

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2012

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COAL DEVELOPMENTS

Interested in learning more about the recent proposals to transport coal through Columbia County to the Port Westward Industrial Park? Representatives of Ambre Energy North America will make a presentation to the Columbia City Council on March 15, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. about the Morrow Pacific project. The meeting is open to the public, and will be held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall. This is one of several public outreach efforts that representatives of Ambre Energy North America, Kinder Morgan, and Genesee & Wyoming Company will make in various parts of the county during the next several months.

The Port of St. Helens is soliciting feedback about the Port Westward Coal Project on their website. Share your feedback with the Port of St. Helens at the following link: http://www.portsh.org/community_feedback.php.

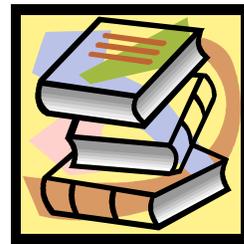
PORT OF ST. HELENS CREATES STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN

The Port of St. Helens is currently developing a Strategic Business Plan that will help to focus and plan for projects which should culminate in job opportunities for the next 20 years. The plan will look at current economic forecasts, Port operations and facilities while identifying potential opportunities. This process will take 6 to 8 months to complete. Throughout this process the Port will be seeking input from the public as well as from community and business leaders. The first round of public meetings is planned for the first two weeks of April.

If you have any questions about this process please contact Scott Jensen, Planning Coordinator, for the Port of St. Helens at Jensen@portsh.org or (503) 397-2888.

Did you know.....

that the Columbia City Community Library has 8,922 different books for you to read?



You should check them out!!!

The Library is located at the corner of Second and "I" Streets.

Volunteers provide free Library Services to the community.

Donations are always welcomed, needed, and appreciated!!

CAPLES HOUSE – ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at Caples House on Saturday, March 17, 2012 with corned beef, cabbage and drinks. Adults \$20 and children (under 12) \$5. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m., with an Irish sing-along and entertainment for the children. RSVP by March 10th at 503-397-5390.



SPRING CLEAN UP DAY
Saturday, April 21, 2012
8 a.m. to noon

Spring cleaning is just around the corner! Now is the time to get rid of that unwanted junk - old appliances, scrap metal, yard debris, old furniture, solidified latex paint cans, unwanted items, etc. The annual Spring Cleanup Day will be held on **Saturday, April 21st, 2012, from 8 a.m. to noon** at the Columbia City School. You can drop off your yard debris, trees and limbs for **FREE!** Extra bulky waste or hard-to-dispose-of items, such as old furniture, lawn mowers, mattresses, etc. will be accepted for a fee. The following minimum charges apply to other items:



- Yard debris, trees and limbs - FREE**
- Car load of junk - \$5.00**
- Pick-up load of junk - \$10.00**
- Trailer load of junk - \$15.00**
- Refrigerators/freezers/air conditioners - \$10.00**
- Other appliances - \$5.00**
- Car batteries - \$2.00**
- Car or pick-up tires - \$2.00**
- Commercial truck tires - \$4.00**
- NO tires on rims*
- NO commercial truck loads*
- NO wet garbage*
- NO burn piles*
- NO painted wood*
- NO lumber*
- NO construction debris*
- NO sod*

OPEN BURNING PERIOD FOR YARD DEBRIS
BURNING PERMITS REQUIRED

The next **biannual burn period will begin on Saturday, April 7th and end on Sunday, April 22th**. The burn period is for 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 or at any Fire Station within the Columbia River Fire & Rescue District. Permits are valid for one year and are free of charge. Please remember you must 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.

Have questions? Please call Bill Goodwin, Fire Marshall, at (503) 397-2990 ext. 105.

WATER CONSERVATION TIP

If your shower fills a one-gallon bucket in less than 20 seconds, replace the showerhead with a water-efficient model.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW) PROGRAM CANCELED FOR MARCH

Due to an unexpected decrease in revenue generated by garbage disposal fees at the Columbia County Transfer Station, the Columbia County HHW Program will cancel two upcoming HHW events scheduled for March 31st and May 26th, 2012. Garbage disposal fees from the transfer station pays for the HHW Program costs. Additional closures through December 31st may be required if garbage disposal fees are not adequate.

Residents have other options for disposing of Household Hazardous Waste, on those days that the County Transfer Station is closed:

- ✓ Bring HHW items on the last Saturday in April and June to the HHW facility at the transfer station **OR**
- ✓ Take your HHW to the Metro HHW facility in NW Portland between 8 AM - 4 PM Monday - Saturday for a small fee. Call (503) 234-3000 for more information regarding disposal fees. The address is 6161 NW 61st Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97210. *Directions* :From Hwy. 30, turn north (left) onto NW Kittridge Ave. and left onto NW Front Ave. Go one mile to Northwest 61st and turn left. The Metro facility is on the right.

For immediate and proper disposal of Medical Sharps, residents can drop them off at:

- ✓ Hudson Garbage will collect sharps at their facility between 8 AM and 4:30 PM for a \$20.00 fee.
- ✓ Fred Meyer Pharmacy in Scappoose will accept containers for a fee. A 1.4-quart will cost \$3.00 and an 8.4 quart will cost \$5.00
- ✓ Metro HHW collects sharps containers for a fee between 8 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday - Saturday. Call Metro @ (503) 234-3000 for more information regarding sharps disposal fees.

For more information regarding the Columbia County HHW Program, contact the Columbia County Solid Waste Coordinator, Roy Weedman, @ 503.397.7263 or roy.weedman@co.columbia.or.us

FLASH FROM THE PAST GERMANY HILL CEMETERY

by Shannon Fitzgibbons, City Councilor

There is a beautiful cemetery located on a hill south of Columbia City, just west of Deer Island Road and adjacent to the Knife River rock quarry. It is now a Masonic Cemetery. According to "Columbia City Days", there are 35 marked graves at Columbia City's first cemetery. The majority of the markers are broken, and the names and dates are nearly erased with time. There is also evidence of once many more markers.

Quoted from "Columbia City Days": Old Joseph Caples is there along with Dr. Charles, Lucinda McBride Caples and their daughter. Johanna Caples Maxwell is in the same row, while Hezekiah and Minerva Bonser Caples are close by. Philip and Mary Laffer, who followed their son-in-law Joseph Caples to Oregon Territory rest near their grandchildren. Fred Caples, the next to the last family member to pass away, has a beautiful almost-new stone. The McBrides, James and Mahala, have a huge marker close by their children Lucinda, John and George McBride.

The road going past the cemetery is narrow, and there appears to be several beautiful farms close by, so please be considerate of them if you should decide to drive by.

Information for story taken from "Columbia City Days", the Internet and my own observation.

LET'S CLEAN IT UP!

Did you know that the City's nuisance ordinance prohibits the outdoor storage of junk, rubbish, trash, and debris upon private property, alleys and streets? Voluntary compliance is our most



cost effective method of enforcement. Please be aware of and comply with the above regulations, and share this information with others. Please feel free to report violations to the Police Department by calling (503) 397-4010.

WORD FUNNY

It's a wonder we ever make any sense with a language like this.

- We polish the Polish furniture.
- He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- A farm can produce produce.
- The dump was so full it had to refuse refuse.
- The soldier decided to desert in the desert.
- The present is a good time to present the present.
- At the Army base, a bass was painted on the head of a bass drum.
- The dove dove into the bushes.
- I did not object to the object.
- The insurance for the invalid was invalid.
- The bandage was wound around the wound.
- There was a row among the oarsmen about how to row.
- They were too close to the door to close it.
- The buck does funny things when the does are present.
- They sent a sewer down to stitch the tear in the sewer line.
- To help with planting, the farmer taught his sow to sow.
- The wind was too strong to wind the sail.
- After a number of Novocain injections, my jaw got number.
- I shed a tear when I saw the tear in my clothes.
- I had to subject the subject to a series of tests.
- How can I intimate this to my most intimate friend?
- I spent last evening evening out a pile of dirt.

LIBRARY NEWS

We had a great weekend with our book sale, antique quilt show, and David O'Donnell's lecture on "Custer's Last Stand". We made \$1165 on the book sale, and \$72 on the quilt

show. It was a fun weekend, with a chance to visit with people. Thanks to everyone who helped put it together and take it down afterwards! Without your help we wouldn't have a library!

In January we applied for a Libri Foundation grant for children's books. If we raise \$250, they will match \$500, for a total of \$750 of new children's books, most published within the last three years. We got the grant! I sent an email to those who are on our fundraising committee, and we got pledges for \$600 within 3 days! What a wonderful response! We will order the books in the next few weeks, and will have them in place before our summer reading program starts. Look for a special event to celebrate and publicize our receiving the grant!

This month David O'Donnell will be presenting "The Six Wives of Henry VIII". His lecture on "Custer's Last Stand" was very interesting, with lots of things I'd never heard, and a good discussion of some of the unanswered questions that always remain in history. Expect another excellent story.

We received a donation of over 60 audio books from Scott Winegar, almost all published within the last four years. So check out our audio books as we get those put into the collection! Thanks Scott!

We have lots of new books, thanks to donations and PaperBackSwap acquisitions, such as:

Carte Blanche by Jeffery Deaver
Tick Tock by James Patterson
Private: #1 Suspect by James Patterson
Bamboo and Blood by James Church
The Big Burn by Timothy Egan
Hitch 22 by Christopher Hitchens
The Warmth of Other Suns by Isabel Wilkerson

There are a lot more, at least 20 every week, that get added to the collection. Keep us in mind as you are cleaning your bookshelves. We are always happy to take your books, either for the library collection or for our next book sale. Expect the next sale in early May.

Our next planning meeting will be Monday, March 5. We appreciate your help as we determine the best course for our library.

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LIBRARY NEWS (Cont.)

Staffed 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.

Story Time:

11 a.m. every Monday

Planning Meeting:

Monday, 3/5/12 - 7 p.m.

Friends of the Library Meeting:

Monday, 3/12/12 - 7 p.m.

The Six Wives of Henry the VIII:

Saturday, 3/17/12 - 1 p.m.

Novel Quilters Meeting:

Wednesday, 3/21/12 – 6:30 p.m.

Mystery Book Group:

Wednesday, 3/28/12 - 7 p.m.

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cclibrary@opusnet.com

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

The Caples House Museum
OPENS
for the season in March!

Museum Hours:
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday, Saturday, & Sunday



CHIEF'S CORNER

CRIME UPDATE: With identity theft crimes on the rise across the nation, please see below for some tips on how not to become a victim of this type of crime:

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 his or her 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.

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.

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CHIEF'S CORNER (Cont.)

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.

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 Department at 503-397-4010 or the non-emergency dispatch at 503-397-1521.
- Call the U.S. Postal Inspection Service office if the crime involved U.S. mail.
- Call the U.S. Secret Service if the crime involved counterfeit credit cards or computer hacking.
- 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 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.

Thanks, Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME BEGINS



Daylight-saving time begins on the second Sunday in March. Mark your calendars to set your clocks ahead one hour on March 11th.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

Political signs: Political signs may be displayed no sooner than 45 days prior to an election, and must be removed within 15 days of election. For the May 15th Election, signs may be displayed Starting April 1st and remain until May 30th.



POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT January – February 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 298 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: Theft, Menacing, Harassment, Criminal Mischief, Identity Theft, Possession of Drug Paraphernalia, and Burglary.

COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY

Residential Security Checks: 25
Area Patrols: 23
Foot Patrols: 2
Assist the Public: 16
Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 4
Radio Calls: 142
Nuisance/Code Enforcement Complaints: 4
Juvenile Situations: 1
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 7
911 Hang up: 1
Animal Complaints: 2
Parking complaints/violations: 3
Traffic complaints: 2
Welfare checks: 2
Reserve Police Officer Hours worked: 61.5



CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:

Investigative Follow Up's: 11
Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles
and Prowler Calls: 8
Traffic Stops: 21
Theft Investigations: 2
Death Investigation: 1
Menacing: 2
Harassment: 2
Criminal Mischief: 1
Traffic Crash Investigations: 1
Identity Theft: 1
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia: 1
Burglary: 1

CALLS OF INTEREST:

1. Menacing, Harassment, and Criminal Mischief investigation in the 1700 block of Second Street on 02/01/2012 – Investigation completed with juvenile suspect identified and criminal case forwarded for prosecution.
2. Theft investigation in the 2900 block of Seventh Street on 02/13/2012 – Investigation complete with determination of having occurred outside of agency jurisdiction. Case referred.
3. Identity Theft investigation in the 2100 block of Second Street on 02/13/2012 – Investigation complete with determination of having occurred outside of agency jurisdiction. Case referred.
4. Harassment and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia investigation in the 400 block of "A" Street on 02/20/2012 – Investigation completed and juvenile suspect identified. Criminal case referred for prosecution.
5. Menacing investigation in the 400 block of "A" Street on 02/21/2012 – Investigation ongoing with criminal suspect identified. Arrest/prosecution pending.
6. Burglary investigation in the 1500 of Second Street on 02/22/2012. Case closed with leads exhausted.



