**SCAM ALERT**

Scams are a potential concern to everyone but especially to our more vulnerable residents such as seniors, widows and military families.

With tax season upon us, scammers claiming to be with the IRS call and demand money for back taxes, late fees or missed payments. The caller might tell the victim that if they do not pay, the police will arrest them. Fact: the IRS will never call and demand money over the phone. If you are suspicious about the authenticity of a call asking for payment, hang up and call the agency directly. For more information, visit the Internal Revenue Service webpage at www.irs.gov or call the Portland Office at 503-265-3501.

Other scams include calls or emails to military families. These scammers identify themselves as grandchildren or family members in need of cash because they have been arrested or injured in another country and need the money quickly to pay the bill.

**WATER PROJECT REACHES MIDWAY POINT**

The Lake Oswego-Tigard Water Partnership project has reached the halfway mark! The overall project remains on budget and on schedule to deliver high-quality drinking water by summer 2016.

Construction is well underway on every component of the new water system. Work in Lake Oswego is more than 60 percent complete, and the final segments are scheduled for completion in spring 2016. The new Waluga Reservoir 2 is more than halfway complete and the work along Highway 43 in Lake Oswego and West Linn is more than 40 percent complete, concluding in summer 2015.

**LAKE GROVE PARKING STUDY UNDERWAY**

The City received a grant from the Oregon Department of Transportation for the creation of a parking management plan for the Lake Grove Village Center. The parking plan is one of the key measures for implementing the Lake Grove Village Center Plan, which was adopted by the City Council in 2008 after many years of work by community stakeholders.

The City will be working with the community to study parking issues and identify strategies for managing parking in the Village Center, ensuring no net loss of parking resulting from the Boones Ferry Road Improvement Project and locating three potential locations for future public parking facilities.

In addition to input from businesses, property owners and neighborhoods, public input is critical for the project. The project team would love to hear from you about your experiences with parking in Lake Grove. Please visit Open City Hall - the City’s online forum - at www.pealodemocracy.com/2402 to share your comments and ideas.

Visit www.ci.oswego.or.us/citymanager/lake-grove-village-center-parking-management-plan for more information.

**SISTER CITY HOST FAMILIES NEEDED**

In March, the City will welcome Japanese middle-school students visiting from Lake Oswego’s sister city, Yoskikawa, Japan. Students will learn about local government and spend time with students at Lake Oswego Junior High while enjoying the community.

Azumano International is seeking families interested in hosting a student during their stay. The group will arrive on March 27 and depart on April 2. A per diem is available to each host family. If you are interested, please contact Nishi with Azumano International at 503-221-6132 or email at www.azumanointernational.com.

**COLORFUL NEW ART AT LAKERIDGE HS**

Check out the new art – colorful aluminum pylon panels – outside of the Lakeridge High School Performing Arts Building. This public art project was funded through the City’s Neighborhood Enhancement Program which provides grants for projects or programs that provide a community benefit. The grant for this project was awarded to the Palisades Neighborhood Association. The application period for 2015-2016 FY grants is expected to open in March. Photo by Jay Beri

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**BOARD & COMMISSION VACANCIES**

The City is seeking applicants for the following:

- Natural Resources Advisory Board
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Transportation Advisory Board

For more details, go to www.ci.oswego.or.us/boc/commissions-vacancies, or contact the City Manager’s Office at 503-635-0215. Applications can be filled out online.

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**TIME TO GET YOUR GLOVES ON!**

Midwinter through early spring is prime time to refurbish your landscape. Whether improving your backyard or natural areas around our community, there’s a lot going on. Here are some of the activities coming up:

Stormwater Challenge Workshops
March 14 (9 a.m. – 3 p.m.), and April 19, May 3 and May 16 (9 a.m. - 1 p.m.)
Explore ways to manage runoff on your property through simple landscape approaches that work on any site and with any soils, even the most challenging. Sponsored by West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, The Southwest Watershed Resource Center, and the City of Lake Oswego’s surface water program, this series of workshops will help you assess your site, design a solution, and then give you “hands on” experience installing the selected solutions. For more information, call 503-823-2862. To sign up for the workshops (capacity is limited), go to http://owm.org/stormwater.

Tryon Creek Watershed-Wide Event
On February 21 join the Tryon Creek Watershed Council on multiple restoration projects in the basin. Meet at the Lake Oswego United Church of Christ by 11:30 a.m. to sign up for a site and have a light lunch. Carpool to sites at noon, and work through 3:30 p.m. You’ll remove invasive plants and install new native plants in their place. Tools and gloves provided – bring the entire family (except the pets). For more information, go to the watershed council’s website, tcwc.tryonfriends.org/www, or email its volunteer coordinator at tcwc.volunteer@gmail.com.

Habitat Enhancement Fund projects
Using the City’s Habitat Enhancement Fund, the Oswego Lake Watershed Council will be scheduling work days for projects in the Hallinan, Uplands, and North Shore/ County Club neighborhoods. Projects will involve removal of invasives and planting of native plants. Dates haven’t been set as this goes to press (most will be this month or next), but check out the City calendar, or the watershed council’s website at www.oswegoegwashed.org/ for more information.

As they’re announced, additional events will be added to the City’s calendar, accessed from the City’s home page at www.ci.oswego.or.us or posted to the City’s Facebook page.

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**OPEN CITY HALL**

The City is seeking your comments and ideas.

You can submit your comments and ideas to Open City Hall. The City is seeking your comments and ideas on many issues: for example, look for feedback on the Lake Grove Village Center parking plan, budget, and parking management plan for the Lake Grove Village Center.

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Scott Lazenby
503-635-0215

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