

Columbia City Newsletter



February 2014



COLUMBIA CITY
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CALLING ALL DOGS! COLUMBIA CITY OFF-LEASH DOG PARK GRAND OPENING FEBRUARY 22, 2014 - 10:00 A.M.

The Grand Opening of the new off-leash dog park in Columbia City will take place on **Saturday, February 22nd at 10:00 a.m.** The new dog park is located on "E" Street between Highway 30 and Second Street.



"We always try to listen to our citizens' concerns." said Mayor Young. "With help from the Port of St. Helens and the Columbia County Community Corrections Crew, we are now able to provide this additional service."

The fully fenced dog park encompasses ½ acre of open grassy field divided into two areas - one for large and one for small dogs. The park features a picnic table, park bench, waste stations, double gates, specific rules for dogs and their owners, some shade, and (of course) a fire hydrant. Dog owners should bring their own water for their dogs.

The grand opening will kick off with a ribbon cutting ceremony by Mayor Cheryl A. Young. Special recognition will be given to the Columbia County Community Corrections Crew and the Port of St. Helens for their help and partnership in this project, and to the Columbia City Parks Committee for seeing this project through to fruition.

Shannon Fitzgibbons, Parks Committee Chair, originally planted the seed for this idea and recently said, "Dogs are man's best friend and I felt Columbia City should have a park for them. I think dog parks are a coming trend and every town should have one."

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO GIVE INPUT ABOUT THE ISSUE OF BASKETBALL HOOPS IN RIGHT-OF-WAYS

The City is seeking interested volunteers to serve on a Committee to study the issue of basketball hoops placed within the City right-of-ways. The Committee will be asked to look at the current placement of basketball hoops, review some regulations enacted by other communities, and make a recommendation to the City Council about the level of regulation they believe would best serve the community.

Applications to serve on the Basketball Hoop Study Committee will be accepted through 5:00 p.m. on February 20, 2014. Public Service Applications may be picked up at City Hall or found on the City's website at www.columbia-city.org.



The first meeting of the Basketball Hoop Study Committee will be held in March 2014.

PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

Are you interested in serving on the Columbia City Planning Commission? The City currently has a position available. Applicants must reside within the City or the City's Urban Growth Boundary. The term is for a period of four years. The Planning Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month when there are topics to discuss. Applications may be picked up at the City Hall, or may be found on the City's website at www.columbia-city.org.

CHIEF'S CORNER

CAN SYSTEM REGISTRATION: The Columbia Alert Network (CAN) provides emergency information to Columbia City residents, who voluntarily sign up for the program, in the event of incidents which could negatively impact life or property. A test was conducted on Thursday, January 16, 2014, focusing on those citizens who had already signed up to participate. While we are learning about the limitations of the program, such as communication time gaps from an actual event until citizen notification, we are still encouraging citizens to sign up so that we may communicate more effectively with as many people as possible in the event of an emergency. This program is just one "tool" which the City will use to communicate as we continue to explore additional social media technologies for future use. Those wishing to participate may complete a registration form at the City Hall front desk or by contacting Cindi Turula, C-COM Information Systems Technician, directly at (503) 397-7255.

HOME AND NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY: Neighborhood Security encompasses a lot of different ideas and strategies. However, the unifying element is the need for neighbors to work both as individuals and as a coordinated team.

If your neighborhood is having chronic problems with nuisances such as noise and speeding, or more serious problems such as drug or gang activities, you are not powerless to change the situation. The immediate role of the police is to respond to criminal activity, but when a situation is part of a recurring problem, active neighbors help investigations and allow police to take further action.

Your response can, as well as that of your neighbor, make a difference. Often times the partnership between neighbors and police are required to resolve the problem.

Individual Tips

- **Use Home Security Methods** - There are easy ways to protect your house from becoming an easy target for burglars. Feel free to contact a police officer for crime prevention suggestions.
- **Report Crime** - Don't assume that your neighbors have already reported the crime or that the police already know what is going on.

- **Don't Be Part of the Problem** - When you live in a residential neighborhood, your actions are felt by others. By not speeding, maintaining your house and property, and being thoughtful about noise levels - you will set a standard of behavior for others in your neighborhood to follow.

Neighborhood Tips

- **Start A Block Watch** - An active Block Watch may be the most important tool you have to reclaim your neighborhood, or to stop problems before they get too serious.
- **Be A Good Neighbor** - Meet your neighbors, keep a watchful eye on the neighborhood and report suspicious activities.
- **Keep A Log** - If your neighborhood is experiencing chronic problems, keeping records of where, when and what kind of activity occurred will help later, especially if there is a criminal prosecution or need to establish a pattern of behavior.

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), at the office (503) 397-4010 (non-emergency), or through C-COM (non-emergency dispatch) at (503) 397-1521.

Stay safe ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARINGS

The City Council will hold the following public hearings at 6:00 p.m. on February 6, 2014:

Drinking Water Protection Strategies: The Council will accept public testimony about proposed drinking water protection strategies for the City's water system.

"I" Street Vacation: The City Council will receive public input concerning a proposal to vacate "I" Street between Fifth Street and the Fifth Place Alley. That portion of "I" Street is generally described as lying between Lot 6 of Block 72 and Lot 1 of Block 73, Columbia City.

Additional information about these matters may be obtained by contacting City Hall or visiting the City's website at www.columbia-city.org.

POLICE ACTIVITY
December 2013 – January 2014

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 568 calls for service; both self-initiated as well as dispatched calls, during the 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: Assault and Menacing, Harassment, Online Sexual Corruption of a Child, Restraining Order Violation, and Warrant Arrest.



COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY:

Residential Security Checks: 377
Area Patrols: 43
Alarm Calls: 2
Assist the Public: 10
Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 5
Radio Calls: 9
Nuisance/Code Enforcement Complaints: 1
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 1
Animal Complaints: 5
Welfare Checks: 4
Parking Violations: 1
Reserve Police Officer Hours Worked: 45.5

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:

Investigative Follow Up's: 13
Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles
and Prowler Calls: 12
Traffic Stops: 19
Narcotics Complaints: 1
Theft Investigation Follow Ups: 13
Service of Arrest Warrant(s): 1
Harassment: 1
Assault: 1
Menacing: 1
Restraining Order Violations: 1
Juvenile Investigations: 1
Warrant Arrests: 1

CALLS OF INTEREST:

1. Warrant arrest in area of Fifth Street near "D" Street on 01/04/14. Suspect arrested and transported to jail.
2. Online Sexual Corruption of a Child investigation in the 3000 block of Fifth Street on 01/04/14. Suspect identified who resides in Tennessee. Investigation completed with referral to the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force – both Salem, Oregon and Knoxville, Tennessee Offices – for prosecution.
3. Harassment investigation in the 2400 block of Fifth Street on 01/13/14. Juvenile suspect identified, case referred for prosecution.
4. Assault and Menacing investigation in the area of "A" Street near Sixth Street on 01/19/14. Juvenile suspect identified, case remains open with future referral to the Columbia County Juvenile Department for prosecution pending.
5. Restraining Order Violation in the 1500 block of Third Street on 01/22/14. Suspect identified with case referred to the Columbia County District Attorney's Office for prosecution.

VALENTINE TEA

The Caples House Museum, 1925 First Street, will host a High Tea with a program regarding "The Language of the Fan" on Saturday, February 8, 2014, from 2:00 to 4:00



p.m. The cost is \$25 per person. For reservations and tickets call (503) 397-5390. More information is available on the Caples House website at www.capleshouse.com. *Note: The Caples House hosts tea every Friday all year long from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.*

CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

Tree Permits: If you plan to trim or remove a tree on your property that may fall into the public right-of-way, you must first obtain a Tree Falling Permit from City Hall prior to removal or work being done. These permits are free of charge.

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.

LIBRARY NEWS

We are again looking for volunteers to help us staff the Library. Saturdays we always need volunteers, and our other days need people who are willing to fill in on occasion. It takes about an hour to be trained, and most volunteers work about once a month for four hours. It is a great opportunity to get more involved with the Library, and to meet your neighbors!

Tuesday, February 11 at 7:00 p.m. we will continue working on the Columbia City Celebration for 2014. We are working on which events to include in the Celebration. The Columbia City Celebration is the Library's major fundraiser, and a chance for the whole community to enjoy getting together! Please join us if you can help.

Our Community Reads: This year, the libraries of Columbia County have selected Survival, Self-Reliance and Sustainability for the 2014 Our Community Reads theme. The two adult book selections – *Wild* by Cheryl Strayed and *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson – will allow readers to hear two distinct voices of survival and self-reliance as Cheryl hikes the Pacific Crest Trail through California and Oregon and Bill shares his experience of the Appalachian Trail.

During January, February, and March 2014, libraries in Columbia County will be hosting a variety of events and activities related to this year's theme. These events are open to all members of the public. Visit the library to check out a copy of one of these titles, or to get further information about county-wide events.

Thank you, Jim Lichatowich, for your presentation on *Salmon, People and Place*. We had 32 people at his discussion.

Second Hand Prose is romantic! In February, all romances will be 10 cents each. We have plenty, and would like to send some home with you!

New Books: We added 142 books to the library during the past month. Some recent additions to our library include:

Orange is the New Black, by Piper Kerman
Blind Descent: The Quest to Discover the Deepest Cave on Earth, by James M. Tabor
Touching the Void, by Joe Simpson
Long Walk to Freedom, by Nelson Mandela

Z is for Moose, by Kelly Bingham (an alphabet book for our youngest listeners!)

The Gods of Guilt, by Michael Connelly

Zoo, by James Patterson

The Doomsday Key, by James Rollins

A Midsummer Night's Dream, by William Shakespeare (a lovely illustrated copy in classics)

The Double Comfort Safari Club, by Alexander McCall Smith

The Desperado Who Stole Baseball, by John H. Ritter (featuring Billy the Kid, for middle-schoolers)

Beneath My Mother's Feet, by Amjed Qamar (Pakistani 14-year-old girl's life changes when her father is injured)

Library Hours:

Monday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Thursday 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Story Time:

11:00 a.m. every Monday

City Celebration Planning Meeting

Tuesday, 2/11/14 - 7:00 p.m.

Novel Quilters Meeting:

Wednesday, 2/19/14 - 6:30 p.m.

Friends of the Library Meeting:

Monday, 2/17/14 - 7:00 p.m.

Mystery Book Group:

Wednesday, 2/26/14 - 7:00 p.m.

Columbia City Community Library

2000 Second Street, PO Box 189

Columbia City OR 97018

(503) 366-8020

ccclibrary@live.com

WATER CONSERVATION TIP

Fix leaks. A faucet that drips can waste up to 3,280 gallons of water per year.



HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT

The Columbia County Transfer Station will hold a Household Hazardous Waste Event on Saturday, February 22, 2014 from 8 a.m. to noon. For more information regarding the event or any other solid waste issues, please contact Columbia County Solid Waste at (503) 397-7207.

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.

HOW TO SHELTER IN PLACE DURING A CHEMICAL OR RADIATION EMERGENCY

What Shelter-in-Place Means: One of the instructions you may be given in an emergency where hazardous materials may have been released into the atmosphere is to shelter-in-place. This is a precaution aimed to keep you safe and at times when an evacuation would be more risky. (This is not the same thing as going to a shelter in case of a storm.) Shelter-in-place means selecting a small, interior room, with no or few windows, and taking refuge there. It does not mean sealing off your entire home or office building.

Why You Might Need to Shelter-in-Place: Chemical, biological or radiological contaminants may be released accidentally, by a truck or facility, or intentionally by a terrorist. Should this occur, information will be provided by local authorities by television and radio stations, by telephone call through the Columbia Alert Network (CAN), and by social media technologies on how to protect you and your family. The important thing is for you to follow the instructions of local authorities and know what to do if they advise you to shelter-in-place and keep a television and radio on to receive further information and instructions.

How to Shelter-in-Place

At Home:

- Close and lock all windows and exterior doors.
- If you are told there is danger of explosion, close the window shades, blinds or curtains.
- Turn off all fans, heating and air conditioning systems.
- Close the fireplace damper.
- Get your family disaster supplies kit and make sure the radio is working.



- Go to an interior room without windows that's above ground level. In the case of a chemical threat, an above-ground location is preferable because some chemicals are heavier than air, and may seep into basements even if the windows are closed.
- Bring your pets with you, and be sure to bring additional food and water supplies for them.
- It is ideal to have a hard-wired telephone in the room you select. Call your emergency contact and have the phone available if you need to report a life-threatening condition.
- If possible, you may want to use duct tape and plastic sheeting (heavier than food wrap) to seal any large cracks around the door and any vents into the room. This is only an extra precaution.
- Keep listening to your radio or television until you are told all is safe or you are told to evacuate. Local officials may call for evacuation in specific areas at greatest risk in your community.

In Your Vehicle:

If you are driving a vehicle and hear advice to "shelter-in-place" on the radio, take these steps:



- If you are very close to home, your office or a public building, go there immediately and go inside. Follow the shelter-in-place recommendations for the place you pick described above.
- If you are unable to get to a home or building quickly and safely, then pull over to the side of the road. Stop your vehicle in the safest place possible. If it is sunny outside, it is preferable to stop under a bridge or in a shady spot, to avoid being overheated.
- Turn off the engine.
- Close windows and vents.
- Listen to the radio regularly for updated advice and instructions.
- Stay where you are until you are told it is safe to get back on the road. Be aware that some roads may be closed or traffic detoured. Follow the directions of law enforcement officials.

Local officials on the scene are the best source of information for your particular situation. Following their instructions during and after emergencies regarding sheltering, food, water and clean up methods is your safest choice.

For more information on this or other emergency preparedness needs, go to www.fema.gov/plan.

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - FEBRUARY 2014

February 3rd	3:00 p.m.	Comprehensive Plan Review Committee Meeting at City Hall
February 6th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
February 10 th	4:00 p.m.	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall
February 11th	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Celebration Planning Meeting in the Library
February 11th	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall – Canceled
February 13th	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
February 17th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on President's Day
February 17th	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Meeting at the Library
February 18th	5:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
February 20th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
February 22nd	10:00 a.m.	Grand Opening - Off Leash Dog Park
February 24th	6:00 p.m.	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall



The Columbia City Veterans Park

BRICK ORDER FORM

(4" x 8" Quarry Paver Tiles)



Purchaser Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone No.: _____

E-mail: _____

Please spell out in the above space exactly how you would like your brick to appear.

Maximum 17 character spaces per line (including commas and spaces)

Maximum of 3 lines of lettering

I have double-checked the spelling on the form above and would like the brick engraved as I have it.

Signature

PRICE: \$75.00 per brick (4" x 8" Quarry Paver Tiles)

Make checks payable to: Columbia City

Return form to City of Columbia City, 1840 Second Street, PO Box 189, Columbia City, OR 97018