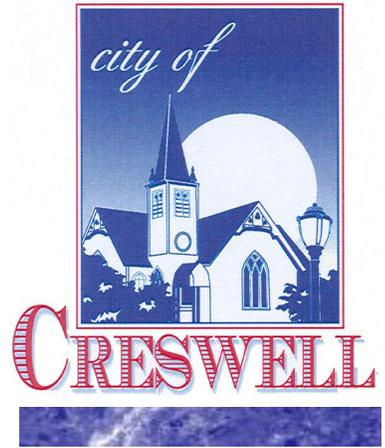


Creswell Connection



City Hall Prepares to Move

After months of waiting for the concrete to dry in order to install carpet and linoleum, the finishing touches are finally being completed at the new City Hall building.

The general contractor should have work completed by the first week in January, and a certificate of occu-

pancy can be issued to the City in order to begin the moving process. As with the last move, staff will prepare to move on a Friday, and City Hall will be open for business on the following Monday. At this point, a specific move date has not been set, the anticipation is to move

(Continued on page 3)

Sweet Night Out

Date: Saturday, February 6th
 Time: Starting at 6:00 p.m.
 Place: Creswell Library

"Sweet Night Out" is the Creswell Public Library Foundation's annual fundraising benefit and judging by its past attendance, one of Creswell's more popular social occasions. It is an evening of literature, desserts, music and fun. This year's speaker will be Bonnie Henderson, author of *Strand*;

a book of the stories of wrack washed up on the mile-long stretch of Oregon beach she has walked regularly for more than a decade. The night also includes a wide array of desserts, both homemade and professionally made; including some sugar-free treats and trays of fruit and cheese as well. The Creswell Public Library Foundation is a private 501(c)(3) non-profit registered in the State of Oregon. Its current goal is to raise funds to help purchase a permanent facility for the Creswell Library.

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Special Dates:

Jan 1st	City Hall Closed - Holiday
Jan 11th	City Council Meeting
Jan 13th	Municipal Court
Jan 18th	City Hall Closed - Holiday
Jan 21st	Planning Commission
Feb 8th	City Council Meeting
Feb 17th	Municipal Court
Feb 18th	Planning Commission
Mar 8th	City Council Meeting
Mar 10th	Municipal Court
Mar 11th	Airport Commission
Mar 18th	Planning Commission
Mar 22-26	Spring Break - No School

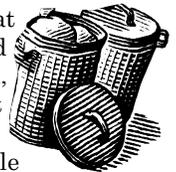
Garbage Rates

At the Dec 7th Council meeting, Council passed a 10% rate increase for garbage service with P & J Disposal, effective January 1, 2010. For the average household, who has one 35 gallon can picked up once per week, rates will increase \$1.60 per month from \$16.00 to \$17.60.

This increase will help P & J Disposal

offset the cost of tipping fees at Lane County, which increased from \$46 per ton to \$66 per ton, just shortly after their last rate increase in 2006.

Rates are available online at www.ci.creswell.or.us, or ask for a copy at City Hall.

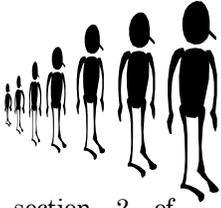


Deputy's Corner

Even though we've turned the corner, and it is now getting lighter out at both ends of the day, please take some time both as a driver and as a pedestrian or bike rider to watch out for one another. Driver's, please expect to see a pedestrian at a cross walk or an intersection, or bike riders along the roadway. Pedes-



trians do what you can to make yourself more visible; bright clothes or reflective vests are good. Bike riders, reflectors, lights, and bright clothing helps you too. Make eye contact with one another. Don't be in such a rush to get there that you miss someone who is also trying to get there.



Census 2010

What is the Census? The U.S. Census counts every resident in the United States, as directed by Article I, section 2 of the Constitution of the United States. The Constitution also mandates that a census be conducted every 10 years. The 2010 census will not be asking questions about your taxes or income.

Why is the Census important? Census numbers are important because the population of a given region determines the number of seats a state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. This ensures that each state has equal representation at the federal level, and helps to determine the number of electoral votes each state has during a presidential election.

Census numbers also help determine how over \$400 billion dollars in federal funds are distributed to communities annually to improve infrastructure and services

needed including: hospitals, bridges, tunnels, schools, senior centers, and emergency services. Remember, participation is not only important, it is mandatory.

Census forms will be mailed or delivered to every household during the month of March 2010. The short 10 question form should be filled out and mailed back as soon as possible. From April through July, Census takers will be visiting households who did not mail in a form, in order to ensure all residents are counted. By March 2011, delivery of redistricting data will be given to each state.

It is important to know that your information is protected. The census bureau will NEVER ask for any information to be submitted online, census takers will never ask to enter your home, and you can always ask to see a census takers identification.

To learn more about Census 2010, visit: <http://2010.census.gov>



Spay & Neuter your pets!

Being a responsible pet owner not only means providing a warm, dry place to sleep and plenty of good food and water for your animal, it also means getting the appropriate vaccinations for your pet and having your pet spayed or neutered. In Oregon, the pet overpopulation problem is enormous, and still growing. Did you know that according to the Feral Cat Alliance, a pair of breeding feral cats can produce up to 420,000 offspring in a seven year period? These unwanted animals fall prey to inclement weather, hunger, and disease. The need to spay and neuter feral cats is tremendous. Not only does this curb the growing number of strays, but helps prevent the spread of disease among household pets.

While there is no simple answer to controlling feral

and pet overpopulation, there are things you can do. The Willamette Animal Guild, or "WAG" is a not for profit organization dedicated to improving the health and living conditions of feral cats and household pets in the care of low income persons. WAG, located at 3045 Royal Ave, in Eugene provides reduced cost clinics for low income persons. For information about pricing, vouchers or how to make an appointment call 345-3566 or visit: www.wagwag.org.

Other resources include: Alley Cat Allies, The Feral Fix, Animal Welfare Network of Lane County, The Feral Cat Alliance, and The Muddy Puddle. Please visit these sites and learn how you can help reduce the unwanted pet population. Find resources, statistics, pet rescue information, pet food banks and much more!

Conservation Corner - Oregon E-cycles

Oregon E-cycles, established by the State of Oregon's new electronic recycling law is effective January 1, 2010. As of this date, all computers, monitors and TVs will be banned from disposal in Oregon. This program is geared to promote good product stewardship through the life of a product, including disposal.

Oregon E-Cycles provides free recycling of computers, monitors and TVs to anyone bringing seven or fewer items to a participating collection site at one time. Keyboards and mice are not part of the E-cycles program. Collection sites may accept more than seven items from households, small businesses and small 501(c)(3) nonprofits with 10 or fewer employees.

These new requirements not only affect the consumer, but place additional responsibility upon manufacturers to label products, register with the DEQ, and participate in a recycling program. Retailers must provide written information regarding the requirements at the point of sale,

and ensure that products they are selling are from manufacturers in compliance with the new requirements.

Before recycling your computers, you should clean your hard drive to avoid data theft of personal information stored on your computer. Simply reformatting your hard drive may make data more difficult to access, but this method does not keep a thief from retrieving it. To learn more about data eradication methods, visit www.techsoup.org/learning_center.

Please call the collection site nearest you to ask about bringing more than seven items. You can E-cycle your electronics at any Goodwill, or for a list of all collection sites near you, call 1-800-532-9253, or visit www.oregonecycles.org for information.

You can also view DEQ flyers regarding the new recycling laws at: www.ci.creswell.or.us.



City Hall Prepares to Move, cont.



(Continued from page 1)

about mid February. This will allow for final inspection of the new building, and coordination and set up of: utilities, phones, computer network, and movers. Look for the move

date in the Creswell Chronicle, and on the new reader board at City Hall.

Once moved, city staff will begin planning an open house, for anyone interested in visiting the new City Hall building.

After we are settled in the new building, plans to finish the second story, and improve the parking on 1st & C Streets can begin. This phase of construction may be two to three years in the future, but when completed will allow all administrative functions of the City to be housed in the same facility.

City Video Project

The City has partnered with Rick Dancer Media Services to publish video stories online in an effort to promote our community and provide better communication with the public. This project started with coverage of the City's centennial celebration and a water cooler story featuring Mayor Hooker. Since the project's inception a few short months ago, the City has partnered with several local businesses including the Comfort Inn & Suites and Creswell 76,

Ray's Food Place, and a wonderful story about a high school student working at the Creswell Super 8 Motel, with more on the way.

Creswell School District #40 is also participating in this project, and you can now view all the City, business, and school district stories on both the City's website: www.ci.creswell.or.us, and the School District website: www.creswell.k12.or.us.

Cobalt Building Update

Originally built in 1993, the Cobalt Building is a large 9,000 square foot building, sited on a 1.2 acre lot at 364 Cobalt Lane. The Cobalt Building is located in close proximity to local schools, residential neighborhoods, and downtown, allowing for easy access from a large cross section of local residents. With the recent adoption of the Cobalt Building Feasibility Study, the City is moving forward with retrofitting the Cobalt Building to make it suitable for its intended use as a recreation center. Once retrofits are completed, the building will offer residents multiple recreational, educational and arts activities and amenities.

Last year, the City of Creswell worked with local residents to help determine what types of activities and amenities should be offered in the Cobalt Building. Results from a community workshop, a community survey, and multiple stakeholder interviews indicate that recreational, educational and arts activities are top priorities for implementation in the Cobalt Building. Much of this

work has been synthesized in the recently adopted Cobalt Building Feasibility Study. During the next eleven months work will be carried out to implement many of the recommendations noted in the Feasibility Study, including: completing an initial architectural assessment, initiating retrofits needed to bring the building up to code, grant writing and fund raising, conducting a community volunteer day, and initiating negotiations with various service providers.

If you are interested at taking a look at the Cobalt Building Feasibility Study, touring the Cobalt Building, or have any questions regarding this project, please stop by City Hall. You can also view the feasibility study on the parks and recreation page of the City's website.



Water Treatment Plant Project

The City's new water treatment facility is now completely operational. City of Creswell residents have been receiving water from the new facility since September, and we are happy to report that all phases of the project have now been fully completed. This includes: replacement of many old water lines throughout the City, a new transmission line from the Garden Lake well fields to the water plant, the new



water plant building, the treatment system itself, and a new 3 million gallon water storage tank. As previously reported, the amount of chlorine needed to process water has been greatly reduced, which improves both the smell and the taste of the water produced at the plant, in addition to removing arsenic and other contaminants, bringing the City into compliance with all federal regulations and state guidelines.

Fact vs. Fiction

By Creswell Mayor Bob Hooker

At the December 7th Council Meeting, Mayor Bob Hooker read the following letter to the Council. He requested endorsement from his fellow Council Members to include a copy of his letter in the December edition of the Creswell Connection. Councilors Bill McCoy, Bob Millam, Bob Hooker, Jack Gradle, Jean McKittrick and David Case voted to include a copy of this letter in the December edition of the Creswell Connection. Mayor Hooker's letter below:

I would like to start by saying that I am very disturbed that it is necessary for me to write this article, but I feel it is extremely important for the citizens of Creswell to know the truth about their city government.

It seems that one of your city councilors, Jane Vincent, has decided that she should start a group called the "Citizen Alliance" to, according to her, "take our city back". Several things about this are troubling. Two of her supporters are well known in our community for having battles with our city for many years and at a cost of tens of thousands of your tax dollars to push their own agendas. It is very obvious that these people could care less about the wellbeing of the citizens of Creswell. One of these individuals doesn't even live in the Creswell city limits and therefore pays no city tax and can't even vote in our elections. Regarding councilor Vincent; it is puzzling to me that with the obvious problem she seems to have with the water treatment plant and the new city hall, her voting record doesn't reflect that sentiment, as she has voted in favor of every construction change order on both projects. There is not a single case of her voting against anything that has been done on these projects.

More than anything else, I am very disappointed that councilor Vincent feels she has to spread false information to further her agenda, whatever that may be. Below are several of her statements where I have answered with the actual facts.

Councilor Vincent statement - Water treatment plant cost \$18,000,000.00 - FALSE

FACT - As of October 31, 2009, the water treatment plant has cost \$8,949,053.27.

Councilor Vincent statement - City has over \$2,300,000.00 in the new city hall - FALSE

FACT - As of October 31, 2009, the new city hall has cost \$1,497,181.80. This figure even includes architect fees and the purchase of the old mortuary building that expanded the new city hall building footprint.

Councilor Vincent statement - The old water treatment plant would have lasted another 10 to 20 years - FALSE

FACT - Creswell was mandated to build a new water treatment plant in order to meet new federal arsenic standards, raise the city's water storage capacity for fire protection and to meet state planning goals for public facilities planning.

Councilor Vincent statement - A political party is running the city - FALSE

FACT - The mayor and city council are all non-partisan positions.

Councilor Vincent statement - The new water treatment plant is for 20,000 to 30,000 people - FALSE

FACT - At maximum capacity the new water treatment plant can serve a population of 6,765 and can be expanded in the future to serve a population of 10,782.

If you are interested in learning about how our water is distributed throughout Creswell, please stop by city hall and pick up a fact sheet explaining in detail how the process works.

I would also like to address some other incorrect statements that I have been hearing around Creswell.

Statement - The mayor and city council are paid positions - FALSE

FACT - These are volunteer positions. There is no payment received to serve as the mayor or as a city councilor.

Statement - The mayor and each city councilor will have their own individual office in the new city hall - FALSE

FACT - There are no plans for mayor or councilor offices in the new city hall.

In conclusion, I find it rather ironic that the same people who continually talk about their first amendment right to freedom of speech seem to be the same ones that don't bother to get their facts straight and instead choose to spread false information. Please, if you have any questions or need clarification on any information you hear or see, stop by city hall and speak with your city administrator, Mark Shrives. You can also e-mail Mark at mshrives@creswell-or.us or if you wish, you may e-mail me directly at bhooker@creswell-or.us.