February 2018

#ClackCo **OUARTERLY**



Grant awardee: PTA **Clothes Closet of Clackamas County**

In October, Clackamas County Commissioners announced the recipient organizations of \$250,000 for the 2017 Small Grants Program.

One of the many worthy recipients is the PTA Clothes Closet of Clackamas County, which provides clothing, coats, shoes and other personal items to school-aged children in our community. This program is open to families who have been identified by their school as being in need of assistance. It is open to all school districts and students throughout the county.

This year, the PTA Clothes Closet received \$2,500 in grant funds to purchase a washing machine, supplies, socks and underwear for children.

"We serve over 700 kids annually," said PTA Clothes Closet of Clackamas County Co-Coordinator Dina Cyphers. "This grant will allow us to purchase needed items that we typically don't get enough of, such as shoes and jeans. Additionally, each student that comes in gets two pairs of new socks and two pairs of new underwear. We get bags and bags of donated items, and everything donated needs to be washed. The grant allowing us to buy the washing machine is a huge labor and timesaver for us."

The PTA Clothes Closet is a joint venture of the Clackamas County PTA Council and the Oregon City School District, but services are available to any student in Clackamas County.

Donations of new socks and underwear, clean clothing and gently worn shoes appropriate for school-age children are always needed. The Clothes Closet is open September through May on Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (excluding nonschool days).



Replacing the County Courthouse

A conceptual design of what a new county courthouse might look like.

Late last year, state, county and local officials held a celebratory event for the Clackamas County Courthouse replacement project.

The existing courthouse was built in 1936 in the heart of downtown Oregon City. While it continues to serve hundreds - sometimes thousands - of residents daily, courthouse needs have outgrown the facility's ability to adequately meet the demands of our increasing population and the need to hold hearings in a timely manner.

Replacing the courthouse is a wise investment. The building has significant safety risks, along with serious limitations including a lack of adequate jury assembly space and secured access for defendants or witnesses. Perhaps most alarmingly, we have the need for more judges, but we simply don't have the space.

At the event last year, commissioners, state

The next few years will be key, as the state of Oregon may provide matching funds. In the case of Clackamas County, this means the state could provide 50 percent of the funds to cover the estimated project cost of \$154 million.

СОЦИТУ

"This \$1.2 million represents a down payment on the future," stated County Chair Jim Bernard. "It brings us closer to our goal of building a new, modern courthouse that will truly serve the needs of our stakeholders and our public."

The new courthouse would be located at the county's Red Soils Campus in Oregon City.

Bernard also commented on the financial opportunity, saying "The state may be willing to pay for half of the courthouse. This is a wonderful time to get to work on this ... it could be a bargain."

Key partners spoke at the event as well.

Contact your school or the Office of Special Programs at 503-785-7870 for a referral form.

For more information, visit www.facebook.com/ptaclothescloset/

legislators, city leaders, judges and others attended in appreciation of the 2017 Oregon Legislature providing the county with \$1.2 million for project planning.

"The relocation of the facility to the Red Soils Campus will result in the loss of a long-recognized institution in downtown, but it also provides an exciting opportunity for Oregon City," stated Oregon City Mayor Dan Holladay.

cont'd on page 7



A SAFE PLACE

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ClackCo Quarterly

VETERANS HOUSING



Krupp's Korner: A winning library solution for Gladstone and Oak Lodge

Last October, the city of

Gladstone and Clackamas County agreed to settle a lawsuit over funding for the construction of a new library.

The settlement represented not just an end to the legal proceedings, but a significant first step in a cooperative journey toward a comprehensive library solution for residents of Gladstone and the surrounding unincorporated area of Oak Grove/ Jennings Lodge.

This is truly a "win-win" deal for all involved. Plans call for construction of two libraries – one in downtown Gladstone and the other at a yet-to-be determined site in the surrounding unincorporated area of Oak Grove/Jennings Lodge. The libraries will operate as a single library solution. The county will run both libraries, modeled after the city of Sandy's two-branch system.

Combined, these facilities will provide an estimated 25,500 sq. ft. of new library space.

This solution, as presently contemplated, does not impose additional costs to taxpayers for library construction. If built as projected in the proposal, the library spaces can be constructed from existing funds. Gladstone will provide the county with approximately \$200,000 per year in library operating expenses.

It's important to note that these details are still preliminary estimates. The settlement is a general strategy. An in-depth financial analysis, for example, is still needed.

More importantly, nearly every aspect of the new libraries will be determined through a robust public outreach and engagement process, including location, scope, design, service level, funding and amenities. A community conversation is taking place.

Our process specifically involves key groups that have been pivotal in helping us reach this point: the Oak Lodge Library Board of Trustees, Gladstone Library Advisory Board, and Library District Advisory Committee to name a few.

Make no mistake – this is a winning solution. Gladstone residents win because they get a new library with no additional taxes for construction. Oak Lodge area residents win because they get a new library three times as big as the current one.

What if residents want to build a larger library or provide more comprehensive services than contemplated in the settlement agreement? The settlement does not preclude residents from either area from seeking additional funding through a local improvement district or general obligation bonds, if that is their desire.

There's still a lot of work to be done. The county is taking steps to ensure this process goes smoothly, and the city will put forth a ballot measure in May rescinding its current prohibition on using local funds for library construction.

In the meantime, we invite you to learn more about the settlement and our community conversation at www.clackamas.us/libraryproject. We're posting regular updates.

Note: A version of this column previously appeared as an op-ed in the Clackamas Review.

Sincerely,

Don Krupp Clackamas County Administrator

Commissioners support public involvement

In December, the Board of County Commissioners approved a trial period of providing liability insurance to Community Planning Organizations (CPOs) in an effort to support public participation.

Since a key function of CPOs is to offer communities the opportunity to appeal county land use decisions, the county cannot provide legal support. It was determined that the best approach is to offer protection liability through a third-party insurance provider.

The board will review this issue in one year to ensure program success. To learn more, contact Katie Wilson at kwilson2@clackamas.us or 503-655-8552.

GET INVOLVED WITH **CLACKAMAS COUNTY!**

There are numerous opportunities for you to get involved at the county. For a full list of advisory board and commission openings with descriptions, visit www.bit.ly/ClackCoInv.

Planning Commission

To help ensure the Planning Commission represents the entire county, this year the need is especially for people to apply from rural and eastern areas of the county. This commission advises the Board of County Commissioners on land use applications and issues and meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month.

Application deadline is March 13. For more information, contact Darcy Renhard at drenhard@clackamas.us or 503-742-4545.

Committee for Community Involvement

This 9-member committee of community members provides input on the development and coordination of programs that promote and enhance public participation. The committee meets on the third Tuesday of the month in Oregon City. Experience and participation in a community planning organization, hamlet or village is helpful as a majority of the work on this committee is in conjunction with such groups.

The deadline for applications is March 2. For more information, contact Katie Wilson at kwilson2@clackamas.us or 503-655-8552.





#ClackCo Quarterly is produced by the Public and Government Affairs Department. It is mailed to nearly every household in the county.

Contact us about stories in the #ClackCo Quarterly at ClackCoQuarterly@clackamas.us.

Contact your commissioners at bcc@clackamas.us or 503-655-8581.

Board of County Commissioners



Commission Chair Jim Bernard



Commissioner Sonya Fischer



Commissioner Ken Humberston Paul Savas



Commissioner Martha Schrader

#ClackCo Academy

ClackCo Academy gives members of the community the opportunity to learn about county services and programs. Participants get a unique look at how Clackamas County functions by hearing from staff in various county departments, taking place in group discussions, and touring county facilities.

Apply by Feb. 15 to be one of 25 lucky people to participate in the 2018 #ClackCo Academy! Apply at www.bit.ly/ClackAcademy.

Call Beth Byrne at 503-742-4353 or email bbyrne@clackamas.us for more information.





What your county commissioners are working on

Your Clackamas County Commissioners are involved in countless issues on an everyday basis and they often handle significant issues facing the county. Hear what the commissioners have to say about the progress of the transitional shelter community for veterans.





Clockwise from left: Commissioner Paul Savas helping to build the pods last autumn; Chair Jim Bernard and Commissioner Ken Humberston; pods in production.



Transitional shelter community for veterans is taking shape

Since the beginning of 2017, Clackamas County Commissioners have been integrally involved in the planning, development, and construction of a unique transitional shelter community for homeless veterans.

The Clackamas County Veterans Village took another giant step forward this winter. A dedicated team of volunteers, employees and commissioners substantially completed 15 sleeping pods.

The 15 pods will be moved later this year to the planned transitional shelter community on a 1.5-acre site near 115th Avenue and Jennifer Street in unincorporated Clackamas. Up to 15 more pods are expected to be built on site once the Veterans Village is open.

The site will also include community restrooms, showers, cooking and



Commission Chair Jim Bernard



Commissioner Sonya Fischer



Ken Humberston

"We couldn't be more excited about this pilot project. A lot of work went into making this the first code-compliant project of its kind in Oregon. That's a really big deal and we owe nothing less to the residents of the village and our community."

"This is one of several steps we're taking to address the housing crisis striking our region. This board didn't hesitate to declare an emergency measure in November which gave county staff the authority to move quickly and – among other actions – provide warming shelters for homeless residents during the winter."

"Housing our homeless veterans is a priority for the county, and for me personally as a veteran. This is just the first step. We're going to continue to explore other innovative ways to put a roof over families and kids that need it."

eating facilities and meeting rooms.

Residents of this temporary, transitional community will be adult military veterans from Clackamas County who are homeless. They will be selected through referrals and screenings by county staff and veterans and social service agencies. Once they are in the village, residents will be provided with health, counseling and other services to help them transition to more permanent housing.

Since development of the village began, the county has heard from people and organizations that wish to donate to help make the village a success. While work is underway to prepare the site, we are gratefully accepting financial donations, but are unable to receive any items.

Donations may be in cash, check or money order made out to Clackamas County and sent or delivered to Policy Advisor Emily Klepper at the Public Services Building, 2051 Kaen Road, Oregon City, OR 97045. She can be contacted at EmilyKle@clackamas.us or 503-742-5933.

To find out more information about the project, visit **www.clackamas**. **us/transitionalhousing**.



Commissioner Paul Savas



"The primary goal of this project is to help our homeless veterans get the immediate shelter they need and to connect them to the services they earned. From that point we can help them transition to permanent housing and employment opportunities."

"The great thing about this project is that it really could open doors for vulnerable populations across the state. No one has ever thought about doing this before, so it really has a chance to turn into a model that other localities can adopt."

TRANSPORTATION

Safe driving art contest open to high school students



High school students in the county are invited to enter the "Drive to Zero Posters and Coasters" safe driving media contest, to create artwork that promotes safe driving to others in the community.

Student artwork or written messages should focus on risk factors such as speed, distracted driving or impaired driving, or on prevention strategies such as seat belt use, parent support or eliminating distractions. Positive, uplifting messages are encouraged to reflect the need to drive with respect and courtesy.

All entries will be judged on creativity, message impact and promotional appeal, and will be eligible to be used for outreach by the county. Students who create the top three entries will each win cash prizes (\$300 for first place, \$200 for second place and \$100 for third place).

Entries must be submitted by March 15. Students can submit entries by:

- Mail: Drive to Zero Transportation Engineering, Development Services Building, 150 Beavercreek Road, Oregon City, OR 97045
- Email: DrivetoZero@clackamas.us

All entries must be accompanied by a release form that can be found on the Drive to Zero website. Students who are not yet age 18 by March 15 will need a parent or guardian to sign. Contest details are available at www.DrivetoZero.org. Questions should be directed to Drive to Zero staff at 503-742-4661 or DrivetoZero@clackamas.us.

The safe driving media contest is sponsored by Clackamas County Drive to Zero and State Farm Insurance.



Road maintenance staff continue education, skill development at fall workshops

Late last year, the entire staff of our Transportation Maintenance Division took two days to brush up on operational and safety practices, and review the county Snow and Ice Response Plan and winter road maintenance preparations. Demonstrations and trainings were held for all staff and our snowplow drivers had the chance to practice and show off their skills on an obstacle course (see photo above).

Transportation Maintenance also recently hosted the Oregon Road Scholar Program sponsored by the Oregon Department of Transportation. Thirty-three county road workers, along with staff from other counties, cities and the state, learned the latest information about road maintenance procedures and technologies. Topics included road construction and maintenance, the effects of water on roadways, technical properties for producing proper paving material, and environmental best practices to minimize the impact of maintenance activities on water quality.

That was followed by a workshop on improving the safety features of highways, local roads and streets. A total of 18 Transportation Maintenance, Engineering and Traffic Safety employees participated in the refresher course on the many ways to make our roadways safer for the traveling public. The methods they reviewed included traffic control devices, routine and preventive road maintenance, work zone safety, best management practices and technical standards, and low-cost safety improvements.

Public comment invited on Transportation Safety Action Plan update

Preventing fatalities and serious injuries in crashes on roads in Clackamas County is the top priority of our Traffic Safety program. To help make that program more effective, staff is working with a community group – including members of the county's Traffic Safety Commission - and experts to update the county's five-year-old Transportation Safety Action Plan (TSAP).

The TSAP, which was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in 2012, outlines a strategy for creating a countywide safety culture, and sets a goal of reducing transportation-related fatalities and serious injuries on all roads in the county within 10 years. The current plan is available online at www. bit.ly/ClackCoTSAP2012.

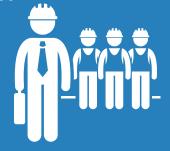
Now, five years later, with a lot of new data and research on transportation safety, we're updating our plan and setting an even more ambitious goal zero deaths and serious injuries on roads by 2035.

The public is invited to learn more about this plan and the update process, express their views and provide suggestions on the project website www.clackamas.us/transportation/tsap.html-or at a public meetings planned in 2018. Details will be publicized at public meetings and posted on the website.

For more information, contact Traffic Safety Engineer Joseph F. Marek at joem@clackamas.us or 503-742-4705.

County to host forum for builders, surveyors, engineers, developers March 14, 8-10 a.m. www.clackamas.us/transportation





As always, our priority is to provide a safe road network for people to travel in Clackamas County. For more information. visit www.clackamas.us/ roads.

You can help us keep our 1,400 miles of county roads safe as well. When you see road concerns such as potholes, road obstructions or missing signs, please report them at www.bit.ly/roadconcern, call 503-557-6391 or email RoadConcerns@clackamas.us.

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Riverstone welcomes the Hello Neighbor project

The Riverstone Mental Health Clinic has recently been adorned by inspiring, powerful art.

Hello Neighbor is a participatory photography project, designed and facilitated by Portland's creative laureate Julie Keefe. Participants learn to use a 35 mm camera by taking pictures of each other, and then get to know each other through a series of structured interviews. Through the process, they build relationships, which is the real value of Julie's work.

Riverstone Mental Health Clinic provides services to anyone living in Clackamas County regardless of ability to pay. Hello Neighbor recently brought its project to Riverstone, and the cohort included a diverse group of people from age 11 to 86. The final product is a portrait of each participant with a quote written in their own script.

Riverstone is staffed by trained crisis clinicians who are able to respond to people in need of crisis services, including everything from telephone intervention to coordinating a same-day, emergency mental health assessment.

Riverstone is located in the Ross Center near Clackamas Town Center at 11211 SE 82nd Ave., Suite O, Happy Valley, OR 97086.

If you are having a mental health emergency, call our crisis line at 503-655-8585. Visit www.bit.ly/ RiverstoneClinic to learn more about Riverstone.



County taking proactive steps on housing affordability

As the housing affordability challenge grips the region, Clackamas County is taking proactive steps to address the issue head-on.

The county has an aging infrastructure within the public housing community, ever-increasing numbers of families on housing waitlists, and a dwindling source of federal funds that hinder our ability to house seniors, disabled persons and working families who make 80 percent or less of the area's median income.

The most responsible way to address the crisis is to act immediately to find solutions, not to maintain a worsening status quo. The immediate goal is to create 1,000 affordable housing units in the county by 2022. In the next 10 years, plans are in place to create nearly 1,800 affordable housing units.

Owned and operated by the U.S. Housing Authority of Clackamas County, Oregon City View Manor is a public housing community of 100 homes.

Oregon City View Manor consists of aging housing units with severe capital improvement needs. The county no longer receives enough money from the federal government to maintain the homes at the level of service they require. Maintaining all of the county's public housing units costs approximately \$2.2 million annually. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provides less than half of that – about \$800,000 – to cover those expenses.

The county is seeking permission from HUD to sell Oregon City View Manor and relocate the 100 families who live there. This sale will enable the development of approximately 800 affordable homes that will assist up to 2,400 people with low incomes by 2027.

In addition, the county plans to redevelop affordable housing throughout the county – both on land we already own and land we purchase. Priority will be given to areas that are close to public transportation, employment, quality schools, grocery stores and other services. As part of a HUD application, we will submit a detailed plan to replace the homes.

Every household at Oregon City View Manor will receive a Tenant Protection Voucher. These are new HUD vouchers that will not require tenants to be put on a waitlist. Additionally, every family will receive the following relocation assistance:

- Individual interviews and relocation plans developed for each household matching the needs and preferences of residents
- Identification of at least three replacement homes for each displaced household, to be rented with the assistance of a voucher
- Assistance to complete all applications, screening documents and other move-in requirements for the replacement home
- Coordination of professional packing, moving and transportation services

The Housing Authority of Clackamas County will provide the following services:

- Access to working with a relocation consultant who will work with each family's specific needs
- Coordination and issuance of a permanent voucher for the replacement home
- Payment of all deposits and fees required for move-in at the replacement home
- Payment of all movers, packers and other assistance required for physically moving residents into their replacement home
- 42 months of rental difference payment if there is a discrepancy between current public housing rent and rent under the voucher for the replacement home

We are committed to ensuring every Oregon City View Manor family is successfully housed.

County begins providing health services to Colton School District

Clackamas County began offering a variety of health-related services to students in the Colton School District late last year.

Our Health Centers Division offers physical

- Care for children and adolescents regardless of their ability to pay
- Reduced costs associated with inappropriate use of emergency rooms and unnecessary

Session IIII

The 2018 state legislative session begins Monday, Feb. 5. Take a look at Clackamas County's legislative agenda online, which lists the many priorities for which the county will be advocating over the course of the 35-day session: www.clackamas.us/pga/ government.html checkups, sports physicals, immunizations, behavioral health services and more to any student in the district. The office is at Colton High School and is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. every Thursday when school is in session.

"Providing these services to Colton students is something we're thrilled to do," said Health Centers Division Director Deborah Cockrell. "Our goal is to have healthy and safe communities. Making it easier for local residents to have access to health care is a giant step toward our goal."

Students can receive confidential medical services from qualified medical professionals who focus on preventing illness and promoting healthy behaviors. Other benefits of the clinic include:

• Improved access to quality physical, mental and preventive health services

- hospitalizations
- Age appropriate services are ensured
- Time saved for parents by reducing missed work hours
- More students kept in class and ready to learn

"Getting students access to quality, affordable health care is a primary concern among all school districts, and Colton is no different," said Koreen Barreras-Brown, the Colton School District Superintendent. "We hope our students and their families take advantage of this unique opportunity to access health care that will ultimately last them a lifetime."

For more information about Clackamas County Health Centers, visit www.clackamas.us/ healthcenters. To make an appointment, call 503-655-8471.



Protecting the Clackamas River: Carli Creek Water Quality and Habitat Project

Carli Creek, a vital stream situated between industrial properties and the Clackamas River, contains high levels of pollution commonly found in industrial land and highway surface water runoff. Much of Carli Creek's 438-acre watershed is located within the Clackamas Industrial Area, an important economic driver for the region. Currently, very little of the surface water that flows from this area is treated to remove common pollutants. But despite the pollution, there is an abundance of wildlife in the creek that needs clean water, including salmon and steelhead.

In 2012, Water Environment Services (WES) acquired 15 acres of land situated between the creek and the river for a project that will remove pollution and improve the condition of Carli Creek. The project includes building channels, pools and habitat structures to filter pollutants. When complete, the area will function like a large wetland that will treat the runoff before it enters the Clackamas River, a vital source of drinking water for more than 300,000 people.

WES has been preparing the site by removing invasive and non-native vegetation. The first phase of construction, completed in 2017, included restoring habitat along 1,500 feet of Carli Creek. Additional phases planned for 2018 include development of the wetland and a surface water pipe installation on Capps Road and SE 120th Ave. The new pipe will bring surface water runoff from the Clackamas Industrial Area to the wetland.

The total project budget including land acquisition is \$4 million. WES is supported by key partners, such as Portland General Electric (PGE) who awarded WES \$380,000 for the stream restoration elements of the project. Project funding also comes from surface water fees paid by property owners within the WES service area.





"We're heavily investing our community's surface water dollars in the Carli Creek site to protect water quality and fish," said Ron Wierenga, WES Environmental Services Manager. "While we're doing what we can to remove pollutants from stormwater runoff, we appreciate our business partners who are helping to prevent pollution by keeping their sites clean and their storm systems maintained."

Through a partnership between WES and Clackamas River Water Providers, business owners in the Clackamas Industrial Area can get free pollution prevention technical assistance and may be eligible for a new cash rebate to help upgrade spill prevention equipment. Information about this opportunity is available online at www.clackamasproviders.org.

To learn how WES ratepayers' dollars are making a difference, WES' local and regional partnerships and programs, or to watch a video about the Carli Project, visit www.clackamas.us/wes.

Willamette Falls Storytelling Project

Do you have a special connection to Willamette Falls? This winter and spring, Clackamas Community College, Rediscover the Falls and the Willamette Falls Legacy Project invite you to join one of two three-day digital storytelling workshops dedicated to your stories about the Falls. The Willamette Falls Storytelling Project creates an opportunity for community members who have an attachment or connection to Willamette Falls to tell their stories. No experience is necessary, you just have to have a story to tell!

The first 3-day workshop is Friday, Feb. 23 through Sunday, Feb. 25. The spring workshop will be offered in May. For more information, please contact sparini@clackamas.us. To register, please contact angie.byrd@clackamas.edu.



VIDEO SPOTLIGHT





Master Gardener Pruning www.bit.ly/MasterPruning

Prepare your plants and trees for spring! Learn basic and advanced pruning methods and get some helpful tips on pruning in our OSU Master Gardener 10-Minute University[™] instructional videos.

ClackCo Grants \$10K for Veteran Scholarships www.bit.ly/2Doo8pa

Our commissioners gave the Clackamas Community College Small Business Development Center (SBDC) a grant that provides veterans with scholarships to receive SBDC services. Find out more about the program and scholarships by watching the video.





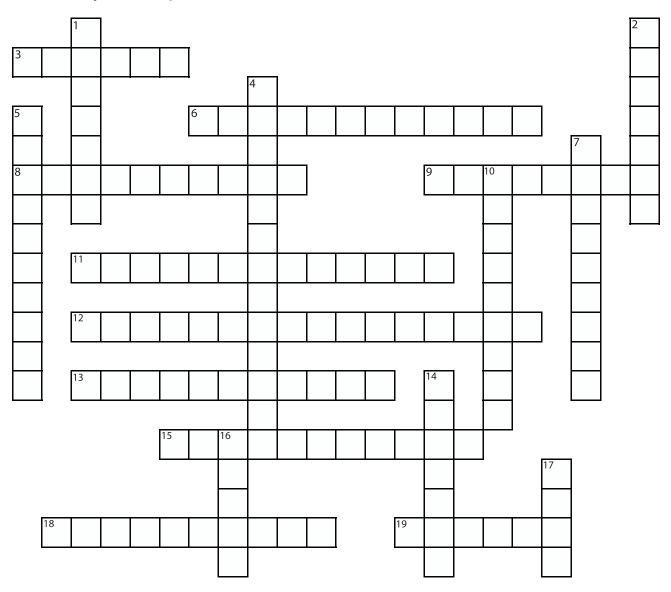
Crossword: Disaster Management general prep kits

The staff of our Disaster Management Department is dedicated to helping the community prepare for major emergencies or disasters. Everyone should have a plan in place before a disaster strikes.

To that end, every household in the county should have an easy-to-carry emergency preparedness kit at the ready. Why? Because being adequately prepared means having survival supplies that you can use at home or take with you if you have to leave your home.

Our area is susceptible to earthquakes, floods, wildfires, extreme weather and more. We want you to be ready. This edition's crossword is all about the items you might find in an emergency preparedness kit. All items are listed by either the Federal Emergency Management Agency (www.ready.gov) or the American Red Cross (www.redcross.org/cascades) as either recommended basic items or those to consider.

Crossword key: www.bit.ly/DMCrossword



Water Environment Services recognizes Bartlett Tree Experts, Landscape East & West, and Sense of Place Permaculture for gaining

ECODI7

Across

- 3. One of the original "Clue" weapons
- 6. Minimum amount of water you need PER PERSON in household
- 8. 3.5 billion of this bathroom item is sold worldwide each year
- 9. Material often used to make wallets for simple crafts
- 11. What your emergency food should be
- 12. Make sure you have one on each floor of your house
- 13. Common kitchen product made from paper pulp
- 15. What a youth football coach might have
- 18. The Goonies used this while underground
- 19. Mittens, safety, driving or fingerless

Down

- 1. Essential for Fido or Fluffy
- 2. Party Pooper: Wet _____
- 4. Rx
- 5. What your matches should be (in case of flood)
- 7. Christmas morning need for kid households
- 10. Popular OXO product
- 14. Styles include Slide, Penny and Dog
- 16. Can be solar-powered or hand-cranked
- 17. Cold hard __

Canby Ferry longer hours for longer days start Feb. 24

The ferry operates daily from 6:45 a.m. to 9:15 p.m. until Nov. 17. Subscribe to updates at www.bit.ly/canbyferry.



Courthouse cont'd from page 1

"I look forward to working with the county on how best to smoothly transition the relocation of the courthouse and identify the best uses for the existing facility."

Speaking about the actions of commissioners and supporting partners, Clackamas County Circuit Court Presiding Judge Robert D. Herndon added, "Judges are so appreciative of your commitment to this project, and that you've embraced and recognized how important the third branch of government is to the society that we enjoy."



The event also featured the unveiling of a concept design of what the future courthouse could potentially look like (see front page).

In addition to the Legislature's continued involvement in this process, the project also includes participation from the courts, the Clackamas County District Attorney's Office, the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, the Oregon Department of Human Services, the Association of Oregon Counties' Court Facilities Task Force, the city of Oregon City and additional key stakeholders. Clackamas County thanks all of our partners for their support on this important project.

To watch last year's event in full, and to keep abreast of project updates, visit www.clackamas.us/crp.

COUNTY HAPPENINGS

County provides Lake Oswego School District huge savings on high-speed internet service

Through its contract with the Lake Oswego School District to provide high-speed fiber broadband connectivity, Clackamas County is set to refund the district more than \$141,000 and provide savings estimated at more than \$25,000 per month when compared to what it was paying last fiscal year for internet connectivity.

In 2016, the county contracted with the Lake Oswego School District and Clackamas Education Service District (CESD) to provide high-speed internet. The county handled the installation of the lines (now complete) with CESD acting as the internet service provider. The contract was for approximately \$1.5 million. Clackamas County finished the project on time and under budget, which resulted in a \$141,397 refund.

Additionally, the internet speed for the district has increased from 1 GB to 10 GBs.

"This is great savings for the district, and we couldn't be happier with how the project worked out," stated Technology Services Director Dave Cummings. "Lake Oswego schools now have more money to spend on other priorities while receiving excellent internet service."

Last year, the Board of County Commissioners voted to grant Clackamas Broadband Express the ability to bid on public agency construction projects within the county. This partnership with the district is a result of that action. Other public agencies with large projects may be able to use Clackamas Broadband Express and take advantage of the longterm savings.

More on Clackamas Broadband Express can be found at www.bit.ly/ClackCoCBX.



Innovative partnership brings opportunity for NCPRD



There have been some exciting updates to the strategic partnership between North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD) and North Clackamas School District (NCSD). The proposed agreement originally included the sale of NCPRD's Hood View Park in exchange for NCSD's Concord Elementary School, Lake Road Administrative Building and cash. Upon further review, an amendment has been made to replace the administration building with two alternative school properties. Wichita Elementary School and Clackamas Elementary School will now be included in the agreement, along with Concord Elementary School. Learn more about how this collaboration will benefit the community for years to come.

NCPRD.COM/PARTNERSHIP



Free mediations for family law services; orientation required

Our Resolution Services Department provides conflict resolution to people and organizations experiencing difficult disputes. One key focus is family law mediation, in which parties attempt to reach agreements regarding issues like child custody, parenting time, child support, spousal support, finances and property division.

Services are open to county residents who have a family law-related dispute. Mediation is a structured process through which an impartial mediator helps parties discuss issues, make proposals and come to an agreement. Mediators do not take sides or make decisions for the parties. At the completion of the mediation, our mediators produce a written summary which can be filed in court.

Mediation is a confidential process with certain limitations.

Our mediation services meets the needs of most

to mediate and seek our services reach agreement on some or all of the issues between them. Parties also report that their conflict levels decrease.

The process is also very affordable. New clients are entitled to two sessions free of charge (sessions typically run 90 minutes).

In order to schedule a family law mediation, parties must first come to Mediation Orientation (which occurs most Tuesday mornings from 9 to 10 a.m.). A limited number of mediation appointments are available directly following orientation when both parties are present and ready to proceed.

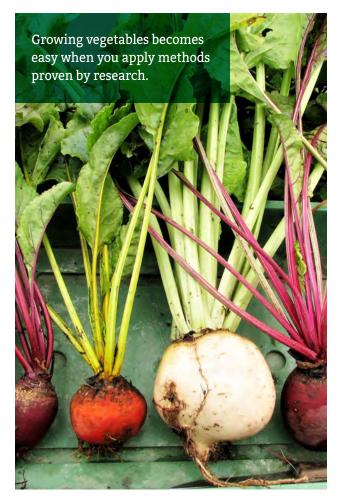
Resolution Services wants to help you through your family transition. Please find out more about the family law mediation program at www.bit.ly/ClackCoFLM.

participants. About 80 percent of clients that agree

Volunteer your time at a warming shelter

Because of the increasing numbers of homeless county residents, their need for safe and warm shelter, and the current lack of adequate temporary or emergency homeless shelters, the Board of County Commissioners declared an emergency to provide shelter for homeless individuals.

Because of the declaration, volunteers will be needed to serve in a variety of capacities, including working at local warming shelters. The county has contracts with several warming centers in the area to provide shelter on nights when the weather is predicted to be 33 degrees or lower. Visit **www.clackamas.us/homelessness** to sign up to volunteer.





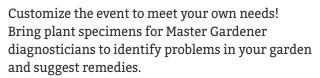


Get essential gardening tips at **Garden Discovery Day!**

Join Oregon State University Master Gardeners for essential gardening tips on Garden Discovery Day on March 3 from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Milwaukie Center (5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive in Milwaukie).

This fun event covers a wide range of topics through classes, demonstrations, educational displays, and soil pH testing service. In one morning, you will learn all you need to know to jumpstart your 2018 growing season.

Enthusiasts of edible gardening will benefit from classes on growing blueberries, tomatoes and earlyseason vegetables. Ornamental gardeners will enjoy talks on garden design and ornamental gardening. Other topics include pruning, attracting mason bees, and managing pests and diseases.



Garden Discovery Day is a free event from Clackamas County Master Gardeners, offered in collaboration with the Oregon State University Extension Service Master Gardener Program, North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District, and the Milwaukie Center. For more information, visit www.cmastergardeners.org or contact Sherry Sheng at clackamasmg@gmail.com or 503-655-1822.

Size

семье



You may be eligible for help with your power bill - You don't have to have a past-due notice.

Household **Gross Monthly Income** (before taxes and deductions) Tamaño de 2017-2018 vivienda Ingreso Mensual Bruto Количест-(Antes de deducciones во людей в e impuestos) Доход за месяц до высчетов и



Our Health Centers provide high quality, affordable health care to residents of Clackamas County and those covered by Oregon Health Plan.

Call 503-655-8471 to schedule your appointment today.

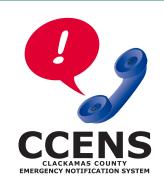
Our mission is to be your partner in your overall health. Our team of health care professionals provide quality care that includes:

- Primary care and prenatal care
- Dental
- Pharmacy
- Behavioral health

We proudly serve individuals and families regardless of income or insurance coverage.



www.clackamas.us/healthcenters



The county activates an Emergency Notification System during times of need. This free service informs you of actions to take related to a hazardous situation.

Sign up for alerts at www.bit.ly/CCENS



- You may be eligible even if you pay your bill every month.
- Assistance is available for a variety of energy needs.

ASISTENCIA DE ENERGIA

Usted podría ser elegible para una ayuda en su factura

- -Usted no necesita tener una factura vencida.
- -Usted pude ser elegible aunque page su factura cada mes.
- -Asistencia está disponible para una variedad de necesidades de energía.

Помощь По Энергоснабжению

Вы можете получить помощь в оплате вашего счёта

- Вам не обязательно иметь не уплаченный счёт.
- Вам может быть предоставлена помощь даже если вы платите каждый месяц.
- Помощь доступна для различных потребностей в энергии.

Call Clackamas County Energy Assistance to find out more

Llame al Condado de Clackamas Asistencia de Energía y averigüe

Звоните в Округ Клакамас Помощь по Энергоснабжению чтобы узнать больше más

503-650-5640

www.clackamas.us/socialservices

\$1,924.58
\$2,516.75
\$3,109.00
\$3,701.16
\$4,293.33
\$4,885.50
\$4996.50
\$5,107.58

Each additional member: add \$111 Cada Persona adicional: agregue \$111 Д ля каждого следующего члена: добавьте \$111

Health, Housing



Serving our four-legged friends

We provide shelter, medical care and support to Clackamas County's homeless dogs. We also offer dog licensing, adoptions, officer response, and serve as a resource for lost and found dogs.



Come meet our adoptable dogs!

Adoption hours Tuesday through Saturday 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Regular business hours Monday through Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 503-655-8628 13141 SE Highway 212 Clackamas, OR 97015 www.clackamas.us/dogs

Adopt. License. Donate.



A Safe Place plans its future

Last fall, local leaders, partner agencies and community members met for a week of long-term strategic planning at A Safe Place Family Justice Center, which provides wraparound services for domestic violence victims and their children.

Their goal: chart a future for those services to meet victims' needs.

A Safe Place opened in December 2013. It's a partnership between public and nonprofit agencies, all working together under one roof – providing a variety of services to victims and their children fleeing domestic violence, sexual violence, elder abuse, human trafficking and stalking.

Those services are free of charge, and include safety planning, assistance with filing court protective orders, accessing emergency shelters, civil legal services, food resources, housing and counseling.

The concept is simple but powerful – bring together a wide range of domestic violence services in a single location. During one visit to the center, a client might have the opportunity to talk to a domestic violence advocate, speak with a police officer, receive counseling and spiritual guidance, develop a safety plan, get food or find out about available shelters.

"It makes total sense to have everyone together under one roof to provide the best services our county has to offer," said Clackamas County Sheriff Craig Roberts during the kickoff for the planning session. "Today, we have served more victims and children than we thought possible. I'm totally convinced we've saved lives by working together."

During the weeklong strategic planning session, local leaders, on-site and off-site partner agencies, and community members discussed enhancements to the center's campus, expanding services and partnerships, the future of Camp HOPE (which provides a fun outdoor experience for children exposed to trauma), fundraising and much more.

The week also included a luncheon featuring guest speaker Casey Gwinn, President and Co-Founder of the Family Justice Center Alliance, and meetings with A Safe Place's many on-site partners.

On hand were representatives from the Sheriff's Office, the Board of County Commissioners, Clackamas Women's Services, Clackamas County Circuit Court, the Children's Center, and local police agencies, among many other contributing partners.

In 2016, the National Association of Counties (NACo) named A Safe Place as "Best in Category" for criminal justice and public safety.

Looking for help? Learn more about A Safe Place at **www.asafeplacefjc.org**.





Clackamas County Housing Programs Need Residential Contractors





Clackamas County Community Development division is looking for state-licensed and qualified general contractors to participate in the county's Housing Rehabilitation Program.



For more information and to complete a Contractor Information Form, please visit us on the web at: clackamas.us/communitydevelopment and click on home repair program.

If you have further questions you may contact:

Mike Woolman 503-650-5671 // mwoolman@clackamas.us

Jayson Tidland 503-650-5672 // jtidland@clackamas.us

Share your vision for the Oak Lodge Library!

Visit the online open house to share your vision for your library, and learn more about the Library Project. Go to:

www.clackamas.us/libraryplan

Clackamas County is working to improve library services and is moving forward with planning for two new libraries: one in Oak Lodge and one in Gladstone. We need your help to determine the location of the new Oak Lodge Library and what kinds of amenities and services it will provide. **The online open house closes on February 16th!** Share your input and vision for the library, while learning more about the library planning process.



Want your business to save resources and money? We can help!



What are the sustainability goals for your workplace in 2018? We can help your business reduce waste - saving you time and money - while supporting a healthy, productive workplace and community.

We support your environmental efforts with:

Resources: Streamline your recycling program with containers, signs and best practices found in our online sustainability guide.

Our sustainability guide has 100+ best practices to help you manage materials and minimize waste.

Staff trainings: Schedule a quick recycling refresher to get everyone on the same page.

Recycling and waste assessments: Evaluate how materials flow through your business to uncover fresh ideas for efficiencies and opportunities for cost savings.

Recognition and celebration of your achievements: Become a certified Leader in Sustainability and showcase your efforts.

See examples of what these businesses are doing at www.bit.ly/LiSvideos or on our Green Business Directory at www.bit.ly/certifiedLiS.



Yakima Products Green Team receiving their award for gold level LiS certification.

Contact Us

Contact a sustainability advisor for support, trainings or supplies to start composting or to green your business in 2018.

- 505-742-4458
- lis@clackamas.us
- www.clackamas.us/recycling/work

Clackamas County Leaders in Sustainability

- 18/8 Men's Salons
- Autodesk, Inc.
- Babica Hen Café
- Bike Gallery Lake Oswego
- Bridges to Change
- Canby ReStore Habitat for Humanity
- City of Happy Valley City Hall
- Coffee Creek Correctional Facility
- Colliers International Centerpointe
- Danielsons Properties

- Dose Family Dental Care
- Dyke Vandenburgh Jewelers
- Exceed Enterprises
- Friends of Robinwood Station
- General Sheet Metal
- Gubanc's Pub
- Happyrock Coffee Roasting Co.
- Johnson RV
- Kyra's Bake Shop
- Lake Oswego Chamber of Commerce

- Lake Oswego United Church of Christ
- Lake Theater & Cafe
- Lush Cosmetics Clackamas
- Marylhurst University
- Mary's Woods
- Menchie's Frozen Yogurt Oregon City
- New Seasons Market Mountain Park
- New Seasons Market Happy Valley
- OBEC Consulting Engineers
- OECO
- The Partners Group Lake Oswego
- Rockwell Collins

- Rose Villa Sandy Community Action Center
- Shear Creations
- Shorenstein Realty Services, L.P.
- Tucci Ristorante
- Water Environment Services
- Wishbone Home and Design
- Yakima Products, Inc.
- EADER IN SUSTAINABILI

Businesses put food waste to use



Canby

- Cutsforth Thriftway
- El Chilito
- Willamette Valley Country Club

Clackamas/North Clackamas

- Baja Fresh
- Costco
- Courtyard by Marriott
- Fred Meyer Johnson Creek
- Fuji's Restaurant
- McMenamins Sunnyside
- Mio Sushi
- Nordstrom's Café
- Nothing Bundt Cakes
- Original Thai BBQ
- Trader Joe's
- Happy Valley

- Lake Oswego Adult Community Center
- Lake Oswego Farmers' Market
- Lake Oswego Parks and Recreation
- Lake Theater and Cafe*
- Mary's Woods*
- New Seasons Market*
- Riccardo's Ristorante
- Trader Joe's
- Tucci Ristorante*
- Westlake Fire Station
- Zupan's Markets

Milwaukie

- Clackamas County Corrections Center
- Dave's Killer Bread
- Kellogg Bowl
- Jo's Saloon
- Providence Milwaukie Hospital

Wasted food makes up 20 percent of what we send to our landfills. Over one-half of this comes from businesses. Clackamas County restaurants, grocery stores and institutions are taking the initiative to put this material to better use by collecting their food scraps. The scraps are processed to create energy or soil-enriching compost to be used in our communities.

Food scraps collection service is available to most food-generating businesses in Canby, Clackamas/ North Clackamas, Happy Valley, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Oak Grove, West Linn and Wilsonville.

More than 75 businesses and schools are already collecting their food scraps. See the list of businesses to the right and give them kudos the next time you visit! Check out the growing list at www.bit.ly/compostparticipants.

- Café Yumm!
- City of Happy Valley City Hall*
- Killer Burger
- New Seasons Market*
- Peet's Coffee
- Sports on Tap
- Sushi Moto

Lake Oswego

- 365 by Whole Foods
- Animal Care Group of Lake Oswego
- Bon Appétit at Marylhurst University
- Babica Hen Cafe*
- City of Lake Oswego City Hall
- Colliers International Centerpointe*
- Crowne Plaza
- Elephant's Deli
- Gubanc's Pub*
- Kyra's Bake Shop*

Oak Grove

- Elks Lodge #142
- Flying Pie Pizzeria
- Rose Villa*
- The Bomber Restaurant

West Linn

- Market of Choice
- Starbucks
- Wal-Mart

Wilsonville

- Café Yumm!
- Coca Cola Bottling Co.
- Coffee Creek Correctional Facility*
- Holiday Inn
- Rockwell Collins*
- Wilsonville Old Church & Pub McMenamins
- Xerox

* Also a certified Leader in Sustainability



There's been a lot of talk about recycling lately...

Whether you saw something in the news or were turned away at your local recycling depot, we want to clarify what all the buzz is about.

If you recycle everything, you're doing it wrong.

Oregonians love to recycle, but we've been putting the wrong things into recycling bins in hopes they will be recycled. This can slow or break sorting machinery and contaminate good recyclables. It's also one of the reasons China has recently placed steeper restrictions on imported recycling, affecting recycling markets worldwide.

The companies that sort our recycling have had to slow down their process to remove items that aren't recyclable, and materials are piling up as they look for other buyers. Some companies have requested permission from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to temporarily dispose of recyclables, primarily plastics, as trash. Only a limited amount of these materials will go to a landfill and only if pre-approved by DEQ.

Higher costs to process recycling may contribute to increased fees for garbage and recycling throughout Oregon.

What can you do?

Keep recycling, but please only recycle items on the approved recycling list! We work closely with recycling processors to create an accurate list based on what materials can be sorted and sold.

You can review the approved recycling list at www.clackamas.us/recycling.

Top 5 Recycling Blunders

Ever wonder why these items can't be recycled? Read on!

To-go containers/cups

Salad containers, berry cartons, soft drink cups, coffee cups, plastic utensils and more.

This plastic can't be properly sorted by the sorting machines at local recycling facilities. Put it in the trash.

Tops and lids

Tops of yogurt containers, butter tubs, drink/shampoo/laundry detergent bottles and more.

These items fall out as trash as they go through the sorting machines or are improperly sorted as paper. Put them in the trash.

Plastic film and bags

Plastic grocery bags, bread bags, plastic shipping envelopes, dry-cleaning bags, bubble wrap and more.

These stretchy plastics get tangled in the machines and cause many problems at our recycling facilities. Return them to participating retailers (Safeway, Albertsons, etc.) or put them in the trash.

Frozen food boxes

Frozen pizza boxes, microwave dinners, ice cream cartons and more.

This cardboard is infused with a plastic that can't be removed during the recycling process. Put them in the trash.

Styrofoam

Packing peanuts, Styrofoam blocks, meat trays and more.

These items can't be sorted by the machines, and they break apart and create a mess. You can take some styrofoam to Agilyx (www.agilyx.com) in Tigard. Otherwise, they belong in the trash.











1 in 5 Oregonians don't have enough to eat

Donate your time, food or funds to fight hunger!

According to the Oregon Food Bank, 644,000 Oregonians (16 percent) lack access to a sufficient quantity of affordable, nutritious food. More than 223,000 of these are children.

At the same time, approximately 170,000 tons of food are thrown out each year in the Metro region alone. That much food waste would fill 5,000 longhaul trucks. A good amount of this food is still perfectly good to eat.

There are more than 50 food rescue agencies in Clackamas County that help get good food – which would have been wasted – into the hands of those who need it. The agencies range from small pantries and meal sites hosted by churches to large organizations offering services beyond food assistance such as showers, clothing, health care, counseling and more. The need for food donations, volunteers and funding is high. If you're interested in getting involved, visit www.211info.org/search-resources, enter your zip code and select "I need food" to find organizations near you.

A few of the 50+ food rescue agencies in the county include:

- Canby Adult Center Serves seniors and people with disabilities
- Colton Helping Hands Food pantry and teaching garden
- Estacada Area Food Bank Shopping-style food pantry
- Gladstone Food Pantry Supplemental food boxes
- Esther's Pantry, Milwaukie





Serves people with low income living with HIV

- Father's Heart Street Ministry, Oregon City Serving meals, including sack lunches
- Sandy Community Action Center Shopping-style pantry
- West Linn Food Pantry Supplemental food boxes and meal deliveries

About Trash Talk

Trash Talk pages are provided by Clackamas County's Resource Conservation & Solid Waste Program, on behalf of the Clackamas County Recycling Partnership: a cooperative of Clackamas County, the cities of Barlow, Canby, Estacada, Gladstone, Happy Valley, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Molalla, Oregon City, Sandy, West Linn and Wilsonville, and local garbage and recycling companies.

Contact

Clackamas County Resource Conservation & Solid Waste 503-557-6363 | wasteinfo@clackamas.us | www.clackamas.us/recycling

Become a MASTER RECYCLER

Learn from the experts. Connect with others. Make a difference.

Registration is now open for the Clackamas County course starting March 28. Deadline for applications is Thursday, March 1 at noon. Earn Master Recycler Certification by attending the course and volunteering 30 hours.

Details and application at **www.masterrecycler.org**

Clackamas County Sheriff's Office



Just a few of the dozens of moments of holiday cheer made possible by a very generous family.

Deputies play 'Secret Santa' thanks to anonymous donors

"Now I can buy my daughter the shoes she wants."

"Now my wife and I can buy my daughter a gift."

"The money will be put to good use to further other people's recovery."

These were just a few of the touching stories Sheriff's Office deputies and staff heard over the holidays, as they handed out \$100 bills to people they encountered — on patrol, during A Safe Place Family Justice Center visits, and elsewhere.

It was all thanks to a family of anonymous donors who allowed us to play "Secret Santa" for the third year running.

"It started in 2015," said Sheriff Craig Roberts. "A family that wishes to remain anonymous gave For the latest 'Secret Santa' campaign, KGW-TV followed our **Public Information Officer** Sgt. Brian Jensen around as he spread holiday cheer one hundred-dollar bill at a time. You can watch their report online at tinyurl.com/kgwsecretsanta

us thousands of dollars to hand out to the community, wherever we saw a need. All they wanted in return were some stories of giving and positive encounters with law enforcement. They certainly got both."

The money — which grew to \$6,100 in 2017 — was distributed for handout to Patrol and Civil deputies and personnel at Community Corrections and A Safe Place Family Justice Center, which serves victims of domestic violence and their families. Command staff also carried a few bills to distribute. (In 2016 Sheriff Roberts gave \$100 to a young man whose car was stranded on the side of the road during a snowstorm after a car breakdown. He also gave the kid a ride home.)

The stories over the past few years have run the gamut. Some have said they'll use the money to buy food. Others running low on funds said it was a cash infusion that came at exactly the right moment. Others burst into tears.

"Some employees got a little teary-eyed, too," said Chief Deputy Chris Hoy, "especially at A Safe Place, where domestic-violence survivors would tell us how badly they needed the money at that moment. I've heard a couple of employees describe the moment to me as a career highlight."



PSTC welcomes new manager

There's a new face at the Sheriff's Office Public Safety Training Center (PSTC) and Shooting Range: Ryan Brown, taking the helm as PSTC manager.

Brown takes the reins at the PSTC following a successful career at the Sheriff's Office as the Community Service Program Coordinator at Community Corrections. A native Oregonian and graduate of the University of Oregon School of Journalism and Communication, Brown brings to this role a strong background in small-business marketing and project management.

Brown's arrival coincides with an online makeover for the PSTC website (*PublicSafetyTrainingCenter.com*), including launching a new Facebook page.

The facility offers a comprehensive suite of firearms classes across two shooting ranges, as well as offering a Milo Range Force Action Simulator, classrooms, event space, and training labs for rent. The facility also handles Concealed Handgun Licenses and fingerprinting services.

"We've got some exciting things in store for the PSTC," says Brown. "We're looking to expand programing and bring many new faces to the Training Center campus- all in the spirit of building a safer, more connected community."

The Public Safety Training Center is located at 12700 SE 82nd Ave. in Clackamas. For more information call 503-794-8072 or visit Public Safety Training Center.com.

Contact & Follow Us



Office (503) 785-5000 Non-Emergency (503) 655-8211 Website clackamas.us/sheriff



@ClackCoSheriff



Clackamas County Sheriff's Office



youtube.com/ClackamasSheriff

@ClackCoSheriff

More county schools join School Safety Tip Line

Dear Clackamas County residents:

I'm thrilled to report that over 80 Clackamas County schools are now officially signed up for the SafeOregon School

Safety Tipline (*SafeOregon.com*) — where students and others can anonymously report information about potential threats, including bullying, self-harm and other concerns.

In Fall 2015, the multi-agency Oregon Task Force on School Safety (on which I serve as chair) recommended the establishment of a statewide tip line. We'd seen how successful tip lines were in Colorado and Michigan.

Oregon's Tip Line was first deployed on Jan. 31, 2017 — and I'm happy to report it's proving to be an effective tool here, as well. Over 700 schools are now signed up for the service statewide.

Tips can be submitted via email to tip@safeoregon.com, by phone or text message to

Use SafeOregon to anonymously report bullying, violence, drugs or harm you see or hear about at school.



SHERIFF CRAIG ROBERTS 844-472-3367, online at tips.safeoregon.com or by using the SafeOregon mobile app. Technicians monitor tips 24/7 for Oregon public schools from kindergarten through grade 12, forwarding

them to suicide/mental health crisis assistance, law enforcement and school officials as necessary.

From launch day through the end of November 2017, the system processed 298 tips, most involving bullying or harassment. (For detailed stats, see *safeoregon.com/ about/results.*)

The Oregon State Police provides the service through a contracted vendor, and I want to thank OSP for helping make this ambitious idea a reality.

To learn more about the statewide Tip Line, visit safeoregon.com. It's an honor to serve you!

- Clackamas County Sheriff Craig Roberts

Sheriff's Office takes LEAD with new diversion program

The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office is joining a new diversion program aimed at helping low-level of-fenders stay out of jail — by connecting them with the tools and services they need to change their lives.

The Sheriff's Office, DA's Office and Health, Housing and Human Services (H3S) are participating in the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program, which started in Seattle in 2011 and expanded to Multnomah County and several other states last year. Under LEAD, deputies can recommend arrestees on low-level drug offenses for the program. These LEAD candidates are often homeless or suffering from mental-health and addiction issues — issues that can be better addressed outside the court system.

If the candidate agrees to participate, he or she is assessed by a LEAD case manager within 30 days and then connected with services that help them get their lives back in order. This can include addiction counseling, job resources, housing resources and more. There is no time limit on how long a client can participate in the program.

"The program has a number of aims," says Chief Deputy Chris Hoy. "First, it helps right-size our jail population by reducing the number of repeat offenders. Second, it gets people the help they need. Just for example, about a third of jail inmates suffer from some sort of mental illness. They're often better helped outside the court system by counselors and specialists who can help them make lifestyle changes that keep them out of jail. This gets at the true meaning of 'corrections' — it's about helping people correct the course of their lives."

In other states and cities, LEAD has resulted in a significant drop in recidivism rates. According to Lt. Graham Phalen, the Sheriff's Office coordinator for the program, "LEAD gives members of a vulnerable but difficult population better choices and a support network. It also reduces impacts to the DA's Office and corrections system, and promises to positively impact our community.... It's a win-win-win."

LEAD is launching as a one-year pilot program in Clackamas County, with participants including the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office, DA, and Behavioral Health.

For more information on LEAD as it's used in other Northwest jurisdictions, visit *leadkingcounty.org* or *multco.us/law-enforcement-assisted-diversion*. To see a national resource developed to support development and adoption of LEAD programs by local government entities, visit *www.leadbureau.org*.