



COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

January 2011

COLUMBIA CITY
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THANK YOU FOR YEARS OF SERVICE

We wish to thank Bob Schmor and Gary Hudson for their years of dedication and the roles they have played in our city government. Both men brought unique personalities, education, and experience to the city council and have helped to maintain our city of beauty and livability. I am grateful for their contributions and their love for Columbia City and will miss them both very much, as will many others.

Robert (Bob) Schmor was appointed to the City Council on August 1, 1991 to fill a vacancy. He was then elected to a four-year term in November 1994 and re-elected November 1998, 2002, and 2006. Bob has served as President of the Council, Chair of the Sewer Committee, and many other committees including those dealing with personnel-related issues. Nineteen years of public service after retiring from the teaching profession and as Superintendent of the St. Helens School District is an admirable calling, a wonderful way to give back to the community he lives in, and a continuance of helping to shape the future for generations to come. Bob is credited with spearheading the relocation of a house on Chimes Crest to its present location next to the Community Hall where it now serves as our City Hall.

Gary Hudson was also appointed to fill a vacancy on the City Council on July 15, 1993, elected in November 1994 and re-elected in November 1998, 2002, and 2006. He has served as Chair of our Streets Committee and our Community Library; has contributed as a member of our Hazard Mitigation Committee, and has helped on various other committees and projects. Gary continually expanded his educational horizons and earned a Master's Degree during his tenure on the City Council and before he retired as a Division Chief for the St. Helens Rural Fire Department, now known as Columbia River Fire and Rescue. He is a substitute teacher in the St. Helens School District and teaches motorcycle safety classes. Gary is also an avid golfer and has participated in the Barbara Bullis Golf Tournament for many years. He also crafts golf clubs.

Both men have accomplished far more than I can list, but I want each of them to know what an honor it has been to serve with them. I have learned many things from them and together we have fought battles, researched ideas, made long-lasting decisions to help enrich Columbia City, and have grown together in a common cause and challenge. They will be dearly missed, but we offer them our sincere gratitude for jobs well done and wish them continued happiness in their future endeavors.

WELCOME TO COLUMBIA CITY SIGN PROJECT UPDATE

The "welcome" sign has finally been installed! We'd like to extend a special thank you to Councilor Fromm for building and painting the frame and coordinating the installation. We still plan to add lighting and install a flagpole.

Once again we'd like to thank the Oregon Department of Transportation for their many contributions to this project, which included but were not limited to, grading, site preparation, blackberry removal, glass removal, soil amendments, sprinkler system and installation, street sign relocation, and landscaping. We'd also like to thank the St. Helens Senior Center for donating the flagpole.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISCOUNT CARDS AVAILABLE AT CITY HALL

The United Way of Columbia County and the Community Assistance Program have provided the City with a supply of prescription drug discount cards to distribute to interested citizens. Both programs provide the bearer of the card with the lowest price available for medications. Anyone can use the cards and there is no income or age requirement.

Residents can stop by to request free prescription discount cards and a list of participating pharmacies. Since the cards can be used nationwide, residents are encouraged to share them with family and friends in other states to help ease their financial burden. Free prescription drug discount cards may be picked up at City Hall during regular business hours.

HOLIDAY TIME RECYCLING

Christmas trees, greeting cards and wrapped presents brighten homes and warm our hearts. After the holidays, however, sometimes these holiday items end up in our garbage cart. That means they will go to the landfill, even though they could have been recycled. When you consider the trees, cards, wrapping paper, envelopes and the stamps, that's a lot of trees cut down for our holiday enjoyment.

Why should I recycle my tree?

Recycling your tree "gives back" to the environment as trees are composted for garden mulch. Mulch provides a protective barrier for the roots of other plants while suppressing weeds and holding in moisture. As the mulch decomposes, it provides nutrients that plants need.

Tree Recycling Tips

- Recycle your tree and support Boy Scout Troop 106 in Columbia County. If you drop off your tree at Lawrence Oil in St. Helens or Fred Meyer parking lot in Scappoose, the troop will recycle it for \$5. For \$6.50 local scouts will pick up your tree and recycle it. To schedule pick up, call (503) 366-0726. Boxes will be placed after January 3rd, 2011.
- If you have yard debris service, you may recycle your tree by cutting it up and placing it inside your yard debris cart. It must fit entirely in your cart.
- Recycle your whole tree for \$19 at the Waste Management Transfer Station, or Waste Management will recycle your tree for free when you take in a load of self-haul trash.
- Beaver Bark in Scappoose will process your old tree into compost for a minimum charge of \$8.
- Before recycling or composting discarded trees, be sure to remove the tinsel, plastic and other non-recyclable ornaments.



Wrapping Paper, Gift Boxes and Greeting Card Recycling Tips

- Save used wrapping paper, gift boxes, bows and ribbons this Christmas and reuse it all next year.
- Recycle your non-shiny or non-glittering wrapping paper, the cardboard roll the paper is wound around, tissue paper, gift boxes and tags by placing these items in your co-mingle bin or roll cart.
- You can recycle your greeting cards by donating

them to St. Jude's Ranch for Children. The program accepts all types of greeting cards. Only the card front can be used, (please check to be sure the back side is clear of any writing etc.) they are not able to accept Hallmark, Disney or American Greeting cards. 5" x 7" size or smaller is preferred. Mail donations to: St. Jude's Ranch for Children, Recycled Card Program, 100 St. Jude's Street, Boulder City, NV 89005. Currently, they have found the least expensive way to mail large quantities of card donations is through the USPS in a Flat Rate Box which holds up to 70 pounds (available at the Post Office). The ranch provides counseling and opportunities for troubled youth. The kids operate a business taking used greeting cards, creating new ones and selling the results. The kids earn money, experience and a sense of purpose through this program. For more information visit their website: www.stjudesranch.org/help_card.php.

Whole Foods stores in the Portland Metro area are hosting post-holiday recycling events on January 8, 2011 from 10 am to 4 pm for hard-to-recycle items. Accepted items include: rigid plastics, electronics, Styrofoam and even clothing and household items.

The following locations are participating in the recycling events:

- Fremont: 3535 NE 15th Ave, Portland
- Pearl: 1210 NW Couch St, Portland
- Hollywood: 4301 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland
- Laurelhurst: 2825 E Burnside St, Portland
- Tanasbourne: 19440 NW Cornell Rd, Hillsboro
- Bridgeport: 7380 SW Bridgeport Rd, Tigard

For more info, visit www.wholefoods.com

Electronics can also be recycled for FREE at the Columbia County Transfer Station on Railroad Ave. in St. Helens. Hours are Monday - Saturday, 8 AM - 5 PM.

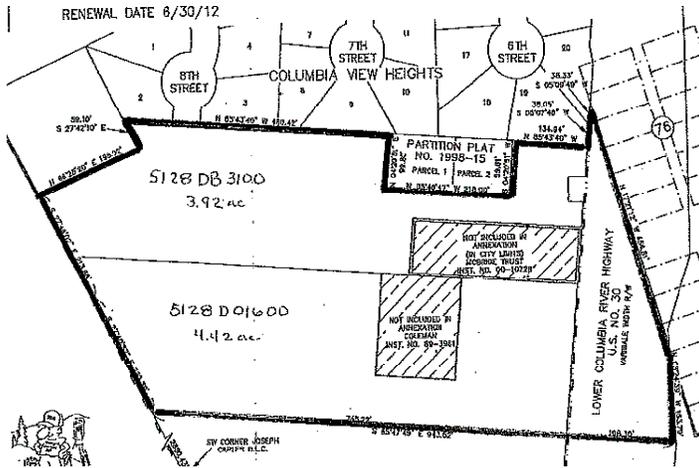
COLUMBIA HUMANE SOCIETY BINGO



The Columbia Humane Society (CHS) will be hosting Bingo at the Columbia City Community Hall, 7 to 9 pm on Saturday, January 22nd. Please join us for free cookies and coffee while having fun supporting our shelter. 100% of the proceeds benefit the homeless animals of Columbia County.

PLANNING COMMISSION NEWS

The Columbia City Planning Commission has scheduled a public hearing on Tuesday, January 11, 2011 at 7:00 p.m., to receive written and oral testimony on an application for annexation and re-zoning. The property owner is Mark Melchert. The property consists of 8.34 acres of vacant land described as tax lots 5128 DB 3100 and 5128 D0 1600, generally located to the south of Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Streets and to the west of Chimes Crest Road.



The Columbia City Council is scheduled to conduct a public hearing regarding this application on Thursday, January 20, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers. Following this hearing, the City Council may take action on the proposed annexation and re-zoning. That action may include approval as presented, approval with revisions based on testimony in the public hearings, remand to the Planning Commission or denial.

Interested persons are invited to attend the public hearings and present oral and written testimony. Copies of all documents related to the application are available for review at City Hall. If you would like to comment but cannot attend the hearings, submit comments in writing to City Hall by 4:00 p.m. on the date of the hearing. The staff report will be available for review at City Hall after January 4, 2011.

WATER CONSERVATION TIP

When running a bath,
plug the tub before turning the water on, then adjust
the temperature as the tub fills up.

CHIEF'S CORNER

2010 SHOP WITH A COP PROGRAM UPDATE -

We would like to express our extreme gratitude for all of the efforts that went into this year's "Shop with a Cop" program. This event was a huge success thanks to the donations from many citizens along with the corporate sponsorships of the St. Helens Walmart, ACE Hardware Stores, Toy and Joy Foundation, and Emmert Chevrolet. Please stop by these locations and pass on a word of thanks! Police officers from the Columbia City Police Department, the St. Helens Police Department, the U.S. Army Military Police Corps, along with Staff and Council from Columbia City, and our family members came together on December 18th to host the program. This year we were able to provide Christmas cheer to 21 children and their families. Once again a special word of thanks is in order to my wife, Jessica McGlothlin, for all of her tireless efforts in making this program what it has become to so many of our families here in Columbia City.

ANOTHER WORD OF THANKS... From all of us here at the Columbia City Police Department we would like to thank each of you for all that you have done over the past year. We have greatly enjoyed the many new relationships that we have forged over the past year and look forward to continuing to serve our community in the years to come. Please have a safe and happy Christmas Season and a very Happy New Year!

The Police Department would like to request your continued support in being our eyes and ears in the community. Please feel free to contact us with any information that you feel would help us in keeping our community safe. We can be reached via 911, (503) 397-4010 (Office), or (Non-emergency) Columbia 911 at (503) 397-1521.

Thanks, ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

**TEA ON FRIDAYS
AT THE CAPLES HOUSE MUSEUM**



Each Friday from 2 to 4 p.m. join the Caples House for a pot of tea and sweets. Come alone or bring a friend for a relaxing visit and a lovely setting. Cost is \$5 per person with proceeds going to the museum. Caples House Museum is located at 1925 First Street.

THANK YOU

We'd like to extend a very special "thank you" to:

- * Bernie Albertine, Jean Carulli, Gloria Chinell, Dolores Heinz, Barbara Jones and Phyllis Rowley for helping with the utility billing and newsletter in December.
- * Columbia River PUD for hanging lights on the Community Hall and the Caples House Museum buildings, and for hanging our holiday banners.
- * Ed Popham, Debbie Virts, Leslie Campbell, Tamara Kerr, Wally and Linda Thompson, Sally Ann Marson, Jean Carulli, Richard and Celeste Smith of All in the Family Landscape Maintenance, Melny Moore with NTSI, JoAnn Turvey and Nancy Murphy of Bank of the West, and Eric Collins with GSI for the wonderful holiday treats.

LIBRARY NEWS

Our whole community is doing so well at donating books that we have a full sale closet again! So our next book sale will be Saturday, February 19. Keep donating those books, and plan on being at the sale bright and early! More details later!

While we're on the subject of sale books, take a look at the new bookcase in front of our check-in desk. Custom built for us by Percy Smith, it greatly expands the space we have available to showcase sale books every day. Thank you Percy!

Remember to turn in your bookmark lists of books you've read for a free book coupon. You may also notice volunteers asking you what was your favorite book of those you've read when you turn several in – we may recommend that book to others, or order more from that author. Every time you give us feedback, it helps us choose books!



Book Reviews

Here are two books that reach into the past for the heart of their stories.

The Girl Who Stopped Swimming by Joshilyn Jackson. Do you crave a novel that will cause you to skip work or miss meals or put off sleep in order to keep reading it? In that case, you will definitely want to get hold of Joshilyn Jackson's latest. *The Girl Who Stopped Swimming* is lushly southern, and just darn

good story-telling. Laurel is one of the best characters to come out of a modern novel in a very long time. In fact, she's one of the best characters to come from anywhere in what seems forever! Joshilyn had me from the moment the drowned girl walked into Laurel's bedroom which, by the way, was in the first sentence!

(Homer Hickam, author of October Sky and The Far Reaches)

Heat of the Moon by Sandra Parshall. Sandra Parshall has come up with a honey of a yarn, a spooky, inverted fairy tale in which the princess (a plucky, endearing veterinarian) is held captive in her mother's castle, and nothing is as it seems."

(Barbara Rogan)

New at the Library

Check out a new tool that can help you check into energy savings at home. The library has a Kill A Watt Energy Monitor that can be borrowed, like a book.

The Kill A Watt monitors provide an easy way to measure the energy usage of household appliances and electronics. They can also reveal many surprising energy wasters, like a television that is turned "off" but still draws power. Or they can help identify older appliances that may be costing a bundle to keep around.

Monitors at the library are packaged with directions and tips, plus advice on how to apply the information learned to start saving energy. Using the results from the Kill A Watt, households can make adjustments that can reduce their overall energy use and lower monthly utility bills.

Staffed Hours:

Monday & Saturday, 10 AM to 2 PM

Wednesday, 4 PM to 8 PM

Thursday, 2 PM to 6 PM

Story Time:

11 AM every Monday

Friends of the Library Meeting:

Monday, 1/10/11 - 7 PM

Novel Quilters Meeting:

Wednesday, 1/19/11 - 6:30 PM

Mystery Book Group:

Wednesday, 1/26/11 - 7 PM

Columbia City Community Library

205 "I" Street, PO Box 189

Columbia City OR 97018

(503) 366-8020

cclibrary@opusnet.com

<http://www.freewebs.com/cccomlibrary/index.htm>

POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT November - December 2010

See below for the department's activity during the most recent reporting period. Please feel free to contact me, or any of your police officers, with feedback or further questions that you may have.

Stay safe, ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

Your police officers answered 451 calls for service during the past reporting period. These activities decreased from 456 calls for service during the previous month. Although many of these calls were self-initiated by officers of this department, we have summarized below both significant community policing and criminal investigations that we have conducted.

Community Policing Activity:

Residential security checks: 13
Area Patrols: 7
Foot Patrols: 23
Assist the Public: 19
Civil Situations: 2
Radio Calls: 360
Animal Complaints: 3
Traffic Complaints: 4
Nuisance/Code Enforcement Complaints: 2
Parking Violations: 2
Assistance Outside Agencies: 2
Disabled Vehicles: 2

Criminal Activity:

Harassment Investigations: 1
Domestic Disturbances: 3
Warrant Arrests: 1
Criminal Mischief Investigations: 1
Investigative Follow Up's: 5
Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles and Prowler Calls: 9
Traffic Stops: 51
Civil Situations: 2
Juvenile Investigations: 3

Calls of Interest:

1. Juvenile investigation in the 2000 block of Second Street on 11/05/2010 – Investigation complete and forwarded to the Juvenile Department for review/prosecution.
2. Disturbance call in the 2400 block of Fifth Street on 11/05/2010 – Persons involved checked out OK/No criminal charges filed.
3. Suspicious person in the area of Sixth Street and "G" Street on 11/06/2010 – Person(s) involved checked out OK.

4. Suspicious person in the area of Hwy 30 near "L" Street on 11/12/2010 – Person checked out OK.
5. Suspicious vehicle in the 300 block of "A" Street on 11/13/2010 – Person checked out OK.
6. Suspicious person in the area of Pixie Park on 11/14/2010 – Person checked out OK.
7. Suspicious person in the area of Jim Bundy Park on 11/17/2010 – Person checked out OK.
8. Suspicious person in the area of "I" Street near 2nd Place on 11/19/2010 – Person checked out OK.
9. Suspicious vehicle in the area of Hwy 30 near Pacific Street on 11/20/2010 – Vehicle and driver involved checked out OK.
10. Warrant arrest in the 400 block of "E" Street on 11/20/2010 – Warrant served with physical arrest and case forwarded to the DA's Office for prosecution.
11. Harassment investigation in the 2200 block of The Strand on 11/22/2010 – Subject identified, investigation completed, and case forwarded to DA's Office for prosecution.
12. Juvenile investigation in the area of Harvard Park on 11/22/2010 – Investigation completed with no criminal charges filed.
13. Criminal Mischief investigation in the area of Harvard Park on 11/24/2010 – Investigation completed with complaint unfounded.
14. Suspicious circumstances in the 1700 block of Sixth Street on 11/28/2010 – Person(s) involved checked out OK.
15. Suspicious person in the area of Hwy 30 near "A" Street on 11/28/2010 – Person checked out OK.

PERMIT / BUSINESS LICENSE REMINDER

Planning to hire a contractor to help you with a repair or project around the house? If so, please make sure the contractor has a current 2011 business license to do work within the City of Columbia City. Most City business licenses expire December 31st of each year.



Also, whether you're hiring a contractor or planning to do the work yourself, please remember that many types of projects require a permit. For building, plumbing and mechanical permit information, call City Hall at (503) 397-4010. For electrical permit information, contact Columbia County Land Development Services at (503) 397-1501. Construction work is limited to the hours of 7:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m., although a resident may perform construction activities around their home until 8:00 p.m.

WATER STORAGE & SAFETY IN AN EMERGENCY

You will need more water than you might think in an emergency. Store a minimum of three days worth of water per person: one gallon per person per day (and the same amount for each pet). **If you are running low on water in an emergency, do not ration. Drink what you need today, try to find more for tomorrow. Fill up the tub if you have time, but do not use for drinking.**

Other Indoor Emergency Water Sources:

- Toilet tank (not the bowl). Do not use if you have added chemical treatments to the tank
- Ice cubes – melt and use
- Liquids from canned goods such as fruit and vegetable juices

Unsafe Water Sources: radiators, waterbeds and swimming pools

Proper Water Storage:

- Store bottled drinking water out of direct sunlight, away from chemicals which might permeate the container and in an area not likely to freeze.
- If bottling tap water, buy empty containers or use well-washed plastic soda bottles (do not use empty bleach, detergent or milk containers!). Every six months, empty tap water from containers, wash containers and refill.
- Pouring water back and forth between two containers will add oxygen and make the water taste better.

Treating Water: If you are uncertain about the purity of any water source, treat it before you use it for drinking, food preparation or hygiene. In addition to having a bad odor and taste, water from questionable sources may be contaminated by a variety of microorganisms that can cause dysentery, cholera, typhoid and hepatitis.

To Treat Water, Follow These Steps:

1. Filter the water using a piece of cloth or coffee filter to remove solid particles.
2. Bring to a rolling boil for about one full minute.
3. Let it cool at least 30 minutes. Water must be cool or the chlorine treatment described below will not work.
4. Add 16 drops of liquid chlorine bleach per gallon of water, or 8 drops per 2-liter bottle of water. Stir to mix. Sodium hypochlorite (concentration 5.25% to 6%) should be the only active ingredient in the bleach. There should be no added soap or fragrance.
5. Let stand 30 minutes.
6. If the water smells of chlorine, you can use it. If it does not smell like chlorine, repeat steps 4 and 5 above. If after the second try the water smells of chlorine, you can use it. Otherwise, discard and find another source of water.

People with certain medical conditions may need distilled or sterile water. Your physician can tell you whether you fall in this category. If so, the Red Cross can provide you with instructions on how to distill water.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - JANUARY 2011

January 6 th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
January 10 th	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Meeting in the Library
January 11 th	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
January 13 th	7:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
January 17 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 18 th	4:00 p.m.	Hazard Mitigation Group Meeting at City Hall
January 18 th	5:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
January 20 th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall

HAPPY NEW YEAR