

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

November 2011



COLUMBIA CITY
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OPEN BURNING PERIOD FOR YARD DEBRIS NOVEMBER 5TH TO NOVEMBER 20TH BURN PERMITS NOW REQUIRED

Yard debris may be burned outdoors beginning **Saturday, November 5th**, and ending **Sunday, November 20th**. Burning is restricted to yard debris only, and burn barrels are prohibited. Yard debris is lawn clippings, leaves, brush, trimmings/prunings, sawdust and wood scraps. It is **not** dirt/gravel, paper/plastic, metal, rocks/bricks, sod, or food waste.

Burn permits are required prior to burning!



Permits may be obtained at City Hall, at any Fire Station within the Columbia River Fire & Rescue District or on their website: www.CRFR.com. Please remember you will also need to call the "Burn Line" at (503) 397-4800 each day to see if it is a burn day.

You must follow these basic rules for proper open burning:

- ❖ You must have a garden hose, or a shovel and a 5-gallon bucket of water at all times, and the fire must NOT be left unattended at any time until out.
- ❖ Yard and garden trimmings must be cut and piled no larger than 6 feet wide by 4 feet high.
- ❖ The ground must be cleared not less than 10 feet around the burning area. There must be a separation of 50 feet between the burn pile and any structure, trees, vehicle or property line if the burn pile is greater than 3 feet in diameter; and a 25 foot separation if the burn pile is less than 3 feet in diameter.
- ❖ The fire must not adversely affect neighbors (smoke).
- ❖ It must be daylight hours during a designated burn day.

WATER CONSERVATION TIP

Spreading a layer of organic mulch around plants retains moisture and saves water, time and money.



RENT THE COMMUNITY HALL

1850 Second Street

\$17.50 / hour

Contact City Hall for availability, rates and policies.

INTERNET ESSENTIALS FROM COMCAST OFFERS FAST INTERNET AT LOW PRICE TO QUALIFYING FAMILIES

Comcast is introducing a new program called Internet Essentials,sm designed to help increase broadband adoption and digital literacy among students and their families. Started during the 2011-12 school year, Internet Essentials will be available to certain households with children who receive free lunches through the National School Lunch Program.

Participants will be eligible to receive fast Internet for \$9.95 a month plus tax, a price that never increases for customers while they are in the program. Plus, families can buy a low-cost computer and receive free Internet training. For more information and materials, visit InternetEssentials.com/partner or call 1-855-8-INTERNET.



**Complete and return your ballot by
8 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8th!**

PLANNING TO GET AWAY?

This time of year many residents escape to warmer locations or make plans to visit family out of town. The Columbia City Police Department would like to remind you that, at your request, they will periodically check your home while you are away. To request this service, please register with the Columbia City Police Department before you leave. Forms are available at City Hall.



POLICE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS RECOGNIZED DURING COUNCIL MEETING

Reserve Officer Alex Bubar received the Columbia City Police Department Lifesaving Award from Chief Mike McGlothlin during a recent City Council Meeting. The Department Lifesaving Award was given for Officer Bubar's actions conducted on July 22, 2011. While off duty, Officer Bubar was in the area of the Cornelius Pass Road when he came upon a traffic crash involving a logging truck. The driver of the vehicle was pinned in and the vehicle was leaking fuel with a small fire present. Officer Bubar quickly responded to the crash site and helped to remove the driver from the vehicle to a place of safety for further medical aid. His selfless actions bring great credit upon the law enforcement profession and the Columbia City Police Department. Officer Bubar is also being recognized by the Oregon Police Officers Association on Friday November 4, 2011 with receipt of their Lifesaving Award.



Officer Bubar, left, receives Department Lifesaving Award from Chief McGlothlin, right.

Police Sergeant Josh Harper was presented with the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training Supervisory Certificate by Chief Mike McGlothlin during a recent City Council Meeting. The award of this certificate culminates both formal post secondary education and hundreds of hours of professional development training. Sergeant Harper is a law enforcement veteran with over 30 years of experience. The successful completion of this challenging certificate program is a direct reflection of his continued dedicated service to the citizens of Columbia City.



Sergeant Harper, left, is presented with the DPST Training Supervisory Certificate by Chief McGlothlin, right.

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED!!

We recently launched our new website – check it out at www.columbia-city.org!
Special thanks to Sergeant Mansheim for making it happen!!

PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISCOUNT CARDS

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.

RECENT WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

BLACK BEAR: Recent sightings of a black bear continue to be reported just outside the city on Smith Road.

Black bears eat almost anything, including human food, garbage, hummingbird food, pet food, and livestock feed. Once a bear has found the easily accessible, consistent food source that humans offer,



it may overcome its wariness of people and visit regularly, increasing the chance of a human/bear encounter. By handling food and garbage responsibly, you and your neighbors can prevent encounters with a bear.

COUGAR: A resident reported a recent sighting of a cougar in the residential area to the north of River Club Estates between Second and Fourth Streets.

Identifying characteristics: Adults of both sexes have light tan coats and long black-tipped tails, with black coloration on the backs of their ears. Adult males may exceed 8 feet in length, from nose to the end of their very long tail, and weigh between 130 and 170 pounds. Adult females can be 7 feet long and weigh between 75 and 105 pounds.

Safety precautions: The potential for human/cougar interactions has increased in recent years. However, more people are injured or killed by deer, bees, dogs and spiders than by cougars. If you are concerned about safety, familiarize yourself with the signs of cougar and their habitat and follow these suggestions:

- **Keep an eye on your children.** Don't let your children play unattended in the backyard, especially when cougars are known to be in the area. You also want to keep your children away from dense brush, which the cougar may use for cover.
- **Be cautious at dusk and dawn.** Contrary to popular belief, most predators are most active at dusk and dawn. This is a time to be especially cautious.
- **Don't leave food or garbage outside.** The strong smell of food or garbage may attract a cougar into your yard.
- **Keep your pets indoors.** While you may have left your pet in the backyard in the past, you may want to start bringing it indoors with a cougar in

the area. Cougars can easily kill the largest dog and leaving your pet out may prompt an attack. Don't feed pets outside as this can attract cougars and their prey.

- **Don't feed wildlife.** By feeding deer, raccoons or other wildlife in your yard, you may inadvertently attract cougars, which prey on them as a food source.
- **Do not hike alone.** Go in groups, with adults supervising children.
- **Do not approach a cougar.** Most cougars will try to avoid a confrontation. Give them a way to escape.
- **Do not run from a cougar.** Running may stimulate the instinct to chase. Stand and face the animal. Make eye contact. If you have small children with you, pick them up so they don't panic and run. Try to pick them up without bending over or turning away from the cougar.
- **Do all you can to appear larger.** Raise your arms, open your jacket, and throw stones or whatever you can without crouching or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly and speak in a firm, loud voice. Fight back if attacked, and remain standing and face the attacking animal. Use rocks, sticks, jackets, garden tools, camping gear and your hands to fend off the attack.



If you see the bear or cougar, please contact the following agencies **immediately:**

- Oregon State Police - (503) 397-3131
- C-COM (Dispatch) - (503) 397-1521
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife - (503) 621-3488.

After the sighting, please leave paw prints and other signs undisturbed if possible.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Don't forget - on November 6th (the 1st Sunday in November) clocks are set back one hour at 2:00 a.m. local daylight time, which becomes 1:00 a.m. local standard time.



FLASH FROM THE PAST

by Shannon Fitzgibbons, Council Member



It's hard to believe, but in the early 1900's, Columbia City was a bustling industrial center. Located just south of "M" Street, in what was known as the "lagoon" and is now known as "River Club Estates", the Sommarstrom Shipyards was established in 1916, the same year the United States entered WWI.

Most of the material to build the yard and wooden ships came by barges. There was a crew of about 700 workers to rush the shipbuilding operation to win the war. The four "ways" at the shipyard allowed workers to build four boats at the same time. To house the crew, two hotels were built. Row houses were also built along the west side of Third Street, between "M" and "L" Streets. Five of these houses still stand today. A tool shed can still be seen; and when the Columbia River is at low stage, a part of the 1916 shipways can still be seen sticking out of the sand on the beach.

The downtown area of Columbia City thrived until the early 1920's. With the end of the war and the loss of the shipyards, Columbia City started to dry up. One hotel, which was located on the waterfront, was taken apart and barged downriver to Longview, Washington, where it was rebuilt as the Monticello Hotel. Another hotel, The Palace, which was located on Fourth Street near "L" Street, was also taken apart and moved to Kalama, Washington and rebuilt.

COLUMBIA RIVER ARTS FAIR & TEA

Don't miss the Columbia River Arts Fair and Tea on Saturday, November 5th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Caples House Museum (1925 First Street). This event will benefit the Caples House Museum Complex, property of the Oregon State Daughters of the American Revolution. Enjoy the opportunity to purchase special handcrafted items and holiday gift items. Assorted hot and iced teas, hot cider, cocoa, soups, tasty tidbits and other refreshments will also be available. For more information send an e-mail to museumdirector@capleshouse.com, call Chris Kramer at (503) 397-5390, or visit the Caples House Museum website at <http://capleshouse.com>.

PLANNING COMMISSION NEWS

The Columbia City Planning Commission has scheduled a public hearing on Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the hearing is to receive written and oral testimony on an application for a Type II Home Occupation and related variances. Susan Baker proposes to operate Columbia County Natural, a food-buying club, from a single-family residence located at 555 "A" Street. The property is identified on the Columbia County Assessor map as 5121-CD-02000.

Interested persons are invited to attend the public hearing and present oral and written testimony. Copies of all documents related to the application are available for review at the City Hall, or copies can be purchased at cost. If you would like to comment but cannot attend the hearing, 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 on November 1, 2011.



CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

Political signs: Political signs for the November 8th General Election must be removed by November 24th.

Sidewalks: The owner of property abutting a sidewalk is responsible for keeping the sidewalk free of yard debris, snow, ice, and other obstructions.

Junk: The open storage of junk, rubbish, trash, or debris is prohibited.

Curfew: Curfew is in effect between 10:30 PM and 4:00 AM Sunday through Thursday, and between midnight and 4:00 AM Friday and Saturday.

Animals: Animals must be kept on a leash when away from the owner's property, and droppings must be picked up.

Please report violators to City Hall.

CHIEF'S CORNER

SHOP WITH A COP 2011 REMINDER

This year's "Shop with a Cop" event is just around the corner. As the holiday season is fast approaching, we continue to be in need of your help. Please remember that this program is geared towards providing wintertime necessities and Christmas "wish list" items to a Columbia City family, with children, in need. The past two years Shop with a Cop experiences have been fantastic, and we appreciate all of your support. If you know of a local family that could benefit from this program, please fill out the enclosed nomination form and submit it to the Police Department. We are looking to conduct this year's shopping trip on Saturday, December 17, 2011, so please nominate a family as soon as possible!

BOLO!

Over the past month we have seen an increase in two crime categories: Break-In's/Theft from Vehicles and Financial Frauds.

In the recent vehicle break-in's we have found that the victims had left the vehicles unlocked. Please remember to lock your vehicles when you park for the evening and remove any visible valuables from the interior of the car. As the holiday season approaches, criminals will look for, and take advantage of, crimes of opportunity.

Our two most recent fraud cases have targeted elderly members of our community. One was Internet based and the other was from telephone solicitation. A good rule of thumb when dealing with these suspects is to remember that if a deal appears too good to be true... then it probably is! As well, always "double check" when someone is trying to sell you something through the Internet or by phone. Ask for call back numbers, only conduct financial transactions through secured websites, and remember that if you have truly "won" a prize it costs nothing to redeem it!

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 C-COM (non-emergency dispatch) at 503-397-1521.

Stay safe, ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER, 2011

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 399 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. Additionally, within the reporting period we have conducted investigations and/or arrests in the following types of cases: Criminal Mischief, Domestic Assault, Strangulation, Telephonic Harassment, Theft, Threats, and Criminal Trespass.

COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY

Residential Security Checks: 17
Area Patrols: 18
Foot Patrols: 6
Assist the Public: 14
Disabled Vehicles: 1
Radio Calls: 192
Missing Persons Adult/Juvenile: 1
Nuisance/Code Enforcement Complaints: 1
Abandoned 911 Calls: 1
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 16
Welfare Checks: 1
Traffic Complaints: 2
Parking Complaints: 5
Animal Complaints: 8

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS

Criminal Mischief: 1
Disturbance/Domestic Calls: 3
Investigative Follow Up's: 18
Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles and Prowler Calls: 6
Traffic Stops: 20
Juvenile Investigations: 2
Theft Investigations: 3
Vehicle Break-In Investigations: 2
Harassment Investigations: 1
Domestic Assault Arrests: 1
Strangulation Arrests: 1
Warrant Arrests/Charges: 4
Trespass In-Progress Calls: 2
Threats Investigations: 1

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POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT (Cont.)

CALLS OF INTEREST

1. Harassment investigation in the 3300 block of Tahoma Street on 09/13/2011 – Investigation revealed complaint as unfounded in our jurisdiction/referred to appropriate law enforcement agency.
2. Disturbance Call in the area of Fifth Street near Penn Street on 09/26/2011 – Peace restored with no further law enforcement action required.
3. Criminal Mischief investigation in the 3000 block of Fifth Street on 09/28/2011 – Investigation completed with leads exhausted.
4. Missing Juvenile in the 2000 block of Second Street on 09/29/2011 – Juvenile found and returned to the care of parents.
5. Threats investigation in the 300 block of “A” Street on 09/30/2011 – Investigation revealed complaint as unfounded.
6. Attempted Forgery I in the 2700 block of Sixth Street on 09/30/2011 – Investigation remains ongoing with further investigative coordination pending with multiple law enforcement agencies.
7. Theft II investigation in the 300 block of Pacific Street on 10/02/2011 – Case closed with leads exhausted.
8. Domestic Assault, Strangulation and Warrant arrests in the 400 block of Penn Street on 09/03/2011 – Suspects arrested and transported to jail.
9. Telephonic Harassment investigation in the 1800 block of Fifth Street on 10/09/2011 – Investigation completed and ruled as unfounded.
10. Criminal Mischief investigation in the 1500 block of Third Street on 10/15/2011 – Investigation concluded with leads exhausted.
11. Motor Vehicle Break-In and Theft investigation in the 3200 block of Tahoma Street on 10/15/2011 – Case completed with leads exhausted.
12. Motor Vehicle Break-In and Theft investigation in the 1800 block of Sixth Street on 10/15/2011 – Case completed with leads exhausted.

LIBRARY NEWS

The winners of a bike horn from our summer reading program were Natalie Kenoyer, Veena Christian, and Hannah Young. It's amazing how much some of you read! Thank you everyone for participating, and keep reading!

We will be selling raffle tickets for gift baskets in the library this next month and a half. If you want to donate a gift basket to be raffled, we'd love to have it!

We have had requests for several books, and have no budget for books at this point. So we'd like someone to donate copies of the following books. Donations are tax-deductible.

- *Carte Blanche (James Bond)* by Jeffery Deaver
- *Room* by Emma Donoghue
- *Steve Jobs* by Walter Isaacson
- *The End of Normal* by Stephanie Mack
- *Killing Lincoln: The Assassination that Changed America Forever* by Bill O'Reilly
- *Full Dark, No Stars* by Stephen King

I could go on and on...

Novel Quilters revealed their beautiful quilts based on *The Help* by Kathleen Stockton. The next book we will be reading is *People of the Book* by Geraldine Brooks. Early on, we read *March* by Brooks. One of the earliest Jewish religious volumes to be illuminated with images, the Sarajevo Haggadah survived centuries of purges and wars thanks to people of all faiths who risked their lives to safeguard it. Geraldine Brooks, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *March*, has turned the intriguing but sparsely detailed history of this precious volume into an emotionally rich, thrilling fictionalization that retraces its turbulent journey. In the hands of Hanna Heath, an impassioned rare-book expert restoring the manuscript in 1996 Sarajevo, it yields clues to its guardians and whereabouts: an insect wing, a wine stain, salt crystals, and a white hair. While readers experience crucial moments in the book's history through a series of fascinating, fleshed-out short stories, Hanna pursues its secrets scientifically, and finds that some interests will still risk everything in the name of protecting this treasure. A complex love story, thrilling mystery, vivid history lesson, and celebration of the enduring power of ideas, *People of the Book* will surely be hailed as one of the best of 2008. --Mari Malcolm

Book Review: *Unbroken* by Laura Hillerbrand, the author of *Seabiscuit*, is an inspiring true story of a man who lived through a series of catastrophes almost too incredible to be believed. In evocative, immediate descriptions, Hillenbrand unfurls the story of Louie Zamperini--a juvenile delinquent-turned-Olympic runner-turned-Army hero. During a routine search mission over the Pacific, Louie's plane crashed into the ocean, and what happened to him over the next three years of his life is a story that will keep you glued to the pages, eagerly awaiting the next turn in the story and fearing it at the same time. You'll cheer for the man who somehow maintained his selfhood and humanity despite (Continued on Page 7)

LIBRARY NEWS (Cont.)

the monumental degradations he suffered, and you'll want to share this book with everyone you know. --
Juliet Disparte

Library Hours:

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

Storytime: Every Monday at 11 a.m.

Friends of the Library: Monday, November 14 at 7 p.m. (Officer election)

Novel Quilters: Wednesday, November 16 at 7 p.m.

Mystery Book Group: No meeting as it would be the night before Thanksgiving!

Columbia City Community Library
205 I Street
PO Box 189
Columbia City, OR 97018
503-366-8020
ccclibrary@live.com

HOUSING REHABILITATION FUNDS ARE NOW AVAILABLE!



Is your house in need of repairs? Low-income homeowners may now be eligible for **no-interest, deferred payment loans!** The funds may be used to complete the following housing rehabilitation projects:

- ⇒ Update electrical, plumbing or sewer
- ⇒ Replace or update heat source
- ⇒ Replace roof, doors, windows
- ⇒ Structural repairs
- ⇒ Foundation repairs
- ⇒ Energy saving measures

In order to qualify, you must be a homeowner, meet income and property guidelines, and live in the dwelling to be repaired. Loan funds are limited! Please contact the Community Action Team, Inc., at (503) 397-1675 for additional information and/or loan applications.

BETTER BURNING TIPS FOR CLEANER AIR

During colder months in Oregon, smoke from fireplaces and woodstoves is one of the largest threats to healthy air. Wood smoke is basically fuel from your firewood that does not burn and becomes air pollution.

If you heat your home with wood you can take steps to burn cleaner (good for your health) and more efficiently (good for your pocketbook):

- Use only dry, seasoned wood. Dry wood for at least 6 months.
- Burn only wood. Do not burn garbage, plastics, rubber, paint or oil, briquettes, paper, etc. – burning these items releases harmful chemicals into the air.
- Build small, hot fires instead of large, smoldering ones.
- Don't "bed the fire down" for the night. Holding a fire overnight is a fire hazard and can create serious indoor and outdoor air pollution problems.



For more tips on how to burn smart, visit <http://www.deq.state.or.us/aq/burning/woodstoves/index.htm>.

CHRISTMAS SHIPS

The Christmas Ships will visit Columbia City on Saturday, December 10. Look for more information in next month's newsletter.

FOUND ITEMS

The following items were found and turned into City Hall. Do they belong to you? If so, contact City Hall.

- Prescription glasses found at the intersection of Highway 30 and "E" Street.
- Bandana found outside of the Community Hall on Second Street.
- Black glove found behind City Hall.
- Children's turquoise gloves found on the bike path near "E" Street.
- Black gloves found near the corner of Fifth and Pacific Streets.

WHAT'S IN THE WATER?

What do steroids, birth control, pain killers and insect repellent have in common? All of these chemicals and more have been detected in the nation's waterways.

Often labeled Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCP), these chemicals are part of a larger group of emerging contaminants being researched. One USGS study detected emerging contaminants in 80 percent of the streams and rivers sampled across 30 states.

According to a 2010 Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) report, persistent pollutants are "those that come from a wide variety of sources but linger in the environment and have a documented effect on human health, wildlife and

aquatic habitat." In addition to PPCPs, DEQ's list of persistent pollutants includes chemicals used in pesticides, insecticides, herbicides, flame retardants, product coatings and chemicals released during combustion.

Help break the pollutant cycle by:

- Disposing of unused prescription drugs during organized prescription drug take back events – don't flush them down the toilet or throw them in the trash!
- Properly disposing of hazardous waste materials. The County's Hazardous Waste Disposal event occurs on the last Saturday of each month. Don't throw hazardous waste in the trash!
- Be an informed shopper, and start at the source. Make pollutant reduction a priority when you shop!



2011 "Shop with a Cop" Nomination Form

It is time once again for the Columbia City Police Department's "Shop with a Cop" Program. This is our third year hosting this worthwhile endeavor within our city and we need your help! For those that are interested, we need assistance in selecting a needy family within our community. Our goal is to provide warm clothing, winter necessities, and Christmas wish list items for the nominated family. Please take the time by filling out the information below if you wish to nominate someone who you know could use some assistance during the holiday season. Thank you ~ Michael S. McGlothlin, Chief of Police

Name of Family: _____ Family Address: _____

Family Bio (Please answer all that apply): ___ Father ___ Mother ___ Number of children

Reason for your nomination: _____

Return completed nomination forms to Columbia City Hall, PO Box 189, 1840 Second Street, Columbia City

MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - NOVEMBER 2011

November 3 rd	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
November 5 th	dawn	First day of open burn period
November 6 th	2:00 a.m.	Daylight Saving Time ends
November 8 th	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
November 8 th	8:00 p.m.	Deadline to return completed ballots on Election Day
November 10 th	7:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
November 11 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed in observance of Veteran's Day
November 14 th	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Meeting in the Library
November 15 th	5:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
November 17 th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
November 20 th	dusk	Last day of burn period
November 24 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Thanksgiving Day
November 25 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed the day after Thanksgiving