pharmacies accept the card nationally, including many large chains. At least 50 pharmacies in Clackamas County participate, including in Boring, Canby, Clackamas, Estacada, Gladstone, Happy Valley, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Molalla, Oak Grove, Oregon City, Sandy, Tualatin, Welches, West Linn, and Wilsonville (see **www.clackamas.us/livehealthy** for the full list).

The card can also be used to receive discounts on pet medications, typically when the medicine can treat human conditions.

Again, this program is free to all residents! Log on today to **www.clackamas.us/livehealthy** to enroll.

Also through NACo, county residents can sign up for two other medical care discount programs:

- NACo Health Discount Program: Offers savings on various medical services and devices including eye exams, eyeglass frames, LASIK/PRK corrective surgery, diabetic supplies, prepaid lab testing, hearing appointments and hearing aids.
- NACo Dental Discount Program: Offers savings of 15-50 percent on most dental procedures, including routine check-ups, fillings, crowns and braces.

While not free, these other programs cost $7 per person or $9 per family per month. All information is available at **www.clackamas.us/livehealthy**.

All programs are part of NACo's Live Healthy initiative. Please note that none of the three programs are insurance, a health insurance policy, a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or a qualified health plan under the Affordable Care Act. If you have any questions, please contact Community Relations Specialist Dylan Blaylock at 503-742-5917 or dblaylock@clackamas.us.

OREGON CITY FARMERS MARKET AWARDED A CLACKAMAS COUNTY SMALL GRANT

This funding will increase the market's SNAP Match from $5 to $10 throughout the winter season.

SNAP Card shoppers use their cards at the market's information booth and buy wooden tokens to spend with the farmers and vendors. In addition the market can now match up to $10 in free tokens. Spend $10, get $20 in tokens!

Having access to healthy local produce during the winter can boost the immune system and shopping in the fresh air can be fun. The market is held year-round on the parking lot at 2051 Kaen Road, off Beavercreek Rd. This site has enabled to market to expand to more than 35 farmers and vendors during the winter months (November through April) and 55 farmers and vendors during the summer season (May through October).

During the winter season the market is open on twice a month on Saturdays, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m., rain or shine. There is plenty of close parking and good access for wheelchairs, walkers and strollers. The winter market also has hot food, drinks and live music. The Kids POP (Power Of Produce) Club gives kids, ages 5-12 years, $2 every time they come to the market to buy fresh produce. March 19 is the 5th Annual Seedy Saturday Plant and Seed Swap at the market.

Dates for the winter market: Jan. 23; Feb, 6 and 20; Mar. 5 and 19; April 2, 16 and 30.

Visit **www.orcityfarmersmarket.com** or call 503-734-0192 for more information.

GET ESSENTIAL GARDENING TIPS AT GARDEN DISCOVERY DAY!

In Clackamas County, Oregon State University Extension Master Gardeners offer free gardening advice year-round by phone and online, as well as in person during the summer at area farmers markets.

Garden Discovery Day will take place 9 a.m. to noon on March 5 at the Milwaukie Center, 5440 Kellogg Creek Drive, Milwaukie.

At this event, all Clackamas County Master Gardener services will be available in one place. Visit **www.cmastergardeners.org** to see the entire schedule.

This year's classes will appeal to new gardeners as well as those with more experience. For example, new gardeners interested in edible plants will likely find "Starting Your Vegetable Garden," "Raised Bed Gardening," "Growing Blueberries" and "Growing Tomatoes" helpful. Seasoned gardeners may glean new ideas from "Pruning Ornamental Plants," "Landscaping with Edible Plants" and "Lawn Care."

In addition to sharing gardening tips, Master Gardeners will also test soil pH that morning. Master Gardeners are volunteers trained by Oregon State University in the science of gardening. This event is offered by OSU Master Gardeners of Clackamas County who also sponsor the annual Spring Garden Fair at the Canby fairgrounds, bringing together 8,000 gardeners and 180 plant and garden-art vendors. Log on to **www.cmastergardeners.org/SpringGardenFair.htm** for more information.

Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made by Feb. 20 to Jean Bremer at 503-655-8631 or jean.bremer@oregonstate.edu.

Contact: Sherry Sheng, clackamasmg@gmail.com, 503-655-1822, for more information.

Transportation and Development

DON'T DO IT! Distracted driving - including texting and talking on cell phones - can lead to crashes.

Working together to reduce roadway crashes

Between now and 2022, Clackamas County aims to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes on roads in the county by 50 percent.

We can help – by keeping roads in good shape.

Poor road conditions can make driving, riding or walking much more difficult and less safe. Such challenges can include aged pavements, or narrow travel lanes and shoulders. In nearly 22 percent of crashes, an element of the roadway is a contributing factor to the cause of the crash. Our road crews work hard to maintain the roadways and help improve road conditions to make our roads safer for all travelers.

Unfortunately, because road funding has not kept pace with need (e.g., the national gas tax hasn't changed since 1993!), We need additional funds to keep our 1,400 miles of roads in good shape.

Clackamas is the only one of the three Portland metro counties that does not have a local source of road maintenance funds. That's why meetings will be held throughout Clackamas County during the first half of 2016 to find out what residents think about a new specific proposal to raise funds for road maintenance through a seven-year, county-wide vehicle registration fee (VRF).

The proposal would:

- Cost residents $25/year/vehicle, or about $2/month (for seven years)
- Provide the county with $36 million over seven years, to repair and maintain more than 115 miles of county roadways and add safety improvements on rural roads
- Provide cities in the county with a total of $24 million to spend as they choose on road projects.

You can help – by learning more about the most common causes of crashes and doing your part to avoid them.

Human error is a factor in more than 90 percent of all crashes. Two of the most common contributing behaviors are aggressive driving and impaired driving (due to alcohol, drugs or medication).

Various driver distractions – such as cell phone use and eating -- are also a major concern. There are three simple steps you can take to reduce your risk of a crash:

- Commit to not using your cell phone at all while driving (no texting, talking, or even reaching for your phone). Put it in the back seat and ignore it. Know your route before you go, and check your texts only after you have arrived.
- Enlist a designated driver, or use public transportation or an alternative (Uber, taxis, etc.) if you drink or use medications or other drugs that impair your driving.
- Plan enough time to get to your destination to avoid speeding and other traffic violations.

In partnership with Clackamas Safe Communities and the award-winning Drive to Zero campaign, with your help we can meet our goal of 50 percent fewer fatal and serious injury accidents on our roads by 2022, and ultimately zero!

Be watching for more information and ways you can to contribute to safer roadways with fewer crashes. Visit **www.drivetozero.org** to learn more. Take the pledge to keep Clackamas County roads safe!

We'll keep the roads in shape; you help keep them safe.

WINTER STORMS ARE UNPREDICTABLE

Clackamas County Emergency Management offers information to all Clackamas County residents, property owners and businesses interested in learning how to obtain flood insurance (one of the best ways of protecting your property) and prepare for winter weather conditions and emergencies at **www.clackamas.us/emergency/**.

Sheriff's Office, community partners clean up nuisance home

On a Thursday morning in late October, there was a major cleanup at a home in Milwaukie that had come to the attention of the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

Community partners worked together – using a backhoe, debris dumpsters and other methods – to clean up the problem house.

If you have a nuisance house in your neighborhood, they may be able to help you.

This residence and many others in Clackamas County have been identified as major nuisances for local neighbors. Many of these are bank-owned foreclosed homes that transients have illegally entered, destroying the exteriors and interiors.

In many cases – including this one – criminal behavior, solid waste issues and a plethora of other problems affect the livability for surrounding neighbors.

The Sheriff's Office and Code Enforcement are working hard to identify and deal with these problem situations. They're currently developing a list of other problem residences so community partners, banks and homeowners can work together to improve living conditions within the surrounding neighborhoods.

Left, homes that violate the county nuisance ordinance in County Code can cause hazards for neighbors and interfere with the enjoyment of their own property. Above, after a cleanup.

NEIGHBORS: GET HELP TODAY

If you have a problem residence in your neighborhood – where there is excessive solid waste, criminal-type behavior and/or other issues that could fall under the Clackamas County Nuisance Ordinance – we would like to hear from you. (Not all reported homes will fall into the nuisance ordinance, and may be referred to Clackamas County Code Enforcement.) If you have questions, you can call your local law enforcement agency to see what programs they offer. County residents can call the Sheriff's Office at 503-785-5000.

To learn more about the County Code on chronic nuisances, visit **www.clackamas.us/code/documents/title6.pdf** and go to page 28.

SEASONAL REMINDER: YOUR GARBAGE AND RECYCLING SERVICE CAN BE INTERRUPTED BY BAD WEATHER

To find out if service is affected in your area, check your garbage company's voicemail or website. For contact numbers of franchised garbage companies in Clackamas County, go to **www.clackamas.us/recycling/garbage.html.** Please note that postponed collection is not considered missed collection, because the service is provided in due course.

A DOG LICENSE IS YOUR PET'S

TICKET HOME

Our dogs count on us for everything, but most importantly they count on us to **keep them safe**.

Licensing your dog as required by law is not only beneficial to the community and you, but also helps protect your dog if s/he is ever lost or stolen. A dog license:

- Is proof of legal ownership
- Promotes responsible dog ownership
- Helps prevent spread of disease by ensuring up-to-date vaccinations
- Supports investigations of animal cruelty, abandonment and neglect
- Ensures longer hold time at the shelter and emergency care if your dog is injured
- Is required by law

Buy or renew licenses online: 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
2 years	$36	$46	$62	$72
3 years	$51	$66	$93	$108

Clackamas County Dog Services (CCDS)

Here at CCDS, we provide shelter, medical care and support to Clackamas County's homeless dogs. Additionally, we offer a variety of services to the community, including dog licensing, adoptions, officer response, and a resource for lost and found dogs.

Stop by and take a look at our adoptable dogs!

Adoption hours: 11:30AM-4:30PM Tuesday-Saturday
Regular business hours: 8:30AM-5:00PM Monday-Saturday
Closed Sunday
Phone: 503-655-8628

13141 SE Highway 212
Clackamas, OR 97015

Transportation and Development

On Dec. 17, commissioners also voted not to move forward with the option to "opt-out" of allowing one or more types of marijuana business in unincorporated Clackamas County. Approving the opt-out option would have:

- **required the county to call for a public vote,**
- **disqualified the county from receiving its share of state marijuana tax revenue, and**
- **prohibited the county from referring a local tax on marijuana sales to voters.**

'New marijuana land use ordinance specifies operations in unincorporated areas' // *Cont'd from page 1*

The ordinance only applies to recreational and medical marijuana businesses; not to personal growing, processing and/or use of recreational and medical marijuana as permitted by state law. The regulations for recreational marijuana businesses and medical marijuana retailers became effective Jan. 4; the regulations for medical marijuana growing and processing will become effective March 1.

The regulations prohibit marijuana businesses in more than half (29) of the county's zoning districts, and allow them in the following zones:

- **Retail:** Most commercial zones, both urban and rural
- **Wholesale:** Most urban industrial zones, rural commercial and industrial zones
- **Processing:** Most urban industrial zones, village office, corridor commercial, general commercial, station community mixed use and office commercial, exclusive farm use (EFU), ag/forest and rural industrial (*in all zones except urban and rural industrial zones, extract and concentrate processing is prohibited)
- **Producing/Growing:** Most urban industrial zones, exclusive farm use (EFU), ag/forest, timber, rural residential farm-forest 5-acre, farm-forest 10-acre, and rural industrial.

Marijuana businesses have to comply with the same building, fire and other codes that apply to agricultural businesses in the county, as well as to Oregon Liquor Control Commission (OLCC) requirements for recreational marijuana and Oregon Health Authority (OHA) requirements for medical marijuana.

In addition, the new county ordinance includes a variety of requirements that marijuana businesses must meet, including those listed below.

PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING REQUIREMENTS

- **Access:** Access off a private road or easement requires agreement from other property owners with access rights.
- **Lights:** Inside lights may not be visible outside a building, and outdoor grow lights may be not used from 7 p.m.-7 a.m. Other exterior fixtures must be designed to direct light downward and so it does not spill onto adjacent lots.
- **Noise:** Heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment and generators may not produce noise exceeding 50 dBA at the lot line.
- **Odor:** Many requirements, including use of an activated charcoal filtration system, negative air pressure maintained inside the building, filtration system designed and stamped by a licensed mechanical engineer.
- **Security cameras:** If used, may only be directed to the subject property and public rights-of-way, except as required otherwise by the state.
- **Waste management:** Waste must be stored in secure receptacles in possession of the licensee.
- **Water:** Must submit proof of water right or statement that water is supplied from a public or private system, or statement from state that water right is not required.

RETAIL REQUIREMENTS

- **Hours:** Limited to 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- **Odor:** Many requirements, including use of an activated charcoal filtration system, negative air pressure maintained inside the building, filtration system designed and stamped by a licensed mechanical engineer.
- **Waste management:** Waste stored in secure receptacle in possession of licensee

No marijuana smoking, ingesting or consuming in retail building; no retail on same lot as marijuana smoking or social club.

- **Minimum separation distances:**
  - 100 feet from residentially-zoned property except if street frontage on principal interstate, expressway or other major roadway
  - 2,000 feet from elementary or secondary schools, including property and parking lots
  - 1,500 feet from public parks, playgrounds, libraries, government-owned recreational use facilities, licensed treatment centers, light rail transit stations, or multi-family dwellings owned by a public housing authority
  - 500 feet from a licensed daycare facility or preschool, including associated property and parking lot
  - 1,000 feet from another marijuana retailer of the same type (e.g., recreational or medical)

The regulations are the result of months of meetings, research, Planning Commission public hearings and board public hearings. Details are available on the county's marijuana land use website at **www.clackamas.us/planning/marijuana.html .**

For information about state laws and regulations related to recreational marijuana, check out the Oregon Liquor Control Commission webpage at **www.oregon.gov/olcc/marijuana/Pages/default.aspx .**

Enjoy your Clackamas County Government Channel

The county's government channel makes your county more accessible by offering information about county services, programs, activities, community life, history of the region and coverage of public meetings. Check out your award-winning channel! Provider channels listed at right.

www.clackamas.us/cable/

98	Beaver Creek Cooperative
21	Canby Telcom
20	Clear Creek Communications
63	ColtonTel
30	Comcast
40	Frontier Communications
75	Reliance Connects
9	Wave, Sandy Area
15	Wave

For nearly two decades, the Clackamas County Government Channel (CCGC) has been telling the story of your community and government on television and on-line. This year, CCGC received 15 national and regional awards recognizing the talent and dedication put into every video production. Check out this award-winning channel at www.clackamas.us/cable and subscribe to @ ClackamasCounty on YouTube.

Public Safety

Right: *Girls Circle meets weekly and focuses on many issues.*

Below: *A creative activity produced art – during a discussion on domestic violence in Girls Circle.*

Skill Groups provide unique opportunities for youth in the juvenile justice system

A group of girls are in attendance, but not all of them are required to attend. One girl has returned for her third voluntary group. This is the girl who rarely spoke and often would pass, always an option for activities. She keeps coming because she knows this is a safe place to be herself. This is an example of the power of a Girls Circle.

Most of the youth who have contact with the Clackamas County Juvenile Department already feel shame and embarrassment for what they have done. Giving them the cognitive skills to make beneficial decisions in the future is aligned with the department's restorative justice approach to reformation – and the results have been positive for the youth and the department.

There are eight different skill groups offered by the Juvenile Department, Participating youth can be required to participate in one or more groups depending on their needs assessed through the juvenile justice process. Groups build capacity in a variety of areas, including anger management, self-esteem, increasing empathy for others, life skills, and personal boundaries.

"Each of our clients is assigned a juvenile counselor from our department," said Skill Groups Coordinator and Facilitator Tanya Kramer. "The counselor assesses each situation and determines what each youth needs. Then they are matched with skills groups."

The Juvenile Department Skill Groups program is committed to:

- using evidence-based principles in all group settings
- assisting youth in understanding the human impacts of their actions
- providing youth with skills which will assist them in becoming contributing community members
- providing opportunities for youth to meaningfully connect to their community; and
- addressing risk and protective factors in youth to minimize recidivism rates.

By having eight different groups, skills groups are able to direct youth into group learning scenarios which specifically target identified risk and protective factors.

Two of the most successful skills groups are called Girls Circle and Boys Council – national models developed by the One Circle Foundation – which focus on gender-specific issues relevant to teens and adolescents.

"For girls, participation in Girls Circle includes discussion about body image, self-esteem, problem-solving and coping skills, and empathy for others," explained Kramer. "For boys, discussions and activities in the Boys Council could be focused on anger, conflict resolution, relationships, personal values and goals, and integrity."

These groups are confidential places where participants feel safe discussing personal factors that led to their negative choices and the change they want for their lives.

Boys Council and Girls Circle have been so effective that the program was expanded to 15 middle and high schools throughout the county including schools in rural areas.

"Sometimes it's a hardship for youth to come to Oregon City to attend their group," said Kramer. "The rural schools now can offer youth a chance to participate while they are in school – facilitated by trained staff and volunteers."

Allison Irving, who lives in West Linn, began volunteering in June and says it is one of the best decisions she made.

"We facilitate a weekly Girls Circle," she said. "We want to help create a safe space for these girls to open up about their lives. I have seen the benefit and have seen girls come back to the group – even after their 10-week obligation was completed. That's the reward for me."

Irving would like potential volunteers who are interested in working with youth to take that first step by attending an informational meeting, then decide if it sounds right for them.

"The county staff will walk you through everything, and train you. There are so many different opportunities to work with youth."

The Juvenile Department and volunteers also work with families and schools in order to address needs in all aspects of a youth's life. But the youth has to be an open-minded participant.

"The youth feel heard when they have a chance to speak in a safe setting," said Kramer. "They can learn from each other."

To find out more about skills groups, or to learn more about volunteering, visit: **www.clackamas.us/juvenile.**

EIGHT SKILLS GROUPS PROGRAMS

Anger Replacement Training (ART): Designed to provide youth with skills on what to do in anger producing situations while making the arousal of anger a less frequent occurrence.

Girls Circle: Designed to foster self-esteem, help girls maintain authentic connection with peers, counter trends toward self-doubt and allow for genuine self-expression.

Boys Council: Youth participate in group activities which provide an opportunity to learn to make positive choices, express ideas, work as a team and strengthen resiliency.

Individual and Community Empathy (ICE): Encourages youth to take responsibility for their choices, look at preventing future harmful or illegal behavior, understand harm done to others, acknowledge their victim(s), and make a commitment to their community to repair harm they have caused.

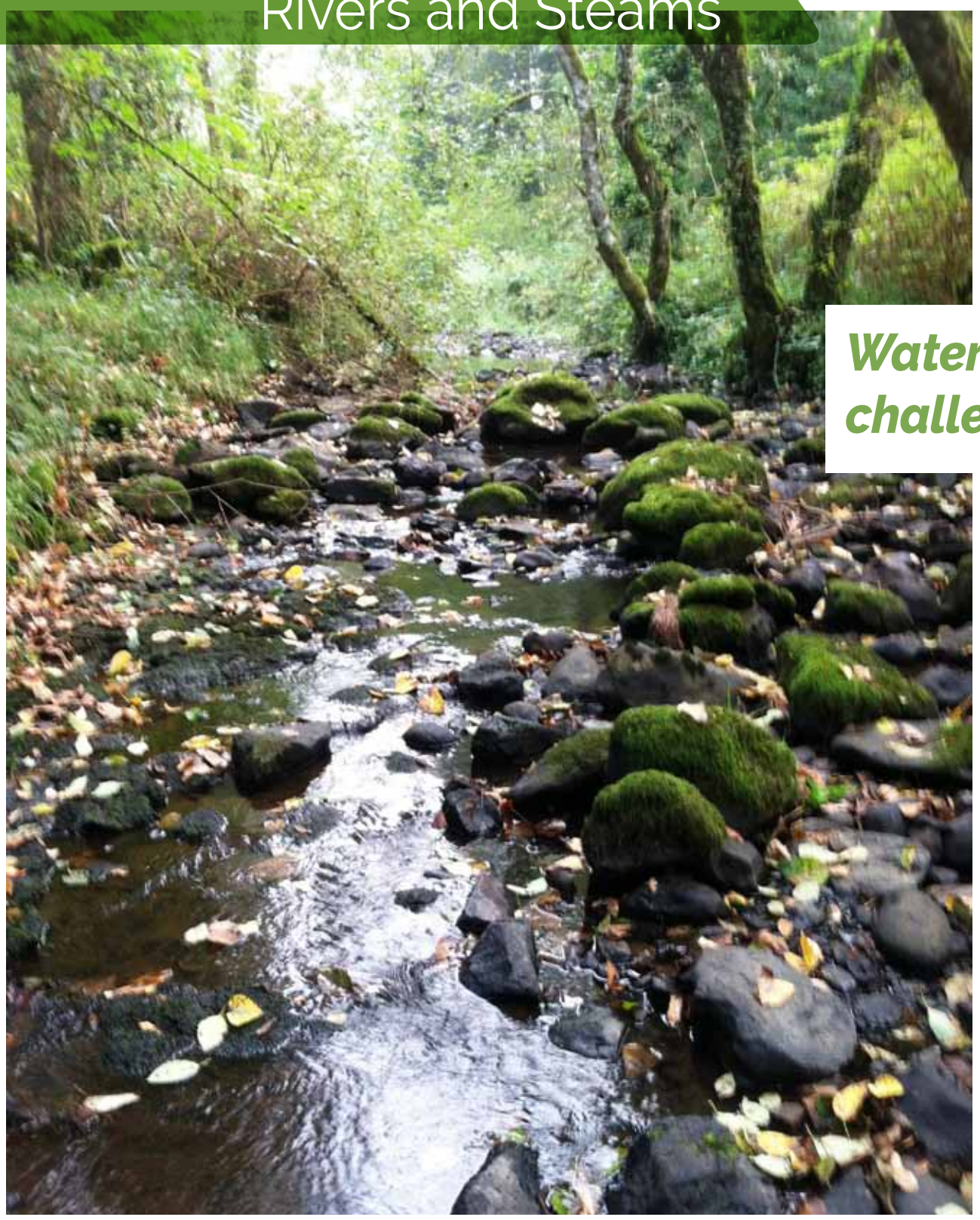
Safety (Fire-Setters Education): Designed as a tool to increase awareness of fire safety. Youth with fire-setting offenses learn to eliminate and/or redirect impulses.

TruThought: *Charting a New Course*: Focuses on addressing barriers in thinking through group discussion, role plays, and group and individual activities. Youth learn skills to stop the tactics, change their thinking, and stay on track.

Life Skills: Sometimes referred to as the Independent Living program, intended to provide youth with the skills and information they need to transition from living with their parents/guardians to living on their own.

CERTS (Consent, Equality, Respect, Trust, Safety): Youth learn about personal boundaries, healthy relationships and the impact their behavior has on others.

Protecting Our Rivers and Steams



A healthy network of streams and wetlands protects water quality, provides fish and wildlife habitat, and enhances the beauty and livability of our communities. We in Clackamas County are fortunate to have our rivers and hundreds of small creeks to enjoy.

Waterways provide beauty, challenge and opportunity

A "riparian buffer" is the technical term for the plants and soils found along rivers and streams that provide wildlife habitat, stabilize banks from erosion, and protect our valuable water supply from pollution.

When storm runoff sweeps across surfaces such as farmlands, fields, roads and developed properties, it picks up pollutants and debris, washing them directly into waterways. This polluted runoff can contain contaminants such as chemicals, fertilizers and oil, which negatively impact public health and the environment. Riparian buffers act like a sponge to absorb these contaminants. A riparian buffer dense with native trees and shrubs is most effective.

If you own streamside property, you can help protect and improve important natural resources by controlling erosion, managing invasive plants and cultivating a healthy native landscape.

Follow these tips to help protect water quality:

1 Remove invasive vegetation, such as English ivy and Himalayan blackberry, from your streamside buffer. Continue to watch for and control these invasive plants.

2 Plant native trees and shrubs that naturally grow in the area, choosing plants suited for the sun exposure, soil conditions and amount of space available, then plant in fall or spring. Consult experts at your local nursery for native plant options.

3 Maintain your native landscape by watering the first few summers to help plants get established. Native plants generally do not require fertilizers.

4 Get help controlling erosion if you have bare spots on the streambank where vegetation won't grow. The Clackamas County Soil and Water Conservation District is a great place to start.

5 Keep dead trees as standing "snags" if they do not present a hazard because they provide rare and valuable habitat for wildlife!

For more information about caring for streamside properties, check out www.riverhealth.org

https://conservationdistrict.org/

'WES presents plan for solving wastewater treatment capacity problem' // cont'd from page 1

Geist told committee members that Phase 1 of MWH's scope of work represents a significant step in the process as it will provide:

- Updated population growth forecasts
- Future flows and loads projections
- Defined existing and future capacity needs
- Screen technologies and alternative technologies
- A 15 percent conceptual design

Geist said information gathered during Phase 1 will help determine how much additional capacity is needed for each district, how much it will cost to build that extra capacity, and will also assist in the evaluation of solids handling technologies.

Since the MWH scope is based on a co-investment strategy by both districts, Phase 1 will also provide valuable information on how to equitably apportion the costs between current and future ratepayers in the districts. The final report is due in June.

Chosen from among the top engineering firms in the world, MWH specializes in wastewater systems and has extensive knowledge about Tri-City Treatment Plant operations. MWH Global was selected through an extremely thorough and competitive process.

WES and technical staff from cities and communities in the districts took part on evaluation panels and committees during the selection process.

The Regional Wastewater Treatment Capacity Advisory Committee plans to meet again in March to review progress on the solids capacity expansion project.

Visit **www.clackamas.us/wes/advisorycommittees.html** to learn more and join the discussion. Please read Krupp's Korner on Page 2 to learn more about wastewater treatment service in northern Clackamas County.

Water Environment Services

New engineer will play key role in solids handling capacity project

Clackamas County Water Environment Services (WES) Director Greg Geist is pleased with his decision to bring Lynne Chicoine on as capital program manager to play a key role in helping solve one of the most pressing problems confronting the county: the lack of wastewater solids handling capacity.

WES engineers Lynne Chicoine and Randy Rosane team up for wastewater capacity improvements.

"The capital program manager position is critical to solving our region's urgent need for increased capacity to process solids at the Tri-City Wastewater Treatment Facility," said Geist.

Solids are the by-product of sewage from homes and businesses. "Lynne's management capabilities are well-grounded in hands-on experience as a design engineer, cost estimator and client manager," said Geist. "I feel very fortunate to have found someone with so much talent and experience to fill this vital role at WES."

Chicoine's first task was to complete a scope of work for a technical evaluation of the solids handling capacity project. The scope for the first phase of the project includes tasks to confirm the need for the expansion of the solids facilities, define the required size of the expansion and evaluate process options.

Chicoine said it is very important to ensure that the project is inclusive and transparent.

"We are including workshops at key milestones to which member cities' technical staff are invited," she said. "The workshops will also include senior technologists from an area service provider and outside consulting firms. The goal of the first phase of the project will be to set out on a path that will provide solids processing capacity at the best value for the ratepayers in a manner that builds trust and consensus among stakeholders."

Chicoine began her role in October and brings more than 30 years of experience in planning and designing wastewater collection and treatment facilities. During her career, Chicoine worked for every major wastewater provider in the Willamette Valley, leading multi-disciplinary teams on complex wastewater projects and conveying technical concepts to officials and the public.

Chicoine also served as Vice President and Principal Project Manager for CH2M Hill, a leading engineering company that provides design, construction and operations services for corporations and governments.

"I am excited about joining Greg and his team to build a capital program that provides reliable service and good value for ratepayers now and into the future," said Chicoine. "It's a privilege to serve as a steward of Clackamas County's water environment."

STORM EVENTS TEST SURFACE WATER SYSTEM AND LANDSCAPE

This winter's high water events tested our storm infrastructure and caused damage to local homes, roads and businesses. Rainstorms require all hands on deck for Clackamas Water Environment Services staff, city and county road operations staff, as well as the community. Home and business owners can protect themselves and the community by keeping the storm system clear of leaves and debris on their properties to safely avoid high water.

www.clackamas.us/wes
www.riverhealth.org

Business and Industry

Why Clackamas County needs land to grow jobs

The future prosperity of Clackamas County's residents will be built on good-paying jobs that support families, housing affordability, and capital investments that support the growth of businesses. That prosperity also requires a 20-year supply of industrial land to ensure that the region is able to meet future employment needs.

Currently the Portland metropolitan area faces a critical shortage of industrial lands in the now and projected over the next 20 years. In Clackamas County alone, our 20-year supply of industrial land is short by approximately 1,100 acres. This shortage of land means our county lacks sufficient land for long-term employment needs, which threatens the well-being of our future residents.

Finding land to create new, long-term job growth will be challenging when regional land use goals are at odds.

LOSING EMPLOYMENT LAND

From 2008 to 2010, Metro and three counties - Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington - worked with the public to identify urban reserve lands and rural reserve lands that will serve the region for the next 50 years. Each county designated its own rural reserve lands. Metro designated urban reserve lands throughout the metropolitan area.

- Land designated as urban reserve may be used for potential urban development in the next 40-50 years.
- Land designated as rural reserve may not be used for urban development in the next 40-50 years.

Since 2010, the amount of urban reserves land has declined by nearly 3,200 acres because of the State Legislature's action to incorporate 1,178 acres of Washington County urban reserves into the urban growth boundary (UGB), and to convert another 2,016 acres of Washington County urban reserves to rural reserve or undesignated.

In addition, with the possible disincorporation of the City of Damascus in 2016, another 4,300 acres of urban reserves may be gone, this time in Clackamas County.

REVIEWING THE RESERVES

Clackamas County is preparing to review four specific urban and rural reserves to determine if it would be more beneficial for the economic growth and the creation of jobs to change all or part of these areas to "undesignated" land. The county will review the following areas:

1. Current Rural Reserves
   a. Approximately 800 acres south of Wilsonville;
   b. Approximately 400 acres east of Canby, and
   c. Approximately 425 acres south of the Clackamas River along Springwater Road.
2. Current Urban Reserve

Approximately 3,400 acres in the Damascus/Boring area. (In this case the county needs to consider whether all of this area is actually suitable for future development, given that it will be considered part of the county's potential urban land supply for the next 50 years.)

A SAFETY VALVE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The rural reserve areas that the county is considering for undesignated status cannot be developed until the following occur:

- 75 percent of the county's urban reserves are incorporated into the UGB. A willing city prepares a concept plan addressing transportation, water, sewer and land uses for the area
- Metro (or an adjacent city outside of Metro) chooses to bring the area into the UGB
- A city annexes, zones, and plans the property

STAFFORD URBAN RESERVE AREA REMAND

The Stafford Triangle is a 4,200-acre area in rural unincorporated Clackamas County. It is located between the cities of West Linn, Tualatin and Lake Oswego, with Interstate 205 running east-west through the southern part of the area.

In 2010, Stafford was designated as an urban reserve.

This designation was appealed to the courts, which remanded the designation back to Metro and Clackamas County to show "substantial evidence" supporting the urban reserve designation. In January 2015, the state Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) affirmed the court's request.

Our goal is to ensure that any agreement provides the best possible options, now and in the future, for current and future county residents and businesses.

NEXT STEPS

The Clackamas County Board of Commissioners is taking the steps necessary to ensure that the interests of its residents and businesses are met before signing off on any final reserves designations. That may be as simple as removing rural reserves and/or urban reserves designations in some areas to create a safety valve in the event that existing reserves prove inadequate.

Read our strategic plan to grow jobs at **www.clackamas.us/bcc/employmentlands.html**