

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2014



CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY
1840 SECOND STREET
PO BOX 189
COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018
PHONE: (503) 397-4010
FAX: (503) 366-2870
colcity@columbia-city.org
www.columbia-city.org

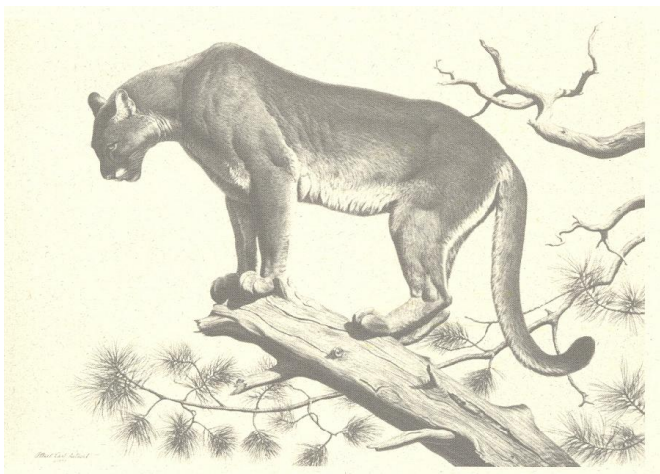


COUGAR SIGHTINGS - COLUMBIA CITY

Three separate cougar sightings were recently confirmed by multiple people. The cougar was seen frequenting the residential areas near Pacific Street, Fifth Street and along the bike path near the Veterans Park. On one occasion the cougar was reported to be carrying a domestic cat in its mouth. About a month ago, a cougar was also reportedly spotted in the woods behind the Chimes Crest neighborhood.

Residents are urged to IMMEDIATELY call 9-1-1 if they spot a cougar in Columbia City. After the sighting, please leave paw prints and other signs undisturbed until authorities arrive.

Identifying characteristics: Adults of both sexes have light tan coats and long black-tipped tails, with black coloration on the backs of their ears. Adult males may exceed 8 feet in length, from nose to the end of their very long tail, and weigh between 130 and 170 pounds. Adult females can be 7 feet long and weigh between 75 and 105 pounds.



Safety precautions: The potential for human/cougar interactions has increased in recent years. However, more people are injured or killed by deer, bees, dogs and spiders than by cougars. If you are concerned about safety, familiarize yourself with the signs of cougar and their habitat and follow these suggestions:

- **Keep an eye on your children.** Don't let your children play unattended in the backyard, especially when cougars are known to be in the area. You also want to keep your children away from dense brush, which the cougar may use for cover.
- **Be cautious at dusk and dawn.** Contrary to popular belief, most predators are most active at dusk and dawn. This is a time to be especially cautious.
- **Don't leave food or garbage outside.** The strong smell of food or garbage may attract a cougar into your yard.
- **Keep your pets indoors.** While you may have left your pet in the backyard in the past, you may want to start bringing it indoors with a cougar in the area. Cougars can easily kill the largest dog and leaving your pet out may prompt an attack. Don't feed pets outside as this can attract cougars and their prey.
- **Don't feed wildlife.** By feeding deer, raccoons or other wildlife in your yard, you may inadvertently attract cougars, which prey on them as a food source.
- **Do not hike alone.** Go in groups, with adults supervising children.
- **Do not approach a cougar.** Most cougars will try to avoid a confrontation. Give them a way to escape.
- **Do not run from a cougar.** Running may stimulate the instinct to chase. Stand and face the animal. Make eye contact. If you have small children with you, pick them up so they don't panic and run. Try to pick them up without bending over or turning away from the cougar.
- **Do all you can to appear larger.** Raise your arms, open your jacket, and throw stones or whatever you can without crouching or turning your back. Wave your arms slowly and speak in a firm, loud voice. Fight back if attacked, and remain standing and face the attacking animal. Use rocks, sticks, jackets, garden tools, camping gear and your hands to fend off the attack.

NEW BASKETBALL HOOP REGULATIONS EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 19, 2014

After months of study the City Council adopted new regulations associated with the placement of basketball hoops within the City's right-of-ways as outlined below:

Permit Required:

- Hoops within the right-of-way will be allowed by permit only.
- Permits are subject to approval by the City Council.
- Applicants shall complete an application, pay a one-time fee of \$20.00, provide proof of current liability insurance, and include a site plan showing the requested placement location.
- Permits will expire December 31 of each year, and may be renewed at no cost to the applicant. Proof of current liability insurance must be submitted with renewal applications.



Permissible Locations and Use:

- Portable basketball hoops shall not be placed within or upon any sidewalk.
- Portable basketball hoops shall be placed at least five feet from manholes, catch basins, traffic signs, fire hydrants, light poles, mail boxes, and above ground electrical transformers, telephone boxes, and cable boxes.
- Portable basketball hoops shall be placed in a manner that does not impede the flow of motor vehicle traffic.
- All players utilizing a portable basketball hoop shall yield to the flow of motor vehicle traffic.

Maintenance Duties and Liabilities:

The owner or lessee of the adjacent or abutting real property shall be responsible for maintaining the portable basketball hoop in accordance with the following standards:

- Reflectors or reflective tape shall be placed upon both sides of the portable basketball hoop in visible locations.
- Portable basketball hoops shall be maintained in a stable condition with adequate weight distribution to prevent tipping.
- A hoop ring shall be at least 10 feet above the surface of the street, measured vertically from the surface of the street.

- Owners and lessee's of a portable basketball hoop shall properly, safely and reasonably maintain, inspect, repair, use and supervise its use and shall be responsible for compliance with these regulations. Damage to the portable basketball hoop which occurs during the lawful, nonnegligent use of the public right-of-way shall be the responsibility of the hoop owner.
- Hoop owners shall be held liable for injuries or damages that result from any violation to these regulations.



CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

- ❑ Attention pet owners! You must pick up after your pets! It's the law!
- ❑ Ground excavation activities on steeply sloped properties may require geotechnical work, and they are prohibited between October 1 and April 15 of each year. Contact City Hall for more details prior to beginning excavation work.
- ❑ Burning household garbage or trash is prohibited. Garbage or trash includes food packaging, cardboard, plastic food containers, food products, paper (except as needed to start a fire), etc.
- ❑ Sewer systems are designed to handle used water, human body waste, and toilet paper. Disposing of diapers, shop rags, grease, feminine products, plastic gloves, and other items into the sewer system is strictly prohibited.

Please report violators to the City Hall by calling (503) 397-4010 or emailing: colcity@columbia-city.org. Thank you!

WATER CONSERVATION TIP

Plant in the fall, if supported by the planting instructions of your product, when conditions are cooler and rainfall is more plentiful.



FREE WATER CONSERVATION KITS

The City still has free water conservation kits available to water customers while supplies last. Kits include a 1.5 GPM dual thread faucet aerator, a dish squeegee, leak detection dye tablets, a toilet tank fill cycle diverter, and a shower timer. Limit one kit per water customer.



OFFICER COWEN ACCEPTS POSITION WITH SCAPPOOSE POLICE DEPARTMENT

During a recent City Council Meeting, Chief McGlothlin regretfully reported that the City will lose Officer Cowen, who has accepted a position with the Scappoose Police Department effective October 1st. Officer Cowen served Columbia City for more than five years. "He has done a tremendous job," the Chief said, "and has been an outstanding ambassador for the City and for the Department. He will be sorely missed."



Officer Cowen accepts a plaque from Chief McGlothlin in recognition of his outstanding service to the Department during a recent City Council Meeting.

The Chief announced that volunteer Reserve Officer Bubar will move into a part-time paid position with the Department. "Officer Bubar has been volunteering with the Department for six years. He is a top-notch officer and has donated a lot of time to us. He does an outstanding job, and I am very confident in Officer Bubar's abilities."

The Chief also reported that a new volunteer Reserve Officer candidate has successfully completed the screening process and will start the Department's field training program next month.

NOW ACCEPTING DEBIT & CREDIT CARDS!

The City now accepts debit and credit card payments. To pay online, visit the City's website at www.columbia-city.org. Select the "Make a Payment" link on the home page. All transactions are subject to a minimum fee of \$2.50 or 3.25% of the amount paid, whichever is greater, except in person debit card payments, which are subject to a flat fee of \$2.50.

HALLOWEEN EVENT

A message from the Caples House Museum

The Caples House will hold a ghost tour with a spaghetti dinner at the Knapp Social Center on October 24, 2014. For information, call the Caples House Museum - (503) 397-5390.



BURN PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR OPEN BURNING PERIOD FOR YARD DEBRIS

Beginning **Saturday, November 1, through Sunday, November 16**, yard debris may be burned outdoors within Columbia City. However, **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. Please remember you will also need to call the "Burn Line" at (503) 397-4800 each day to see if it is a burn day.

Have questions? Please call the Fire Marshall at (503) 397-2990. Watch for additional information in next month's newsletter.

HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT

The Columbia County Transfer Station will hold a Household Hazardous Waste Event on Saturday, October 25, 2014 from 8 am to noon. For more information regarding the event or any other solid waste issues, please contact Columbia County Solid Waste at (503) 397-7207.



AUDIT COMMITTEE VACANCY

Are you interested in serving on the City's Audit Committee? The City is currently looking to fill a vacancy. Applicants must reside within the City, and the Committee meets quarterly. The term is for a period of two years. Public Service Applications are available on the City's website at www.columbia-city.org or may be picked up at City Hall.

LIBRARY NEWS

The Columbia City Celebration was a great success this year. We raised over \$6000 for the Library. Visitors commented that they liked the car show and the quilt show. We had a lot of help, and managers of the events did a great job. We had wonderful weather, which we can't count on next year, but everything else that we did well we can repeat next year! So thank you to everyone who helped, everyone who attended, and everyone who spent money to help support our Library!

We will be continuing to hold meetings to plan next year's Celebration, starting with Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00 pm at the Library.

Second Hand Prose Celebrates One Year of Business! Our sale area has been open for one year now, and we've raised over \$700. So to celebrate, everything in Second Hand Prose will be half price for the month of October. Stop over and see if you missed something during the sale!

Friends of the Library Membership: It's time again to join Friends of the Library (FOL). Our FOL group administers the Library, purchases books, pays the utility bills, and in general, makes sure you have a Library! Please support us with your membership.

Novel Quilters Reveal Quilts: We are reading *Very Valentine*, by Adriana Trigiani. Join us on Wednesday, October 22 at 6:30 pm as we reveal our quilts based on the book, and start on our next book. We always welcome visitors, and this is the month to visit us and see whether you'd like to join our group.

New Books: Recent book additions to our Library include:

- *John Muir: Nature's Visionary* by Gretel Ehrlich
- *The Man Who Knew Too Much: Alan Turing and the Invention of the Computer* by David Leavitt
- *A More Perfect Heaven: How Copernicus Revolutionized the Cosmos* by Dava Sobel
- *Folks, This Ain't Normal: A Farmer's Advice for Happier Hens, Healthier People and a Better World* by Joel Salatin
- *Cottage Gardens* by Philip Edinger
- *The Inquisitor's Key* by Jefferson Bass
- *On Mount Hood: A Biography of Oregon's Perilous Peak* by Jon Bell
- *Stone Cold* by C.J. Box
- *The Chessmen of Mars* by Edgar Rice Burroughs
- *I've Got You Under My Skin* by Mary Higgins Clark

- *Missing You* by Harlan Coben
- *Ghost Ship* by Clive Cussler
- *Firewall* by Henning Mankell
- *The Fifth Assassin* by Brad Meltzer
- *Invisible* by James Patterson
- *The Impossible Dead* by Ian Rankin
- *Storm Front* by John Sandford
- *The Valley of Amazement* by Amy Tan
- *Alcatraz versus the Evil Librarians* by Brandon Sanderson
- *Packing for Mars: The Curious Science of Life in the Void* by Mary Roach
- *The Hot Zone* by Richard Preston
- *A Commonwealth of Thieves: The Improbable Birth of Australia* by Thomas Keneally
- *Daddy's Gone A Hunting* by Mary Higgins Clark
- *The Monkey's Raincoat* by Robert Crais
- *Top Secret Twenty-One* by Janet Evanovich
- *All I Did Was Shoot My Man* by Walter Mosley

Library Hours:

Monday 10 am - 2 pm
Wednesday 4 pm - 8 pm
Thursday 2 pm - 6 pm
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

Storytime:

Every Monday at 11 am

City Celebration Planning Meeting:

Tuesday, October 14 at 7 pm

Friends of the Library Meeting:

Monday, October 20 at 7 pm

Novel Quilters:

Wednesday, October 24 at 6:30 pm

Mystery Book Group:

Wednesday, October 29 at 7 pm

2014 PREPARE FAIR WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!

This year's event focused on earthquake preparedness. The event provided citizens with an opportunity to visit with a wide variety of emergency response experts. Participating agencies included the American Red Cross, Columbia County Emergency Management, Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District, Columbia River Fire and Rescue, DOGAMI - Earthquake Preparedness, St. Helens CERT, Columbia City Police Department, and Public Health Foundation of Columbia County. Event sponsors included the Columbia City Hazard Mitigation Team, NW Natural, the St. Helens School District, and Dyno Nobel.



ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS

Here's your chance to get a great deal! The Library will accept sealed bids for each of the items below. All of the items may be examined at the Library during regular staffed hours. All proceeds will benefit the Columbia City Community Library. To bid on these items, complete this form and return it in a sealed envelope to the Library or to City Hall.

Sealed bids must be received no later than Friday, October 31, 2014, 5:00 pm.

Envelopes containing bids must be clearly marked "SEALED BID" and delivered to the Library at 2000 Second Street or the City Hall at 1840 Second Street, or mailed to PO Box 189, Columbia City, OR 97018.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Value	Item Description	Minimum Bid	Bid
\$48.00	4-Maritime Museum passes	\$20.00	
\$5.00	Grumpy's Bar and Grille	\$2.00	
\$30.00	Duchess Cup & Saucer from Grace's	\$12.00	
\$145.00	1-month membership Pacific Athletic Club	\$70.00	
\$145.00	1-month membership Pacific Athletic Club	\$70.00	
\$45.00	Wooden 8-day winding clock	\$20.00	

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED WITH THE 2014 COLUMBIA CITY CELEBRATION!!!

Corporate Sponsors: Samuel S. Johnson Foundation, Western Wood Products, Columbia River PUD, St. Helens Community Federal Credit Union, Hudson Portable Toilet Service, and Starbucks.

Car Trophies: Les Schwab Tire Centers, Outlaw Automotive, Lawrence Oil, St. Helens Auto Center, Emmert Motors, Eaton's Tire and Repair, and Alliance Automotive and Exhaust

Silent Auction Donors: Ace Hardware, Alterations by Heather, Bella Maison, Burke and Kris Wood, Cathy Lundberg, Chip Gardes, Coleen Calkins, Columbia Electric Feed and Seed, Columbia River Maritime Museum, Columbia Theatre, Dari Delish, Dee Loyd, Dianne Ebert, El Tapatio, Evergreen Aviation & Space Museum, Fibers and Stitches, Flowers 4 U and Antiques Too, Fritz's, Grace's Antiques, Grumpy's Bar & Grille, Jilly's, Joan Heidi, John Weinman, Joy Creek Nursery, Kim and Don Harrington, Kit Gardes, Lee

Phillips, Marcia Parrett, Marian Smith, Mark Ebert, Martin Kyle-Milward, McMenamins, Miyako Japanese Restaurant, Mo's Art, Hook & Needle, Oaks Park, Oregon Trail Lanes, Pacific Athletic Club, Pittock Mansion, Sally Ann Marson, Sheila Bauer, Sunshine Pizza, and Top Notch Thrift Store

Plant Sale Donors: Beverly Darling, Cathy Lundberg, Chip and Kit Gardes, Colleen Calkins, Jean LaMont, Marcia Parrett, Means Nursery, Mark and Dianne Ebert, Paulette Lichatowich, and Rena Davis

Lunch and Bake Sale: Cathy Lambert, Chan Springer, Chip Gardes, Colleen Calkins, Dennis Willson, Frank Loyd, Heidi Green, Jennifer Anderson, Kris Wood, Lee Phillips, Teresa Katz, Marcia Parrett, Brian Willson, Wynne Frank, and Jean LaMont

Car Show: Gordon Thistle, Cheryl Young, Chief Michael McGlothlin, Chip Gardes, Glenn Keudell, Leonard Marson, Scott Downey, and Simon Ebert

Book Sale: Barbara Wootan, Beverlee Darling, Cathy Lundberg, Chip and Kit Gardes, Colleen Calkins, Edna Morse, Kim Karber, Lee Phillips, Marian Smith, Mark and Dianne Ebert, Martin MacRoberts, Mary Ann Emerson, Paulette Lichatowich, Percy Smith, and Rob Dillinger

Breakfast Volunteers: Jan Burdett, John Burdett, Colleen Calkins, Doug Calkins, Jean Carulli, Jean Kovich, Jessica McGlothlin, Michael McGlothlin, Mya O'Brien, Buddy Rivers, Leahnette Rivers, Lynn Vallenga, Cherry Williams, Rick Williams, and Kris Wood.

Special Thanks: To Karen Brooks and her extended family for the bounce house and children's area; to the Lions and the Elks for the children's eye screening clinic; to Ray Bartley, the DJ; to the National Guard for bringing their bungy jump; and to Chip Gardes for his wonderful job of publicity. We apologize if we missed anyone on this list!

MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR OCTOBER 2014

October 2 nd	6:00 PM	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
October 9 th	6:00 PM	Municipal Court at City Hall
October 14 th	7:00 PM	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
October 14 th	7:00 PM	Friends of the Library Celebration Planning Meeting at the Library
October 16 th	6:00 PM	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
October 18 th	9:00 - 10:00 AM	Work party at Harvard Park
October 20 th	7:00 PM	Friends of the Library Meeting at the Library
October 26 th	10:00 - 11:00 AM	Work party along the north end of the Bike Path
October 27 th	6:00 PM	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall
October 28 th	5:00 PM	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall