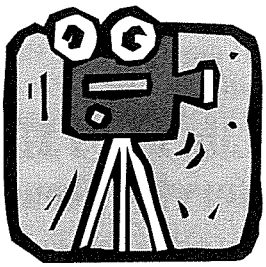
CITY OF OREGON CITY

Trail News

INCORPORATED 1844 | OREGON CITY | APRIL 1999

Conversations with the Commissioners

On the evening of Wednesday, April 21, 1999 the City Commission will participate in the first "Conversations with the Commissioners". This cable television program will provide the public the opportunity to ask the City Commission questions about issues that they feel are important. The format will include an hour-long television question and answer period following each City Commission meeting.



The public will ask questions live over the air and the Mayor and Commissioners will answer. The program will be broadcast on cable television channel 33. This is the first attempt by the Commission to reach out to the community in this manner.

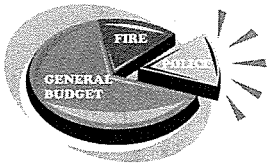
A volunteer will take the calls. Participants will then be asked to turn down their television sets, state their questions and hang up. The program will continue to run as long as the community response makes it a worthwhile effort. If you are interested in participating the evening of April 21, the phone number for questions 557-1359. This phone number will be available only during the program. For information regarding the program call Mary E. Palmer, Community Involvement Coordinator at 657-0891.

Water Rate Increase

The City Commission has approved a 3% water rate increase effective March 1, 1999. The monthly fee for a single family service charge will increase from $9.75 to $10.00, multiple family (each dwelling unit) from $7.80 to $8.00 and senior/disable citizens (subject to income eligibility) from $4.90 to $5.00. The water usage increase will be from $1.63 to $1.68 per 100 cubic feet. These are the first water rate increases since 1994. Also approved by the City Commission is a $.50 per month increase for storm drains. This fee has not changed since its inception in 1989. The $.50 increase will be annually through 2002.

From Your Finance Department

The annual budget process is in high gear now with departments submitting their revenue projections and expenditure requests. The process starts in January and results in a Proposed Budget, which is presented to the ten-member budget Committee in April for review. That generally takes about five weeks in April and May. The Committee concludes their deliberations with a Recommended Budget that is passed to the City Commission. The next step is a budget hearing, usually late in June right before the next fiscal year begins. The public is invited to participate in the process each year.



The City Budget Committee meetings are scheduled in the Commission Room at City Hall on the following dates: Monday, April 5, 1999 (6:30 p.m.); Wednesday, April 14, 1999 (7:30 p.m.); Monday, April 19, 1999 (6:30 p.m.); Wednesday, April 28, 1999 (7:30 p.m.); and Monday, May 3, 1999 (6:30 p.m.). The Budget committee Meeting for the Oregon City Urban Renewal Agency is scheduled for Wednesday, May 12, 1999 (7:00 p.m.) also at City Hall. The Budget Hearings for both the City and the Urban Renewal Agency are scheduled for Wednesday, June 23, 1999 at City Hall (Urban Renewal at 6:30 p.m. and the City at 7:00 p.m.).

Towards the end of March, the local cable access channel will have a display of which budgets are planned to be discussed at each of the Budget Committee meetings. There will also be notices in the Oregonian advertising when and where the budget meetings will be held.

From the Clackamas County Recycling Partnership*

April 22nd is Earth Day! To help celebrate, the Clackamas County Recycling Partnership is sponsoring a display on Household Hazardous Wastes at the Oregon City Library during the month of April. Learn about hazardous household products, proper disposal and safer alternatives. You can make a difference for the earth. For more information, call the Clackamas County Recycling Partnership, 557-6363, or check out these web-sites:

- DEQ: Http://www.deq.state.or.us/wmc/solwaste/hhw.html
- METRO: Http://www/metro-region.org/rem/haZw/hazwas.html

*Oregon City is a member of the Clackamas County Recycling Partnership.

From Your Oregon City Public Works

In 1998 the Oregon City Water Department received numerous customer questions about the presence of "white chunks" or eggshell-like particles which were clogging faucet aerators and lowering water pressure in their homes. As it turns out, Oregon City is not alone in this situation. Residential water heaters which were manufactured between 1993 and 1996 are experiencing dip tube failure. Many dip tubes were made from an inferior polymer plastic that is literally falling apart inside the water heater. The pieces of plastic then flow out with the water and clog faucet aerators.

These plastic pieces could be white or light green in color and if placed in a glass of water they will float. They are in no way toxic and will not make the water toxic. The defective dip tube can however, affect the performance of your water heater.

If you have had this happen in your home, we suggest contacting the water heater manufacturer to find out what, if anything, the manufacturer will do. If you have any questions about this dip tube issue, please contact Gail Johnson at 657-8241 ext. 107.

Women's Health Series at the Pioneer Community Center

Beginning May 4th the Pioneer Community Center will be hosting a Women's Health Series Sponsored by Willamette Falls Hospital. Topics will include: Facial Rejuvenation, Beauty is an Option (permanent cosmetics and electrolysis), Hormones Your Choice (estrogen replacement therapy), Vision Changes, Foot Health (orthotic appliances, surgery and other possible treatments of bunions, hammertoes, corns and neuromas), and Exercise for Woman's Mind, Body and Soul. Call 657-6919 for more information or to register.

Local Author Series Continues at Library

The library's "Third Thursday" performance by local authors continues through the Spring. Featured on April 22nd are romance novelists Lisa Jackson and Carolyn Pizzuti. On May 20th mystery writer and Oregonian reporter Vince Kohler will discuss his works. These programs are held in the library's main concourse, begin at 7:30 p.m., and are free to the public. Coffee is provided by the Friends of the Library.

Library's Homebound Service Reaches Out

Getting books and other library materials to those who are unable to come into the library is the goal of the library's Homebound Service – a program coordinated and staffed entirely by volunteers. Under the direction of former library board member Leslie Turks, the homebound service establishes a close contact with the recipient in order to provide the most appropriate materials and then ensures that a constant supply is maintained. If you or someone you know would benefit from this service drop a line to: Homebound Coordinator, Oregon City Public Library, or call and leave your name and phone number with the staff.

April Kids Activities at the Library

With March's reading incentives consisting of Beanie Babies, we're hoping to acquire some Furby's in time for the April and May programs. Children who read a set amount of books qualify for the drawings that are held for these...creatures. For more details, contact the children's librari[illegible] or stop in and get started on increasin[illegible] your chances!

Story times for pre-school children continue at their regular times through April:

Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m. For ages 3-5; this program is repeated at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesdays
Thursdays at 11:00 for toddlers, age 2.

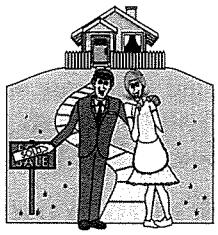
Craft programs this month are set for:

April 13th 11:30 a.m.- Make a book and book mark for National Library Week.
April 27th 11:30 a.m. - Create a mosaic Picture

And, our special song and story program this month features the scintillating, effervescent of that fabulous song and story lady, Anne-Louise Sterry. If your kids like music they'll bubble over with excitement after this one! Join Anne at 4:00 p.m. on April 21st.

Thinking about a New Home? Try the Library

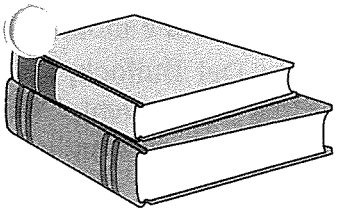
Recently the library's collection of home planning books grew considerably with the order for over 50 copies (26 individual titles altogether) of materials published by Home Planners, Inc. a popular publisher of house plan books. These join the existing collection of over 100 books in this one small part of the collection. Among the new titles are "The Craftsman Collection"; "Contemporary Homes"; "Hillside Homes"; "Estate Dream Homes"; "Affordable Home Plans"; and "Easy Care Landscape Plans".



Tax Forms and Publications are at the Library

Again this year the library is the best source for income tax materials. This year there are two photocopiers available for your pleasure.

Book Discussion Group News



Coming up for the April 23rd meeting is "Come Death and High Water" or "A Prey to Murder" by the noted British writer Ann Cleeves. The mystery group meets at 9:30 a.m.

The Classic Book discussion group continues on their first Tuesday schedule. The April 6th discussion will be of Edmon Rostand's "Cyrano de Bergerac". In May, the group will consider Steinbeck's classic "Grapes of Wrath". These groups meet in the library and newcomers are welcomed.

Why Does the Book Always Come from Another Library?

That was one of the more common questions raised during the recent survey conducted of library users as part of the Library Futures Committee's efforts to find out what people like, and don't like about their local library services. Our thanks to everyone who took the time (several hundred of you!) to participate in this survey. The Futures Committee expects to spend much of the next year in gathering public input and you'll be hearing more about the process.

But getting back to the question: there are 11 public libraries in Clackamas County that share the same database —when you place a "reserve" on a specific title the computer assigns your request to a queue for all the copies of that particular title in the county system. You will get the first copy that is available at any library. That's the first reason. The second has to do with the funding of the Oregon City Public Library: budget cuts starting back in 1996 reduced the book budget by one-third and it hasn't grown back. At the same time other libraries have increased their spending and they're able to buy more copies of the new books than we are.

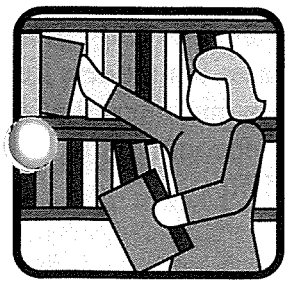
Library Location, Hours, etc.

If you're new to the Oregon City area and need a library, we're located in the Hilltop Mall, behind the Danielson's Thriftway and across the parking lot from the Hilltop Cinemas. The library's hours of operation are:

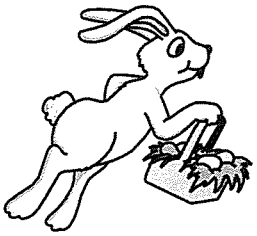
Monday – Thursday	11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday & Saturday	11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Sundays (through May)	1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Contact the library at 657-8269.

Library Friends Book Store at the Carnegie



Sometimes you just don't have to "practice, practice..." to get to the Carnegie. Oregon City's Carnegie Center (formerly home to the library) now has the best little used-book store in the region. Sponsored by The Friends of the Library, this store features the cream of the crop and the pick of the litter when it comes to high quality used books. They sort it all and the junk doesn't even make it to the shelves. Quite often these books are in "new" condition having been read once and then passed on to the Friends. More than a few turn out to be gems for the collector. While you're looking over the books and, perhaps, having a latte at the Carnegie coffee shop, the kids can keep occupied down at the Children's Museum on the lower level.



The Bunny Hop Is Back!

Join your friends, family and neighbors on April 3rd at 6:30 p.m. for this hoppingly fun dance, sponsored generously by InSTATS and MarEquus Studios. Be-bop to the music of the Rebels and bid wildly on great Easter baskets of all kinds. Bring your kids and the flashlights for the Great Flashlight Egg Hunt in Library Park! $2.50 per person or $10.00 for a family of four. Baskets are donated and all proceeds benefit the Carnegie Center.

About those Easter Baskets...Bidding starts on March 26th on Easter baskets donated to the Carnegie.

Art Center

In April, members of the Willamette Valley Bead Guild will display their intricate wares. Members will also host demonstrations throughout the month. Please call for information about these demonstrations. Also on display will be garden inspired art, as well as art for the garden, and new work by some of our favorite artists. The Carnegie Center is always a great place to visit!

Spring Tea and Vintage Fashion Show

The Spring Tea will take place on Saturday, May 8th. Tickets for this year's tea will go on sale April 1st at 10:00 a.m. The tickets for this elegant, delicious event always sell out very quickly. Tickets are $15.00 each.

Children's Museum

Bring your children to the Carnegie Center for a morning of fun with Eartha the Clown. Eartha combines gentle ecological awareness and plain old clown silliness in a presentation for kids. Saturday, April 10th at 10:30 a.m.

Family Art Classes

Learn to design a block print using Easy Cut and linoleum with artist and teacher Renee Ugrin. This class is for kids 8 and up and their parents. Class is $20.00 (one adult and two kids) plus a $3.00 lab fee for materials. April 24th from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. Pre-registration is required.

Open Studio Sessions continue April 13th and 27th. Sessions are 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Join other artists in this loosely structured session. $6.00 per session.

Carnegie Center Consignment Shop

Collectable and vintage items are available in the consignment shop. Linens, dishes and items wonderful and strange.

Envision The Future

A community effort is needed to lead our City into the future. An effort to design and implement a useful framework for setting goals, developing implementation plans, creating realistic strategies and producing achievable results.

If you are interested in participating in a Visioning Process for the City of Oregon City, please contact Marta Goosey, 656-5030 or martago@aol.com. This is a grassroots effort that needs people from the community who represent various interests and perspectives. Please get involved in the future of your community. Our goal is to develop a dynamic citizen-designed action plan that guides our Oregon City community into the future. Let your voice be heard. Your opinion counts.

Mark Your Calendar for the 1999 First City Enhancement and Cleanup Event

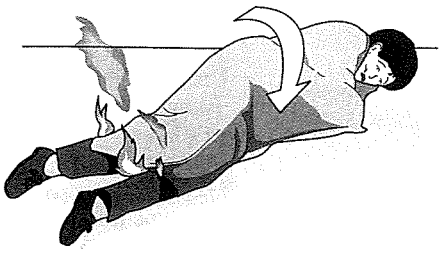
This year the annual citywide enhancement and cleanup event is scheduled for Saturday, April 17, 1999 between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. at Clackamette Park, 1955 Clackamette Drive (located off McLoughlin Blvd. near the McDonald's at the Oregon City Shopping Center). The cleanup is an excellent opportunity to discard scrap metal, tires (four per household), litter and reusable articles. A Goodwill Truck will be on site to collect reusable articles. Other items you may discard include old lawn mowers and motorcycles. Appliances containing Freon such as refrigerators, freezers and air conditioners will not be accepted. It is requested that all disposables be kept separate from one anoth

According to Del Bullock, Co-Chairman of this year's event, "We hope to top last year's accomplishments. Last year the cleanup attracted 260 volunteers and generated the disposal of 598 tires and over four tons of debris." The Enhancement and Cleanup event is one of many activities taking place to recognize Earth Day, Arbor Day and in Oregon City the memory of Jon E. Storm.

This year in his memory a rotating award will be presented to an individual or group for their outstanding volunteer community service to enhancing and preserving the environment.

"We anticipate that this year's event will be another huge success," said Rick McClung, Dire of the Oregon City Public Works Department. "Several other groups are once again supporting this event", he said. Sponsors include numerous local businesses and the Chamber of Commerce. Identification will be required and Oregon City residents will not be charged to dispose of debris. For further information, call the Department of Public Works at 657-8241 or Mary Palmer at 657-0891.

Oregon City is conducting this event in partnership with SOLV (Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism). Many volunteers are needed to help at many sites throughout the Oregon City area. SOLV coordinates volunteers for the event. Everyone interested in volunteering is encouraged to SOLV at 844-9571.



Local Businesses Provide Long-Term Support for Fire Prevention Education in Oregon City

"Learn Not to Burn" and "Risk Watch" are excellent fire and safety prevention programs compiled by the National Fire Protection Association. They are a culmination of some of the best up-to-date fire and accident prevention messages merged into a method of delivery that is easy for teachers to present, yet fun and interesting for students to learn. The NFPA programs are provided to students in cities throughout the United States with support from the local fire departments. They are packaged so they may be reproduced year after year, with updates as needed.

In Oregon City, the first school using the program did so as a pilot study through a grant from NFPA. This included training for the fire department and the Oregon City elementary school teachers, as well as all written materials used in the training and delivery of the program. Oregon City Fire Prevention Specialist David Haney has spent much of his time this past year working with the participating schools to implement and assure the success of this program.

Once the pilot studies were completed, it was necessary to find the funds to continue the valuable programs. The following business owners have committed to donating funds for five years in a row for the implementation of the "Learn Not to Burn" and "Risk Watch" programs in all elementary schools in the City of Oregon City:

Buds Towing Inc.	Danielson Thriftway	Smurfit Newsprint
Delbert & Mary Bullock	Carol Suzuki	Mike Seibers
126 S. McLoughlin	1500 Molalla Avenue	419 Main Street
Oregon City	Oregon City	Oregon City

Due to the generosity and wonderful community support by these three organizations, our elementary school children in Oregon City will have state-of-the-art fire and safety prevention education available to them for years to come.

The City of Oregon City and the Oregon City Fire Department wishes to thank Bud's Towing, Danielson's Thriftway and Smurfit Newsprint for their continued community support to Fire Prevention and the children of Oregon City.

Thermal Camera Fundraiser

As of March 2, 1999, the Oregon City Fire Department has received $6,500 in donations to help purchase the thermal imaging camera. A pancake breakfast sponsored by McLoughlin Place yielded over $1,000. Thanks so much McLoughlin Place!

Donation cans have brought in approximately $2,000 from Oregon City residents who have really stepped up and given generously.

On Saturday, March 6, Albertson's held a hot-dog and pop sale with all of the proceeds going towards the camera.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support! If you have any questions or would like to make a donation, please call Carol Poulton at 657-1365 or Jason Porter at 655-1613.

Adopt a River, "Down by the Riverside" Cleanup Day

On Saturday, May 22, 1999 a riverside cleanup will take place at two designated sites in Oregon City. The sites include the Clackamette Cove, the area in front of the Rivershore Motel, and the old Oregon City Boom property. Students from the Oregon City High School will participate in the event, but more volunteers are needed to help with this effort. "One year, 450 volunteers showed up in the rain to help cleanup along the Cove area. It is a very rewarding service. It was remarkable to see that many people show up to help the environment", said Jerry Herrmann of the Earth Crusaders Program.

Volunteers are called upon to step up and help out once again. Please do so by calling Public Works at 657-8241. This project is sponsored by SOLV, the Oregon Marine Board, the Friends of the Falls, the City of Oregon City and the Earth Crusaders Program.

Oregon City Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Seeking Members

The City of Oregon City is seeking volunteers to serve a three-year term on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

The committee meets on the fourth Monday of each month and was established by the City Commission to advocate for recreational opportunities in the City of Oregon City and to implement the Oregon City Park Master Plan.

The overall goal of the advisory committee is to aid the City of Oregon City in providing ample and diverse recreational opportunities for City residents, through implementation of the Parks Master Plan. The Mayor appoints committee members.

Applications for appointment to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee may be requested by calling Oregon City Public Works at 657-8241. The deadline for applications is April 15, 1999.

Barclay Hills Neighborhood Association (BHNA)
Contact: Larry Jacobson, Chairman at 657-3740
E-mail: BHNA@AOL.COM

Canemah Neighborhood Association (CNA)
Thursday, April 15, 1999
General Membership Meeting
Location: To Be Announced
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: Howard Post, Chairman at 650-0976 or Nancy Chapman at 657-6522

Falls View Neighborhood Association (FVNA)
Contact: Lee Spurgeon, Chairman at 656-9758

Gaffney Lane Neighborhood Association (GLNA)
Thursday, April 6, 1999
Steering Committee Meeting
Location: Gaffney Lane Elementary School
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: Derrick Beneville, Chairman at 557-7535

Hazel Grove-Westling Farm Neighborhood Group (HG-WFNA)
Wednesday, April 21, 1999
Steering Committee Meeting
Location: Elmers Restaurant
1837 Molalla Avenue
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: Dan Gossack, Chairman at 655-1961

Hillendale Neighborhood Association (HNA)
Tuesday, April 6, 1999
Steering Committee
Location: Hilltop Fire Station
19340 S. Molalla
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: Debbie Watkins, Chairman at 655-3070
Web site:
http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Pointe/3055

McLoughlin Neighborhood Association (MNA)
Thursday, April 8, 1999
Steering Committee
Location: Carnegie Center
606 John Adams Street
Time: 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: Dirk Ellis, Co-Chairman at 557-4987 or Denyse McGriff, Co-Chairman at 656-3912
Thursday, May 6, 1999
General Membership Meeting
Location: Pioneer Community Center
615 Fifth Street
Time: 7:30 p.m.

Mt. Pleasant Neighborhood Group
Monday, May 3, 1999
Neighborhood Formation Meetings
Location: City Hall
320 Warner Milne Road
Time: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Contact: Mary E. Palmer at 657-0891

Park Place Neighborhood Association (PPNA)
Monday, April 12, 1999
General Membership Meeting
Location: Park Place Elementary School
16075 S. Front Avenue
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: Julie Puderbaugh, Contact Person at 661-5093

Rivercrest Neighborhood Association (RNA)
Thursday, April 22, 1999
General Membership Meeting
Location: First Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Room
1321 Linn Street
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: Diane McKnight, Acting Chairman at 656-6435

South End Neighborhood Association (SENA)
Thursday, April 15, 1999
Steering Committee Meeting
Location: To Be Announced
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: Mary Smith, Chairman at 655-7946

Thayer Neighborhood Association (TNA)
Thursday, April 15, 1999
General Membership Meeting
Location: Clackamas Community College
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: Paul Trahan, Chairman at 557-9722

Tower Vista Neighborhood Assoc[illegible]a (TVNA)
Thursday, April 8, 1999
General Membership Meeting
Location: John McLoughlin Elementary School
19230 S. South End Road
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: David Adelhart, Chairman at 657-7708

Neighborhood Emergency Response Team
Thursday, April 15, 1999
Location: To Be Announced
Contact: Ken Dawson, Oregon City Fire Department at 657-1365

Chief's Advisory Committee (Police and Fire)
Tuesday, April 13, 1999
Contact: Mary E. Palmer at 657-0891

Citizen Involvement Committee Council (CICC)
Tuesday, April 13, 1999
Tuesday, May 11, 1999
Location: Clackamas Community College
Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Contact: Mary E. Palmer at 657-0891

First City Enhancement and Cleanup Event
Saturday, April 17, 1999
Location: Clackamette Park
By the Oregon City Shopping Center McDonald's
Time: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Contact: Public Works at 657-8241.

For further information, call Mary E. Palmer, Community Involvement Coordinator at 657-0891.

CITY PHONE NUMBERS

EMERGENCY SERVICES (Police, Fire, Medical)	911
POLICE BUSINESS	657-4964
ANIMAL CONTROL (Clackamas County)	655-8628
FIRE BUSINESS	657-1365
CITY HALL	657-0891
PLANNING / ZONING / BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS	657-0891
CODE COMPLIANCE / HISTORIC PRESERVATION	657-0891
MUNICIPAL COURT	657-8154
PUBLIC WORKS	657-8241
LIBRARY	657-8269
PIONEER COMMUNITY CENTER	657-8287
SWIMMING POOL	657-8273
WATER / SEWER BILLING	657-8151
CEMETERY / PARKS (Repair & Picnic Reservations)	657-8299
CAMPGROUNDS & RV PARK	650-6399
CARNEGIE CENTER	557-9199

CITY MEETING DATES

City Commission	1st & 3rd Wednesday	7:00 pm
Civic Improvement Trust	As Announced	
Urban Renewal Agency	As Announced	
Budget Committee	As Announced	
Rate and Fee Review Committee	2nd Monday	6:00 pm
Planning Commission	2nd & 4th Monday	7:00 pm
Historic Review Board	Last Thursday	7:00 pm
Library Board	4th Thursday	5:00 pm
Metro Enhancement Committee	As Announced	
Pioneer Community Center at the center	4th Monday	10:00
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee	4th Monday	7:00 pm
Parking Advisory Board	As Announced	
Transportation Advisory Committee	2nd Wednesday	6:30 pm