

# COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

## September 2011

COLUMBIA CITY  
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### COLUMBIA CITY CELEBRATION 9/10/11

#### Strawberry Pancake Breakfast - 8 AM to 10 AM

At the Knapp Social Center, 1925 First Street  
Adults \$6.00, children (10 and under) \$4.50.

#### Silent Auction - 9 AM - 2 PM

#### Friends of the Library Book Sale - 9 AM - 3 PM

#### Art Sale - 9 AM - 3 PM

#### Bake Sale - 9 AM - 3 PM

#### Quilt Raffle Drawing - 2 PM

In the Community Hall, 1850 Second Street

#### Petting Zoo - 9 AM - 3 PM

Caples House Orchard

#### Caples House Museum - 9 AM - 4 PM

1915 First Street

#### SILENT AUCTION ITEMS - partial list

Two jackets from Columbia Sportswear  
Outdoor lounge chair and table from Ace Hardware  
Cookie jar from Maya's Palace  
Klondike Restaurant gift certificate  
Papa Murphy's Take N Bake gift certificate  
Burger King gift certificates  
Oregon Coast Aquarium gift certificates  
The Grotto gift certificates  
Oaks Park gift certificates  
OMSI gift certificate  
Enchanted Forest gift certificate  
Museum of Flight (Seattle) gift certificate  
Columbia River Maritime Museum gift certificate  
Pittock Mansion gift certificates  
McMenamin's Pubs and Breweries gift certificates  
Lan Su Chinese Gardens gift certificates  
Cuts + gift certificates  
St. Helens Olde Town Barber gift certificate

### THANK YOU

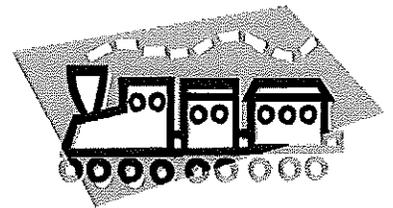
We'd like to extend a very special thank you to Kris Wood for donating iris bulbs to the City parks.

### POLICE RESERVE OFFICER BUBAR RECEIVES LIFE SAVING AWARD

The Columbia City Police Department is proud to recognize Reserve Officer Alex Bubar for actions conducted on July 20, 2011. While off duty Officer Bubar came upon a traffic crash involving a log truck that had flipped over on the Cornelius Pass Road. The driver of the truck was pinned in, fuel was leaking from the vehicle, and a fire had started. At risk to his own personal well being, Officer Bubar quickly went into the crash scene and assisted in extricating the driver from the vehicle to a safe location for medical aid. His actions on this date are in keeping with the highest standards of the law enforcement profession. Officer Bubar has received department level commendation for his act and will be receiving the Life Saving Award from the Oregon Police Officers Association on Friday November 4, 2011.

### FLASH FROM THE PAST

From 1884 to 1916 a train on the Oregon side of the Columbia River destined for Washington would be loaded on a rail ferry, the Tacoma, in Goble and discharged across the river in Kalama.



### FOUND ITEM

A navigational chart of the area of North Pender Island to Thetis Island was found at the front door of City Hall. Does it belong to you? If so, please contact (503) 397-4010.

## CHIEF'S CORNER

With the upcoming local option levy for sustained law enforcement operations coming to our citizens in November, we would like to invite each of you to attend an informal "meet and greet" with your police department. At these gatherings we are open to any dialogue, feedback, or questions that you may have. As there are many rumors, and some misinformed conjecture, out there we feel that we are best suited to provide all of our citizens with factual information. We look forward to seeing you there! Please see the schedule and location of the upcoming "meet and greet" events below:

1. Wednesday, September 7, 2011, 1:00 PM, in Harvard Park.
2. Thursday, September 29, 2011, 3:00 PM, in the parking lot of the Columbia City Community Library.
3. Wednesday, October 12, 2011, 7:00 PM, in Jim Bundy Memorial Park.
4. Wednesday, October 26, 2011, 7:00 PM, in Pixie Park.

(In case of inclement weather for any of the above dates the meeting location will change to the Columbia City Community Hall.)

Some of the questions that have arisen out of our first two meetings have included:

### ***Is the levy for growth of the police department?***

No. The purpose of the levy is to sustain the level of service that our citizens currently have.

***Why hasn't the department tightened its own belt?*** We have. We have already cut personnel by 15% and slashed materials and service budgets to minimums.

***If we do not have a police department who will police Columbia City?*** If the department closes its doors law enforcement response will fall to the Columbia County Sheriff's Office. They are already understaffed, under funded and overworked and are about to go to an emergency prioritized level of response for the unincorporated areas of the county. The City cannot afford to contract with another police agency, as it will cost more than what we currently fund to sustain our own.

***What will happen if the November 2011 levy fails?*** The City Council will have to decide if they

wish to retain the city police department and, if they and the citizens do want to do so, what it will look like.

***Why do officers not work past 5:00 PM?*** We do. We provide law enforcement coverage seven days a week within the budget that we have. The lateness of a shift depends upon the day of the week; officers also rotate shifts on a frequent basis. We average 428 hours of paid coverage per month with an additional 150 hours provided by Reserve Officers. This equals a total of approximately 578 hours of coverage per month, or about 18.6 man-hours per day in a 31-day month. Shorter months see the average coverage increase per day.

Please stay tuned for more feedback to your questions next month!

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 (C-COM non-emergency).

Stay safe ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

## FREE CHILD SAFETY SEAT CHECK UP EVENT

Columbia County Safe Kids will be holding a child safety seat check-up event in our area on Thursday, September 8, 2011, in St. Helens from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM at the St. Helens Fire Station, 105 S. 12<sup>th</sup> Street, St. Helens. The clinic is free.

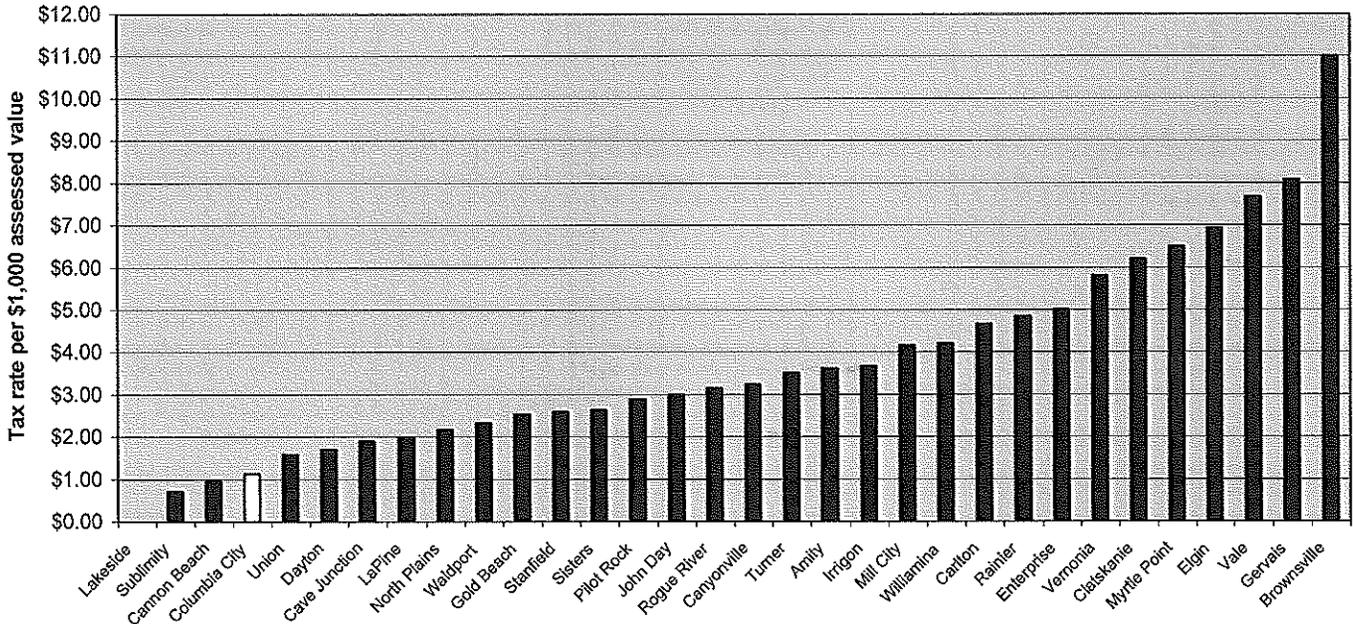
The clinic provides an opportunity to have a child safety seat checked by a certified technician, who can correct misuse, help with installation and teach you how to correctly install the seat. Technicians can also check for seat recalls. There is no cost to have a technician check your child safety seats. Please plan to spend 30-60 minutes at the event.

Through a grant funded by ACTS Oregon, Columbia County Safe Kids can provide low-cost child safety seats to families in need. Families who receive Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) should contact their worker about payment for a seat. For more information about the clinic or the Columbia County child safety seat program, please contact Natalie at (503) 410-3169.

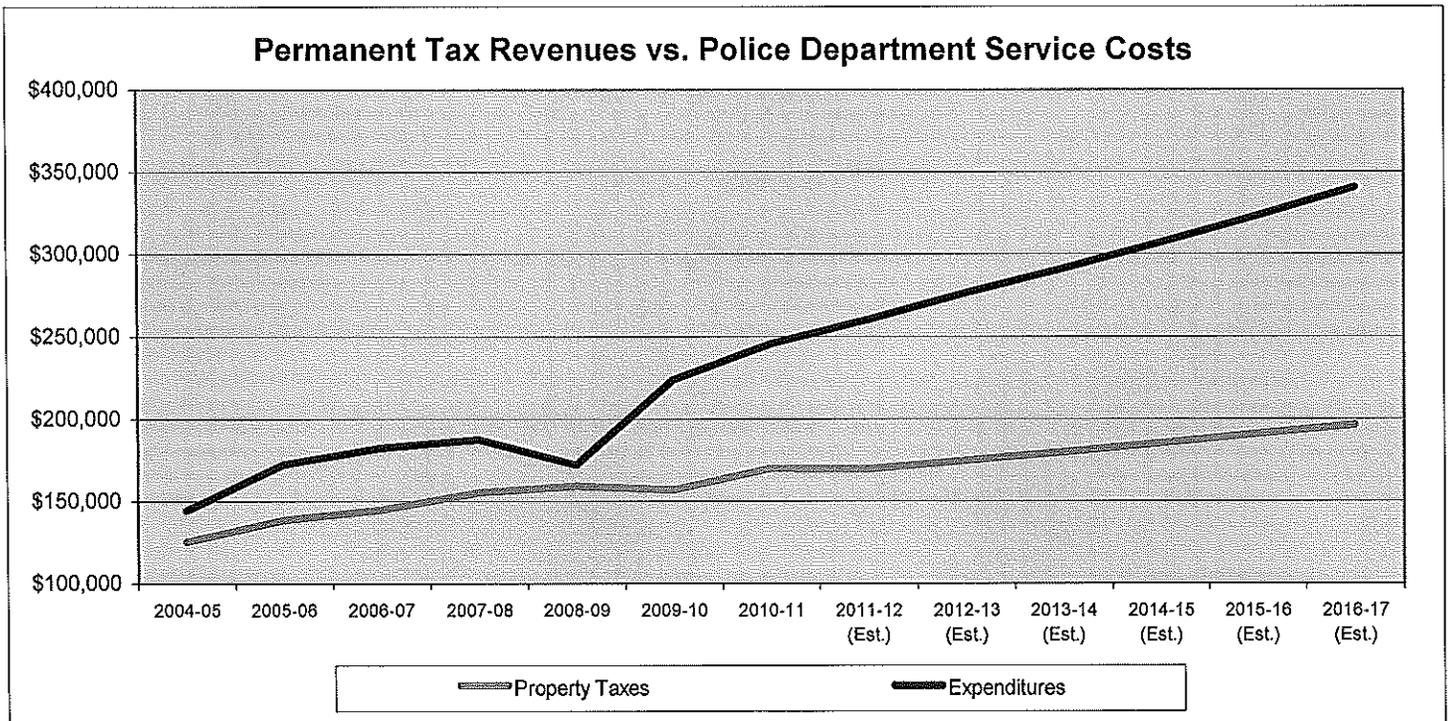
# PROPOSED 5-YEAR LOCAL OPTION LEVY WILL SUSTAIN CURRENT POLICE SERVICES

*Columbia City's permanent tax rate of \$1.1346 per thousand is among the lowest of all of the cities within the state.*

**Comparison of Permanent Tax Rates  
Oregon Cities with Populations of 1,500 to 2,500**



*Revenues from the permanent tax rate have fallen short of covering police protection service costs for seven consecutive years, and the funding gap continues to grow as time passes.*



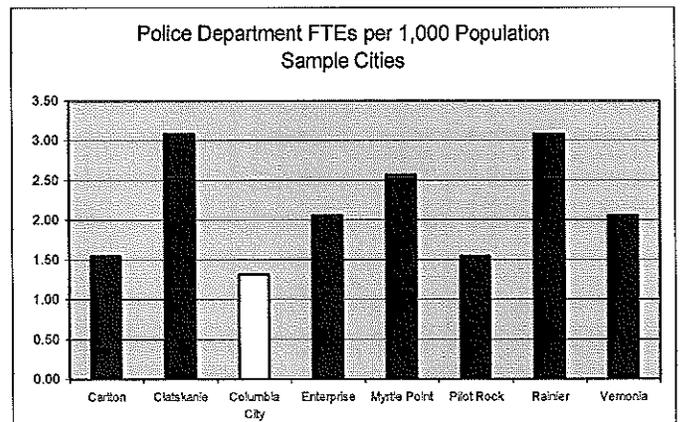
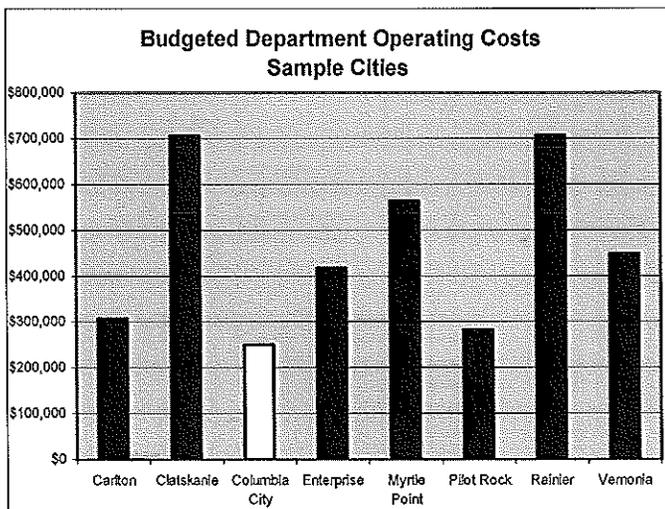
# POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATING COST COMPARISON SAMPLE CITIES WITH SIMILAR POPULATIONS

FTE = Full Time Equivalent

City	2010 Population	2011/12 Personal Services	2011/12 Materials & Services	Total Operating Budget	Dollars Budgeted Per Capita	Employee FTEs	Employees Per 1,000 Population	Dollars Budgeted Per FTE
Carlton	2,015	\$222,411	\$84,700	\$307,111	\$152.41	3.00	1.54	\$102,370.33
Clatskanie	1,735	\$642,880	\$64,340	\$707,220	\$407.62	6.00	3.08	\$117,870.00
<b>Columbia City</b>	<b>1,945</b>	<b>\$213,067</b>	<b>\$37,229</b>	<b>\$250,296</b>	<b>\$128.69</b>	<b>2.55</b>	<b>1.31</b>	<b>\$98,155.29</b>
Enterprise	1,940	\$343,640	\$74,000	\$417,640	\$215.28	4.00	2.06	\$104,410.00
Myrtle Point	2,515	\$436,705	\$126,436	\$563,141	\$223.91	5.00	2.57	\$112,628.20
Pilot Rock	1,505	\$239,064	\$43,650	\$282,714	\$187.85	3.00	1.54	\$94,238.00
Rainier	1,895	\$642,685	\$64,300	\$706,985	\$373.08	6.00	3.08	\$117,830.83
Vernonia	2,155	\$358,524	\$88,800	\$447,324	\$207.57	4.00	2.06	\$111,831.00

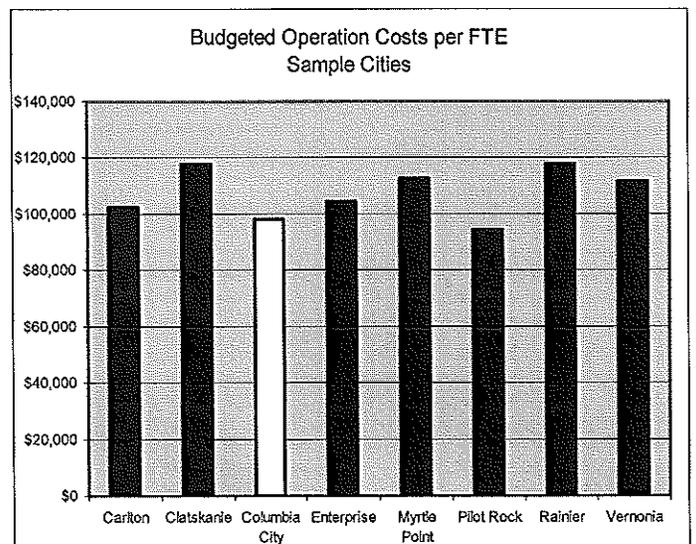
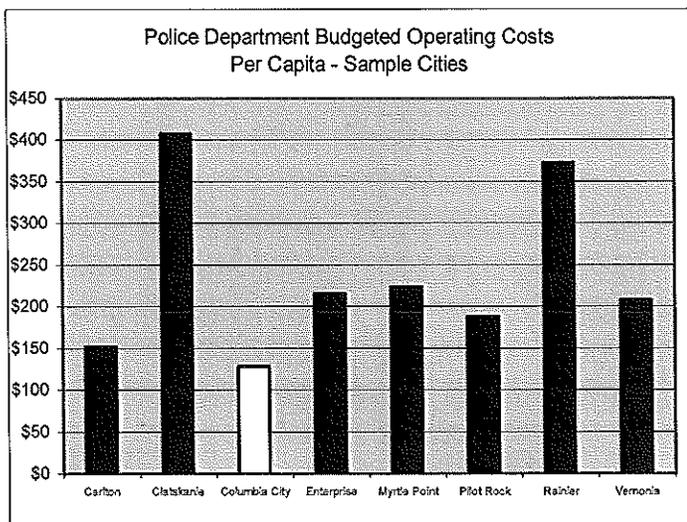
*Columbia City Police Department's budgeted operating costs are significantly lower than most cities.*

*The Department maintains a high quality level of service with less than 1-1/2 paid officers per 1,000 citizens - a ratio that is considerably lower than many small cities.*



*The Department's operating costs per capita are noticeably lower than most small cities.*

*The Department's operating costs per full-time employee equivalent is also much lower than most cities.*



**POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT**  
**July – August 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 635 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: 4  
Area Patrols: 5  
Foot Patrols: 4  
Assist the Public: 13  
Hazards: 7  
Radio Calls: 386  
Missing Persons Adult/Juvenile: 1  
Nuisance/Code Enforcement Complaints: 14  
Abandoned/Disabled Vehicles: 4  
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 32  
Suicide Threats: 1  
Parking Violations: 2  
Animal Complaints: 6

**CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:**

Open Narcotics Investigation: 1  
Disturbance/Domestic Calls: 3  
Investigative Follow Up's: 4  
Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles and Prowler Calls: 18  
Traffic Stops: 94  
Juvenile Investigations: 3  
Disorderly Conduct Arrests: 1  
Theft Investigations: 2  
Assault Arrests: 1  
Juvenile Abuse Investigations: 1  
DUII Investigations/Arrests: 1

**CALLS OF INTEREST:**

1. Suspicious vehicle in the area of "A" Street near Smith Road on 07/01/2011 – Operator and vehicle checked out OK.
2. Suspicious person in the area of Hwy. 30 near "L" Street on 07/01/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.

3. Suspicious person in the area of Pacific Street near Hwy. 30 on 07/02/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.
4. Suspicious person in the 300 block of "A" Street on 07/03/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.
5. Suspicious person in the area of Second Street near "I" Street on 07/03/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.
6. Suspicious person in the area of Pixie Park on 07/03/2011 – Person involved checked out OK.
7. Disturbance in progress in the 2100 block of Third Street on 07/06/2011 – Peace restored.
8. DUII arrest in the area of Hwy. 30 near "L" Street on 07/06/2011 – Suspect arrested, transported to jail, and pending further court action.
9. Juvenile investigation in the 2100 block of Third Street on 07/14/2011 – Investigation completed.
10. Disturbance complaint in the 1500 block of Fourth Street on 07/16/2011 – Peace restored.
11. Juvenile investigation in the area of Hwy 30 near Pacific Street on 07/16/2011 – Investigation completed.
12. Missing juvenile in the 2100 block of Third Street on 07/18/2011 – Juvenile found and returned to parental custody.
13. Suspicious vehicle in the 2000 block of The Strand on 07/20/2011 – Vehicle and operator checked out OK.
14. Suspicious circumstance in the 2000 block of The Strand on 07/20/2011 – Circumstances and persons involved checked out OK.
15. Narcotics investigative complaint received 07/28/2011 – Investigation remains open and active.

**LIBRARY NEWS**

The City Celebration is Saturday, September 10. We will hold the Strawberry Pancake breakfast, the book sale, the silent auction, and will draw the winning ticket for the raffle quilt. New this year, the Art Guild will have displays and art for sale, with a percentage going to the library. Something exciting for the kids is a free petting zoo in Caples House orchard. A bake sale plus pop and water will be available in the Community Hall, and Mozzare Pizza will take orders for personal size pizzas starting at noon.

The City Celebration is the largest fundraiser we do for the Library. We don't charge any fees for you to have access to our great selection *(Continued on Page 6)*

## LIBRARY NEWS *(Cont.)*

of recent books, in great shape. We do a great job providing this service, and we want to keep doing so. So make sure you are there for the Celebration. Be sure to come by and browse the book sale – stock up on winter reading without spending a fortune, fill our coffers, and empty our closet! We will have a grocery sack of books for \$3.00 after 2:00 PM. Books go fast that last hour, so make sure you get the ones you really want early in the sale! Participate, donate, and volunteer!

Our closet is getting full again – you have about a week left to donate your books to get them in September's book sale! Bring them to the Library during open hours, or to City Hall if we don't happen to be open at a convenient time for you.

The rummage sale raised \$1200, so we were very pleased. We'll plan on another next year.

### Help Needed!

We still need people to request silent auction items from local businesses. We have received a lot of donations, but the businesses are accustomed to someone stopping by. If you have something that would make a nice silent auction item, bring it in! We also need people to provide delicious things for the bake sale. We will be setting up Friday, September 9 at 3:00 PM and need help setting up the Community Hall, the book sale, and all the other planned events. Since the Friends of the Library are doing so many parts of the event, we

will need more volunteers than usual. We will also need people to be cashiers for several locations during the City Celebration. Sign up sheets for all these needs are at the Library.

### Friends of the Library

Next month is election of officers for the Friends of the Library. If you are interested in serving, send an e-mail Secretary Robert Dillinger at: [coastrangeecological@myway.com](mailto:coastrangeecological@myway.com) with a copy to President Cathy Lundberg at: [catden@opusnet.com](mailto:catden@opusnet.com) or leave a note at the Library.

### Story Time:

Every Monday, 11 AM

### Friends of the Library:

Monday, September 12, 7 PM

### Novel Quilters

Wednesday, September 14, 7 PM

### Mystery Book Group:

Wednesday, September 28, 7 PM

### Staffed Library Hours:

Monday and Saturday 10 AM – 2 PM

Wednesday, 4 PM – 8 PM

Thursday, 2 PM – 6 PM

205 "I" Street, PO Box 189

(503) 366-8020

[ccclibrary@live.com](mailto:ccclibrary@live.com)

## SEPTEMBER MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR

September 1 <sup>st</sup>	6:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting at City Hall
September 5 <sup>th</sup>	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Labor Day
September 7 <sup>th</sup>	1:00 p.m.	Meet & Greet your Police Officers at Harvard Park
September 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	8:00 a.m.	Strawberry Pancake Breakfast at the Knapp Social Center
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m.	Silent Auction in the Community Hall
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m.	Friends of the Library Book Sale in the Community Hall
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m.	Art Guild Art Sale in the Community Hall
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m.	Friends of the Library Bake Sale in the Community Hall
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m.	Petting Zoo in the Caples House Orchard
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	2:00 p.m.	Quilt Raffle Drawing in the Community Hall
September 12 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Annual Meeting at the Library
September 13 <sup>th</sup>	<del>7:00 p.m.</del>	<del>Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall - Cancelled</del>
September 15 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 p.m.	Hazard Mitigation Planning Group Meeting at City Hall
September 15 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 p.m.	City Council Meeting at City Hall
September 20 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
September 29 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 p.m.	Meet & Greet your Police Officers at Library Parking Lot