

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

May 2014

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY

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JAIL LEVY TOWN HALL MEETING

The City Council of the City of Columbia City will hold a Town Hall meeting:

**Thursday, May 1, 2014
7 PM**

Community Hall, 1850 Second Street.

The purpose of the meeting is to provide information about the three-year local option levy for jail operations that is on the ballot for the May 20 election.

County Commissioners Earl Fisher, Tony Hyde, and Henry Heimuller will accompany Sheriff Jeff Dickerson in the presentation of information to the public. Please take the time to attend the Town Hall meeting and learn about the proposed levy and the impacts that the closure of the jail may have on our community.

PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCIES

Are you interested in serving on the Columbia City Planning Commission? The City currently has three positions 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 at 7:00 p.m. 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.



vote!

Oregon

May 20, 2014, Primary Election

DEDICATION CEREMONY POSTPONED

The Parks Committee postponed the Veterans Park Dedication until 2015. The official Memorial Day Dedication Ceremony for the Columbia City Veterans Park is now set for next year -- Monday, May 25, 2015.

The Committee is currently working on the development of Phase I improvements to the park with the assistance of contributions of cash, materials and skilled labor from a wide variety of sources and a 2013 Veterans & War Memorial Grant. A second grant award under the 2014 Veterans & War Memorial Grant program was recently received to complete additional improvements to the park. While Phase I improvements are currently underway, Phase II improvements will not be finished until later in the year. In the interest of having all of the planned improvements in place for the dedication of the park, the Parks Committee has decided to postpone the official ceremony until Memorial Day of next year.

BASKETBALL HOOP SURVEY

A short survey regarding basketball hoops in the public right of way is enclosed. Your input is important! Please complete the survey and return it to City Hall by Friday, May 16, 2014.



LIBRARY NEWS

Book Sale! We will be holding a book sale on Saturday, May 31 from 10 AM to 4 PM under the covered play area next to the Library. Even with all our bookshelves in Second Hand Prose, we are



overflowing with books to sell. Help us out! We will need helpers Saturday morning before the sale to setup, starting at 7:30 AM. At the end of the sale, from 3 to 4 PM, a paper grocery sack full of books will cost you \$5.00. And children always get a free book when they come to our sales!

Second Hand Prose

In April, all parenting books will be half price in honor of Mother's Day. Our sale books are wonderfully organized, so be sure you shop in the Library as well as at the book sale!

Novel Quilters

The Novel Quilters chose their book for the next six months. *Very Valentine* by Adriana Trigiani has a vibrant cast of colorful characters who navigate tricky family dynamics with hilarity and energy, from magical Manhattan to the picturesque hills of bella Italia.



Columbia City Celebration, September 20

Planning is going well for this year's Columbia City Celebration. We are working on a new edition of the Columbia City Cookbook, benefiting the library. Please send your recipes to kitgardes@yahoo.com, or bring them by the Library or City Hall.

We are hoping to have a children's play area near the playground, but need a coordinator to plan some activities for them. Please contact the Library

if you are interested in helping in this way. We will need many volunteers for the day of the City Celebration. Start thinking about how you would like to help. A sign-up sheet will be available starting in June, as we figure out where we need people.

New Books

We added 125 books to the Library during the past month. Some recent additions include:

- *I'm Not Your Friend, I'm Your Parent* by E.D. Hill
- *The Garden in Bloom* by Ann Lovejoy
- *The Arts and Crafts Movement in the Pacific Northwest* by Lawrence Kreisman
- *Layer Cake, Jelly Roll and Charm Quilts* by Pam and Nicky Lintott
- *Pack It Up: The Essential Guide to Organized Travel* by Anne McAlpin
- *Old MacDonald in the City* by Suzanne Williams (fun to sing!)
- *The Bone Yard* by Jefferson Bass
- *Secrets of Eden* by Chris Bohjalian
- *The Long Goodbye* by Raymond Chandler
- *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame* by Victor Hugo
- *Loving* by Karen Kingsbury
- *Chemistry and other Stories* by Ron Rash
- *The House of a Million Pets* by Ann Hodgman (do your kids want more pets?)

Story Time:

11 AM every Monday

Friends of the Library Meeting:

Monday, May 19 – 7 PM

City Celebration Planning Meeting:

Tuesday, May 20 – 7 PM

Novel Quilters:

Wednesday, May 21 – 6:30 PM

Mystery Book Group:

Wednesday, May 28 – 7 PM

Upcoming Event Dates:

Book Sale – Saturday, May 31

10 AM to 4 PM

City Celebration – Saturday, September 20

Staffed Library Hours:

Monday, 10 AM – 2 PM

Wednesday, 4 PM – 8 PM

Thursday, 2 PM – 6 PM

Saturday, 10 AM – 2 PM

2000 Second Street, PO Box 189

(503) 366-8020

ccclibrary@live.com

THANK YOU, FITZGIBBONS & WHEELER!

We would like to extend a very special ***thank you*** to Councilor Shannon Fitzgibbons and Councilor Casey Wheeler for their recent service to the City on the City Council. They were both elected to the Council in November 2010.

Councilor Fitzgibbons served in office from January 2011 through March 2014. During her time in office, she served as Chair of the Parks Committee and was very instrumental in the development of the Columbia City Dog Park and developing a Columbia City Veterans Park. She avidly supported the passage of the police levy.

Councilor Wheeler was in office from January 2011 through April 2014. He served as Chair of the Streets Committee, facilitated the Charter Review Committee, participated on the Hazard Mitigation Planning Group, Audit Committee, Comp Plan Committee, and RV Parking and Storage Committee, and participated in the Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization.

WELCOME, PRESTON & HARRISON!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Larry Preston and Nell Harrison, who were recently appointed to the City Council to fill the remainder of the vacant terms.

Prior to his appointment to the City Council, Larry Preston served on the Planning Commission, the Parks Committee, and the Water and Sewer Committee. He has been a regular attendee at various City meetings and has donated many hours of volunteer work in our parks. He also serves as volunteer Assistant Project Manager for the Veterans Park and volunteer Maintenance Manager for Ruth Rose Richardson Park.

Nell Harrison has been an active member of the Parks Committee since 2001 and has donated many hours of volunteer work in the City parks. She was very involved in the development of Jim Bundy Memorial Park, Datis Park, and the City entrance sign area, as well as the Dog Park and Veterans Park. She also served on the Planning Commission prior to her recent appointment to the City Council.



BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING SET



The Columbia City Budget Committee will meet on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 at 6 PM in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to receive comments from the public about the proposed budget.

A copy of the proposed budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 9, 2014, at City Hall, or it may be viewed on the City's website at www.columbia-city.org. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed budget with the Budget Committee.

CAR SEAT EVENT

Columbia County Safe Kids will be holding a child safety seat checkup event on Thursday, May 8, 2014, at St. Helens Fire Station, 105 S 12th St. Helens, from 4 to 6 PM.



The clinic provides an opportunity to have a child safety seat checked by a certified technician who is trained to correct misuse, help with installation, teach you how to correctly install the seat, and check for seat recalls. The clinic services are free to the public.

Child safety seats are also available to low-income families at a reduced cost or no cost while supplies last. For additional information or questions: Call (503) 397-7211 or ACTS Oregon Child Safety Resource Center 1 (877) 793-2608.

WATER CONSERVATION TIP

If walking across the lawn leaves footprints (blades don't spring back up), then it is time to water.

LOST AND FOUND



A car key with an alarm fob was recently found in the street in the area of Pacific and Tahoma Streets.

**ANNUAL SPRING CLEAN UP EVENT
A GREAT SUCCESS!**

We would like to thank the many volunteers, sponsors, and City staff members that made the Columbia City Spring Clean Up Event a great success!!! Special thanks to our site volunteers and a big thank you to our site sponsors! This event would not be possible without their continued support and participation:

- Beaver Bark
- Columbia County Community Corrections Dept.
- Columbia County Transfer Station
- Columbia County Land Development
- Junk It Store It
- Hudson Garbage Service
- Hudson Portable Toilet Service
- Les Schwab Tire Center - St. Helens
- St. Helens School District
- St. Helens Lions Club
- South Columbia County Chamber of Commerce
- Stan's Refrigeration
- Waste Management
- City of Columbia City
- Columbia County Rotary Club
- City of Scappoose
- Les Schwab Tire Center – Scappoose
- R & E Recycling
- City of St. Helens
- Habitat for Humanity
- Scappoose Community Club
- SHEDCO
- Scappoose School District
- SOLVE IT

THE RACE AGAINST CHILD ABUSE

Join the 6th Annual Amani Center Race Against Child Abuse in St. Helens on Saturday, June 7, 2014. Events include a half marathon, 10k, 5k and 1 mile run/walk. For more details, visit the Amani Center's website at www.amanicenter.org.



BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

Founded by the International Code Council (ICC), Building Safety Month (BSM) is celebrated by jurisdictions worldwide during the month of May.

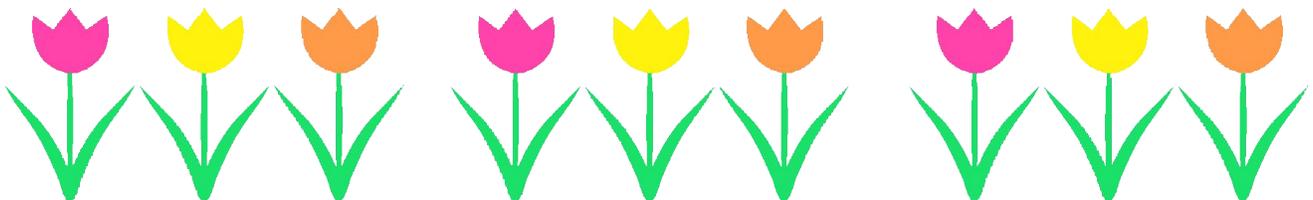


Building Safety Month is a public awareness campaign offered each year to help individuals, families and businesses understand what it takes to create and sustain safe and sustainable structures. The campaign reinforces the need for adoption of modern, model building codes, a strong and efficient system of code enforcement and a well-trained, professional workforce to maintain the system.

This year's theme is **BUILDING SAFETY: Maximizing Resilience, Minimizing Risks**. Each week of Building Safety Month spotlights a specific area of building safety. More information may be found at www.buildingsafetymonth.org.

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - MAY 2014

May 1	6 PM	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
May 1	7 PM	Town Hall Meeting regarding Jail Levy in the Community Hall
May 8	6 PM	Municipal Court at City Hall
May 13	7 PM	Planning Commission Meeting - Cancelled
May 14	6 PM	Budget Committee Meeting at City Hall
May 15	6 PM	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
May 19	10 AM	Basketball Hoop Study Group Meeting at City Hall
May 19	7 PM	Friends of the Library Meeting at the Library
May 26	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Memorial Day
May 27	5 PM	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall



CITIZEN SATISFACTION SURVEY

Columbia City provides a range of services to the community. We'd like to ask you to please take a moment to let us know how we are doing. Your input is important to us, and we look forward to hearing how we might better serve you. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and you need not answer all of the questions.

Question 1:

A. In the past year or so have you, or has anyone in your household, had a direct contact with a representative of the City Hall Office?

Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 2)

B. If you answered yes to Question 1A, please indicate the nature of the contact and rate your satisfaction (circle one):

1=not at all satisfied 5=very satisfied

_____ Water or Sewer Utility Payment or Inquiry	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Municipal Court Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Building, Plumbing or Mechanical Permit	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Nuisance/Code Violation Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Land Use Related Question or Problem	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Street Light Problem	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 2:

A. In the past year or so have you, or has anyone in your household, had a direct contact with a representative of the Police Department?

Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 3)

B. If you answered yes to Question 2A, please indicate the nature of the contact and rate your satisfaction (circle one):

1=not at all satisfied 5=very satisfied

_____ Criminal Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Traffic Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Traffic Stop	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Nuisance/Code Violation Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 3:

A. In the past year or so have you, or has anyone in your household, had a direct contact with a representative of the Public Works Department?
Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 4)

B. If you answered yes to Question 3A, please indicate the nature of the contact and rate your satisfaction (circle one):

1=not at all satisfied

5=very satisfied

_____ Water Service Need or Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Sewer Service Need or Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Park Facility Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Storm Drain Problem	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Street Maintenance Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 4:

What is your perception of the overall quality of services provided by the City of Columbia City?
(circle one)

(Poor)

1

2

3

4

(Excellent)

5

Additional comments you would like to make: _____

Your feedback is appreciated!

Please return completed surveys to City Hall during the month of May!

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