COUMBIACTY NEWSLETTER AJPIRITL 2013



COLUMBIA CITY 1840 SECOND STREET PO BOX 189 COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018 PHONE: (503) 397-4010

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PUBLIC HEARINGS SET FOR RV STORAGE AND PARKING REGULATIONS

The City Council will hold public hearings at 6 PM during their April 4th and April 18th Council Meetings to accept public input about proposed changes to Ordinance No. 504, which regulates vehicle and pedestrian traffic upon City right-of-ways. The meetings will be held in the Council Chambers of

the City Hall, 1840 Second Street. Written input may also be submitted prior to the meetings.



The Council is proposing the following regulations relating to the parking and storage of RVs, campers, motor homes, boats, travel trailers, boat trailers, and utility trailers within the City's right-of-way:

- Parking or storage upon the public right-of-way shall be limited to no more than 72 hours unless authorized by an approved and recorded Exception Permit.
- Parking or storage within an approved driveway that extends from the edge of the paved street on public right-of-way and onto private property does not require an Exception Permit, even upon the portion of the driveway located within the public right-of-way; however, the storage must be kept at least six (6) feet from the edge of the paved street.
- Exception Permits require the completion of an application and the payment of a \$150 fee, and must be approved by the City Council.
- Only one Exception Permit may be approved per property.
- Storage authorized under an Exception Permit must be kept at least six (6) feet from the edge of the paved portion of the street.
- Storage authorized under an Exception Permit must be parked directly adjacent to residentially zoned property legally occupied by the owner of the storage.
- Total square footage occupied by parking in the front setback of the residence and under the

Exception Permit shall not exceed 720 square feet

- Storage authorized within the right-of-way shall be maintained in proper condition. Proper condition means:
 - ✓ Licensed, operable and insured with no visible damaged parts;
 - No peeling, blistering, rusting, mossy or otherwise deteriorating exterior surfaces or flat tires;
 - No deteriorating or torn tarps or covers or trash storage;
 - ✓ All awnings, slide-outs and pops-ups closed; and
 - ✓ Any grass, weeds, or similar vegetation in or around storage mowed to lawn height.
- Exception Permits shall be subordinate to the rights of the City and the public to make any use of the right-of-way that is permitted by law. The City Council may revoke Exception Permits without cause.

BREAK THE POLLUTANT CYCLE

Help reduce the pharmaceuticals entering the sewer systems and Flushing waterways. excess medication down the toilet is simply not a practice we can continue. Steroids, birth control, pain killers, and other pharmaceuticals have been detected our nation's waterways.



You can take steps to prevent and reduce these pollutants in the environment by disposing of your excess pharmaceuticals at one of the following locations.

The following Police Stations have collection boxes available to you within Columbia County:

- Scappoose Police Department:
 33568 E. Columbia Avenue, Scappoose
 Monday Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM
- St. Helens Police Department: 150 S. 13th Street, St. Helens Monday – Friday, 10 AM to 4 PM

SPRING CLEANUP



Spring cleaning is around iust the corner! Now is the time to get rid of that unwanted junk - old appliances. scrap metal, yard debris, old furniture. newspaper, solidified latex paint cans. unwanted items, etc. The annual Spring Cleanup Day will be held on Saturday, April 27th, 2013. 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

Need help transporting your items to the event site? Junk It Store It can help. They will pick your items up - load and haul your yard debris and junk. Please call to schedule an appointment prior to the event (503) 397-5865.

This is a community event sponsored by:

- Beaver Bark
- City of Columbia City
- □ City of Scappoose
- □ City of St. Helens
- Columbia County Community Corrections
- □ Columbia County Land Development

- Columbia County Rotary Club
- Columbia County Transfer Station
- Junk It Store It
- **Hudson Garbage Service**
- **Hudson Portable Toilet Service**
- Les Schwab Tire Center-St. Helens
- Les Schwab Tire Center-Scappoose
- R & E Recycling
- St. Helens School District
- St. Helens Lions Club
- Scappoose Community Club
- □ Scappoose School District
- □ South Columbia County Chamber
- □ Stan's Refrigeration
- Waste Management

REMINDER BIANNUAL BURN PERIOD

The biannual burn period will begin on Saturday, April 6th, and end on Sunday, April 21st. The burn period is for yard debris only, burn barrels are prohibited and it must be a burn day. Call (503)



397-4800 for burn day information before you burn. Burn permits are required prior to burning! If you obtained a permit in the fall of 2012 you may not need to get a new one check the expiration date.

Permits may be obtained at City Hall or at any Fire Station within the Columbia River Fire & Rescue District.

WATER CONSERVATION TIP



Use the garbage disposal sparingly. Compost vegetable food waste instead and save gallons every time.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

Keep grass and weeds cut: Between April 15th and September 30th weeds and grass cannot exceed 10 inches in height within the City limits.



Keep vard debris off streets and sidewalks and out of storm drains: Streets and sidewalks need to be kept clear of yard debris and other waste. Don't wash grass clippings into the gutter or storm drain - it will clog the storm system. Please pick up yard debris and dispose of it properly.

LOST & FOUND ITEMS

- Keys were found at Harvard Park.
- A child-size bicycle was found at Third and "F" Streets.

Do any of these items belong to you? If you think so, please contact City Hall.

POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT February - March 2013

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 395 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 Violence, DUII Harassment, Menacing, Theft, Threats, and Warrant Service.

COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY:

Residential Security Checks: 220

Area Patrols: 33 Foot Patrols: 4 Assist the Public: 9

Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 3

Radio Calls: 26

Nuisance/Code Enforcement Complaints: 4

Assistance to Outside Agencies: 1

Parking Violations: 2 Civil Situations: 4 Traffic Complaints: 2 Welfare Checks: 1 Animal Complaints: 2

Reserve Police Officer Hours Worked: 61

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:

Investigative Follow Up's: 11

Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles

and Prowler Calls: 11

Traffic Stops: 27 Criminal Mischief: 1 Theft Investigations: 3

Service of Arrest Warrant(s): 1

Threats Investigations: 2

Harassment/Menacing Investigations: 1

DUII Investigations/Arrests: 1

Domestic Violence/Disturbance Investigations: 8

CALLS OF INTEREST:

- 1. DUII investigation and arrest in the area of Highway 30 near Pacific Street on 02/24/13 Suspect arrested and transported to the Columbia County Jail.
- 2. Menacing and Harassment investigation in the area of Fifth Street near Penn Street on 02/24/13 Investigation closed with case forwarded to the District Attorney's Office.
- Found Property call in the area of Third Street near "F" Street on 03/13/13 – Child-size bicycle taken for safekeeping. Will release to owner with identification made.
- 4. Theft investigation in the 1500 block of Fourth Street on 03/21/13 Investigation delayed report from 2012; remains open.

COLUMBIA COUNTY RESOURCE & JOB FAIR

WorkSource Oregon Employment Department and MTC Works will hold a Resource and Job Fair for job seekers and employers on Wednesday, May 15th. The event will be held in the Columbia River Foursquare Church, 555 Commons Drive, St. Helens, and will be open for Veteran's only from noon to 1 PM, and for the General Public from 1 to 4 PM. For more information contact: MTC Works at (503) 397-6495 or WorkSource Oregon Employment Department at (503) 397-4995.

ANNUAL SPRING GARDEN FAIR

Don't miss the **Columbia County Master Gardeners Spring Garden Fair** on April 27th at St. Helens High School Commons, 2375 Gable Road. The sale starts at 9 AM and ends at 3 PM. Admission and parking are free. Please carpool.

Certified Master Gardeners offer 5,000 tomatoes in more than 30 varieties for only \$1.50 per plant. Come early for the best selection. Certified members will be on hand to provide general gardening information at the education table and tomato-specific information at the tomato sale.

Raffle tickets will be sold for \$1.00 each and hourly prizes will be awarded. Dozens of local vendors will offer garden related products.

CHIEF'S CORNER

NEIGHBORHOOD COMPLAINT!!! We have been notified by citizens in the Tahoma Street, Fifth



Street and Lincoln Street areas regarding speeding and unsafe driving. As a reminder, neighborhood speed limits are set at 25 MPH. Also, with warmer weather approaching, please be mindful of children playing within our neighborhoods.

WELCOME BACK! Our department would like to take the opportunity to welcome back Reserve Officer Alex Bubar to the agency. Reserve Officer Bubar previously served for over six years with our department as a Reserve Officer and re-joined our ranks on Thursday March 21, 2013. He is a past winner of the Oregon Police Officers Association and Columbia City Police Department's Life Saving Award. His return is well received and his efforts to help keep our community safe are much appreciated.

PERSONNEL UPDATE: Due to the recent resignation of department staff the Columbia City Police Department opened up the hiring process for a new police officer. This position will be funded through the continued support of the Oregon Department of Transportation's Motor Carrier Enforcement Grant. Forty-two applicants applied for this position, and twenty-two applicants have been selected to continue in the process. Interested applicants will undergo a competitive employment process, which will include written testing, a department oral board and an interview with the Chief of Police. The candidate who receives a conditional offer of employment will also have to a thorough successfully pass background investigation, physical exam with drug screening, and a psychological examination. The department opened up the process to both currently certified police officers as well as those who are just entering the profession. More updates to follow...

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

COMMUNITY ALERT NETWORK (CAN)

When emergency response agencies need to notify citizens and businesses of important information, the dispatchers at the Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District activate the Columbia Alert Network (CAN), a high speed telephone dialing service, to send out whatever message might be requested to a specific geographical area. For example, emergency messages might be sent to deliver:

- A shelter in place notification in the event of an accidental chemical release that might affect your neighborhood;
- Special instructions associated with a severe weather advisory that is expected to impact your neighborhood;
- A notice to secure your home and remain inside due to an incident that police are handling within your neighborhood; or
- A boil water notice due to a loss of water system pressure resulting from a large water break.

To receive the CAN notifications via cellular phone, Voice over Internet Protocol, e-mail, text message, or at an alternate phone number, you must provide the CAN registry with your contact information.

Contact information provided to the registry will be included when a CAN message is sent to an area that encompasses the address registrants specify.



To provide the CAN registry with your contact information, go to the Columbia 9-1-1 Communication District website, www.columbia911.com. If you don't have access to the Internet, you may complete a form (see page 8) and mail it to Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District.

NOTE: There is no need to use the registry for landline phones based in Columbia County, Notifications will be sent to landline phone numbers in the target area without registry. This registry is only for cell phone numbers, alternate phone numbers, e-mail and text messages.

Registry contact information may take up to 60 days to be incorporated into the notification database. You will need to reregister each time you make a change to your contact information.

THE RACE AGAINST CHILD ABUSE

Start your Memorial Day weekend off right! Bringing hope, health, safety, and support to child victims of abuse in YOUR community is as easy as lacing up your walking/running shoes! Join us for the 5th Annual Amani Center Race Against Child



Abuse, on Saturday, May 25, 2013. With a half marathon, 10k run, 5k run/walk, and 1 mile family walk, there's something for everyone.

All proceeds directly benefit the <u>Amani Center</u>. The Center is a non-profit organization created to assist Columbia County in responding to child abuse through the child forensic interviewing and medical assessment, treatment of children (birth – 18 years) alleged to have been sexually abused, physically abused, emotionally abused, neglected and/or witnessed a violent crime including domestic violence. The Amani Center's mission is to "minimize trauma to child abuse victims through professional medical diagnosis and treatment in a secure and child-friendly environment with the goal of preventing child abuse in all forms."

Fighting Child Abuse is an ongoing battle, but you can be part of the solution.

This year we are asking our participants to consider supporting the Amani Center even more through asking your friends/family to sponsor you (the runner/walker) or your race team (you can get a group of friends to do this with you)! For more details, visit the Amani Center's website at www.amanicenter.org.

By participating you can make a difference in the life of an abused child.

NEW COLUMBIA COUNTY MEDICARE HELP LINE

A new local Medicare help line for Columbia County is available. Seniors and others with Medicare can call 1 (971) 225-3838 toll free to contact a Columbia County SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance) volunteer. SHIBA volunteers are trained by the state to aid people with Medicare issues. They are unbiased, certified and provide free help.

If you're on Medicare or about to become eligible, you may have questions like: What's the best choice for your situation if you're new to Medicare, and how do you sort through the endless advertising brochures? Already on Medicare and falling into the "donut hole" (coverage gap) for prescription drugs? How can you pay for your prescriptions? On Medicare and having problems with your insurance company – they're not paying for things that they seemed to promise they would?

SHIBA volunteers can assist with these and many other questions. Call 1 (971) 225-3838 to leave a message for a local SHIBA person. Someone will contact you in a few days.

The new SHIBA phone line uses Google Voice and is only for Columbia County residents. Calls are referred in rotation to the local volunteers who will get back to you.

A LOCAL SHOWCASE FOR TRILLIUM

From March through June, large-flowered trilliums bloom gracefully on the forest floor throughout Jim Bundy Memorial Park. The trillium has a large, often white, three-petaled flower above three broad leaves. Along with its three sepals, it's easy to see where trillium got its name. The plants are 8 - 18 inches high with a stem bearing a 2 - 4 inch flower. The white flowers turn pink with age. They grow in

rich wooded areas, and trillium is often the first wildflower noticed by casual walkers as other spring wildflowers are much less apparent.



Trillium flowers should never be picked. The three leaves below the flower are the plant's only food source and a picked trillium may die or take many years to recover. Trillium plants take 6 years to grow from seeds to flowers.

Trillium is one of many plants whose seeds are spread by ants and mice. Trillium seeds have a fleshy organ called an elaiosome that attracts ants. The ants take the seeds to their nest, where they eat the elaiosomes and put the seeds in their garbage, where they are protected until they germinate. They also get the added bonus of growing in a medium made richer by the ant garbage.

EARTHQUAKE SAFETY TIPS HOW TO SURVIVE AN EARTHQUAKE

A little knowledge and a few precautionary measures can enormously increase your chances of surviving an earthquake - or any other type of hazard. The keys are education and preparing in advance. The earthquake safety tips below will not make you an expert. However, they could make a life-saving difference if you find yourself in an earthquake situation. Invest in your personal safety by studying below.

Before the Earthquake:

- Learn how to survive during the ground motion.
 This is described in the "During the Earthquake" section below. The earthquake safety tips there will prepare you for the fast action needed most earthquakes are over in seconds so knowing what to do instinctively is very important.
- Teach all members of your family about earthquake safety. This includes: 1) the actions you should take when an earthquake occurs, 2) the safe places in a room such as under a strong desk, along interior walls, and 3) places to avoid such as near windows, large mirrors, hanging objects, heavy furniture and fireplaces.
- Stock up on emergency supplies. These include: battery operated radio (and extra batteries), flashlights (and extra batteries), first aid kit, bottled water, two weeks food and medical supplies, blankets, cooking fuel, tools needed to turn off your gas, water and electric utilities.
- Arrange your home for safety: Store heavy objects on lower shelves and store breakable objects in cabinets with latched doors. Don't hang heavy mirrors or pictures above where people frequently sit or sleep.
- Anchor heavy appliances and furniture such as water heaters, refrigerators and bookcases.
- Store flammable liquids away from potential ignition sources such as water heaters, stoves and furnaces.
- Get educated. Learn what to do during an earthquake (see below). Then you will be ready for the fast action needed. Make sure that all members of your family have this important education.
- Learn where the main turn-offs are for your water, gas and electricity. Know how to turn them off and the location of any needed tools.

During the Earthquake:

- If you are indoors, stay there. Quickly move to a safe location in the room such as under a strong desk, a strong table, or along an interior wall. The goal is to protect yourself from falling objects and be located near the structural strong points of the room. Avoid taking cover near windows, large mirrors, hanging objects, heavy furniture, heavy appliances or fireplaces.
- If you are cooking, turn off the stove and take cover.
- If you are outdoors, move to an open area where falling objects are unlikely to strike you. Move away from buildings, power lines and trees.
- If you are driving, slow down smoothly and stop on the side of the road. Avoid stopping on or under bridges and overpasses, or under power lines, trees and large signs. Stay in your car.

After the Earthquake:

- Check for injuries, attend to injuries if needed, help ensure the safety of people around you.
- Check for damage. If your building is badly damaged you should leave it until it has been inspected by a safety professional.
- If you smell or hear a gas leak, get everyone outside and open windows and doors. If you can do it safely, turn off the gas at the meter. Report the leak to the gas company and fire department. Do not use any electrical appliances because a tiny spark could ignite the gas.
- If the power is out, unplug major appliances to prevent possible damage when the power is turned back on. If you see sparks, frayed wires, or smell hot insulation turn off electricity at the main fuse box or breaker. If you will have to step in water to turn off the electricity you should call a professional to turn it off for you.

AFTER HOUR WATER AND SEWER EMERGENCIES

When City Hall and Public Works offices are closed and an urgent water or sewer situation arises, call the following after-hours emergency number:

(503) 397-1521

The dispatcher will contact the appropriate person to respond to the situation.

LIBRARY NEWS

Things are going smoothly at the library right now. We are starting to think about summer reading, especially on these nice days! Don't you wish you could sit out on your mowed lawn and read a great book? We can't help you mow your lawn, but *Gardening with Native Plants of the Pacific Northwest* by Art Kruckeberg can help you plan your flowerbeds, and we have hundreds of choices for that great book! The more books you check out, the more room we have to add more!

Novel Quilters reveal their quilts based on *Sacred Clowns* by Tony Hillerman on Wednesday, April 17 at 6:30 PM. Everyone is invited to this wonderful exhibition of quilts, with each quilter describing why they chose to do their quilt. The next book for our group will be revealed.

Our Community Reads is in full swing. We are reading *Night* by Elie Wiesel and *The Devil's Arithmetic* by Jane Yolen. Libraries in Columbia County will be hosting a variety of events and activities related to this year's theme, The Holocaust.

Other books our library has that address the theme include:

- Sarah's Key by Tatiana De Rosnay
- City of Thieves by David Benioff
- Milkweed by Jerry Spinelli
- The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyn
- Number the Stars by Lois Lowry
- Yellow Star by Jennifer Roy
- The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
 - Thursday, April 4th at 7:00 pm
 St. Helens Public Library
 Defiant Requiem film Screening
 Thursday, April 11th at 7:00 pm
 Rainier Public Library
 Anneke Bloomfield, speaker

Visit the library for more information on these events.

New Books: We added 177 books to the library during the past month. Some recent additions to our library include:

- The World Until Yesterday: What We Can Learn From Traditional Societies? by Jared Diamond
- Oregon Starwatch by Mike Lynch

- The Tattooed Girl: The Enigma of Stieg Larsson and the Secrets Behind the Most Compelling Thrillers of Our Time by Dan Burnstein
- The Floor of Heaven: A True Tale of the Last Frontier and the Yukon Gold Rush by Howard Blum
- I Will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato by Lauren Child (for your little picky eaters!)
- The Furry Animal Alphabet Book by Jerry Pallotta
- The Wedding Quilt by Jennifer Chiaverini
- The Sisters Brothers by Patrick DeWitt
- A Case of Exploding Mangoes by Mohammed Hanif

Staffed Library Hours:

Monday, 10 AM – 2 PM Wednesday, 4 – 8 PM Thursday, 2 – 6 PM Saturday, 10 AM – 2 PM

Story Time:

11 AM every Monday
Friends of the Library Meeting:
Monday, April 15 - 7 PM
Novel Quilters Meeting:
Wednesday, April 17 - 6:30 PM
Mystery Book Group:
Wednesday, April 24 - 7 PM

2000 Second Street, PO Box 189 Columbia City OR 97018 (503) 366-8020 cclibrary@opusnet.com

AVOID LATE FEES AND ORDER BANK CHECKS EARLY!

Ordering a bank check to pay your utility bill? Be sure to allow enough time to avoid late fees!! Unpaid accounts are subject to late fees on the 26th of the month.

CAPLES HOUSE MUSEUM COMPLEX OPEN

The Caples House Museum is now open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 1 to 5 PM, through the end of October. They would love to give you a tour and share the history of the Caples Family in Columbia City. After the tour or each Friday from 2 to 4 PM visit the Caples House for a pot of tea and sweets. Cost is \$5 per person with proceeds going to the museum. Caples House Museum is located at 1925 First Street.

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - APRIL 2013

April 1 st April 4 th	6:00 PM 6:00 PM	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
April 6 th	dawn	First day of open burning
April 8 th	7:00 PM	Friends of the Library Meeting at the Library
April 9 th	7:00 PM	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
April 11 th	7:00 PM	Municipal Court at City Hall
April 18 th	6:00 PM	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
April 21 st	dusk	Last day of open burning
April 27 th	8:00 AM to noon	Spring Clean Up Event at the Columbia City School
April 30 th	6:00 PM	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall

CITIZEN REGISTRY **COLUMBIA ALERT NETWORK (CAN)**

Each cell phone requires individual registration by completing the form below.

To receive **text messages** to your cell phone, please complete the information in the last box. We need your cell phone number (no dashes) and the carrier/provider to successfully send these messages.

NOTE: You are responsible for any text message charges from your cell phone company.

Name:			
Address 1:			
Address 2:			
City:	Sate:	Zip:	
10-Digit VOIP or Cell Ph	none Number:		
E-mail Addre	ess:		
10-Digit Cell Phone Number	for Text Messages:		
Carrier:			

Return completed forms to:

Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District Att: CAN Registry PO Box 998 St. Helens, OR 97051