



Tigard's Official Newsletter

CITYSCAPE

January 2006

www.tigard-or.gov

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Mayor's corner

For the past three years the Tigard has been involved in a federally funded program called the Resource Cities. This program partnered cities in the U.S. with cities in third-world countries to share knowledge and expertise in democracy and self-government. Tigard had the honor of being partnered with Samarinda, Indonesia. Our respective cities sent and received delegations to observe and share what we know in finance, citizen outreach, and water treatment and distribution. Eighteen months ago Tigard was chosen to have its involvement in the program extended, and was partnered with Samarinda's neighboring city of Balikpapan to help both cities create an environmental education program for their elementary schools.

Last month the program was concluded with a conference in Indonesia attended by representatives from all the American and Indonesian cities involved. The results of the program were reviewed and discussed. The program has been of great benefit to all the cities involved. Aside from the actual information shared, the collaboration, the new perspectives learned, and the friendships forged, has had a profound impact on all those engaged. In these troubled times of terrorism, distrust and ideological conflict, the opportunity to improve the relations between our two great countries and peoples is of value beyond price. The Cities of Samarinda and Balikpapan have expressed their desire to continue the relationship with the City of Tigard, and we will look for ways for the partnership to continue.



Craig E. Dirksen, Mayor

Improve 99W



City Council Goal #2

There was substantial progress made in 2005 to meet the Council goal of "Improve 99W." An improvement at the McDonald Street/Highway 99W intersection, a study to develop a comprehensive corridor improvement and management plan for 99W, and a project to greatly improve the Hall Boulevard/Highway 99W intersection are key elements in that progress.

The McDonald Street/Highway 99W intersection project, completed in August 2005, added a dedicated right-turn lane on McDonald, a dedicated through lane across 99W to Gaarde Street, and an extended left-turn lane on McDonald Street. Sidewalks on both sides of McDonald Street were also installed. The improvements have eliminated the long queues leading up to the intersection by separating the movements and extending the lanes for each movement, and has enhanced safety for pedestrians. This project is but one step in the effort to improve intracity traffic circulation and reduce traffic congestion along Highway 99W.

The MSTIP 3-funded Hall Boulevard/Highway 99W intersection improvement project is in the design phase with construction expected to begin in early 2007. The design work and right-of-way acquisition for the intersection widening will be ongoing during the next 12 to 18 months. Because the intersection is a major portal into the Tigard downtown area, the City will be working closely with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Washington County to ensure that the project complements and supports the Downtown Improvement Plan elements.

City staff is working with ODOT to develop a detailed statement of work for the Highway 99W Corridor Improvement and Management Plan. The products expected from the study are a plan for management of the corridor, identification of land use change opportunities, and a package of projects that can be implemented over a period of years as funding sources are identified and designated for these projects. The actual work to develop the plan is expected to begin in April 2006 and should be completed within 8 to 10 months.

The alternatives analysis to determine an optimum solution for the Main Street/Greenburg Road/Highway 99W intersection is nearing completion. The study will take into account the findings of the Hall Blvd/Highway 99W project to ensure that the recommendations of the study support and enhance the improvements to be constructed at that intersection. The findings of the study will be reported to City Council early in 2006. The project recommendations resulting from the study will be incorporated into the project list to be developed through the Corridor Plan for future implementation.



It's Your Tigard - Get Involved!

Be a part of the decision making process and learn more about programs. Agendas are available at www.ci.tigard.or.us under the Events Calendar link. No web access? Contact the person noted under each board or committee.

City Council

Town Hall

6:30 p.m. - 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesdays

Let your voice be heard – 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. - an opportunity to speak to Council for two minutes on any item not on the agenda.

Cathy Wheatley, City Recorder, 503-718-2410.

Planning Commission

Town Hall

7 p.m. - 1st and 3rd Mondays

A nine member citizen committee that conducts public hearings on land use issues and development applications. Dick Bewersdorff, Planning Manager, 503-718-2432.

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

Tigard Water Bldg. Auditorium

7 p.m. - 2nd Monday

A seven member citizen board that advises the Council on park and recreation policies, facilities, programs and budgets. Daniel Plaza, Parks & Facilities Division Manager, 503-718-2590.

Library Board

Library Conference Room

7 p.m. - 2nd Thursday

A seven member citizen board that advises the Council regarding library policies, budget, facilities and other needs. Connie Martin, Senior Administrative Specialist, 503-718-2512.



Committee for Citizen Involvement

7 p.m. - 3rd Thursday in January

A newly expanded committee that reviews and evaluates public involvement and communication plans primarily for city land use and development programs. Duane Roberts, Planner, 503-718-2444.

Planned Development Review Committee

A citizen committee who reviews and recommends changes to the Planned Development sections of the Community Development code. Dick Bewersdorff, Planning Manager, 503-718-2432.

Tree Board

Library Conference Room

6:30 p.m. - 2nd Monday

The Tree Board's mission is to develop and administer a comprehensive program for the management, maintenance, removal, replacement and protection of trees on public property. Matt Stine, City Forester, 503-718-2589.

CPO 4B - C.F. Tigard Elementary

7 p.m. - 1st Thursday

CPO 4M - Metzger Park Hall

7 p.m. - 4th Wednesday

Membership is open to all residents and property owners within the CPO 4B or CPO 4M boundaries. Map and agendas are available at the Washington County Citizens Participation Organization link on the city's web site. Contact Patt Opdyke, 503-725-2117.

Tigard City Council meetings air

Live on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Replays every Sunday at 12 p.m., Monday at 7 a.m., Thursday at 2:30 a.m. and 11 p.m., Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 4 p.m. All programs air on Channel 28.

Library Comes Alive in '05!

When you think of libraries, you often think of words. Hundreds of thousands of them reside in the many volumes available at the library. But numbers were the news in 2005 at the Tigard Public Library.

Families returned to the library on Sundays. Belly-dancers entertained in the lobby for the Adult Reading Program. An enthusiastic volunteer corps assisted the staff in serving scores of new library users. Months of record-breaking use, statistic-shattering check-outs and popular programs for adults and children demonstrated that Tigard residents **love** their new library.

Want to learn more about your library? Pick up a copy of the 2005 Annual Report at the Library or check it out on-line at http://www.tigard-or.gov/library/about/docs/annual_report_2005.pdf.

Opportunities

Continue to look here for opportunities to get involved that may be of interest to you or call Liz Newton at 503-718-2412 or liz@tigard-or.gov.



Shelf



Life

News from the Tigard Library

Library events calendar

Jan. 1		Library Closed for New Year's Day
Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	10:30-11:15 a.m.	Storytime Adventures (ages 0-6) – Puett Rm
Jan. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	10:30-11:15 a.m.	Storytime Adventures (ages 0-6) – Puett Rm
Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25	10:30-11:15 a.m.	Storytime Adventures (ages 0-6) – Puett Rm
Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25	6-7:30 p.m.	Dogs & Tales (beginning readers - grade 5, reg. req.) - Puett Rm
Jan. 5	6:30-8 p.m.	Computer Class: Introduction to MS Word
Jan. 7	10:30 a.m.-Noon	Computer Class: Basic Computer Skills
Jan. 7	Noon-1:30 p.m.	Computer Class: Introduction to Windows OS
Jan. 10	7-8 p.m.	Komedy 4 Da Kids (all ages) – Comm. Rm
Jan. 12	6:30-8 p.m.	Computer Class: E-mail for Beginners
Jan. 14	10 a.m.-Noon	Open Computer Lab
Jan. 19	5:30-8 p.m.	Teen Movie Night (Grades 6-12 only) – Comm Rm
Jan. 19	6:30-8 p.m.	Computer Class: Surfing the Web for Fun
Jan. 21	10:30-Noon	Computer Class: Internet for Beginners
Jan. 25	7-9 p.m.	Book Discussion Group – Houghton Rm
Jan. 26	6:30-8 p.m.	Computer Class: Introduction to MS Word
Jan. 28	10 a.m.-Noon	Open Computer Lab

All library programs are free. For more information about programs, visit our web site at www.tigard-or.gov/library.

Some library programs require registration. To register, please call 503-684-6537

Book Discussion Group

Wednesday, January 25, 7 to 9 p.m.

The library's book discussion group meets the fourth Wednesday of each month in the Houghton Room of the library.

Everyone is welcome and no registration is required. This is an ongoing discussion group and books are selected by the group. In January, we will be reading Dan Brown's, *The Da Vinci Code* in preparation for a visit by author, Sharan Newman in February. She will be visiting the library to discuss her book, *The Real History Behind the Da Vinci Code*, which will be the book of the month for February. Sharan is a medieval historian and the author of the popular historical novels featuring Catherine LeVendeur, a female sleuth in medieval France. If you like to read and discuss books, consider joining the book discussion group!



TPL Teen Zine

Want to express yourself? Want to get published? Want a voice? Help start Tigard Public Library's new Teen Zine and make it what you want it to be! Zines are mini magazine-like publications that can include personal writings and ponderings, poems, stories, photos, artwork, music lyrics, reviews on movies, music and books, comic strips, political commentary, and news. To participate, contact Jessica Marie at 503-718-2654 or jessica@tigard-or.gov.

New Computer Lab Open at Tigard Public Library

Beginning in January, the Tigard Public Library's Technology Room will be open for patrons who need one-on-one tutoring or assistance with specific computer questions.



Trained volunteers can help you set up an email account, create a spreadsheet, download photographs, learn how to use a specific software program, or provide extra assistance. Registration is not required. For more information, please call the Reference Desk at 503-684-6537 ext. 2517 or visit the library's web page.

NEW Teen Library Council

Tigard Public Library is forming a new Teen Library Council (TLC). Young adults in 6th through 12th grades are invited to join TLC to plan fun activities such as art projects and displays, movie nights, festivals, and creative workshops for young adults at the library. This is a great way to make the library the kind of place you want it to be. The TLC will meet monthly and free snacks and drinks will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Jessica Marie at 503-718-2654 or jessica@tigard-or.gov.

NEW YA Book Club

Do you like to read for fun? Want to talk about books with other teens who like to read too? If you are interested in participating in a new young adult book club, contact Jessica Marie at 503-718-2654 or jessica@tigard-or.gov.



“Komedy 4 Da Kids” featuring Angel Ocasio

January 10, 7 to 8 p.m.

A very funny and high energy one-man variety act! This wonderfully interactive performance combines physical comedy, jokes, juggling, object balancing, and magic. Bilingual (Spanish & English) Program.



Teen Movie Night

January 19, 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Bring your friends to the library, and enjoy a movie and popcorn. For more information, visit the teen web page at www.tigard-or.gov/library/teens/ or call 503-684-6537. This program is for teens grades 6-12 only.

Dogs & Tales

Wednesdays! 6 to 7:30 p.m., Puett Room

For beginning readers through grade 5

Could your child use a helping paw with reading? Reading aloud to a dog creates a relaxed, non-judgmental environment that helps children develop their reading skills and builds confidence. Our visiting dog and owner teams are volunteers certified in pet-assisted therapy through the Bonnie L. Hays Small Animal Shelter.

Registration required - please call 503-684-6537 and ask for the Children’s Desk to sign up for a time slot!

Story Time Adventures

Mondays, Tuesdays & Wednesdays
in January 10:30-11:15 a.m.

Join us in the library for stupendous stories, songs and hands-on activities. Bring your imaginations and be ready to wiggle!

Computer Classes

Sign up for free computer classes at the library. Classes are geared for beginners; however, some classes have prerequisites. To register or to obtain further information, please call the Reference Desk at 503-684-6537 ext. 2517.

Registration is required for all computer classes except the Open Computer Lab.



Volunteers Take Time for Tigard

Make a Resolution to Volunteer at the Tigard Library in 2006

Special Needs Library Volunteer Facilitator: Provide the extra assistance needed by some volunteers to be successful. Patience, consistency and 2 hours a week are required.

Assistant to Library Volunteer Coordinator: Clerical and administrative skills needed to help keep the 225+ volunteer program running smoothly. Support volunteers and the library by assisting with copying, data entry, and word processing. Four hours per week is requested.

Ongoing Booksale Manager: The Friends of the Tigard Library are seeking a reliable person to restock the book sale in the lobby of the library. Lifting and bending are required. Two hours per week are needed.

Additionally, weekend volunteers are needed at the library for shelving and checking in of materials.

For more information, or for the time and day for the next library New Volunteer Orientation, contact Trish Stormont at 503-718-2516 or at trish@tigard-or.gov.



Tree Board Invites Applications

The City of Tigard Tree Board encourages local residents to apply for a new citizen representative board vacancy. The Tree Board has been involved in several successful projects including the Heritage Tree Program, tree plantings, and changes to the City of Tigard Development Code. It has been in operation since 2001. The Tree Board is seeking to fill this vacancy with an individual who has a passion for trees, project ideas, and energy to get things done.

The Tree Board meets from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on the second Monday of the month at the Tigard Library Conference Room. Individuals interested in being considered for the Tree Board position need to fill out a Citizen Committee Interest Application form and return it to City Hall by 5 p.m. on Tuesday February 28. CCI application forms are available on line at www.tigard-or.gov or at the City Hall lobby, 13125 SW Hall Blvd. For more information about this vacancy or Tree Board activities contact Matt Stine at 503-718-2589 or mstine@tigard-or.gov

If you would like to have a Citizen Committee Interest application form mailed to you or you would like additional information about City of Tigard volunteer opportunities, contact Bob Roth at 503-718-2402 or bob@tigard-or.gov.



Ballot Measure 37

On November 2, 2004, Oregon voters passed Ballot Measure 37. The measure provides that an owner of private real property is entitled to receive just compensation where a land use regulation is enacted after the owner or a family became the owner of the property, if the regulation restricts the use of the property and reduces its fair market value. In lieu of compensation, the measure also provides that the government responsible for the regulation may choose to remove, modify or not apply the regulation.

The City of Tigard has had two claims under BM37. One claim resulted in the regulations being waived. The other was denied by the City Council.

On October 14, 2005, the Marion County Circuit Court declared BM37 unconstitutional, citing five state and federal constitutional violations. The League of Oregon Cities advised cities to continue processing all claims as if the law is in effect because of appeals to the circuit court decision and questions about the future of this litigation. The appeal process will take 8 to 18 months.

The City of Tigard has received no additional claims. Any future claims will likely be clarified by making a claim decision or waiver effective only if the appeals court overturns the circuit court's decision.

Tigard Establishes a Heritage Tree Program

In November 2005 the Tigard City Council approved an ordinance creating a Heritage Tree Program. This program was proposed by the Tigard Tree Board as a method to identify and bring public awareness to very large, old trees growing within the City limits. This program will offer incentives to private landowners who voluntarily protect a heritage tree growing on their property. All nominations will be reviewed by the Tigard City Forester, the Tree Board, and ultimately the City Council. Each Heritage Tree will be marked with a plaque, and a map will be developed so that people can find where each unique tree is located. If you think that you may have a Heritage Tree growing on your property, or if you know of a tree somewhere else within the City limits that may be considered as a Heritage Tree please contact your City Forester, Matt Stine, at 503-718-2589 or mstine@tigard-or.gov.

“Conserve Water for Life” Calendars are Here!

The City of Tigard is pleased to present their 2006 Water Conservation Calendar, “Conserve Water for Life.” This calendar has been made from the winners of a coloring contest held last spring. The contest was open to all elementary students in the Tigard water service area as well as students from our sister city in Balikpapan, Indonesia. In addition to the student's pictures, the calendar is filled with water conservation tips, facts and fun activities.

Interested in a free calendar? Visit Tigard's Library, City Hall and Water Building or go to the Water Division's web pages on Tigard's web site at www.tigard-or.gov. For more information contact Corianne Hart, Water Conservation Program Coordinator, at 503-718-2599 or corianne@tigard-or.gov (Supplies are limited, so don't delay!).

Crews Grade a New Track for Metzger Elementary

Metzger Elementary has seen the best of Tigard, as a number of community groups and citizens pulled together to complete a walking track for students. Metzger School Principal, Karen Twain, and Physical Education Teacher, Robbie O'Brien, had a vision for their school that included a 100 meter chipped walking track. The track would be used to promote physical fitness and healthy eating habits for Metzger students. Thanks to a grant of \$5,000 from State Senator Ginny Burdick who won the grant money in a fitness challenge, Twain began the process for the project. Unfortunately the cost estimate for the track's construction were close to \$17,000. With this challenge, Twain and O'Brien began to reach out for assistance. Tigard's Public Works Volunteer Coordinator, Carla Staedter, was able to find an interested Eagle Scout, Cory Newton, to manage the project. Matt Stine, Tigard City Forester, was able to secure free chips to pave the new track, and public works crew members Rob Block, Kurt Bowers, Joe Conrad and Brian Wheatley graded the new track.

The chips were installed by Cory Newton's Boy Scout Troop and fellow LDS church members using equipment provided by City of Tigard Public Works. Wow! It's incredible how the kindness of people willing to come together allows projects, such as these, to get done. Today, the school has walking incentive programs and now boasts some of the area's healthiest walkers. To learn more about this project please contact Carla Staedter, Public Works Volunteer Coordinator, at 503-718-2788 or carla@tigard-or.gov.



City of Tigard
13125 SW Hall Blvd.
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POSTAL CUSTOMER

Consumer Alert!

Recently, Oregon Attorney General Hardy Myers announced that one of the world's largest money agents, "Western Union" entered into an agreement with Oregon and other states, in effort to reduce continued practice of fraud induced money transfers. These fraudulent actions have scammed thousands in Oregon alone, many of them seniors. Locally, Tigard Police have investigated several cases involving such scams.

Western Union will embark on a national consumer awareness campaign to help bring prominence to this very real problem. Aside from educating the public, consumer warnings will be placed on the forms that are used by customers to place wire transfers of money.

This newly created partnership comes at a time when consumers are being bombarded with fraudulent telemarketing schemes via the telephone, mail and internet.

The scams may entail a charitable request, magazine sales or other product purchases. Some internet scams arrive under the guise of being "your bank or other provider of financial or credit services." This typically involves a request for some personal information or a request to "verify" account numbers and "pins." Remember, banks and creditors do not ask for information about your account. They already HAVE it! Do not speak to callers that ask about you or your personal and financial matters. Do not respond to similar inquiries over the internet.

Charitable requests should be considered only if they arrive in your mail. Since all charitable organization operating within the State of Oregon are required to be registered, you can verify a charity with the Charitable Activities Section at 503-229-5725. This office operates under the Consumer Protection Division of the State of Oregon.

Recently, police learned information about an emerging scheme that involves a caller pretending to be a court official. The scam artist inquires to the person answering the phone why they did not appear for jury duty. With threat of criminal prosecution, the caller asks to verify personal information. Never feel the pressure to provide privileged information over the telephone unless you initiated the call.

More information is available from the Tigard Police Department. Visit their web site at www.tigard-or.gov or you can telephone 503-718-2561.



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