

City Bridges

This Issue

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News to keep you connected to Albany City government

River Rhythms: Celebrating 25 years

Jon Balcshweid remembers the summer night in 1984 when his band opened the Sunset Music Series in the new riverfront park in Downtown Albany. The park's grassy bowl shape was covered with all ages seated on blankets or in lawn chairs. Half the crowd was already fans of Dr. Jon's Medicine Show and Jazz Band.

"It was fun, a very festive mood," Balcshweid recalls. "We had nice weather. It was just very easy going."

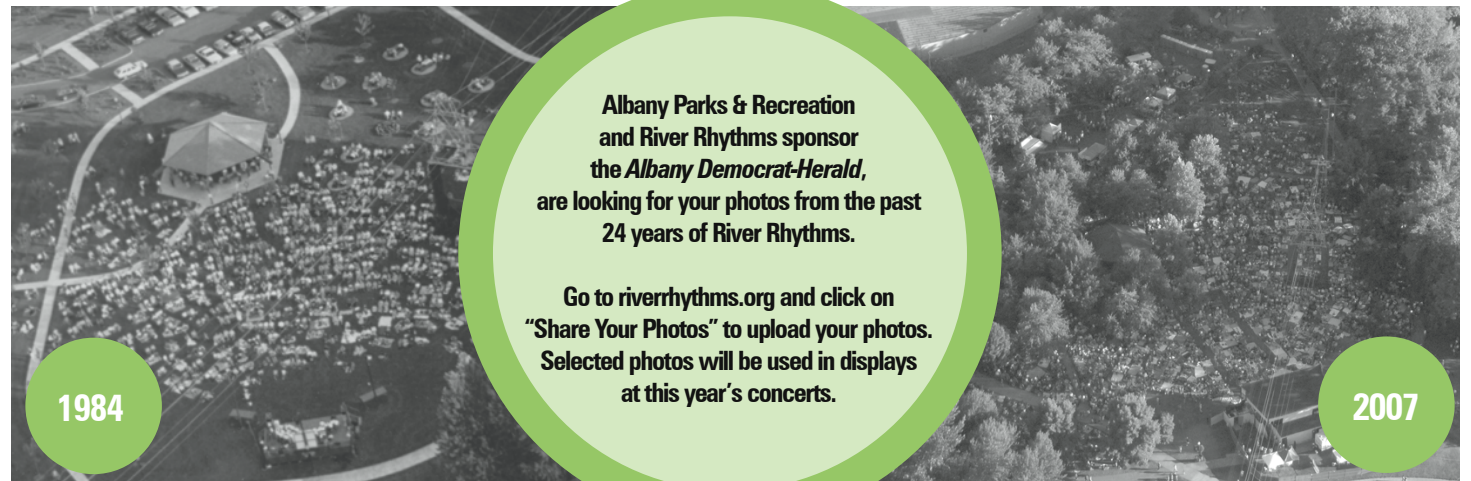
Until the park's sprinklers came on and the microphones went off - but so what? Twenty-five years later, the River Rhythms summer concert series draws tens of thousands of music lovers of all ages and tastes to Monteith Riverpark on Thursday nights in July and August. The 25th anniversary season begins July 3, 2008.

The beginning was humble. John Buchner, retired editor/publisher of the *Albany Democrat-Herald*, remembers the late Dave Clark, then director of Parks & Recreation, pitching the idea of concerts in the park.

Then-Mayor Don Brudvig remembers the work that went into turning a former landfill into a bucolic concert and picnic venue. "It was a huge project turning a hole in the ground into Monteith Riverpark," Brudvig said.

Lanny Rouse admits that he doesn't remember much about the very first concert, but "it really caught on and people enjoyed it."

"They didn't pass the hat in the beginning," Rouse recalls. "I'm disappointed with people not giving much" now that we do pass it.



Albany Parks & Recreation and River Rhythms sponsor the *Albany Democrat-Herald*, are looking for your photos from the past 24 years of River Rhythms.

Go to riverrhythms.org and click on "Share Your Photos" to upload your photos. Selected photos will be used in displays at this year's concerts.

The event was the Sunset Music Series for a couple of years. Dr. Jon's opened the 1985 season, followed by the Dave Eberlie Trio, Johnny B. Bon Bayou Dinner Band, The Om-Pah Band, Swipesey Cakewalk Ragtime, Jean Ronne Trio and Herb Brennan and Music Unlimited. Dr. Jon's is the only group in the original lineup still performing.

Early performers were associated with a musicians' union in Salem and paid through the union from a trust fund. Current performers come from all over the

world, are paid largely by money donated by local businesses and individuals, and represent a variety of musical styles and genres. Going through a professional booking agency, Parks staff works to present a mix of styles every year to expose concert-goers to different cultures, beats, and concert experiences.

Join us for the 25th anniversary season of Albany's signature event. The music begins at 7:00 p.m. Admission is still free, but donations are always encouraged and appreciated.

2008 LINEUP	July 3 Charlie Musselwhite BLUES	July 17 Craig Morgan COUNTRY—AT LINN COUNTY FAIR	August 7 Paul Thorn BLUES/ROCK
	July 10 Linda Tillery & The Cultural Heritage Choir FOLK	July 24 Big Bad Voodoo Daddy SWING	August 14 The Grass Roots POP
		July 31 Tower of Power R&B	

Changes to River Rhythms in 2008

River Rhythms concert goers will see some changes in event rules and improvements in services at Monteith Riverpark this year:

- Two entrances into the park will be well-defined.
- Drop-off and pickup locations for the trolley will be clearly marked.
- A display, under the gazebo, celebrating River Rhythms' 25 years
- Bicycle and skateboard valet service
- Smoking area located behind the Senior Center
- Pre-concert art in a more visible location
- New placement of sponsor information
- Hospitality for VIPs
- The "blanket run" will begin at 5:30 p.m. to accommodate day shift workers.

Save Money, Save Water

Albany offers a free irrigation audit to Albany water customers to help water customers learn how to practice water-efficient irrigation. A trained City staff member will examine your system and schedule and evaluate the amount of water used on your landscape. The audit results in a customized report and advice on how to reduce water use while maintaining a healthy and attractive landscape.

The irrigation audit takes 30 minutes to an hour. In addition to the inspection and report, participants will receive free literature with water conservation ideas and a free water conservation kit.

To sign up for an audit or for more information, contact Kim Kagelaris in the Albany Public Works Department at 541-791-0087 or by e-mail at kim.kagelaris@cityofalbany.net.

August 5 is National Night Out 2008

Neighborhoods throughout Albany are invited to join forces on Tuesday, August 5, 2008, with thousands of communities nationwide for the 25th annual National Night Out crime and drug prevention event.

National Night Out is designed to heighten awareness of crime and drug prevention; generate support for and participation in anticrime efforts; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

From 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. August 5, residents in neighborhoods throughout Albany are asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights, and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police. Many neighborhoods will host special events such as block parties, cookouts, flashlight walks, contests, youth activities, and anticrime rallies.

If you would like to organize a Neighborhood Watch group or support local crime prevention efforts, National Night Out is an excellent opportunity to get to know your neighbors, host a neighborhood celebration, and organize to reduce crime.

If you live within the Albany city limits and want more information on National Night Out, Neighborhood Watch, or to register your neighborhood event, contact Community Education Specialist Lynn Hinrichs at 541-917-3208. Registered neighborhoods are eligible for prizes and visits from the Police and Fire Departments. Please register before June 27, 2008.

National Night Out is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch and cosponsored locally by the Albany Police Department and Target. An estimated 35 million people from all 50 states are expected to participate this year.



City, Newspaper Host Community Picnics

Albany Parks & Recreation and the *Albany Democrat-Herald* will host picnics for the public in four parks this summer. City Councilors and Parks & Recreation Commissioners are invited to attend to encourage dialogue and to answer questions.

Parks & Recreation will conduct an interactive survey for neighborhood residents, followed by games with prizes. Displays of Parks & Recreation services and staff will be on hand to answer questions. There will also be activities for kids.

Those who attend are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and enjoy a barbeque and drinks provided by Pepsi.

PICNIC DATES AND LOCATIONS

All picnics are 6:30-8:00 p.m.

June 3	Doug Killin Friendship Park (53rd Avenue SW)
June 10	Lexington Park
June 17	Timber Linn Memorial Park
June 24	Gibson Hill Park

Mayor

Dan Bedore 812-1426

Ward I Councilors

Dick Olsen 926-7348

Floyd Collins 928-2961

Ward II Councilors

Sharon Konopa 926-6812

Ralph Reid, Jr. 928-7382

Ward III Councilors

Bessie Johnson 791-2494

Jeff Christman 926-0528

City Manager

Wes Hare 917-7505

City Hall Phone Numbers

General Information 917-7500

Ambulance Billing 917-7710

Building Inspection 917-7553

City Manager 917-7500

Downtown

Carnegie Library 917-7585

Economic Development 917-7639

Engineering 917-7676

Finance Office 917-7500

Fire Department 917-7700

Human Resources 917-7500

Main Library 917-7580

Mayor/Council 917-7503

Municipal Court 917-7740

Parks & Recreation 917-7777

Planning and Zoning 917-7550

Police Department 917-7680

Public Information Office 917-7507

Senior Center 917-7760

Transit 917-7667

Water and Sewer Billing 917-7547

Water/Sewer/Streets 917-7600

**Emergencies
(Fire, Police, Ambulance)
Dial 911**

City Bridges Info

City Bridges is published by an editorial team from the City of Albany. Questions and input about this newsletter can be directed to:

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Happy 30th Birthday, Albany Community Pool!



The Albany Community Pool has served Albany citizens for 30 years, but some people still think of it as the South Albany High School pool. ACP is located next to SAHS, and the facilities share a parking lot; but the pool belongs to everyone.

Did you know that almost 300 people a day use the 50-meter facility? That means nearly 86,000 people use the pool every year. And – the pool offers over 50 and adult exercise classes, lap swims, swimming lessons, recreation and family swims.

Pool water is 84 degrees and the hot tub is 102 degrees.

Pool features include two diving boards (one- and three-meters), a rope swing, basketball hoops, and a climbing “iceberg.”

You'll find a lot to do at Albany Community Pool:

- Exercise classes – Monday/Wednesday or Tuesdays/Thursdays, evenings.
- Over 50 exercise classes – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday mornings, 7:15 - 8:15 a.m. or 8:15 - 9:15 a.m.
- Lap swims – Monday – Friday, 5:30 - 8:00 a.m., noon - 1:00 p.m., 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.; Saturdays, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
- Recreation swims – Mondays, 6:30-8:00 p.m.; Wednesdays, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.; Saturdays, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Summer hours: Monday - Saturday, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
- Family Swims – Wednesday and Friday, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Youth under age 16 must be accompanied by an adult.
- Rentals – The pool is available for birthday parties or other events; rent half or all of the pool.
- Special events – Teen nights 2008 are May 16, June 20, July 18, and August 15, 8:00 - 10:00 p.m.; Special-themed family swims are scheduled Wednesday, July 16, and August 13.
- Youth swimming lessons – Tuesday and Thursday, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Summer lessons are Monday - Friday, 8:45 - 11:50 a.m. Evening sessions last four weeks, morning lessons two weeks.
- Parent-child lessons – For ages 6 months to 3 years. Introduce your baby or toddler to the water while you're with them.

Call the Albany Community Pool, 541-967-4521 for more information about specific sessions, rates and times.

Wah Chang Continues as Title Sponsor for Northwest Art & Air Festival

Local businesses and corporations contribute over \$300,000 annually to make the River Rhythms concert series and the Northwest Art & Air Festival possible. As the title sponsor for the festival and a major sponsor for River Rhythms, ATI Wah Chang has demonstrated a real investment in the Albany community.

Wah Chang broke ground for its metals manufacturing plant in 1956. Today, part of Allegheny Technologies Incorporated, the company is one of the world's pre-eminent providers of strong, versatile, and corrosion-resistant metals. The company's high quality hafnium, niobium, tantalum, titanium, vanadium, zirconium, and chemical products are making a difference in aerospace, chemical, and mineral processing, consumer goods, electronics, energy research and production, and medical applications. In addition to specialty metals, ATI Wah Chang offers technical services, including analytical, corrosion, and metallurgical laboratories.

ATI Wah Chang has supported River Rhythms for many years and became title sponsor of the Northwest Art & Air Festival in 2000. The company's support has helped to grow the Festival into an award-winning community event that draws visitors from throughout the Pacific Northwest and beyond. Besides financial

resources, Wah Chang's title sponsorship includes staff who play key roles in development of the event, working with event organizers to provide thoughtful input, product resources, facilities, marketing, constructive feedback, creativity, and leadership.

Jim Denham, public affairs coordinator for ATI Wah Chang, worked on start-up funding and the initial event concept.

Kirk Richardson, Marketing Manager, has been instrumental in the festival's growth and development over the last eight years, as a member of the Executive Committee and as a volunteer on-site. In 2003, the Oregon Festivals & Events Association named Richardson its Volunteer of the Year for his integrity and his diligence in pursuit of the success of the Festival.

Stephanie O'Conner, Marketing Specialist, has joined the Executive Committee for the 2008 event. O'Conner brings new energy and enthusiasm and is dedicated to making this year's event an overwhelming success.

The Wah Chang Northwest Art & Air Festival has received the “Best Festival or Event” award in 2001 and 2007 from the Oregon Festivals & Events Association. The award the event wouldn't be possible without the contributions from folks like ATI Wah Chang.

Four Ovations for Parks & Rec!

Albany Parks & Recreation received four “Ovation” awards for 2007 from the Oregon Festivals & Events Association at its annual conference in March – the most awards one community has ever won at the conference.

Albany was honored for Best Festival or Event; Most Innovative Marketing Piece; Sponsor of the Year; and Volunteer of the Year.

The 2007 Wah Chang Northwest



Kirk Richardson and Stephanie O'Conner of ATI Wah Chang

Art & Air Festival has a budget over \$150,000 and is one of Oregon's signature events: a celebration of creativity, flight, and entertainment. From the wine garden, airplanes, classic car show, food booths, hot air balloons, activities for children, music and art, the Festival provides three colorful and spectacular days in the Mid-Willamette Valley, and the event is free! The 2008 Festival will be August 22-24 and will feature The Little River Band on the main stage on Saturday night.

In 2007, Parks & Recreation launched a campaign to recreate and sustain the Children's Performing Art Series with branding, more Wow!, exciting marketing for sponsors and partners, reevaluating the series, and offering a new exciting experience for guests.

Kent and Cathy Wilson, owners of At Home Furniture & Mattresses, won the sponsor award. Great sponsors work alongside event organizers to provide thoughtful input, financial resources, product resources, facilities, marketing, constructive feedback, creativity, staff, and leadership for an event.

Evalyne Pace, 76, epitomizes what we all look for and strive to be as volunteers, combining leadership with a willingness to follow, hard work with a sense of joy, commitment, and initiative, untiring and willing to get

into the trenches and do whatever needs to be done,” according to Parks & Recreation staff. Evalyne prepares lesson plans and teaches English as a second language, clerks in Senior Center office, has worked with Family Tree Relief Nursery, served on the Salvation Army board, volunteered at a teen center once a week, is a SMART volunteer, tutors developmentally disabled adults, is an Optimist Club volunteer, and more. She is now taking a college course in political science and is very willing to debate the issues of the day.



Parks & Recreation Receives 2008 Target Grant for Children's Performing Arts Series and River Rhythms Concert Series

The Albany Parks & Recreation Department received a grant this year from Target for the 21st annual Children's Performing Arts Series and the 25th anniversary season of River Rhythms concerts.

The grant recognizes Parks & Recreation's efforts to offer a variety of recreational experiences to the community, according to Anj Brown, Parks

& Recreation Resource Development Coordinator.

The Children's Performing Art Series brought visiting performing artists to ten elementary schools and five public performances January through March 2008. River Rhythms takes place Thursday evenings beginning July 3 in Monteith Riverpark. This grant is part of ongoing efforts

by Target to strengthen families and communities throughout the country. Since opening its doors, Target has given five percent of its income to organizations that support education, the arts, and safe families and communities. Today, that translates to \$3 million every week.

"At Target, we are making a real differ-

ence every day through our grant-making program," said Laysha Ward, vice president of community relations. "We're proud to partner with Albany Parks & Recreation as part of our ongoing commitment to give back to the communities where our guests and team members live and work."

Get Out, Albany!

School will be out soon – how do parents keep children busy, yet allow them to enjoy the summer months? Albany Parks & Recreation has summer activity suggestions for kids of all ages and their parents and caregivers:

Discover geography

Take a walk around your neighborhood and look at what makes it unique. Point out how it is similar to other places you have been and how it is different. If you live near water, take your children there and talk about its uses. List the places you would like to visit with your child, find them on a map, and plan a trip there...real or pretend.

View and create collections

The Gilbert House children's museum in Salem or OMSI in Portland provide hands-on exhibits. Suggest that your children start a "collection" for their own museum – natural materials such as acorns and leaves or sea shells, for instance. Visit the Carousel studio in Downtown Albany to see art in progress.

Nature's best

- Learn about weather by looking up temperatures of world cities and discover how hot each gets in the summer.
- Watch clouds and describe what they resemble.
- Create a treasure map to find treats hidden in your yard.
- Read about the Oregon state bird and state flower; ride your bicycle to look for them.
- Older children may enjoy geocaching in Timber-Linn Memorial Park.
- Walk Eagle Trail in Tadena Landing Park or the Dave Clark riverfront path with your children.
- Ride the paddle boats on Waverly Lake.
- Bike one of Albany's paths or play disc golf at Timber-Linn Memorial Park.

Use community resources

- Albany fills summer with special events – the free River Rhythms and Mondays @ Monteith concerts and the Northwest Art & Air Festival. Pack a picnic and enjoy them with family, friends, and neighbors.
- Create crafts with your child at River Rhythms.
- Give them a free Young Eagles flight at the

Northwest Art & Air Festival or watch hot-air balloons light up the night sky.

- Fun in the Park programs provide free outdoor play, crafts, and group activities.
- Take an afternoon off to visit COOL! pool or spend a family evening at Albany Community Pool.

Rainy days

When it's too wet to be outside:

- Share family history and photos with your children. Pull out videotapes of past family gatherings and events.
- Make an indoor picnic with your child or cook dinner together.
- Visit the Library.

Camps

- Most 6-8 year olds are not ready for sleepover camp; day camp may be a good choice instead, especially when a good friend goes along. Talk to friends and other parents about summer day camp options.
- Consider your child's temperament. A shy child may need support from familiar faces to adjust well at camp, while a more outgoing child may be fine on his or her own.
- Consider your child's interests. Check out specialty camps for technology (Voyage into Science), the arts (Show Biz Kids), or the great outdoors (Safari Adventure). Choose a camp that provides a wide variety of activities.
- Include your child when you look into possible camps, and in deciding when and where to go. He or she will have a better attitude if her thoughts and feelings are considered.
- Whether you want structured activities with lots of community interaction or quiet afternoons in the park with your child, Albany has something to make this a summer to remember. So, get out, Albany! Give Parks & Recreation a call at 541-917-7765 and we'll help you explore the options.



Active Kids Are Healthy Kids

Did you know that your children's generation may have a shorter life span than your generation? Childhood obesity is why. Nearly 30 percent of American children are overweight, a number that has doubled in the past 25 years.

If your child is routinely physically active, however, the risk of obesity declines. Active kids also reduce the risk of developing heart disease and diabetes. A healthy active child builds and maintains healthy bones, muscles, and joints. Their mental health, self-concept, and performance in school can improve.

Regular physical activity is defined as a total of 60 minutes of moderate intensity activity throughout the day, most days of the week.

It's not difficult to get your child up and moving. When kids find an activity that's fun, they'll do it a lot, get better at it, feel accomplished, and want to do more.

Here's a variety of ideas for activities to keep your children active this summer:

- Take a tumbling, dance, or self-defense class.
- Join Sticks for Kids golf.
- Play a round of disc golf at Timber-Linn Memorial Park
- Take a tennis class.
- Enroll in Little Kickers soccer.
- Visit Tadena Wading Pool
- Attend one of the Community Picnics.
- Join the Parent/Child Hooping It Up class.
- Register as a family for Adventures in Bicycling.
- Take your dog for a walk.
- Fly a kite.
- Join your neighbors for National Night Out.
- Register for day camp.
- Make a game out of watching TV. During commercials jump rope, do jumping jacks, hop, or do stretches.
- Visit the skate park at Eleanor Hackleman Park.

It's all about being active and having fun. If you want more information about any of the activities listed above or want more suggestions to keep your kids active this summer, call Albany Parks and Recreation at 541-917-7777 or visit our Web site at www.cityofalbany.net/parks.

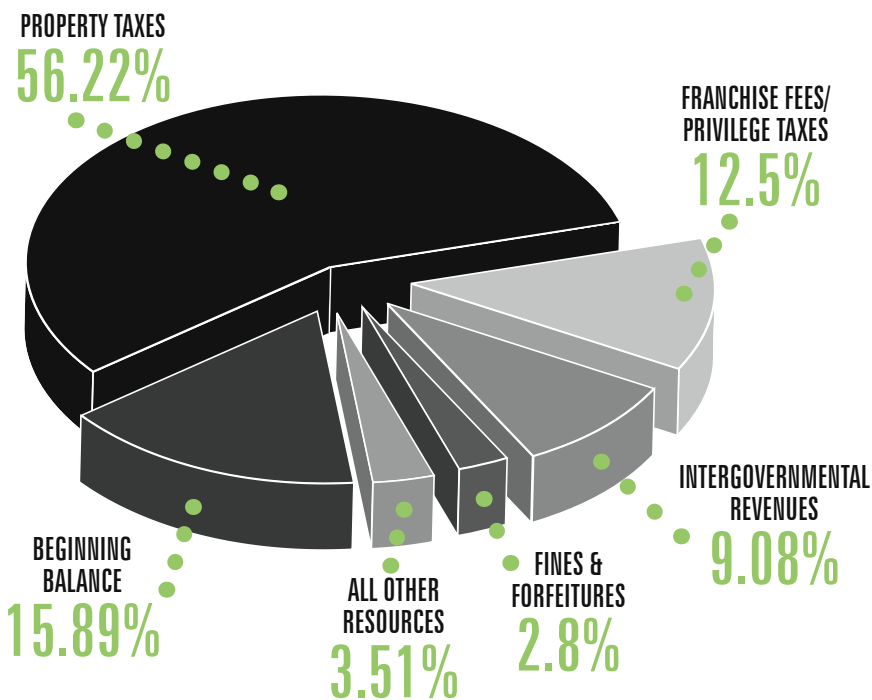


The portion of your property taxes that come to the City of Albany goes into the General Fund. The first chart below shows how much of the General Fund comes from taxes paid by Albany property owners and how much comes from other sources, such as fees that for-profit businesses such as power companies or telecommunications providers pay to use the public rights-of-way and fines from traffic citations. The second chart shows how the General Fund is spent – what percentage of the total is parceled out to which City services.

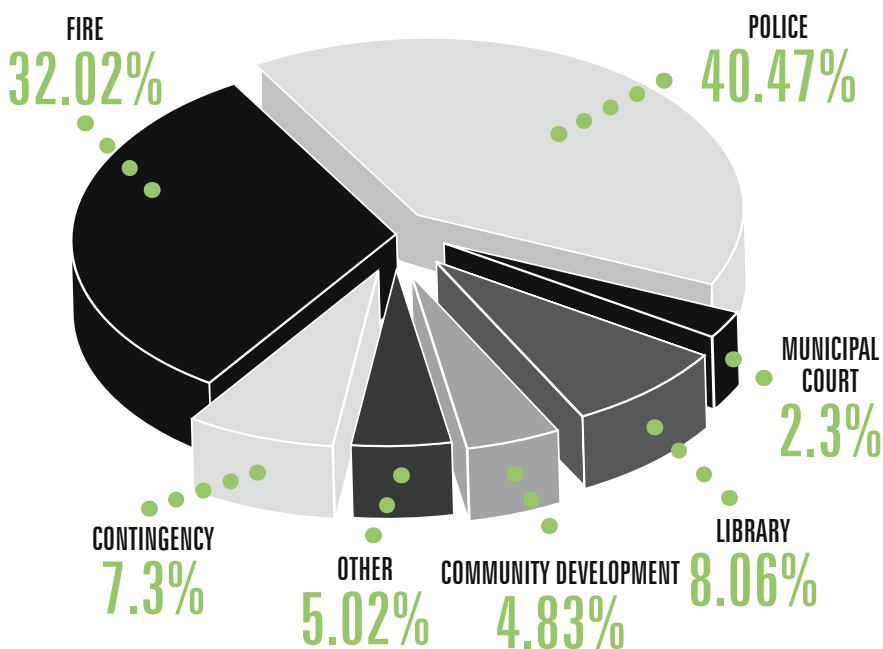
In the coming 2008-2009 fiscal year, the City's General Fund is \$30.4 million, or just under 17 percent of the \$179.3 total City budget.

If you have questions about any aspect of the budget, contact Finance Director Stewart Taylor at 541-917-7521 or stewart.taylor@cityofalbany.net.

2008-09 Proposed General Fund Resources



2008-09 Proposed General Fund Requirements



Financial Reporting Rated Excellent

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) has awarded the City of Albany the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the City's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for 22 consecutive years.

This is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting. The guidelines used by the impartial panel of judges include that the document have a "spirit of full disclosure."

In 1991, the City received the GFOA Distinguished Budget Award for the City's Budget document. The City has now received this award for 16 consecutive years. Judges for this award assess how well the Budget document serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device.

The CAFR and the Budget are produced by the City Finance Department. John Stahl, Assistant Finance Director, is primarily responsible for the production of the two documents. Stahl is assisted by Finance Director Stewart Taylor, City Clerk Betty Langwell, and Senior Accountant Mike Murzynsky.

The CAFR and Budget are downloadable from the City's Web site under City Government/ Finance tab.

The full documents are also available at both Libraries.

Longtime Finance Employees Reflect on City Careers

Dollars, cents, deductions, accruals, assessments, and fines are daily fare for the City of Albany Finance Department staff. Among them, the 18 Finance employees have 228 years of municipal government experience. Assistant Finance Director John Stahl, Payroll Supervisor Debra Chase, and Senior Court Clerk Mary Stankey share their stories here.

Stahl, who holds a business degree from the University of Washington, had been working as an accountant in private business near Tacoma when his wife accepted a job in the art department at Oregon State University in the fall of 1976. After applying for several jobs in the area, Stahl was hired as the City of Albany's accountant. He's worked here since January 1977.

"The challenges that pop up on a regular basis are stimulating (at least they were when I was younger)," Stahl said. "Over the years, I have been blessed with a dedicated, hard-working staff that has been and is committed to performing at a high level."

When Stahl started work here, the City had no computers. Payroll, accounts payable, and accounting were sent to Salem by courier every day to the Salem/Marion County Data Processing Center. Processed accounts came back by courier after a couple of days; then any changes went back the same route.

"Minicomputers were just becoming available," he recalls. "[Finance Director] Gary [Holliday] saw how much time we were wasting with the courier-based system. The City entered into a contract with a software firm to custom-write software for our accounting and accounts payable systems.

"At the same time, the City hired a programmer who designed and wrote payroll, special assessments, library cataloging, and utility billing systems. All of that ran on a Data General minicomputer with two 96 megabyte hard drives.

"The hard drives were the size of two washing machines; the computer and accompanying reel-to-reel tape system was the size of a refrigerator."

Accounting rules have also changed, Stahl said. "Ensuring that the City's annual financial report conforms with the current accounting pronouncements and rules is very important to the City's financial condition. As an example, interest rates on the money the City borrows (bonds and loans) is affected by the quality of the information in the annual report."

Chase had worked in retail sales and as a consultant for a personnel placement agency and had once dreamed she worked at Albany City Hall. She had a friend in the City's Parks & Recreation Department who told her the City had pretty good pay, good benefits, and was a good place to work; so she applied for a job as an ambulance clerk.

"An interview panel of four was waiting for me," she said. "I had never heard of such a thing and was scared spitless. It was 1980, I was in my twenties, and not accustomed to the professional ways of larger employers." She didn't get that job, but Holliday called her later to ask if she was interested in being a part-time receptionist in Finance.

"This time I got psyched up for this 'interview panel,'" she said. "They weren't going to catch me off guard again! So I walked into his office, and only Gary was there. I was almost disappointed (almost)."

Chase was hired on the spot and worked for ten days before she was asked to learn the payroll system to back up an accountant who was taking a leave of absence. She has worked in Payroll ever since.

"It's extremely challenging; you can't help but learn something new every day about the job, yourself, new skills, or life experiences," she said. "It's a privilege to work in a department where there has always been such great staff on board."

Albany had 247 City employees in 1980 and now has 495 on the payroll, Chase said. Each year brings more rules and regulations regarding benefits and paying employees. The appropriate criteria must be applied according to union contracts, City policies, Fair Labor Standards Act, and Wage & Hour laws.

"The greatest challenge of my career was heading the implementation of the Payroll module for the City's new financial software system," she said.

Now in her 50s, Chase said, "I'm not as black and white about issues as I once was (accountants tend to do this). Some of my rough edges have been smoothed off, and I've gained wisdom and learned that hard, dedicated work really does pay off. Yes, I have many blessings to count."

Stankey was working part-time for the City of Eugene when her husband went to work for the U.S. Forest Service in Sweet Home. They moved north, but Stankey kept her job in Eugene until she got tired of commuting.

"Eugene and Albany shared reports way back then; so I applied for Albany," she said. "It helped that I was already familiar with the reports."

Stankey's first day of work in Albany was December 26, 1973, making her currently the longest-serving City employee. Hired for a part-time position, she has worked full-time since Day One.

"Every phone call, except emergencies, came through an 80-line switchboard," she said. "That's where I spent my first day. I didn't know anyone except the person who hired me. I had to learn quickly, and I'm still learning, changing, and adapting as new computer programs, software updates, rules and policies, even new legislation become part of our daily life."

At first, Stankey said, most things were done on paper. "It was a big deal to have an electric typewriter," she said. "Now everything is on the computer."

As her job has grown, she has had to take on more responsibility and "do things really out of my comfort zone." The result? "I have become more confident, and I still enjoy what I do."

"I stay for the challenges and projects in progress, but mostly I stay for the people," Stankey said. "My coworkers are an exceptionally talented, hard-working group of people, and I enjoy spending my day with them."

Stahl, Chase, and Stankey agree in what they'd tell others who might consider a career at Albany City Hall – it's a great place to work.

New Development Brings Storm Water Concerns

People who own property next to an area that is being developed are often concerned about the effect of the new development on storm water on their property.

Across the country – and Albany is no exception – state and federal agencies are taking a close look at storm water management. Albany City staff is working on ways to address concerns about the quality and quantity of storm water in our community to reduce flooding and pollution.

Oregon drainage law prohibits one property from altering historic drainage patterns in a way that would damage an adjacent property. The City cannot enforce state drainage law, however, leaving neighbors to resolve the problems between themselves.

The City is working to better protect properties from drainage impacts caused by new development. City staff works with developers when engineering plans for subdivisions are being reviewed. A developer's engineer is required to provide the City with information about the existing drainage patterns in and around the proposed development. If the drainage of surrounding properties will be affected, the City requires the developer to address the impact.

Adjacent property can be impacted by either having a drainage way off the prop-

erty blocked or increased drainage from the developed property. A common solution is to install private drains between newly created lots and adjacent parcels. These drains collect increased storm water from the development and/or from adjacent property and direct the runoff to the public drainage system. In some instances, drainage swales are constructed to collect and direct water and improve water quality.

Sometimes, the City doesn't get enough information and neighboring property owners feel they have been unfairly affected by storm drainage and have little recourse. City staff tries hard to identify and deal with potential drainage problems before construction starts.

Property owners are encouraged to get involved as new developments are proposed. For general information about a development, contact the Community Development Department at 541-917-7550. For questions or concerns about drainage, call the Public Works Department's Engineering Division at 541-917-7676.

8th Annual AFFCAF Golf Tournament

The Albany Firefighters Community Assistance Fund (AFFCAF) is sponsoring its 8th annual golf tournament fundraiser at Spring Hill Country Club on Friday, July 25, 2008.

The morning tournament is a four-person team scramble. The \$425 team fee provides an afternoon of golf (18 holes), two golf carts, buffet luncheon, and the chance to win a number of prizes.

For more information on team registration or sponsorship opportunities, please visit the City of Albany Web site, www.cityofalbany.net, or contact the Albany Fire Department at 541-917-7700. Deadline for registration is Monday, July 7.

Proceeds from the tournament go to support assistance to victims of fires and traumatic events; bike helmets for local children; residential sprinkler systems in Habitat for Humanity homes; life safety vests for local water recreation use; and other community needs identified daily by Albany's firefighters.

Pump and Run 2008

The fifth annual Pump & Run competition is scheduled for Saturday, June 21, 2008, at the Albany Athletic Club.

Pump & Run is a combined bench press and 5K run competition. Participants receive a time deduction from their 5K run time for each repetition they can bench press. The event includes a 5K run- or walk-only division.

Entry forms are available at the Albany Athletic Club, Albany Fire Services on the second floor of City Hall, or at any of the four Albany fire stations. Information and an entry form are also available at <http://www.cityofalbany.net/fire/pumpandrun>.

For more information, contact Tammy Jordan at 541-917-7700, or by e-mail to tammy.jordan@cityofalbany.net.

Pump & Run is a fund-raiser for the Albany Fire Fighters Community Assistance Fund (AFFCAF).

Are You Still Prepared?

Summer is coming; you've made it through another winter. Did you need to use your home emergency kit or your family emergency plan? We hope not, but if you did, aren't you glad you had one? If you don't, visit <http://www.cityofalbany.net/fire/Disaster%20Preparedness.pdf> to get started.

Your home emergency kit needs to be updated now:

- Check the food supply for expiration dates.
- Check batteries; don't store them in flashlights.
- Check water for freshness.
- Make sure flashlights work.
- Check the weather radio.
- Check for blankets.
- Does your extra clothing still fit?
- What additional supplies might you need? Do you have extra for any new family members?

This is also a good time to review your family emergency plan. If you don't have one, visit the Web site listed above or call 541-917-7700.

If you used your plan this winter, how did it work? Do you need to make changes? If you didn't use the plan, now is a good time to get it out and begin talking about it with your family. Talk with your family about the plan at least once a year; make sure the information is kept up-to-date. Phone numbers, for example, can change. After you have updated your plan, talk to your family about each of their responsibilities if an emergency happened right now.

Hopefully, fuel prices won't stop you from taking a family vacation this summer. Even the simplest trip, though, takes a lot of planning – bring along good maps of the area and think where you might stay in case of an emergency.

Make sure you have an emergency travel kit in your car. The Web site has information or call 541-917-7700 to get started.

Spend a little time to prepare. It can help you get through difficult times at home or on the road.

Bike Safety Rodeo June 14 at Joe's

The 2008 Bicycle Safety Rodeo, sponsored by the Albany Police Department, Kiwanis Club of Albany, and Joe's, is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Saturday, June 14, 2008, in the Joe's parking lot, 2000 14th Avenue SE. Children may participate at any time during the event.

The purpose of the Bicycle Safety Rodeo is to increase bicycle safety through educating children about safety rules, bicycle skills, and helmet use. Activities include bicycle skills testing, bicycle safety inspections, and bicycle identification engraving.

Kids using in-line skates are welcome, and helmets are required for all participants. A drawing will be held at 1:30 p.m. for bicycles, helmets, and bicycle-related items. Rodeo participants must be present to win.

Law enforcement personnel, including bicycle officers, will be present from the Albany Police Department and other local agencies. For more information, please contact Lynn Hinrichs, Community Education Specialist, at the Albany Police Department, 541-917-3208.

Apply Now for Police Citizens' Academy

The Albany Police Department is accepting applications for the Fall Citizens' Academy to be held Tuesdays from 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m., September 2, 2008, through November 11, 2008. Two Saturday classes are also planned.

The Academy is offered free to Albany citizens of all backgrounds and occupations who are 18 years of age or older and who pass a criminal background check. The Citizens' Academy is designed to promote awareness and understanding of the Albany Police Department's role in the community, the criminal justice system, and to educate citizens about the Department's daily functions and operations.

Citizens will be selected to attend 39 hours of interactive classroom and hands-on instruction. Sessions will cover police officer selection, training, and duties;

investigation skills; tactical operations; use of force and defensive tactics; canine procedures; firearms use; narcotics investigations; crime scene processing; and crime prevention. Students will be actively involved in a variety of educational and interesting activities.

Academy applications are available at the Albany Police Department, 1117 Jackson Street SE, or by download from the Police page on the City Web site at <http://www.cityofalbany.net/police>. Space is limited. Applications must be returned to the Department no later than 5:00 p.m., August 18, 2008.

Three credit hours plus tuition costs are available through LBCC upon successful completion of the Academy. For further information, please contact the Albany Police Department at 541-917-7680.

2008 Summer Safety Camp

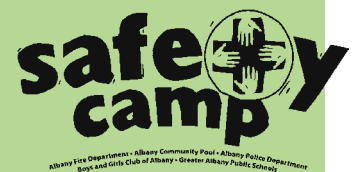
Albany Fire Department, Albany Police Department, Greater Albany Public Schools, Albany Community Pool, and Boys & Girls Club of Albany will sponsor two week-long Safety Camps this summer for children entering grades 4, 5, and 6 in the fall. Camp will be held June 23-26 and July 28-31, 2008, in the cafeteria at South Albany High School, 3705 Columbus St. SE. Hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Campers should enter from the parking lot near the tennis court at the south end of the school campus.

Cost is \$30 per camper, and scholarships are available. No one will be turned away due to inability to pay.

Topics for this year's camp include burn prevention; train safety; pedestrian safety; water, boat, and life jacket safety. Activities include daily swimming, lunch and snacks; a field trip; backpack; and t-shirts.

Campers must registration at the Boys & Girls Club, 1215 Hill Street SE.

For more information, contact Wanda Omdahl at 541-917-7734.



FireMed Membership

The Albany Fire Department and its ambulance service are important partners with the local medical community in providing you quality emergency care. Membership in the FireMed plan offers Albany residents protection from additional out-of-pocket expense for needed ambulance service while assisting the Department to maintain state-of-the-art service.

A \$50.00 FireMed membership provides emergency pre-hospital medical care and transportation for the immediate family regularly living in the household of the member.

For more information about or an application for FireMed, call 541-917-7710.

The Albany Fire Department also has information on applications for membership for air medical services.

Please send me a FREE FireMed membership information packet.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____



Mail to:

Albany Fire Department
P.O. Box 490
Albany, OR 97321

2008 Public Works Construction Projects

Each year, the City of Albany updates a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) of priority street, sewer, and water projects to build over the next five years. The program is prepared by City staff and reviewed by the Planning Commission, Budget Committee, and the City Council, with a public hearing for additional comment in April. The City Council considers the public input, makes changes as needed, then approves and adopts the CIP. The first year of the CIP is then included in the City budget.

Some projects are designed and constructed within the budget year, while others such as the Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion, may take several years to complete.

Here is a description of the projects planned this spring and summer:

North Albany Road Sidewalk –
Pedestrian improvements between North Albany Middle School and the existing sidewalk just north of Quarry Road on the east side of North Albany Road.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion – Construction
continues on the largest Public Works project in Albany's history. The expansion is required for compliance with a stipulated final order from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Completion is expected in 2009.

Calapooia Sewer Interceptor Replacement – This project is also required for compliance with the DEQ order. The proposed design is going through state and federal review. The City hopes to receive permits to construct the project this summer.

4th, 5th, & Chicago Water Line Replacement – Will replace approximately 1,790 feet of deteriorated water lines to reduce water loss and improve service.

9th, 10th, 15th, and Park Terrace Water Line Replacement – Will replace approximately 3,300 lineal feet of undersized and deteriorated water lines to reduce water loss and improve service.

12th and Madison Area Water Line Replacement – Will replace approximately 6,400 lineal feet of undersized and deteriorated water lines to reduce water loss and improve service.

34th Avenue Sewer Lift Station Replacement – Will replace a sewer lift station that has exceeded its service life and is under-sized.

Waverly Drive Rehabilitation – Pavement rehabilitation and reconstruction of the median island between Grand Prairie Road and 36th Avenue SE.

Overlays and Slurry Seals – The City of Albany has many streets that are in need of maintenance; each City budget includes money for overlays and slurry seals.

If you have any questions regarding these projects or the City's CIP process, please contact the Public Works Department's Engineering Division at 541-917-7676.

Albany Biosolids – Best in the Land

It is not often that you can say you are the best in the nation, but the City of Albany's biosolids program has laid claim to that title. In October 2007, the City was awarded the 2007 National Clean Water Act Recognition Award for Exemplary Biosolids Management in the small utility category by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Albany was chosen over many entrants from municipalities across the country. The EPA highlighted Albany's commitment to go beyond the minimum regulatory requirements in biosolids management as a key reason for receiving this honor.

Biosolids are a product of the City's wastewater treatment process, which we have in common with other cities. Albany's biosolids are provided to local farmers to fertilize non-food chain crops in compliance with state and federal regulations. Unique features of our biosolids management programs include documents and reviewed

procedures, outreach through our Biosolids Newsletter, and grower information reports.

The national award was one of three major accomplishments for Albany's biosolids program in 2007. In September, the City received the 2007 award for Excellence in Biosolids Management from the Northwest Biosolids Management Association (NBMA). This regional group selects one winner each year. The NBMA recognized Albany's commitment to continual improvement, flexibility and responsiveness, and cost-effectiveness in operating a biosolids management program that is both environmentally and economically sustainable.

The third achievement was designation of Albany's Environmental Management System (EMS) as a Platinum level program by the National Biosolids Partnership (NBP). Albany was the first agency in Oregon to have a certified EMS and reach Platinum level. Eighteen NBP EMS

programs have been certified nationwide, 15 reaching Platinum status. Albany is joined by the Tri-Cities Service District in Oregon City as the two certified agencies in Oregon.

The Biosolids EMS ensures the City treats and manages its biosolids at the highest level and these awards recognize those results. If you have questions or would like more information about this award-winning program, please contact Tom TenPas at 497-6224 or by email at tom.tenpas@cityofalbany.net.



Watershed Health and You

What is a watershed? The term "watershed" is rapidly becoming part of our everyday language as we work to better manage our natural resources. But what is a watershed, and why is it important to you? A watershed is generally defined as an area of land that drains water downslope to the lowest point. Albany is part of several watersheds. At a large scale, we live in the Mid-Willamette Watershed. At a smaller scale, residents who live in the southwestern portion of the city live in the Calapooia River Watershed. The remainder of the southern and eastern portions of the city can be divided into several other watersheds. And although Albany is not within the North Santiam River Watershed or the South Santiam River Watershed, residents obtain their drinking water from these sources.

Watersheds cross political boundaries such as city limits and county lines. A watershed includes not only water sources, but upland and lowland areas as well. Everything that happens in the watershed is important to the health of the watershed, including land use practices, transportation corridors, developments, and wildlife populations. The water in our streams and underground aquifers connects the upstream regions with downstream regions and tells the story of what is happening on the land. Watershed management is the process of studying watersheds to make on-the-ground improvements

in water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, and land use practices.

How can you help? Because everyone within a watershed has an impact and is connected, you can help to sustain or improve our watershed's health. Watershed Councils are groups of volunteers who have an interest in improving the health of a watershed. Councils give local people an opportunity to provide input in the management of natural resources. The City of Albany works closely with the Calapooia Watershed Council (www.calapooia.org), the South Santiam Watershed Council (www.sswc.org) and the North Santiam Watershed Council (www.nisantiamwatershed.org). Councils work on a variety of projects including restoration projects, fish passage improvements, water quality projects, and educational opportunities. A full list of Councils is available at http://www.oweb.state.or.us/groups/WSC_List.shtml.

While watersheds have been around us forever, the concept of watershed management is fairly new. Oregon leads the nation in developing and implementing watershed-based management plans. If you would like more information on watersheds, local watershed councils, their activities, or how you can become involved, contact Chris Bailey, Public Works Water Quality Control Supervisor, at 541-917-7629.

It IS Easy Being Green!

Summer is almost here, and we'll soon be spending more time outside. Lush yard spaces often come with a price – a significant increase in water bills as we try to keep everything green through the heat of the summer. Irrigation is often a requirement if you want a green lawn, but there are things you can do now to help your grass – and your checkbook – to survive the summer heat.

Train your lawn. Withhold water early in spring. Throughout winter, the water table rises and frequent rain keeps the root zones of most plants saturated. When the rain stops in the spring, it is tempting to start irrigating immediately. However, if you wait to water until the lawn needs it, plants are encouraged to grow deeper roots. A deeper root system helps the plants survive the summer with less frequent watering. So wait and help your plants become more drought-tolerant.

Establish a water-efficient irrigation schedule. You'll know it is time to water by using the trample test. Walk on your grass; if the grass does not spring back and your footprints remain, it's time to water. When that time comes, follow these general rules:

Water early in the morning or in the

evening when the air is calm to lose less water to evaporation.

One inch is all you need. Established turf and other plants can survive well on only one inch of water a week – with two exceptions: water-efficient plants may need less water, and in sustained heat (above 90 degrees F), plants may need up to an inch and a half of water. Over-watering encourages shallow roots, can leach fertilizers and nutrients out of the root zone, and can cause disease.

Deep but infrequent irrigation helps train the roots to grow more deeply while more frequent irrigation encourages shallow roots. A good schedule provides half an inch of water twice a week. During times of sustained heat, you may need to add a third day of watering or extend the regular schedule. Remember to return to deep but infrequent watering when the heat wave has passed.

Use sprinklers that release large drops close to the ground. Better yet, install drip or soaker hoses to maximize your irrigation efficiency.

Concrete doesn't grow! Avoid overspray onto sidewalks, driveways, or other hard surfaces. Any water that doesn't land on

your plants is a waste.

Avoid runoff. If your soils are clayey, water may run off before you finish watering. Clay soils absorb water quickly and swell, preventing further water from soaking in. Try the cycle-and-soak approach: water until runoff begins, turn off the system in that area and let it soak for 30 to 45 minutes, then water again until you meet your irrigation goal for the area.

Improve your soil. Aerate your lawn to reduce compaction and allow better infiltration of water and nutrients. You can leave aeration plugs where they fall to supply nutrients to your lawn or mow them to spread the wealth. If you have clayey soils, try filling the aeration holes with sandy loam to help break up the compacted soil.

Not too much fertilizer. Be mindful of the needs of your landscape and fertilizer application rates. Many lawns are overfertilized; and the extra runs off into the gutter, wasting money and polluting streams. Read the labels and follow the application rates to get the most bang for your buck.

The information on the following two pages was provided by the Willamette Criminal Justice Council (WCJC) and is included in *City Bridges* as a courtesy to City of Albany residents who reside in Benton County. The City of Albany is not responsible for the content within this special section. If you have questions regarding any of the stories in this section, please contact the WCJC using one of the methods to the right.

Willamette Criminal Justice Council
120 NW 4th Street, Room 404
Corvallis, OR 97339-3020
541-766-6647
<http://www.co.benton.or.us/da/wcjc>

The Willamette Criminal Justice Council

What is the WCJC?

The Willamette Criminal Justice Council (WCJC) coordinates criminal justice plans for Benton County. It provides the structure to ease communication among agencies and creates opportunities for more efficient service delivery. The WCJC continually reviews its priority strategies and defines new ones to meet evolving community needs. The WCJC was first brought together in 1993 to take a closer look at criminal justice planning. It was designed to promote and facilitate fair, efficient and coordinated criminal justice services in Benton County; provide long-range planning for delivering criminal justice services in the county; and to provide timely information about important criminal justice matters to government agencies and to the local public.

Why should we have a WCJC?

The WCJC is a unique forum where law enforcement, justice, city officials, interested parties, and citizen representatives come together to discuss local public safety issues. These types of councils also remain unique in their willingness and ability to take on significant projects that

improve public safety services.

What does the WCJC do for you? WCJC efforts have saved money, improved accuracy, and increased efficiency in the delivery of criminal justice services in Benton County and Oregon. Recent projects include promoting restorative justice through the Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII) Victim Impact Panel of Benton County; encouraging coordination and cooperation among law enforcement agencies; supporting the adult and juvenile Benton County Drug Treatment Court; enhancing relationships between OSU students, law enforcement and the community; and providing methamphetamine education presentations.

Who sits on the WCJC?

The WCJC was formed by a group of criminal justice providers, led by the Benton County District Attorney. It is a policy-oriented council

composed of concerned citizens, elected officials, criminal justice service providers, and providers of juvenile, health and social services. The WCJC was created by an inter-governmental agreement between Benton County, Adair, North Albany,

Corvallis, Monroe, Philomath, and Oregon State University.

Are there any other Criminal Justice Councils in Oregon?

When it was formed, the Willamette Criminal Justice

Council was unique in Oregon. In 1995, the WCJC served as the model when the Oregon Legislature created Local Public Safety Coordinating Councils (LPSCCs) in every county. Following passage of the LPSCC legislation in 1995, the Benton County Board of Commissioners designated the WCJC as Benton County's LPSCC.

As Benton County's LPSCC, is the WCJC required to do anything?

In addition to coordinating local criminal justice policies, LPSCCs are required to develop and recommend plans for using state funds for treatment of the local adult offender population (Community Corrections Plan), as well as those who are between ages 15 and 18 (Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan). The Plans must provide for coordination of community-wide services involving prevention, treatment, education, employment resources, and intervention strategies. The Plans also seek to maximize the effectiveness of limited community corrections funding through alternatives to incarceration. Cognitive programming, alcohol and drug treatment, Jobs Class for unemployed offenders, and work crews are examples of those alternatives.

Benton County continues to prioritize funding, jail space and rehabilitative programming for those offenders who pose the greatest risk to the community. The allocation of limited resources is based on how effective these programs are at changing offender behavior and reducing repeat offenses.

What is impressive is the breadth of the membership of the organization, their dedication to making our criminal justice system work better, and their willingness to take on tasks that, if they had been easy, would have already been accomplished. We are so fortunate that the vision of a few more than a decade ago continues today.

— JAY DIXON
WCJC MEMBER, BENTON
COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Juvenile Drug Treatment Court

The Juvenile DRUG (Determined Recovery Under Guidance) Treatment Court program has admitted 31 participants in its first three years. The program's staffing team consists of multiple members of the criminal justice community and is tailored to address the needs of juvenile substance abusing offenders and their families by providing individually tailored and comprehensive treatment plans. The participants report marijuana as their primary drug of choice although alcohol is secondary in many cases and methamphetamine is also used.

The JDTC is a four phase program that requires participants to have a specific amount of clean time while meeting certain treatment goals before advancing through the phases. The average participant is 16 years old and needs 17 months to complete the program.

"DRUG Court is a program that cares more about character development, life skills, and sobriety than anything else. Through a great amount of trial and error, the program has helped to make me a sober, responsible and wise individual. Thank you DRUG Court."

— MALE PARTICIPANT ENTERING PHASE 4

Family is actively involved as participants go through the intensive, court-managed, integrated treatment program that breaks the cycle of addiction and transitions youth back into the community. Nine youth have graduated from the program, eight have gained employment, five have earned their GEDs and two have graduated from high school.

A new addition to the program is the Independent Living Program, mandatory for graduation, and conducted at the Jackson Street Youth Shelter. The program includes topics for life skills such as money management and negotiating housing arrangements.

To promote progress in the program, incentives are given and pro-social activities are organized. In 2007, participants attended a Trail Blazers game and in 2008, participants visited the Oregon Coast and toured the aquarium. For many, it was the first time they visited the aquarium. These outings and incentives were funded through generous donations and grants from Good Samaritan Social Accountability funds, Zonta, and the Criminal Justice Commission.

DUII Victim Impact Panels Save Lives

The WCJC recognizes the value of incorporating the principles of restorative justice into the criminal justice system. In 2002, the WCJC designed and implemented Benton County's first DUII Victim Impact Panel.

DUII Victim Impact Panels give crime victims an opportunity to have their experiences heard by offenders in a safe, structured environment. Attendees receive a clear message of how driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol affects judgment and causes drivers to make poor choices which change the lives of those they come in contact with forever.

The program features presentations by a member of law enforcement, a Good Samaritan Hospital trauma unit nurse, victims of DUIIs, and a Benton County Circuit Court Judge. The victim speakers provide their presentations free of charge as a service to the community. Annually, seven Benton County Victim Impact Panels are held in the courthouse reaching more than 450 offenders.

This year, four new modular DVDs were created to help tell the stories of victims and DUII crash scene investigators.

In 2007, there were 513 DUII arrests in Benton County.



"It is very encouraging to see these people who have all suffered such loss to give even more of themselves. They are heroes."

"After listening to the speakers today, I would never do this offence again."

"The panel was convincing, passionate, and very thought provoking."

"I was surprised to learn the impact my decision had on so many others."

Victim Impact Panel Attendees Share...

Methamphetamine Awareness

In response to the tremendous impact methamphetamine addiction has on our community, the Willamette Criminal Justice Council launched a major effort to provide methamphetamine awareness education in Benton County this year.

Members of the WCJC provided presentations, often in panel format, which included information on meth-

amphetamine addiction, indications a methamphetamine lab is in operation, impacts of methamphetamine on public services, and steps to take if you suspect a problem.

A variety of local groups received the presentation including: the Albany Rotary, City of Corvallis and Benton County employees, the OSU Academy for Lifelong Learning, the Albany Hub

Club Rotary, and the Corvallis City Council. The presentations are also televised on Channel 21 and Channel 29.

If your business or organization could benefit from a Methamphetamine Awareness Presentation, provided at no charge, please contact WCJC Coordinator Michele Spaulding at 541-766-6647.

The Street Crimes Unit

The new Street Crimes Unit (SCU) Investigative Team is a collaborative effort of the Benton County Sheriff's Office and the Corvallis Police Department. The team was created after being recommended in the Willamette Criminal Justice Council's Strategic Plan. The unit combats methamphetamine related crimes in Benton County such as drug sales and possession, assault, theft, and vandalism. The SCU is staffed with detectives from both agencies and is supervised by the Corvallis Police Department Investigations Division.

This year, the SCU has been involved in a major drug trafficking investigation resulting in the arrest of a Corvallis resident for a large marijuana grow. Approximately 250 growing marijuana plants and five pounds of dried marijuana were seized. Several additional drug search warrants, arrests, robbery investigations, a homicide investigation, and vehicle theft investigations also took place this year.

The SCU uses crime analysis and intelligence information to identify patterns, modus operandi, and suspects.

The WCJC brings people together to explore and discuss issues of importance in the criminal justice area and works to implement best practices for Benton County to enhance the livability of our community.

- JOANNE TROW, WCJC MEMBER & FORMER WCJC CHAIR



In 2007, the Street Crimes Unit was involved in a major drug trafficking investigation resulting in the arrest of a Corvallis resident for a large marijuana grow.

The WCJC Stays Current

The WCJC has made a commitment to stay current with public and private programs and trends in the criminal justice arena. In the last year, the council heard presentations from:

Benton County Drug Treatment Court (DTC) & D.R.U.G. Court

Judges Connell & Williams

Focus: Updates on the adult and juvenile programs.

Street Crimes Unit

Captain Jon Sassaman,
911 Emergency Communications Director

Focus: Provide updates on the formation of the Street Crimes Team.

Multi-Agency Active Shooter Debrief

Lt. Phil Zerzan,
Oregon State Police

Focus: Describe outcomes of the multi-agency training exercise at Oregon State University.

DUII Sentencing Standards

Judge Connell

Focus: Define new DUII sentencing standards.

"Bus"

Deputy Jim Weikel

Focus: Update on "Bus" the patrol and narcotic certified dog.

ACIST – A Community Integrated Service Team

Jim Gouveia, Benton County
Mental Health Dept.

Focus: Inform the council on early intervention programs for children dealing with mental health issues.

Benton County's 2007-2009 Biennial Implementation Plan for Mental Health Services

Mitch Anderson & Marie Laper,
Benton County Mental Health

Focus: Present the 2007-2009 plan.

Law Enforcement Initiatives

Sheriff Jim Swinyard, Sheriff Diana
Simpson & Chief Gary Boldizar

Focus: Updates on the 8 initiatives.

Neighborhood Watch Program

Elizabeth Foster, Relator

Focus: Updates the council on the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Vision for the DA's Office

John Haroldson, Benton County
District Attorney

Focus: Share the goals of the DA's office.

2007-2009 Community Corrections Plan

Gail Newman, Director of
Community Corrections

Focus: The Community Corrections Plan.

WCJC meetings are open to the public. Meeting notifications are printed in the *Corvallis Gazette-Times* and the *Albany Democrat Herald*.