

# Creswell Connection

## Increasing Economic Vitality in Creswell

By Maia Hardy,  
Community & Economic  
Development  
Coordinator

Coming from Detroit, Michigan—the *Motor City*, once a population of 1.8 million people, now just breaking 700,000 (a 62% loss in residents)—I have witnessed the mass exodus of the automotive industry in Michigan and struggled through its impacts to my community. Increased unemployment rate, homelessness, crime rate and the impact to the local economy defined and still does define who Michigan is as a place. I can't tell you how many times I've been asked "Do you know someone that's been shot?" or "Do you know Eminem?" The simple answer: NO.

Moving to Oregon and visiting small, rural areas (and loving their unique charm), I was quickly reminded of home. Towns once bustling with activity are now figuring out how to diversify an economy largely based in timber and agriculture. **Creswell is no exception.** As a community, we must pull



ourselves up from our bootstraps, and begin thinking creatively about how to increase economic vitality. My job as economic development coordinator is focused on just that—**promoting, retaining, expanding and recruiting businesses in and to Creswell.**

Currently, I am working hard to show LOVE to our existing businesses. The City has partnered with the Chamber of Commerce to conduct face to face interviews with business owners to assess their business needs and the opportunities for improvement. The results of this survey will be incorporated into an economic development strategy for the City of Creswell. In addition, I am planning an event, "The Taste of Creswell", to provide business owners a way to market their business to the community in a localized way. (See flyer on page 3).

The City is working with Lane County Economic Development staff to  
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## Deputy's Corner



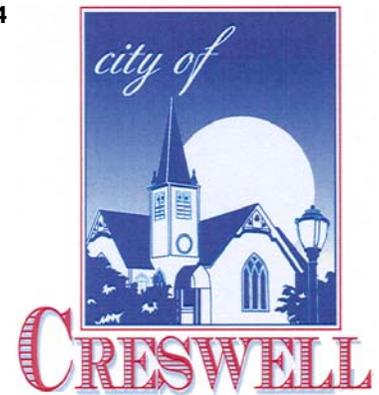
By Deputy Scott Denham  
Greetings from your Lane County Sheriff Deputies and welcome to 2015. As we move into the

New Year, there is a lot going on in Creswell. We would like to welcome Deputy Pease to the contract replacing Deputy Devault who is now enjoying a new forest position. Feel free to say hi to

him if you see him.

There have been lots of questions to the Sheriff's Office and School District regarding many of the recent school-based shooting events. We want to assure you the Sheriff's Office is taking this very seriously and are currently in the process of training our community and teachers in a more pro-

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### Special Dates

Jan 1st	New Years Day (Closed)
Jan 14th	Municipal Court
Jan 19th	City Council Meeting
Feb 9th	City Council Meeting
Feb 11th	Municipal Court
Feb 14th	Valentine's Day
Feb 16th	Presidents' Day (Closed)
Mar 9th	City Council Meeting
Mar 11th	Municipal Court
Mar 17th	St. Patrick's Day
Mar 20th	First Day of Spring



## Community Services

### Creswell Social Services Office

Creswell Community Center, 99 South 1<sup>st</sup> St.

### **SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance) of Willamalane**

1st Tuesday of each month:

1:00pm - 4:00pm at the Com-

munity Center. For more information, call:

Tom Johnson: (541) 736-4421



### **Looking Glass Youth & Family Services**

**Friday, January 2nd, 16th and 30th 2pm- 5pm.**

The Looking Glass Rural Program will be open to provide services to Creswell area youth and families.

Drop in to the office at the Community Center if you are a youth 11-17 years who has run away, are homeless, or in crisis. The Rural Program provides ongoing support and advocacy, access to basic items, information and referral to help you! Looking Glass also offers safe, temporary shelter.

**Please call 541-767-3823 for more information.**

### Other Community Services

#### **Community Food for Creswell**

Located at 364 Cobalt Lane

Emergency food boxes are available to income-eligible individuals and families every Thursday 12:30pm-3pm. For more information call Susan Blachnik at 541-895-8864 (also the number for Plumb Crazy Plumbing).



**Senior Meals** are served Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at noon at Cresview Villa, 350 South 2nd St.

For more information call: (541) 895-2338

#### **Energy Assistance**

Senior & Disabled Services:

541-682-7810

Community Sharing: 541-942-2176

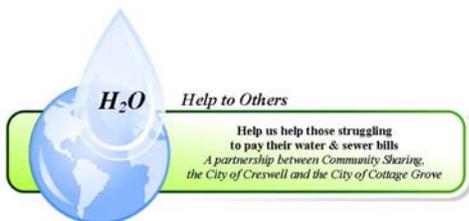
St. Vincent DePaul: 541-461-8794 or 541-689-6747



## Help to Others (H<sub>2</sub>O) Program

Help to Others is a partnership program born out of the collaborative efforts of the City of Creswell, the City of Cottage Grove, and the Community Sharing Program. This program was put together as a way to provide supplementary assistance for families struggling to pay their water and sewer bills.

The way it works is simple: the City of Creswell collects donations when charitable citizens make either a one time donation or a monthly contribution by rounding their water bill up to the nearest dollar. Donations are then turned over to Community Sharing who distributes these funds according to the USDA low income guidelines. For more information on how you can help make this program successful, see the back page of this newsletter! If you or someone you know is in need of this type of assistance, please contact the Community Sharing Program at: **541-942-2176.**



## Talk to the City of Creswell

Need to report a street light outage, make a report to code enforcement or ask about your water bill?

You can do it all online. The City has a program that allows you to enter a request, look up answers to frequently asked questions, submit an opinion, or participate in a poll. This is one of several

services offered by the City in an effort to improve communication with the community.

In addition to the customer service this program provides, it offers a work order system behind the scenes that will enable public works, city hall staff and airport personnel to create, update and exchange information from any location. Being able to better communicate with each other and track information ultimately results in more efficient service to the public. To access the Citizen Request form, simply log on to the city's website at: [www.ci.creswell.or.us](http://www.ci.creswell.or.us) and click on "Chat with Creswell". It only takes a few minutes to fill out the online form and once your request has been sent, you will be provided with a request number. You can then track the progress of your request anytime by entering your request number under "Check Request" on the same citizen request form. We can't wait to hear from you!



# Increasing Economic Vitality in Creswell

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facilitate conversations with business owners that are struggling or looking to expand their business. Lane County has also helped the City with creation of marketing materials that will be used in domestic and international business recruitment. These flyers will also be used locally by our Chamber of Commerce and the City to help recruit businesses to Creswell.

I have been working hard on developing relationships with business owners, entrepreneurs, industrial developers, brokers and community members to look at all sides of economic vitality. For those that own businesses (especially businesses without a storefront), I am looking for you! **Please email me: [mhardy@creswell-or.us](mailto:mhardy@creswell-or.us) or call 541-895-2531.** I would love to schedule a meeting with you to talk about resources available to you through the County and State that can help you with your business needs. Also, if you are interested in having a table at "The Taste of Creswell", please e-mail me. This is a **FREE** event for the businesses and the community. I'd love to see you all there!



## Deputy's Corner (cont'd)



*(Continued from page 1)*

ductive way to address being prepared for an event such as this. There will be an informational presentation held on January 13, 2015 at 6:00pm at Creslane Elementary School. The presentation will cover a new training program to assist in the safety of our children while at school. The event is hosted by the Creslane PTO and the community is invited to attend.

Some new crime trends in Creswell are petty thefts in early morning hours. These thefts are usually from open bay sheds or garages left open. The suspects are also cutting locks on shed doors to take small yard equipment. You can help prevent this by



on shed doors to take small yard equipment. You can help prevent this by



making sure you have a strong lock and hasp on your doors and inventory your equipment to include brand, model, and serial number. Even an inconspicuous engraving on the tools without numbers can help.

Please remember with the wet season and cold season that roads get slick. Give yourself some extra time to get to your destination and arrive there safely.

Lastly, as always, if you are the victim of a crime or see something suspicious, **call 911 in an emergency, or 541-682-4150 for non-emergency reporting.**

Your Creswell Deputies.





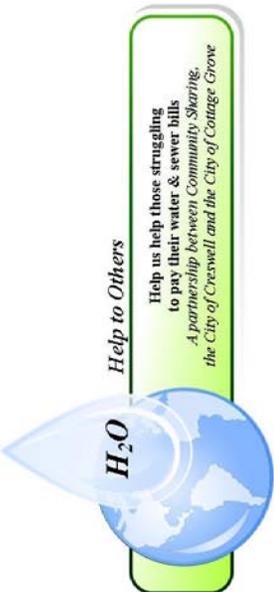
# H2O program

## H<sub>2</sub>O (Help to Others) Donation Voucher

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_



Please add a monthly pledge to my water/sewer bill:

\$1   
  \$5   
  \$10   
  \$25   
  \$50   
 Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Round up my bill   
  I would like to make a one time donation in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please return this form with your donation to City of Creswell, P.O. Box 276, Creswell OR 97426 Thanks!*

### HOW TO DONATE

#### There are two ways to give to H<sub>2</sub>O:

1. Make a one time donation.

If this works best for you, please make your check payable to City of Creswell H<sub>2</sub>O Program and mail with return voucher to:

City of Creswell  
 P.O. Box 276  
 Creswell, OR 97426

Make a one time donation online by visiting the City's website: [www.ci.creswell.or.us](http://www.ci.creswell.or.us)

2. Make a monthly contribution.

If you would like to "round up" your bill to the nearest dollar or contribute a set monthly amount, please fill out the attached voucher and return it to our office. We will automatically add your monthly pledge to your regular utility bill.

If you would like to discontinue your monthly contribution at any time, please let us know in writing.

