

# COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

# June 2012



CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY  
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## CHIEF'S CORNER ACTIVE INVESTIGATION

The Columbia City Police Department announced on May 21, 2012 an update to the investigation of an incident involving an elderly female resident who is missing from her home. The resident's name is Frieda Mae Bahl, 91 years of age, who also suffers from severe dementia. She was last seen at her home, 700 James Street in Columbia City, Oregon. Investigative leads have disclosed that she was last seen on or about July 4, 2010 and confirmed as missing on May 16, 2012.



*Frieda Mae Bahl, DOB: 06-27-1921  
700 James Street, Columbia City, OR 97018  
Missing between: July 4, 2010 and May 16, 2012*

The Police are actively searching for anyone who may know of her whereabouts, or who may be able to provide information regarding the last time that she was seen.

Anyone with information regarding this case is encouraged to contact the Columbia City Police Department, attention Sergeant Josh Harper, via the Police Tip Line at (503) 397-0007 or toll free at

(877) 768-8881. Persons providing information regarding this investigation may remain anonymous.

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 dispatch).

Stay safe, Chief Michael S. McGlothlin



## REQUEST FOR SEALED BIDS FOR FIREWOOD

The City of Columbia City will accept sealed bids for a large stack of firewood consisting of a mixture of fir, dogwood, maple and willow that is cut in various lengths. The firewood must be picked up and hauled away by the purchaser. The stack of firewood may be viewed at the Public Works Shop during regular business hours. The City Shop is located at 1755 Second Place. Sealed bids must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, June 25, 2012. Send or deliver sealed bids to: City of Columbia City, SEALED BID, 1840 Second Street, PO Box 189, Columbia City, OR 97018. For more information, please contact City Hall by calling (503) 397-4010.

## CHIEF MCGLOTHLIN EARNS TOP LEVEL DPSST EXECUTIVE CERTIFICATE

Columbia City Police Chief, Michael McGlothlin, recently earned multiple certifications from the Oregon Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST).



*Leahnette Rivers, City Administrator, presented Chief Michael McGlothlin with the DPSST Advanced, Supervisory, Management, and Executive Certificates during the May 3, 2012 City Council Meeting*



*Chief Michael McGlothlin earned the Executive Level DPSST Certificate - the highest level available.*

## VOLUNTEERS WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD A STRONGER COMMUNITY

**Parks:** We would like to thank the many volunteers that have come forward to assist us with park and grounds maintenance activities. Volunteers have been working hard to spruce up Jim Bundy Memorial Park, maintain Harvard Park, mow along the bike path, weed and mow Datis Park, remove blackberries from Pixie Park, weed and replant the planting boxes on the wall at the Public Works Shop, mow and weed Carolyn King Memorial Park, weed and mow around the entrance sign area, and more! With the valuable assistance of many volunteers, our City parks are looking better than ever!

**Library:** The Friends of the Library are working hard to provide Library services to the community. They are currently soliciting donations, organizing fund raising activities, and contributing many, many hours to staff the Library for our citizens to enjoy.

**Police Reserves:** Volunteer Police Reserves provide extremely valuable assistance to our Police Department in reaching and maintaining its objectives relating to maintaining the peace, safety and quality of life for our citizens.

**Utility Bills and Newsletters:** Each month a group of dedicated volunteers assists the City with stuffing and sealing the utility bills and newsletters in preparation for mailing.

We'd like to extend a very special thank you to all of our dedicated volunteers - they really make a difference!

We make a living by what we do,  
but we make a life by what we give.  
*Winston Churchill*

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Pixie Park:** Volunteer needed to routinely prune and pull weeds in this waterfront park.

**Datis, Pixie and DAR:** Volunteer needed to routinely mow these parks.

Volunteer applications are available on the City's website at [www.columbia-city.org](http://www.columbia-city.org) or may be picked up at City Hall. For additional information, please inquire at City Hall - (503) 397-4010.

## CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS NEW COMMUNITY VISION STATEMENT

The Columbia City Steering Committee, composed of 12 individuals appointed by the City Council, recently participated in three committee meetings and two community workshops facilitated by David Stocker, CEO of the Columbia County Economic Team. The Steering Committee listened to citizen input during the community workshops and reviewed citizen responses to a recent survey. David Stocker skillfully led the group through a process that resulted in unanimous approval of an updated Vision Statement for the City of Columbia City. The City Council formally adopted the new Columbia City Vision Statement during their May 17 meeting as follows:



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### Columbia City Vision Statement

***Columbia City is the lower Columbia River's ideal small town - a city of beauty and livability.***

- ***Residents connect in safe, attractive, and quiet neighborhoods.***
- ***The city welcomes diverse community-sustaining businesses.***
- ***Engaged citizens and responsive local governments collaborate to preserve the city's distinctive identity and independence.***

We'd like to thank everyone that participated in the community visioning process by returning completed surveys and attending community workshops, as well as those individuals that served on the Steering Committee. We would also like to extend our appreciation to David Stocker for his valuable assistance and guidance throughout the process.

**WATER CONSERVATION TIP**

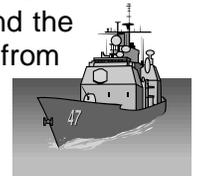
Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

## CITY SOLICITS APPLICANTS FOR CITY CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

The City Council is soliciting applications from interested citizens to serve on a City Charter Review Committee. The Committee will serve as an advisory body to the City Council and will meet monthly to review the current City Charter and make recommendations to the City Council for amendments. Applications to serve are available on the City's website at [www.columbia-city.org](http://www.columbia-city.org) or may be picked up at City Hall. Interested citizens should submit a completed application by June 30, 2012. The City Council will interview applicants during the month of July.

### ROSE FESTIVAL FLEET

The Rose Festival Fleet Week is June 6 through June 10. Naval vessels from the United States Navy, U. S. Coast Guard, and the Royal Canadian Navy arrive from around the world for a four-day visit to the City of Roses. Ship tours will be available daily. Fleet visitation has been an annual tradition for more than 80 years. The ships usually sail by Columbia City the first two days of that week, but there are no specific times for their arrival.



### CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

**Kennels are prohibited!** Kennels are defined as any location where four or more dogs, cats or other small animals are kept for the business of boarding, training, propagation or sale.

**Keep grass and weeds cut!** Between April 15 and September 30 of any year, weeds and grass cannot exceed 10-inches in height and blackberry bushes cannot extend across property lines or into the City's right-of-way, including streets, alleys and sidewalks. Property owners or other persons in charge of the property must keep weeds, grass and other noxious growth, such as poison oak, cut and maintained to prevent them from becoming unsightly and a fire hazard, and to prevent them from maturing and going to seed. Violators can be cited into Municipal Court. Additionally, the City may abate the nuisance and lien the property for the costs.



Please report violations to the City Hall.

## LIBRARY NEWS

This has been a turbulent year but the library is doing great! We have had great support from the community, both in funds and in volunteer help. Thank you for helping keep the library open and improving!

We have some wonderful new children's books, thanks to the Libri Foundation grant. The books are ready to check out, and we are excited! We will be celebrating on Saturday, June 2 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Young readers can listen to the new books at 11:20 a.m., or at 12:30 p.m. We will serve cookies and juice, and showcase the books we got from the grant. We will have a craft project for the children to work on, and children can sign up for our summer reading program.

This is a great opportunity to bring your kids into the library, and get them started coming to our regular story times and the summer reading program.

The Libri Foundation offers a two to one match to purchase books from their 703 book long list, mostly award winners from the last three years. We raised \$250 and they matched with \$500. The library already had 87 books from the list, we ordered another 60 from Paperback Swap, and the Libri Foundation provided 43 hardcover books with the grant. The books range from preschool Caldecott award winners to Newbery award winners for middle schoolers, with a lot of interesting non-fiction books. We will be eligible to apply for the grant again in three years.

The library will be moving to the portable on the Columbia City School grounds. The St. Helens School District offered it to us for utilities and maintenance, a great price! They expect it to be available August 1. The library will be closed for two weeks to a month while we move.

We will hold a planning meeting on Monday, June 11 to discuss the move and the Columbia City Celebration. This is an important meeting, and we need lots of people to help. We need to decide what events we will hold for the City Celebration and we need volunteers to help with both projects. The Columbia City Celebration is planned for Saturday, September 22 this year, so mark it on your calendar and plan to have some fun!

Our Friends of the Library Treasurer will resign at the end of this year (August) so we are looking for someone who is willing to serve as our treasurer. Please contact the library if you are willing to serve.

### **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 at 11 a.m.

### **Children's Books Celebration:**

Saturday, June 2 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### **Friends of the Library Planning Meeting:**

Monday, June 11 at 7 p.m.

### **Historical Trivia and Little Known Facts:**

Saturday, June 16 at 1 p.m.

### **Novel Quilters Meeting:**

Wednesday, June 20 at 6:30 p.m.

### **Mystery Book Group:**

Wednesday, June 27 at 7 p.m.

**Phone:** (503) 366-8020

**Address:** 205 "I" Street

**E-mail:** ccclibrary@live.com

**Website:** [www.freewebs.com/cccomlibrary/index.htm](http://www.freewebs.com/cccomlibrary/index.htm)

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

Each Friday from 2 p.m. 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.

## **FOUND ITEMS**

The following item was found recently and turned into City Hall.

- Black jacket found near the bridge on "L" Street. Does it belong to you? Please contact City Hall.

### **Children's Book Celebration**

Saturday, June 2 - 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Columbia City Library

Storytime!

Cookies and juice!

Craft project!

Sign up for summer reading program!

**POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT**  
**April - May 2012**

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 365 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: Missing Person, Criminal Mischief, Fraud, Harassment, Theft, Stolen Motor Vehicle, Threats, Violation of Restraining Order, and Warrant Service.

**COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY**

Residential Security Checks: 52  
Area Patrols: 43  
Foot Patrols: 6  
Assist the Public: 21  
Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 8  
Radio Calls: 118  
Nuisance/Code Enforcement Complaints: 2  
Juvenile Situations: 1  
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 4  
Welfare check: 1  
Parking complaints/violations: 4  
Traffic complaints: 1  
Civil Situations: 2  
Reserve Police Officer Hours worked: 84.5

**CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:**

Investigative Follow Up's: 10  
Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles and Prowler Calls: 14  
Traffic Stops: 52  
Theft Investigations: 4  
Harassment: 2  
Criminal Mischief: 1  
Traffic Crash/Hit & Run Investigations: 2  
Domestic/Disturbance Investigations: 3  
Warrant Services: 1  
Fraud Investigations: 1

**CALLS OF INTEREST:**

1. Agency Assist/Death Investigation with Major Crimes Team in the Rainier area on 04/28/12 –

- Investigation completed and review pending by DA's Office.
2. Hit and Run Motor Vehicle Crash investigation in the 1400 block of Second Street on 05/01/12 – Investigation completed with suspect identified and charges pending.
  3. Warrant arrest in the Highway 30 area near Pacific Street on 05/02/12 – Suspect identified, located, and arrested.
  4. Motor Vehicle Crash investigation in the 1800 block of Sixth Street on 05/02/12 – Investigation completed with at fault driver identified.
  5. Missing Person investigation in the 700 block of James Street on 05/16/12 – Investigation ongoing.
  6. Assault investigation in the 3300 block of Park Drive on 05/17/12 – Investigation completed with suspect identified and charged.
  7. Agency Assist/Murder investigation in the St. Helens area on 05/20/12 – Investigation completed with review pending by the DA's Office, suspect arrested.
  8. Harassment investigation in the 3000 block of Sixth Street on 05/22/12 – Investigation completed with case closed as unfounded.
  9. Agency Assist/Assault on Law Enforcement Officer investigation in the St. Helens area on 05/24/12 – Investigation completed with suspect arrested.

**FREE CHECK UP EVENT  
FOR CHILD SAFETY SEATS**

Columbia County Safe Kids will hold a child safety seat check up event on Thursday, June 14, 2012, from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. The free clinic will be held in St. Helens at the St. Helens Fire Station, 105 S. 12<sup>th</sup> Street.

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 at no cost. Technicians can also check for seat recalls. Please plan to spend 30-60 minutes at the event.

Additionally, through a grant funded by the ODOT Transportation Safety Division and ACTS Oregon Child Safety Seat Resource Center, child safety seats are available to low-income families in need at a reduced cost. For more information please contact the Safe Kids Coordinator at (503) 410-3169 or ACTS Oregon Child Safety Seat Resource Center 1 (877) 793-2608.

## “WHOOPING COUGH” ON THE RISE

**What is pertussis?** Pertussis - “Whooping Cough” - is a respiratory disease caused by bacteria. It often causes serious problems in babies but is usually milder in older children and adults.

**Who gets pertussis?** Pertussis can occur at any age, but infants and young children are at highest risk of life-threatening consequences.

**What are the symptoms of pertussis?** The first symptoms -- runny nose, sneezing, mild fever, and cough -- usually appear five to 21 days after a person is infected. After one or two weeks, the cough gets worse and usually starts to occur in strong “coughing fits.” This may last six weeks or longer. In young children, coughing fits are often followed by a whooping sound as they try to catch their breath. After coughing, infected people may have difficulty catching their breath, vomit or become blue in the face from lack of air. The coughing spells may be so severe that it is hard for babies to eat, drink or breathe.

**How is pertussis spread?** Bacteria live in the nose, mouth and throat and are sprayed into the air when an infected person sneezes, coughs or talks. Touching a tissue or sharing a cup can also spread the disease. Older children, adolescents, adults and parents who may have a mild illness can spread the disease to infants and young children in the household.

**Is pertussis dangerous?** The illness can be very dangerous for infants, who have the highest risk of pertussis-related complications and death. Almost half of the 525 infants diagnosed with pertussis in Oregon since 2000 have had to be hospitalized. Four infants in Oregon have died of the disease since 2003.

**How is pertussis diagnosed?** A doctor may diagnose based on symptoms and laboratory tests.

**How do you treat it?** Pertussis is treated with antibiotics.

**How do you prevent it?** Cover your cough. Wash your hands. Babies should be kept away from anyone who’s coughing. While there is no lifelong protection against pertussis, immunization is the best preventative measure for your child. Vaccinate children against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis at 2, 4, 6 and 15-18 months, and again at 4 years to kindergarten. DTaP is the name of the vaccine used for children under age 7.



Vaccinate infants’ parents and siblings (age 10 and older) with one does of Tdap, a booster vaccine that helps protect adolescents and adults from getting pertussis and transmitting it to infants. Even adolescents and adults who don’t typically come in contact with small children should be vaccinated.

**Is the pertussis vaccine safe?** Yes, it is safe, although there is a very slight risk of problems such as a local reaction or fever. But the risk of the disease is much more serious.

**Is there any pertussis in Oregon?** Pertussis has been on the rise in Oregon since 2006. In 2011, 314 cases of pertussis had been reported in both adults and children.

**Where can you get more information?** Contact the Public Health Foundation of Columbia County - (503) 397-4651.

*The information contained in this article was obtained from the Oregon Health Authority.*



### MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - JUNE 2012

June 7 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 a.m.	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall
June 11 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Meeting at the Library
June 12 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
June 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
June 21 <sup>st</sup>	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
June 26 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall