

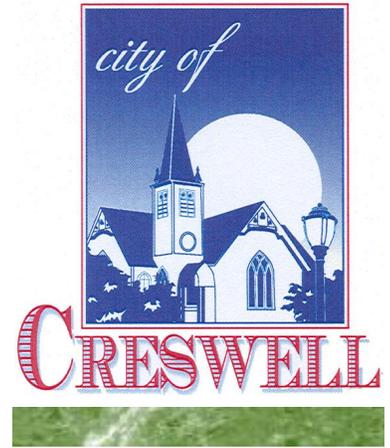
# Creswell Connection

## Talk to the City of Creswell

Need to report a street light outage, report a water leak, or ask about your water bill? You can now do it all online. The City has a new 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 new services offered by the City in an effort to improve communication with the community.

In addition to the customer service this program provides, behind the

scenes it offers a work order system 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 should ultimately result in better more efficient service to the public. So if you haven't seen it yet, log on to the city's website [www.ci.creswell.or.us](http://www.ci.creswell.or.us) and check out the Citizen's Request form. A link is available in the current info section of the home page.



## New Community Calendar

Ever wish that you could get the word out about an important event in Creswell with less hassle? As of December, businesses, organizations, schools and community members can post events, dates and more on a community calendar at Creswell's official website. The calendar is meant to let community members have a voice, and become more involved with the happenings in Creswell. Any and all messages go through

an approval process, before being posted on the calendar. The calendar can also conveniently sync to most email programs via CSV, iCal or RSS. Specific events and topics can be followed, or have alerts sent to mobile devices, through an RSS link. Events and dates can be searched by event type, list, week, and more! The calendar can now be accessed on the City of Creswell's new *Facebook* page, as well.

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### Special Dates

Municipal Court	Jan 12th
Airport Work Session	Jan 13th
City Council Meeting	Jan 17th
Planning Commission	Jan 20th
City Council Meeting	Feb 7th
Municipal Court	Feb 9th
Planning Commission	Feb 17th
City Council Meeting	Mar 7th
Municipal Court	Mar 9th
Planning Commission	Mar 17th

\*Community Sharing Program every Thursday

## Join us on Facebook & Twitter

You can now "Like" the City of Creswell on Facebook and "follow" us on Twitter to stay in tune with the most recent city business and community announcements. How Creswell residents communicate with each other and how they obtain information from others is rapidly changing, and some of the most significant change involves channels of communication over the internet. The City of Creswell supports the use of social media and other Web 2.0 tools to further the City's overarching mission, vision, and values. As City communi-

cation works best when it is consistent, branded, and delivered with one voice, including information posted to social media sites, the City has established a Web 2.0 Use Policy to guide our outreach using these tools. The implementation of this policy is providing the City with direct communications lines to our constituents, allowing us to reach audiences that can be difficult to target otherwise. The official City Facebook page is [www.facebook.com/cityofcreswell](http://www.facebook.com/cityofcreswell), and the Twitter page is [www.twitter.com/cityofcreswell](http://www.twitter.com/cityofcreswell). We look forward to seeing your posts and tweets as you get more involved in our Web presence!

## Creswell City Leadership

The City Council unanimously approved the election's abstract from the November general election. At the January council meeting, the newly elected officials will be sworn into office. Our newly elected/ reelected officials are:

- ◆ Mayor - Bob Hooker, term ends 2012
- ◆ Councilor - Jean McKittrick, term ends 2014
- ◆ Councilor - Mike Anderson, term ends 2014
- ◆ Councilor - A.J. O'Connell, term ends 2014
- ◆ Councilor - Bill McCoy, term ends 2012
- ◆ Councilor - Jane Vincent, term ends 2012
- ◆ Councilor - Jack Gradle, term ends 2012



LCSO has seen an upwards trend in thefts from vehicles over the past several months, and we'd like to take the opportunity to give some pointers about how to prevent being a victim.

1. Lock all doors and keep all windows of your car up.
2. Don't leave valuables in your car or keep them out of sight, securing them before arriving at a destination.
3. Don't leave keys in your vehicle. Carry a spare in wallet or purse, and not hidden in your vehicle.
4. Help make your vehicle look unattractive to thieves by hiding any valuables, especially in public places, like parking lots.

## Access to Community Assistance Services in Creswell

As we move into the winter months and the holiday season, there is an increased need for assistance in our community. We wanted to take a moment to recognize some resources in the community that could be of help this winter.

**Community Food for Creswell:** Provides a once-a-month emergency food box to income eligible individuals and families between 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month. The organization also offers perishable foods to all individuals and families between 3:30 p.m. and 5 p.m. on the second, fourth, and fifth Thursdays of each month.

**Senior Meals Program:** Free meals for seniors age 60 and older on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at

## EPUD Contract Finalized

After years of negotiation between Emerald People's Utility District and the City of Creswell, a contract has been finalized regarding the street lights at Emerald Parkway, over by Emerald Valley. In the past, the city has been billed for monthly maintenance and consumption services, generating a heavy cost. However, the new contract has brought the monthly bill down to a fraction of the original cost. The contract states that the City of Creswell now owns the street lights and will not be billed monthly for maintenance, only for consumption services, essentially. This reduction in cost is projected to save the City of Creswell an annual average of \$25,000.



## Deputy's Corner



Items frequently stolen: GPS units, MP3/ iPod/ laptops, money, credit cards, tools etc. Theft from vehicles is a very opportunistic crime. To avoid being a victim, make your car unattractive to potential thieves locking it and leaving nothing of value visible inside. Consider an alarm system.

Take the time to record any serial numbers, and have that list in a secure location. Consider marking any items with out a serial number with an "Owner Applied Marking", such as initials or a driver's license number. Carry a card with your license plate number, VIN, and insurance information in your purse or wallet.

Crestview Villa, 350 S. Second St.

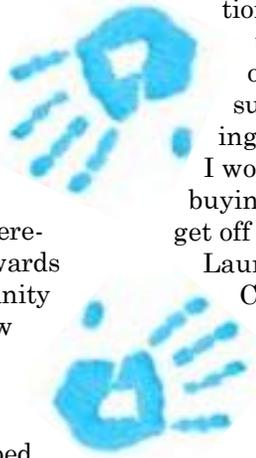
**South Lane Wheels:** Provides free rides to Creswell stores on Wednesday afternoons, and offers on-demand service to the Creswell area on other days for a small fee. Call 541-942-0456 to schedule a ride.

**Community Sharing Program:** Offers utility, prescription, housing, and basic needs assistance on Thursdays between 11:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at the Creswell Community Center behind City Hall. Call 541-942-2176 to schedule an appointment.

**Tuesday Night Fellowship Dinners:** Held at 5 p.m. on Tuesdays at Creswell Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, free of charge.

## Youth Have a Voice in Creswell

It has been an eventful past few months for the Creswell Youth Advisory Council. We have received eight new applicants, five of which have become new members. On the 20<sup>th</sup> of November, we held our first annual youth retreat, where we held trainings, team building exercises, and planning sessions for the next year. We hosted the Christmas Trees for Cobalt tree decorating contest during the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, where we raised more than \$1100 to go towards converting the Cobalt Building into a new community center. We proposed a resolution that would allow us to have a youth representative sit alongside and vote with the councilors at City Council meetings. Lastly, we volunteered at the Community Food for Creswell food pantry, where we helped unload and stock a shipment of food.



We look forward to hosting a Youth Celebration this spring and will soon begin surveying the City's youth on their wants and needs for our community. We will continue to offer our support for local events and the Cobalt Building Redevelopment Project. On behalf of CYAC, I would like to thank Creswell Clubhouse for buying dinners for our meetings and helping us to get off the ground, our Clubhouse adult allies Laura Rariden and Aaron Porter, the City of Creswell, City Council, and Wes Johnson for their continued support for Creswell's youth. You guys rock.

-Ryan Dodson, CYAC President

## Cobalt Building Project Surges Forward with Capital Campaign

The City of Creswell and the Cobalt Building Redevelopment Project steering committee recently kicked off a capital campaign to fund the renovation of the 9,000 square foot building on Cobalt Lane and transform it into a community and recreation center for all Creswellians. The first event associated with the capital campaign was the Christmas Trees for Cobalt tree decorating contest and silent auction, which was held in conjunction with the annual Tree Lighting Ceremony downtown on December 2. The goal of the event was to foster awareness and support for the project while raising a little money. Fifteen trees, seven wreaths, and one gingerbread house were auctioned to raise \$1100. More importantly, the City estimates that the community showed about \$15,500 of total in-kind support for the project, revealing that there is wide-spread underlying support for the Cobalt Building Redevelopment Project.

The total cost of the project is estimated to be \$2.6 million. Of that amount, about \$1.8 million has already been secured. In the coming months, the City will be beginning



an aggressive grant-writing effort and will begin to implement the remaining elements of the capital campaign plan in order to raise approximately \$890,000 over the next two years. While Christmas Trees for Cobalt raised a relatively small dollar amount in comparison to the total amount needed to capitalize the renovation, the effort that was put

forth by about 240 volunteers to make the event successful will be invaluable in showing funders that this project will be transformative in the Creswell community. Thanks to all who showed their support over the last two months—keep up the great work!



## Creswell Airport Online Bill Pay

### Payment/ Billing Services:

**Paperless Billing** — Get rid of paper statements. We'll send you an email when your bill is due with a link to your online statement. Sign up online at [www.ci.creswell.or.us](http://www.ci.creswell.or.us).

**E-bill/ Online Payment** — View your bill, make payments, manage your account, all online. Check your billing and usage history, update information, and more.

**Auto Pay** — Set up automatic monthly payments from your bank account, credit or debit card. You choose how and when the payments are made.

### Self Help Kiosk

— City Hall now has a self help kiosk. If you would like to sign up to pay your bill online, and do not have a computer at home, or if you would just like to check your balance we have installed a self help computer in the lobby of the new City Hall building.

**Not ready for all the fancy choices?** Don't worry, you can continue to mail us your payment, use the drop box, or pay over the counter, directly at City Hall.



## Simple and Easy Ways to Conserve Water!

- Upgrade older toilets with water efficient models.
- We're more likely to notice leaks indoors, but don't forget to check outdoor faucets, sprinklers and hoses for leaks.
- Grab a wrench and fix that leaky faucet. It's simple, inexpensive, and you can save 140 gallons a week.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Report broken pipes, open hydrants and errant sprinklers to the property owner or your water provider.
- When shopping for a new clothes washer, compare resource savings among Energy Star models. Some of these can save up to 20 gallons per load, and energy too.
- Turn off the water while you shave and save up to 300 gallons a month.
- Turn off the water while you wash your hair to save up to 150 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler to minimize evaporation.
- Put food coloring in your toilet tank. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Some refrigerators, air conditioners and ice-makers are cooled with wasted flows of water. Consider upgrading with air-cooled appliances for significant water savings.
- If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model.

