

City of Central Point

NEWS FROM CITY HALL

Tree City USA - in Central Point

Central Point has the honor of calling itself a Tree City USA (TCUSA) for the third year in a row. This past year the City of Central Point was actively involved in ensuring that we continue to meet the TCUSA Standards.

The Tree City USA program is a national program that provides the framework for community forestry management for cities and towns across America. Communities

achieve Tree City USA status by meeting four core standards of sound urban forestry management: 1) maintaining a tree board or department, 2) having a community tree ordinance, 3) spending at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry and 4) celebrating Arbor Day.

In Central Point the Planning Commission oversees matters related to our urban forestry program. As part of the requirement, we must have tree ordinances and a tree review process in place. To meet the financial requirements Central Point spends \$2.00 per capita, which is \$35,000 a year on everything trees. In 2015 the money was spent for tree maintenance, tree planting, fertilization,

trimming, equipment and tree education programs.

The great part is that we were already spending funds to ensure our trees were

healthy and safe for residents before our Tree City USA designation. Students from Crater, employees of local business clubs in Central Point along side Central Point Parks & Public Works employees all assisted on volunteer projects this past year and we can count volunteer labor to meet the spending requirements. We couldn't have kept the TCUSA designation without dedicated workers and community volunteer contributions. The final standard Central Point met is an Arbor Day proclamation read by Mayor Hank Williams during a City Council meeting.

If you are wondering how you can be involved this year to help maintain our TCUSA designation, there are many opportunities. Call Central Point Parks and Recreation at 541-664-3321 ext 263 for more information on volunteer opportunities in 2016. Get out and plant a tree during Arbor Week (April 3rd -9th). Let us know about it so we can add you to our list of accomplishments. Your City workers will continue with their work on annual tree maintenance in the parks and along city streets. Everyone doing a little will keep our urban forest healthy and strong for generations.



“Plans to Protect Air and Water, Wilderness and Wildlife are in fact plans to protect man.”

- Stewart Udall



2015 Employee Awards

On January 27, 2016, the City held its Annual Employee Recognition and Awards Breakfast. During this ceremony, the city recognizes new employees; awards employees with five, ten, and twenty years of service with special pins; and there are usually a variety of departmental awards given out.

City Manager Chris Clayton awarded this year's **Growth and Achievement Award** to Mike Ono, Environmental Services/GIS Coordinator and Rachel Neuenschwander, Accounting Business Services Coordinator. The **Manager of the Year** was presented to Community Development Director Tom Humphrey. Our **2015 Teamwork Award** went to the Central Point Social Committee (CPSC). The Committee started in January 2015 with the purpose to bring our city employees together through different planned events throughout the year. Last year, the Social Committee put together quarterly birthday celebrations and nine citywide themed events. The Spaghetti Feed Fund raiser was done in June and all money collected from the event benefited the Special Olympics Torch Run the Police Department participates in each year. They showed excellent teamwork to provide the city's employees special events in addition to their normal work duties. Congratulations to this outstanding group who help keep the city's employees happy and connected with one another!

The **Community Member Appreciation Award** presented by the Police Department went to Roger Petery and 7-Eleven. We appreciate him and his crew for all they have done to help support the D.A.R.E. Program in Central Point schools.

AND Employee of the Year goes to... SRO Britton!

School Resource Officer Jeff Britton was chosen by his peers as **Employee of the Year** for the City of Central Point. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to our City.

SRO Britton has been employed with the City of Central Point since September 1989. SRO Britton has served the Central Point Police Department and our citizens in many different areas during his 26 years of service. During SRO Britton's time with the PD, he has been a member of the Jackson County Narcotics Enforcement Team, is a Law Enforcement Police Mountain Bike Instructor, a Public Information Officer, Range Instructor, Neighborhood Watch Coordinator and Field Training Officer, just to mention a few. SRO Britton remains very involved in the community and frequently provides Active Shooter Training to our schools and local businesses.

School Resource Officer Britton has spent approximately six years in our Central Point Schools and is certified by the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO). SRO Britton has been instrumental in establishing strong relationships with our schools, providing a safe learning environment and being a valuable resource for administrators and teachers. SRO Britton has established great relationships with the students and parents in the schools and can be relied on to lead by example and promote a positive image of law enforcement to our youth.



From left to right: Cyndi Weeks, Tammy Ball, Bev Adams, Elizabeth Riddle, Nikki Petersen, and Elizabeth Simas



Welcome New City Employees

If you have visited City Hall recently you may have noticed some personnel changes due to retirements and employees leaving City service. Please join us in welcoming our new employees.



Cameron Cunningham

On August 16, 2015 the Police Department welcomed **Cameron Cunningham** as its newest Community Service Officer. Cam studied Criminal Justice/Fire Science at Rogue Community College. He worked and volunteered at Ashland & Jacksonville Police and Fire Departments prior to coming to work for Central Point.



Heather Ashwill

The City hired **Heather Ashwill** on October 1, 2015. She is currently attending the Police Academy with Derek Brown. Heather volunteered as a reserve police officer before being hired by the city. Before coming to the Central Point Police Department she spent 10 years working for Bi-Mart in Ashland. Heather and her husband Michael enjoy running and they participate in races whenever possible.



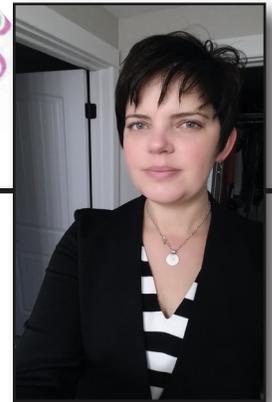
Derek Brown

Derek Brown was hired on September 1, 2015. Derek was born and raised in Central Point. After graduating high school he joined the Marine Corps and was deployed three times to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Derek served as an Infantry Squad Leader in the US Marine Corps. Derek is currently attending the Police Academy. He should be back soon, please welcome him back to Central Point when you see him on Patrol.



Elizabeth Simas

Elizabeth Simas joined the City on August 24, 2015 as the Human Resources Director. Prior to coming to Central Point, she was the Asst. Human Resources Director for the City of Medford. She has over 20 years of human resources & payroll experience in both the private and public sector; Elizabeth is an SOU alumna with a Master in Management degree and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree.



Cory Shaw

Our newest employee, Cory Shaw started on February 1, 2016 as the City's Recreation Coordinator – Special Events & Marketing. She has a Bachelor of Science in Business Management. Cory owned a business which included event planning for weddings and corporate events; she also served in the US Navy at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

Backflow Program Implemented

The City of Central Point has implemented the new residential backflow testing program and fee. Residential customers may have noticed this fee on their water bill recently. If you have an in ground sprinkler system or a well you are required to have a backflow prevention device installed and tested annually. These devices protect the entire water system because irrigation pipes can become contaminated with garden chemicals, micro-organisms and animal feces. To protect the population, landscape irrigation systems are required to have a backflow prevention device installed. State Administrative Rule (OAR 333.61.070) and City Ordinances (CPMC 13.20.060) stipulate that all of these devices, except Automatic Vacuum Breakers, are to be tested annually.



The City has contracted with Shawn Welch of *A-Team Backflow Service* to test all residential backflows. If you have an in-ground sprinkler system and your device has not had annual testing, you will be receiving a letter stating that a City employee will come by to locate the device, and get the make, model and serial number. If you know where it is and want to skip the visit by our staff, call or send us the information and we will be glad to put it in our system and make sure yours gets tested. If you don't have an in ground sprinkler system and are being charged the \$1 fee, let us know and we will confirm there is no need for the device and adjust your fee.

This program applies to residential backflow devices only. The testing fee per residential customer is \$12.00 with the cost spread over 12 months on your monthly water bill (\$1 per month for those with in-ground sprinkler systems and \$0.25 for those that do not). It is our desire to develop a comprehensive program for the elimination and prevention of cross connections. This program will provide a more convenient and economical way to achieve our goal to get all devices on an annual testing schedule.

***Notice:** Now that this program has been implemented please do not have another backflow tester come out to test your device. All local backflow testers have been notified of our program and know that they can now only test commercial backflows in Central Point. If you have any questions regarding your backflow device or this program please call us at 541-664-7602 Ext. 243 or 248.

PASSENGERS:

You can help prevent distracted driving

According to the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, which looks at distracted driving, passengers are one of the most frequently reported causes of distraction.

Instead of being a distraction, promote protection and prevention. Whether you're riding shotgun or in the back seat, you can do your part to keep a vehicle's driver focused on the road.

- Read maps and road signs.
- Answer a driver's cell phone, if necessary.
- As a front-seat passenger, control ventilation, temperature, and background music.
- Avoid arguments with the driver.

Central Point Facts

Founded in 1889

2015 Population: 17,485

Elevation: 1,282 feet

Average Annual Rainfall: 20 inches

Average Annual Snowfall: 2 inches

Average Temperature:

Summer = 80 to 90 degrees F

Winter = 30 to 40 degrees F

Dates to Remember

March

- 1 - Planning Commission (6 pm)
- 7 - Multicultural Committee (6:30 pm)
- 10 - Community Meeting Police Training Room (6 pm)
- 10 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 13 - Daylight Savings Time Begins
- 21 - Study Session (6 pm)
- 24 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 26 - EGGstravaganza Twin Creeks Park (10 am - 12 pm)

April

- 5 - Planning Commission (6 pm)
- 12 - Citizens Advisory Committee (6 pm)
- 14 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)
- 18 - Development Commission Budget Meeting (6 pm)
- 28 - City Council Meeting (7 pm)

Meetings are subject to change, please check our website for more information.

Growing Marijuana



A friendly reminder regarding growing marijuana in Central Point city limits. As many of you may know, the City of Central Point passed a municipal code banning outdoor marijuana grows back in July of 2015. Medical growers who had valid OMMP cards were allowed to grow outside for the remainder of the 2015 growing season. As of now, no marijuana grows are permitted to be outside whether they be for medical or recreational reasons. If you have any questions regarding marijuana grows or would like to report an outside grow in Central Point, please contact CSO Cunningham with the Central Point Police Department at 541-664-3321 ext. 251



City Directory

City Manager
541-423-1026

Building Permits
541-423-1973

Code Enforcement
541-423-1034

Community Development
541-423-1973

Library (Central Point Branch)
541-664-3228

Police (Non Emergency)
541-664-5578

Parks and Recreation
541-664-3321 ext. 130

Public Works
541-423-1028

Public Works After Hours
1-800-726-6476

Utility Billing
541-664-3321 ext. 204

Fire District No. 3
541-826-7100

**CALL 911
for Fire, Medical and
Police Emergencies**

City Hall hours are 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Monday – Friday. Feel free to drop in
with questions, pay a bill, or just say
“hello”.

Central Point Parks and Recreation Presents:

EASTER EGGSTRAVAGANZA

Saturday March 26, 2016

Twin Creeks Park, Central Point

10am – 12pm

Free Games and Activities!

Meet the Easter Bunny!

Food Available for Purchase



Egg Hunt 11am SHARP

Ages 3 & under W/Parents

Ages 3 & under W/O Parents

4-6 year olds

7-10 year olds

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help us make this a fantastic day! Sign UP Today!!!

Call: (541) 664-3321 x 130

Contact Your Council

email: info@centralpointoregon.gov



Mayor
Hank Williams
541-994-0066



Council President
Bruce Dingler
541-324-1842



Ward II
Michael Quilty
541-621-4853



Ward III
Brandon Thueson
503-930-7057



Ward IV
Allen Broderick
541-951-7253



At-Large
Tanea Browning
541-890-8377



At-Large
Rick Samuelson
541-664-1878

If you are not sure who your representative is call 541-423-1026