

FRIDAY MEMO

October 28, 2005

1. Remember, daylight savings time ends this Sunday morning at 2:00 A.M. Set your clock back an hour. I'll probably be up, so let me know if I have to give you a 2:00 wake up call.
2. Two items have been added to your November 1, 2005 Council agenda.
 - The first regards two issues arising out of a letter from former City Manager Dan Bartlett to Dena Swanson, who sold the Kellogg Lake property (the recommended transit center site) to the City in 1991. The two issues are: (1) the letter outlines a City commitment to name the property after her first husband's family name—Kronberg; (2) the letter also states that the City intends to use the property as a park. The City has not renamed the property. It has, however, considered it to be a park, as it included it in the agreement transferring operations and maintenance of City parks to the North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District in 1992. Although there is no restriction in the deed, the attorneys suggest that the language in the letter could operate to limit the City's use of the property. It is not a clear restriction on the use of the property, but it creates a "cloud" over its potential use as a transit center. The question on the Tuesday agenda is whether the Council wishes to direct staff to discuss this issue with Ms. Swanson with the goal of allowing other uses. Absent a final decision to locate a transit center on the property, its use as open space would most likely continue. How could this have happened? The deed was the only instrument that was recorded, and it contains no mention of any restrictions. Thus, the title review disclosed a simple conveyance of the property. Only after Ms. Swanson called to ask about the failure of the City to name the property did I find the letter that contained additional language. There is more information regarding this issue in the agenda package on the City's web site.
 - The second issue regards the tax statements and the addition of bonded debt for Clackamas Fire District No. 1. When the City proposed annexation to the District it made a commitment that the annexation would not result in a net increase in the tax rate. The inclusion of the bonded debt has the result of violating that commitment. This was a mistake for which I take responsibility. The tax statements are correct. I will briefly discuss this issue Tuesday evening, and the main point of my discussion will be that we will find a way to honor the commitment we made when we asked for voter approval. The intention was not to raise taxes, but the result did not work in that way. I apologize and will be working on developing a way to honor the commitment we originally made. [By the way, the District

does not receive one penny more from this action. Local governments typically levy bonded debt as an amount (principle plus interest due that year) and not as a rate. The Assessor then calculates the rate by dividing the total amount of assessed value by the amount certified. Thus, the result of this action was to reduce the total rate charged on each property, because the amount required was spread over a larger value.]

3. The Milwaukie Parks Board will hold a special meeting on November 29th at 6 pm at City Hall to review the intergovernmental agreement with the Parks District. The group will develop a list of issues that it will forward to Council as recommendations for discussions with the Parks District.
4. Two telecommunication companies have requested information from staff this week regarding telecommunication franchises in the City. Staff will update Council as these inquiries become formal.
5. I know that I say this week in and week out, but I do believe that we will close North Main next week. The documents have been through six or seven revisions, and the lawyers are down to picking out specific words.
6. There are three attachments:
 - November 2005 Library newsletter;
 - Oregonian article about County reaction to petitioners who are seeking to place the Clearwater decision on a March ballot; and
 - Information on Homewood Park event scheduled for October 29, 2005.

Ledding Library News

Volume 6, Issue 11

November 2005

String Connection Orchestra To Visit Ledding in December

Are you "all strung out" from holiday stress? Don't be a Scrooge!! Come to the Ledding Library for this delightful program.

Portland's String Connection Orchestra will perform at the Ledding Library on Saturday, December 3rd at 2:00PM. The "Orchestra" is an award-winning group of outstanding musicians of high school age from all over the Portland metropolitan area. To qualify for a position in the Orchestra, a musician must be a high achiever in music as well as in academics. Consisting of violins, violas, and celli, this group has won a host of awards. Under the able direction of Linda Vasey and Colleen Wheeler, the Orchestra has performed in Europe, Canada and at Disneyland. This ten-piece ensemble promises an afternoon of beautiful holiday and classical music. Be sure to bring your Santa Claus outfit and your mistletoe for this delightful program. This free program is sponsored by the Friends of the Ledding Library.

LIBRARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LEDDING LIBRARY BOOK CLUB

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND: 7:00 - 8:00

We'll discuss Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury.

TALK BACK TO BOOKS: A BOOK GROUP FOR YOUTH 10 & UP

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17 AT 4:00PM. Read Ella Enchanted, by Gail Carson Levine.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS:

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME- TUESDAYS: 1:00PM & 6:30PM / 3-5 YRS

TODDLER STORYTIME - WEDNESDAYS: 6:30PM / 2-3 YRS.

NO STORYTIME ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23.

FOR AGES 6-12

SATURDAY CRAFTS: NOVEMBER 5 & 12 AT 2:00PM

HOMESCHOOLING CRAFTS- WEDNESDAY NOV. 9 & 30 AT 1:30PM

LEDDING LIBRARY BOARD MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, November 28th at 6:30 at the Ledding Library

Young Teen Book Group Recruiting Readers

Every month young teens gather around a table in the children's library, eat snacks and talk about their favorite books. Meeting the third Thursday of every month, the book group chooses one book to read. At the following meeting, members give the book a rating on a scale of one to ten. Their ratings are then recorded in the "Rant and Rave" notebook on top of the young teen bookshelf. This is a good source of book recommendations, as it also includes reviews. If you are 10 years or older and enjoy reading, please join us on November 17 at 4:00pm for the next meeting. On that day, the book group will discuss Ella Enchanted, by Gail Carson Levine. Bring a friend and book suggestions for December.

2005 Toy Drive At Ledding Library

Nancy Wittig of the Ledding Library and staff members from other City departments have teamed together, providing a wonderful service during the holidays. For the sixth year in a row, Ledding Library will be hosting a Toy Drive to collect new toys for less fortunate children in the Milwaukie area. Last year, the community responded magnificently, donating more than 1,000 toys to local elementary schools and the Annie Ross House. If you are interested in donating to this cause, please drop off a new toy at the front desk of Ledding Library (10660 SE 21st Ave.) before Friday December 16th. Gifts should be appropriate for ages 12 and below. Especially popular gifts in previous years have been legos, board games, books, arts and crafts kits and beauty-related items. For more information, please contact Nancy Wittig at 503-786-7582.

Now Be Thankful

Ledding Library has a good collection of materials that can make a good Thanksgiving even better. Listed below are just a small number of these resources.

Thanksgiving by Diana Karter Appelbaum (394.2683 APP). *A thorough and entertaining chronicle of America's oldest and most beloved holiday – from its earliest roots to the present day.*

Thanksgiving Crafts and Cookbook by Nancy Hathaway (J745 HATHAWAY). This children's book highlights the first Thanksgiving; presents instructions for crafts such as Pilgrim and Indian eggs; and includes recipes such as Indian pudding, winter fruit salad and cornbread.

The Thanksgiving Book by Jerome Agel (394.2683 THA). *An illustrated treasury of lore, tales, poems, prayers and the best in holiday feasting.*

Parking Changes Coming

The long awaited North Main Village project is scheduled to begin at the end of October. The project, which calls for five separate buildings, will be built in the vacant lot to the west of the Ledding Library. When construction begins, the lot will be fenced off and not available for parking. Library patrons will continue to be able to park next to the curb right in front of the Library and in the Library's parking lot. Fourteen two-hour spaces have been made available in the parking lot across the street (west) of Milwaukie City Hall.

Quacks From The Stacks

- The Library will be closed on Thursday, November 11th in honor of Veterans' Day and on Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th for Thanksgiving. We will close at 5:30PM on Wednesday, November 23rd.
- The Ledding Library would like to thank two Milwaukie Farmer's Market vendors for their wonderful generosity: Everett and Terry Pearson of Three Brothers Nursery donated pansies which are now beautifying the Library's grounds. Ed Kreics of Sweet Leaf Organic Farm was kind enough to donate gourds and squash that have put our staff and patrons in the fall spirit.

Check Out Our New DVD's

The Ledding Library is getting more DVD's all the time. Library Aide 2 Sheila Reed has gone absolutely wild processing these for our patrons, so please check out as many as you can.

Dear Frankie. To spare the feelings of her fatherless boy, Lizzie secretly writes letters from his "father" recounting seafaring adventures around the world. Torn between exposing the truth and protecting her son, Lizzie hires a handsome stranger to play the role of a father.

A Very Long Engagement. Mathilde is waiting desperately for her fiancé to return from the war. When bad news arrives, she refuses to believe he is dead. Instead, she begins her own investigation into the matter.

The Wedding Date. Kat Ellis is determined to attend her younger sister's wedding with a date. Rather than face the ridicule of her family, she resorts to the yellow pages to find an escort.

Crash. A car accident brings together a group of strangers in Los Angeles. Crash takes a provocative, unflinching look at the complexities of racial tolerance in contemporary America.

Sahara. Three intrepid adventurers, including the legendary Dirk Pitt, set out to claim a massive treasure and foil the efforts of a cadre intent on world destruction.

Carmen Jones. Joe, a military policeman about to make officer, is infatuated with the flirtatious Carmen Jones. Their ill-fated romance comes to a grisly end by the conclusion of the drama, but not before their liaison has wreaked havoc with their lives and all who cross their paths.

Monday-Thursday 12:00-9:00
Friday-Saturday 12:00-5:30
Sunday 12:00-5:00

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Sewer consolidation dispute goes to court

Clearwater Project Clackamas County moves to keep voters from weighing in on the plan

Friday, October 28, 2005
STEVE MAYES

A dispute over Clackamas County's plan to consolidate sewer plants has moved into court, with the county taking legal action that would prevent voters from deciding the issue.

A lawsuit filed last week is the latest wrinkle in the county's long-running effort to close a wastewater plant in Milwaukie and expand the Oregon City plant to handle the entire flow. County commissioners approved the plan, known as the Clearwater Project, last month.

Consolidation opponents are collecting signatures and hope to put a measure on the March 13 ballot that would let voters served by the Milwaukie plant decide whether the project should go forward. The anti-Clearwater forces have until Nov. 4 to collect enough signatures to put the measure on the ballot.

Opponents said the ballot measure is the only tool they have to stop the project.

"There are no checks and balances" outside the referendum process, said Jim Knapp, one of the organizers.

If voters were to turn down the Clearwater plan, it would be the second major blow to the project and could end the county's consolidation plans. The Oak Lodge Sanitary District, which operates a plant between Milwaukie and Oregon City, pulled out

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The election and the legal challenge involve Clackamas County Service District 1, which oversees wastewater collection and treatment in the Milwaukie-Happy Valley area. The county commissioners serve as the district's board of directors.

The obscure service district, formed in 1968, has never held an election. In fact, the county elections office isn't sure how many valid signatures are needed to qualify for the ballot.

"I have two people working full time to create a voter list for Clackamas County Service District 1," said Joe Ballas, assistant elections manager.

The county said the Clearwater decision can't be referred to voters and went to court last week to get a legal opinion.

"We asked for an interpretation by court whether the petition process applies in this case," said County Administrator Jonathan Mantay. A hearing is scheduled for Nov. 10 to consider the matter, but attorneys for both sides say the hearing is likely to be postponed.

The county maintains that closing the plant and rerouting the flow is an administrative decision, no different from adopting a budget or awarding a construction contract.

Knapp and other petitioners disagree with that view and note that state law specifically allows for a referendum vote in special districts where county commissioners serve as the board.

Opponents to the Clearwater project say it is too expensive, is unneeded and would result in unnecessarily high sewer rates. And they say the county's cost estimates are flawed.

Operating one plant would be more efficient, less expensive and better for the environment in the long run, Commissioner Martha Schrader said. On the other hand, "people should question what their public officials do," she said.

Steve Mayes: 503-294-5916; stevemayes@news.oregonian.com

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MORE CLACKAMAS COUNTY NEWS

- [Sewer consolidation dispute goes to court](#)
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PRESS RELEASE

*From: Grady Wheeler, Information Coordinator, City of Milwaukie (503) 786-7503
Date: October 25, 2005*

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Celebrates Homewood Park

Please join the City of Milwaukie for a dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony at Homewood Park this Saturday October 29th at 10:30 a.m. Mayor James Bernard, Metro Councilor Brian Newman, and volunteers Sarah Smith and David Aschenbrenner will speak.

In 2000 the City of Milwaukie acquired four small lots in the Hector Campbell neighborhood. Using the expertise of Sarah Smith, of the Gardensmith, a Master Plan was designed for the park and approved by the Milwaukie's Planning Commission in 2002. In 2003 another local expert, Peter Drake, volunteered his time and completed a final design and Planning Commission approved that plan later that same year.

In 2004, using Local Share funds from Metro, the City installed a path in the park, leading walkers from Home Avenue to Garrett Drive through a lovely grove of native plants.

Homewood Park is in the Hector Campbell neighborhood and is located at SE Home Avenue between SE Monroe Street and SE Ada Lane. Look for the split rail fence on the west side of Home Ave. (The nearest home address is 10870 SE Home Ave. Milwaukie 97222).

What: Homewood Park Ribbon Cutting

Where: Homewood Park (10870 SE Home Ave.)

When: Oct. 29th, 10:30 a.m.


Contact Information:

Information Coordinator Grady Wheeler, (503) 786-7503 - or- cell (503) 849-3861

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City and Public Interest Meetings The Week of October 31ST - November 6th

<u>Date</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
<u>November 1st</u>	City Council Work Session	5:30 p.m.	City Hall Conference Room	Pat DuVal 503-786-7502
	City Council Regular Session	7:00 p.m.	City Hall Council Chambers	Pat DuVal 503-786-7502
<u>Thursday 3rd</u>	Lewelling NDA	7:00 p.m.	Lewelling Elementary 	Jeff Klein 503-653-8639