

# COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

## July 2011



**COLUMBIA CITY**  
1840 SECOND STREET  
PO BOX 189  
COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018  
PHONE: (503) 397-4010  
FAX: (503) 366-2870  
colcity@columbia-city.org  
[www.columbia-city.org](http://www.columbia-city.org)

### SECOND AND "I" STREET PROJECT

The paving work on Second Street between "I" and "J" Streets and "I" Street between First and Second Streets is expected to start on July 18. The paving work will be completed with a grant award under the Special City Allotment program. Residents can expect intermittent lane closures or detours during the project.

### THE 4TH OF JULY IS HERE!



The fireworks display in St. Helens is scheduled to start at 10:00 p.m. off of Sand Island and there will be entertainment during the day at Columbia View park.



### CHIEF'S CORNER CRIME PREVENTION TIPS *Identity Theft Prevention*

Identity theft is one of the fastest growing crimes in America. It can occur when a criminal steals personal identifying information such as name, birth date, Social Security number or your mother's maiden name and uses it for their own gain. These thefts can occur through lost or stolen credit or

debit cards, non-secure online transactions, personal information recovered from your garbage, and most frequently, stolen mail from your mailbox.

We have recently noticed increases in our citizens being victimized by this type of crime, specifically in the use of credit/debit cards. Please review the below listed information for ideas and practices to protect yourself.

### BASIC SAFETY TIPS

- Don't carry important numbers or passwords with you.
- Memorize your Social Security number.
- Don't use your date of birth as your password.
- Never leave receipts behind.

### CREDIT/DEBIT CARDS

- Sign your new credit cards immediately.
- Report lost or stolen credit cards immediately. Make sure you keep the numbers of the issuers somewhere besides on the back of your card!
- Always check your monthly financial statements carefully against your receipts.
- Review your consumer credit report annually.

### MAIL

- Don't leave mail in your mailbox for more than a day. If you are gone, arrange to have a trusted neighbor or friend pick up your mail.
- Double check that mailboxes are official US Postal Service collection boxes before you deposit your mail.
- Shred or tear up all unnecessary documents that have your personal information on them.

### ONLINE

- Never put in a credit or debit card number through a website unless it offers a secure transaction.
- A secure transaction will have a "padlock" icon at the bottom strip of the web page. Also, the URL address will change from "http" to "https" on the page where you input personal data.

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**DISCOVERING ID THEFT**

- Checking your financial statements frequently and carefully can be your best first step towards discovering an ID theft.
- The sooner you discover your identity is being used, the sooner you can begin to fight back to lessen the damage the criminal can do.

**REPORTING ID THEFT**

- **Call the Police:** To report a physical theft of your belongings, or a robbery. If immediate danger is over, you can make a report to the Columbia City Police non-emergency line: (503) 397-1521.
- **Call the U.S. Postal Inspection Service office:** If the crime involved U.S. mail. (206) 442-6300.
- **Call the U.S. Secret Service:** If the crime involved counterfeit credit cards or computer hacking. (206) 220-6800.
- **Call the issuing credit card company:** If the crime involved credit card fraud.

**OTHER STEPS YOU CAN TAKE**

- Call the **Federal Trade Commission** 1-877-IDTHEFT: For counseling and help to resolve problems arising from this crime.
- Call one of the major credit reporting agencies (Equifax, Experian, or TransUnion): to see if any new accounts were opened in your name without your consent. You can place a "fraud alert" on your file. **Please note: If you call before you have a police incident number, the alert stays on your information for only 90 days. If you call WITH a police incident number, the alert will stay on your file for 7 years.**
- Keep a record: When you start calling agencies to report your case, keep a record of the names and phone numbers of the people you talked to, along with any supporting documentation.

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 your thoughts, questions, or any information that you feel would help us in keeping our community safe. We can be reached via 9-1-1 (emergency), 503-397-4010 (office), or 503-397-1521 (non-emergency) C-COM Dispatch Center.

Thanks ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

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

**ACTIVITY REPORT**

Your police officers answered 507 calls for service during the past reporting period. 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: 69  
Area Patrols: 23  
Foot Patrols: 14  
Assist the Public: 19  
Hazards: 2  
Radio Calls: 303  
Animal Complaints: 4  
Nuisance/Code Enforcement Complaints: 9  
Abandoned/Disabled Vehicles: 7  
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 20  
Noise Complaints: 1  
Parking Violations: 2  
Traffic Complaints: 4

**CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:**

Open Narcotics Investigation: 1  
Disturbance/Domestic Calls: 1  
Investigative Follow Up's: 4  
Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles and Prowler Calls: 13  
Traffic Stops: 53  
Juvenile Investigations/Missing Juvenile calls: 4  
Burglary Investigations: 1  
Traffic Crash: 1  
Theft Investigations: 1  
Fraud Investigations: 2

**CALLS OF INTEREST:**

1. Suspicious vehicle in the 1800 block of Second Street on 05/04/2011 – Vehicle and operator checked out OK.
2. Prowler call in the 2800 block of Fifth Street on 05/06/2011 – Subject identified and field interviewed with no further law enforcement action required.

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## POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT (Cont.)

3. Suspicious person at the bike path/dead end of Fourth Street on 05/09/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.
4. Suspicious person at Sixth Street near “A” Street on 05/13/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.
5. Suspicious vehicle in the area of “A” Street near Sixth Street on 05/13/2011 – Vehicle and persons involved checked out OK.
6. Disturbance in progress call in the 2400 block of Fifth Street on 05/18/2011 – Peace restored, field interviews conducted, and no further law enforcement action required.
7. Suspicious vehicle in the 700 block of James Street on 05/20/2011 – Vehicle and persons involved checked out OK.
8. Suspicious person in the area of Hwy 30 near Pacific Street on 05/22/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.
9. Theft investigation in the 600 block of Calvin Street on 05/23/2011 – Investigation closed with leads exhausted
10. Suspicious circumstance in the 400 block of “A” Street on 05/24/2011 – Investigation disclosed evidence existed for Criminal Mischief/Attempted Burglary case. Field interview campaign conducted and case remains suspended pending additional leads.
11. Suspicious person in the 1800 block of First Street on 05/27/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.
12. Suspicious person in the area of Pixie Park/The Strand on 05/27/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.
13. Suspicious vehicle in the 300 block of “A” Street on 05/27/2011 – Vehicle and operator checked out OK.
14. Burglary investigation in the 2100 block of Second Street on 05/28/2011 – Investigation completed with leads exhausted.
15. Suspicious person in the area of Hwy 30 near “L” Street on 05/28/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.
16. Suspicious person at the bike path/dead end of Fourth Street on 05/29/2011 – Subject no longer in area at the time of police officer arrival.
17. Suspicious person in the area of Sixth Street and “E” Street on 05/29/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.
18. Suspicious person at Hwy 30 near “E” Street on 05/31/2011 – Persons involved checked out OK.

### 💧 WATER CONSERVATION TIP 💧

Make sure the dishwasher is full before you turn it on. For most dishwashers, you do not need to rinse the dishes first – just scrape them clean.



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Ruth Rose Richardson and Pixie Parks:** Volunteers needed to routinely mow, prune and pull weeds.

**Bike Path along McBride Creek:** Volunteers needed to remove blackberries.

If interested, inquire at City Hall.

An illustration featuring a 'Rummage' sign with a dollar sign icon, a 'SALE' sign, and several dollar signs scattered around. The signs are layered and have a slightly distressed, hand-drawn appearance.

**Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>**  
**Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>**  
**9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
Library and Pizza Parlor Parking Lot

## SHOESTRING COMMUNITY PLAYERS

Presents “Willy Wonka” at the Olmscheid Auditorium in St. Helens in July. For more details or tickets go to: [www.SSCPMusicals.com](http://www.SSCPMusicals.com)

## OLD-FASHIONED ICE CREAM SOCIAL



The Caples House Museum is hosting an ice cream social July 10<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. There will be a sing-along of patriotic songs and other songs from days gone by. The Cost will be \$3 per person. The Daughters of the American Revolution invite you to **come join in the fun!**

## LIBRARY NEWS

We have a rummage sale coming up very quickly – look around your houses and garages and see what you can bring to the library on or just before Thursday, July 28. Do you have costume jewelry, extra dishes, an old bike, toys, exercise equipment? We will spend Thursday sorting and marking things, and then put them out for sale in the parking lot on Friday and Saturday. Tell your friends, and plan on browsing yourself – I plan to bring more to sell than I buy but I'm sure there's something I'll want! All proceeds will go to the library. Contact us with questions at [ccclibrary@live.com](mailto:ccclibrary@live.com).

### Book Sale

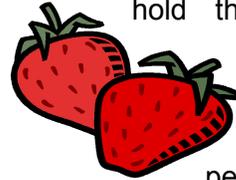
We raised \$747 at the book sale last month, our second best sale ever! Keep the books rolling in, so that we can have another great sale in September! We won't be selling books at the rummage sale, except for those on the sale shelves in the library.

### Raffle Quilt

The log cabin quilt top with hand-appliquéd hearts is hanging in the library. We've sold \$123 in raffle tickets so far. Stop in and buy some tickets, and pick up a packet of tickets to sell to extend our reach. The quilt guild usually sells about \$700 or more of raffle tickets for their quilts; let's see if we can beat that!

## City Celebration

We will need help soliciting silent auction donations all summer. Please stop by and look at the list of businesses, and let us know which you will speak to. We don't want to ask the same businesses over and over. If you have something that would make a nice silent auction item, let us know. The Columbia City Community Hall is reserved for the City Celebration on Saturday, September 10. We will hold the book sale, the Strawberry Pancake breakfast and will draw the winning ticket for the raffle quilt. The Art Guild will have displays and art for sale, with a percentage going to the library. We will continue working on what exciting events we can add to the City Celebration.



### Summer Reading Program

The summer reading program is up and riding, with a (paper) bike for everyone! See how far you can get on our bike track – I think adults should sign up and get motorcycles! Stop by and get a reading log. If you are a teenager, join us for Pizza and a Paperback at noon on selected Mondays.

### Staffed Library Hours:

Monday & Saturday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
 Wednesday, 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.  
 Thursday, 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

**Story Time:** Every Monday, 11 a.m.  
**Friends of the Library:** July 11, 8 p.m.  
**Novel Quilters:** No Meeting  
**Fundraiser meeting:** July 18, 7 p.m.  
**Mystery Book Group:** July 27, 7 p.m.

205 "I" Street  
 PO Box 189  
 (503) 366-8020  
[ccclibrary@live.com](mailto:ccclibrary@live.com)



## MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - JULY 2011

July 4	CLOSED	City Hall is closed for Independence Day
July 7	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
July 11	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Meeting at City Hall
July 12	<del>7:00 p.m.</del>	<del>Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall - CANCELED</del>
July 14	7:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
July 19	5:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
July 21	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall