



May 2010

City of Orland, California

Working for a better Community

Orland Free Library At Your Service

Orland Free Library has seen a significant increase in the use of the library since December 2008. Those visiting the library increased by 56% between December 2008 and March 2010; from 1,816 to 2,840. The computer use increased 48% during the same time period from 889 to 1,321 library visitors. Items being checked out also increased from 4,016 to 5,755, up 43%.

Staffing reductions have not affected service. The number of employees has been reduced from five full time and one part-time employees to three full-time and three part-time employees. Thanks to volunteers at the library, operating hours have not had to be reduced.

Data also shows that 49% of Orland Free Library patrons live within Glenn County (7,982), while 48% live in the City of Orland (7,104) and 3% are nonresidents. Additionally, 53% of all materials checked out are County patrons and 47% are City of Orland customers. Computer usage data indicates that 58% are City of Orland patrons and 42% are from Glenn County.

Two extremely important events have allowed the library to continue to purchase new books, subscriptions and media materials. The Friends of the Orland Free Library is a huge asset to the Library. Its semi-annual book sale is the largest fundraiser. A recent book sale netted \$4,250 in sales, used to support the library. A new event, the Orland Golf Tournament also provided \$3,125.70 to support the library. Due to the dwindling revenue from sales and property tax, the City's General Fund is not able to provide as much support as it has in the past.

Although some of the library staff is paid for their service, it is always nice to hear a hearty thank you for providing the service they do.

Weed Abatement

Summer is just around the corner and the weeds are getting tall. When they dry out in the summer it poses a significant fire hazard. The City is contacting landowners to clean up lots. Weed abatement problems are handled by the City Code Enforcement. If a landowner does not work with the City to clear the fire hazard, the City will have the work done by a contractor, and then charge the landowner.

- Mow your lot early. If you wait until the grass has dried out, you run the risk of starting a fire while mowing.
- Be a good neighbor. Mow down your weeds. This protects you and your neighbor. If there is a fire, low grass spreads much slower and is easier to control than tall dry grass.
- If you are not able to do the work yourself, contact one of the local landscaping services. The City also has the name of contractors who can do the work.
- Protect yourself. Create a buffer around your property. During the fires two summers behind Stony Creek Drive, homes that had mowed the grass down behind their houses were much easier to protect, and freed up resources to attack the fire. Since that time, some have also installed sprinklers on their back fences. This is a great help when there is a fire.

If you have questions or a problem, contact City Hall.



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Message from the Community Services Department
EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

California is one of the most seismically active regions in the world. As such, we have long been a leader in our measures taken to prepare for such an event and ensure that all Californians remain safe whenever a quake rumbles through.

The quake in Chile is another reminder that disasters can happen without warning at any time and it is imperative that we take all the steps we can to keep ourselves, our families, and property safe. To help, there are countless resources available to all Californians providing tips on quake safety and preparedness.

Please take the time to review some of the resources listed below. By taking some simple steps, you will be ready the next time the earth starts shaking.

Be Prepared: Steps to Take

Make sure your building is safe:

- Check for damage to your building, including the foundation, roof and chimneys.
- Evacuate immediately if the building shows signs of partial or imminent collapse or is threatened by a fire.
- Check the building for fires, gas leaks, electrical shorts, broken water lines, spilled flammable or hazardous materials.
- If there is damage, turn off the utility at the source.
- Evacuate immediately if the building is threatened by a large fire or if you hear or smell escaping gas.
- Report gas leaks to your utility company.
- Stay aware of your surroundings. Do not enter damaged buildings or sleep in locations where large, heavy items could fall on you.
- Clean up overturned furniture, broken glass and other nonstructural hazards.
- Do not use candles for lighting. They can topple over easily during an aftershock, causing a fire or an explosion if there is a gas leak.
- Do not use a charcoal grill or generator inside your building or garage (due to the potential for carbon monoxide poisoning).
- Wear a dust mask or avoid prolonged exposure in areas where there is a substantial amount of dust.
- Check for hazards outside the building.
- Assume electrical wires that have fallen are live. Do not try to touch or move them.
- Avoid contact with any surfaces that are touching fallen electrical wire.

If you are forced to evacuate and must go to a shelter, you will need to take the following items:

- "Go kit" with basic supplies, including non-perishable food, snacks, water, first-aid supplies, prescription medications, a portable radio and consumable medical supplies.
- For each person, a change of clothing, jacket, sturdy shoes, personal hygiene supplies, wash cloth and towel, pillow, blankets or sleeping bag.
- Personal identification, credit cards, house keys, cell phone and charger, list of important phone numbers and important documents, including copies of insurance policies, birth certificates and other important documents.
- A few books, toys and games for children.
- Special food or support materials for infants and elders who require those items.



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RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Summer time is almost here! The Orland City Pool will be opened to the public starting June 14th 2010. Daily hours are Monday through Saturday from 1:00pm – 5:00pm as well as Tuesday and Thursday nights for Family Night 7:00pm – 9:00pm. The Orland Recreation Department is holding three different sessions of Public Swim Lessons for \$25 dollars per session. Private Swim Lessons are offered at \$45 per child for five 30 minute lessons. There is Adult Water Aerobics offered Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday nights from 6:00pm – 7:00pm and Lap Swim is offered at the same time. This year we are offering a Senior Citizen Lap Swim from 12:00pm – 12:50pm Monday through Thursday. Private Pool Rentals are available upon request. Prices for pool parties vary. For more information regarding the City Pool please call the Orland Recreation Department.

May 25th 2010 is opening day for Adult CO-ED softball teams and the following night May 26th is opening day for Men's Fast Pitch Softball. The first game of the night generally starts at 6:30pm with the last games starting at approximately 9:00pm. There is still room in each league if you and your friends would like to participate. Registration deadline is May 10th at 5:00pm.

Orland Recreation is holding a variety of camps this summer for the youth of Orland. Camps running this summer are Basketball, Football, Sports Camp I and II, Mini Camps I and II, Volleyball, and Tennis Camp. Registration deadline for all youth camps is one week prior to camp start date. Youth Soccer league will start June 12th and all games will be played Saturday mornings at Vinsonhaler Park. League entry fee per child is \$30 dollars which will get them 8 games of soccer and a tee shirt.

The Recreation Department is starting up a new program this summer that will target the age group of 2 and up. It will consist of tumbling games and working on the mats. Details regarding time, price and dates should be available in the next two weeks. Feel free to call the Recreation Department about any questions regarding the program.

The completion of Roosevelt Baseball Field is only weeks away. Public Works has finished installing the fencing and has completed the painting. The only remaining projects are to level out the ground surrounding home plate and install the pitching mound. Orland will then have a new regulation size baseball field. Roosevelt field will be the home of Orland JV Baseball and Orland Little League.

If anyone is interested in umpiring Men's Fast Pitch and are 18 years or older please call the Recreation Department. Games will be played Wednesday night and you will get paid by how many games you ump. We are also looking for coaching volunteers over the summer. For any high school students who need the Senior Community Service hours this is a great opportunity to give back to the youth of Orland and complete your hours.

Remember in order to secure a picnic area or ball fields you must call the Orland Recreation Department or City Hall to check the availability. To ensure your reservation you must pay a minimum fee of \$30 dollars and fill out the Park application. This applies to all City fields and parks.

Please stop by the Recreation Department 1002 Hambright Ave. at Lely Park regarding questions within the Recreation Department. We have copies of our Recreation Spring-Summer guide available at www.cityoforland.com or hard copies are available at the Orland Recreation Center. Our email is orlandrec@cityoforland.com and phone number is (530)865-1630.



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Grant Funds Available for Homeowners and Future Homeowners

Are you interested in buying your first home and need a little financial assistance? If you have found a single-family detached home, or manufactured home on a single family lot on a permanent foundation within the city limits of Orland, funds are available for up to \$90,000.00 per qualified applicant(s). This loan, a 3% deferred 30 year loan, acts as gap financing to make the first mortgage payments affordable.

Maybe you already own a home and it is time for a few repairs? Funds are available for the rehabilitation of owner occupied homes within the City limits. Some eligible improvements are – roofs and foundations, interior walls and ceilings, kitchen fixtures and equipment, energy conservation measures, handicap ramps or other items needed to assist a disabled household member, etc. Loans up to \$75,000 will be offered at 0% simple interest fixed rate for a term of 15 years. Loan repayments are based on income and may be deferred.

If you are interested in either of the above programs, please call Janet at 865-1610 for more information.

Message from Public Works

When you do your own pruning and removing of green waste from your property, please do not put any lawn clippings or brush in the streets or alleys. Any property owner that does so will be given a yellow tag asking that they immediately remove the green waste off the street. Due to budget constraints, the Spring green waste pick-up was not conducted. In the meantime, the City's green waste site at County Roads N and 21 is available. If the City has sufficient funds for a brush pick-up, it will be sometime in the Fall.

Pruning and removing green waste from your property will reduce the fuel load around your home and help protect it from any fire danger. For the other landowners who are not taking care of their property, the Public Works and Building Department have been sending out notices asking them to remove any dry weeds. If the weeds are not abated by June 1, the Public Works Department will have the work done by a contractor, and then bill the property owner.

Glenn Ride City of Orland Circular

The City of Orland is getting one bus route that will travel through the city. The Circulator will be accessible to those with disabilities and will connect with bus routes that go to Chico and Willows. An additional service known as the ADA Service will provide door-to-door service to those whose disabilities prevent them from using the Circulator service.

The first week will be free of charge within the City of Orland and begins May 17. The routes during the free period are preliminary and may change due to ridership. Additional changes to stops may be made as the service matures. Glenn County Transit is responsible for the new bus system.

The bus fares after the first week will be as follows:

City fare \$.75 for one-way trip. Discount fare *\$.50 for one-way trip.

The in-county and out-of-county fares on the existing service remain the same at \$1.25 and \$1.75 per one-way trip.

Transfers to the existing regional service—In-county \$.50 per trip Out-of-County \$1.00 per trip

Monthly Pass City \$30 Discount* \$25 In-County \$40 Out-of-County \$45

*Discount for Seniors 60 years and older; Student 6-18 years; and Disabled.

Orland City Hall will have maps when they become available from Glenn County Transit.



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Important Message From The Police Chief

VACATION TIME IS BURGLAR TIME Part 2 of 2

In last month's edition of the Orland Express we explored several steps and provided tips on protecting your home while you are away on vacation. The term vacation, as used here, includes a true one or two week vacation as well as being away for just the weekend. If you take steps to make your home less of a target you will go a long ways toward preventing a burglary.

With that in mind the Department would like to provide some additional tips to help you protect yourself.

Tip #6 Let a neighbor know where you are going and leave a contact number in case of problems. Some experts recommend leaving a key as well, if you are uncomfortable with that, leave a key with a close friend or local family member and give your neighbor that person's number. If you have hired a young caretaker, this person can be the same.

Tip #7 Make sure all doors and windows are locked before you leave. Walk around your home and physically check that all windows and doors are secure and locked. As obvious as this may sound, quite often in the rush to get out the door this can be overlooked.

Tip #8 If you have an alarm make sure the alarm system is armed. This is another one of those that should be obvious, and yet people forget it all the time. In fact, it might help to make a check-list of things to do before you walk out the door.

Tip #9 Notify the police if you are going to be gone longer than a week. The Orland Volunteers In Police Service (VIPS) will schedule extra drive bys to make sure your home is safe.

Tip #10 Get a good safe and store jewelry and expensive small items in it. A good safe is not cheap but it is very good insurance for your valuables. If you are gone frequently on business you might want to consider installing a floor safe in the bottom of your closet to put small valuable items. (Even if you don't travel, a safe is a good idea). Include in it the video tape of your possessions. A floor safe can easily be concealed by carpet and shoes. Safes tend to be more convenient than safe deposit boxes at banks for easy access when you are home.

Tip #11 Hire a house sitter. Next to making your home difficult to break in, your best burglary defense is to hire a house sitter.

The best defense is a good offense. You should literally case your home as if you were a burglar planning to break in. Walk around your home and analyze it critically.

Here are some questions you should be asking yourself as you "case your place." What is the weakest point of your home? What window, or door offers the most concealment for a burglar while offering easy access to the residence? Does the back door of your garage have a window in it? Do you lock the door that separates the garage from the rest of the house before you leave for vacation? Do your doors all have deadbolt locks? How about the windows, are there redundant locks on the windows? Are there bushes that conceal points of entry such as doors or windows? Plan a burglary of your own home then tighten up the weak points. And always...Protect yourself.



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Message from the Orland City Clerk

Local Election Around the Corner – Don't Forget to Register to Vote!

Our next local Consolidated Primary Election is scheduled for June 8, 2010. You must be a registered voter at least 15 days prior to Election Day in order to be eligible to vote in an election. If you have moved, changed your name or mailing address, you will need to re-register to vote. Voter registration forms are available at City Hall, Glenn County Elections office or online at the Secretary of State website.

City Council

The public is encouraged to attend our City Council meetings which are held on the first and third Monday of each month. The meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. and are held at the Carnegie Center, 912 Third Street.

A copy of the City Council agenda is always available Thursday afternoon prior to the scheduled City Council meeting. You may pick up a copy at City Hall or it's available online at www.cityoforland.com. The agenda is also posted on the message board outside City Hall.

Libraries Are Where It's At

When economic times are tough, use FREE RESOURCES at the Orland Library

Libraries are busier than ever during economic down times. It makes sense that when people are looking for ways to cut back on expenses they turn to a convenient, free resource in their community – the public library.

What you can find at your local library to help you weather an economic storm:

- Free entertainment – films, music, books, and ideas for frugal fun.
- Free subscriptions – read all the magazines and newspapers you want at no cost.
- Do-it-yourself manuals to save money on home and car maintenance and repairs.
- Financial advice – online databases, books and periodicals about investments, budgeting, paying for college, planning for retirement.
- Cookbooks – how to prepare delicious, low cost meals at home.
- Professional development – online databases and practice tests, books and periodicals about how to get a job, get a promotion, change careers, start a business, or return to school.
- Stress reduction – DVDs and books on how to relax, de-stress and take better care of your health.
- Extra cash – materials to help you hold a garage sale, assess the value of your antiques and collectibles, trade on ebay, and find treasures at flea markets.

New Books at the Library: *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel, Winner of the 2009 Man Booker Prize; *Stones into Schools: Promoting Peace with Books, not Bombs, in Afghanistan and Pakistan* by Greg Mortenson; *The Small Business Start-up Kit for California*; *The All-American Hot Rod: The Cars. The Legends. The Passion*; *The Lincolns: A Scrapbook Look at Abraham and Mary* by Candace Fleming.

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ORLAND TOWN OFFICIALS

Mayor: Wade Elliott

Vice Mayor: James E. Paschall

Council Members: Paul Barr, Bruce Roundy, Reggie Olney

City Clerk: Angela Crook

City Treasurer: Pamela Otterson

City Manager: Paul H. Poczobut Jr.