

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2015



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PORT OF ST. HELENS PROVIDES IMPROVED ACCESS TO TRESTLE BEACH

A message from the Port

Construction is underway on a new entrance to Trestle Beach including an access road, large parking area, and a shorter trail for improved beach access. The parking area will be equipped with a port-a-potty and garbage receptacles. The Port is taking measures to provide a safe access route as well as separation between existing and future industrial use and the new public access areas. As the Port moves forward with these improvements to Trestle Beach, we ask that all users be respectful of the site, its rules and regulations, and other individuals using the beach. Long term use and development of this site depends on users treating the beach like the valuable community asset it is. We are excited about the recent developments at the site and the creation of a safe and enjoyable recreational area for everyone. The site is expected to open by late August and will be accessible through the main entrance at Columbia City Industrial Park, off of Highway 30.

FREE SHOWER HEADS AND AERATORS



The Columbia River PUD has provided the City with a supply of water efficient shower heads and faucet aerators to distribute to interested citizens. Choices include a 2.0 GPM chrome shower head with massage spray option and a 1.5

GPM deluxe dual spray swivel faucet aerators with pause valve. Stop by City Hall to pick yours up while supplies last!

VETERANS PARK DEDICATION CEREMONY PHOTO BOOKS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE



Stop by City Hall to purchase your own copy of the Columbia City Veterans Park Dedication Ceremony photo book for \$30.00. Proceeds from photo book sales will be used for maintenance of the park.



Laura Markham Joins City Hall Staff

We'd like to extend a very warm welcome to Laura Markham, who recently joined our team as our new Office Clerk. Laura was one of 45 applicants for the part-time Office Clerk position. Of those, 21 were selected for testing and 5 were interviewed. We feel fortunate to have Laura join our team and we look forward to working with her!

Code Enforcement Reminders

RV, boat and trailer parking and storage regulations:

- **Within the right-of-way:** Recreational vehicles, boats, and trailers may be parked temporarily on an improved public street for no more than five (5) consecutive days if currently licensed and registered and not blocking traffic or obscuring the visibility of an intersection, crosswalk, or a traffic control sign or device. The same rules apply to the undeveloped right-of-way, unless authorized by an approved Exception Permit. Exception permits and guidelines are available at City Hall or online. Storage on an approved driveway within the right-of-way may occur, provided storage is parked no less than six feet from the edge of the paved street, does not obstruct views of traffic or create a dangerous or hazardous condition, and it is maintained in accordance with the maintenance standards outlined in Ordinance 504.
- **Upon private property:** The legal owner of the storage must reside upon the property. Parking and storage within the front yard setback is limited to paved or graveled areas. Only one unit that is designed for human occupancy (e.g. one boat with a head and galley, one fifth-wheel, one travel trailer, or one motor home) may be parked upon a single property. For more specific information, contact City Hall.

Home occupations. The City permits residents an opportunity to use their home to engage in small-scale business ventures, which could not be sustained if it were necessary to lease commercial space. Inquire at City Hall for guidelines and cost.

Control blackberries. Blackberries cannot extend over your property line and onto other private property or into the right-of-way.

United Way – Stuff the Bus

SCHOOL



SUPPLIES

When we see the red lights on a school bus flashing, we all know it means STOP!

For the United Way of Columbia County, this means go...to your nearest school supply store and help us **Stuff the Bus!**

Summer is here and the fall school bells seem like a long way off, but families prepare all summer to stock their children's backpacks with all the necessary items for starting school. Because this adds up in a hurry, the United Way of Columbia County is proud to host their tenth annual "**Stuff the Bus**" promotion to benefit students in need throughout Columbia County. With the donated school supplies from community members and businesses United Way and their volunteers are able to help students throughout Columbia County return to school ready to learn and lead successful lives.



We are asking you to "**Get on Board & Stuff the Bus**" beginning now through the end of August. City Hall in Columbia City is an official drop site. They have a box available for donated school supplies. School supplies stay in the community where they are donated. Local volunteers help pick up the supplies and deliver them to distribution sites.

For information or questions 503-556-3614 or www.unitedwayofcolumbiacounty.com or www.facebook.com/uw97048. Anything helps. Check out the school supply lists at City Hall for donation ideas.



COLUMBIA COUNTY RIDER

Medical Shuttle Schedule to Portland Area:

August 5 and 19
September 9 and 23
October 7 and 21

PLANNING NEWS

Public Deliberations: The Columbia City Planning Commission has scheduled a public meeting on Thursday, August 6, 2015. The meeting will be held in the Community Hall, 1850 Second Street, at 7 pm. The Planning Commission will conduct deliberations in this public meeting regarding the application for a Comprehensive Plan and Zone Map Amendment involving a rezone from R-2 moderate density residential to R-3 high density residential. The property consists of 1.3 acres located on the west side of Second Street adjacent to the River Club Estates subdivision. The property owner/applicant is Columbia Harbour, LLC.

Persons may attend the public meeting and observe the deliberation, but no additional comments will be received by the Planning Commission.

Note: The public hearing before the City Council originally scheduled for August 6, 2015 has been cancelled. When the Planning Commission has completed deliberation and made a recommendation, a notice of the rescheduled City Council hearing will be mailed to everyone who has either received notice of this application as a property owner, participated in a public hearing, or provided written testimony related to the application.

WATER CONSERVATION TIP

Automatic dishwashers and clothes washers should be fully loaded for optimum water conservation. Most makers of dishwashing soap recommend not pre-rinsing dishes which is a big water savings. With clothes washers, avoid the permanent press cycle, which uses an added 5 gallons for the extra rinse. For partial loads, adjust water levels to match the size of the load. Replace old clothes washers. New Energy Star rated washers use 35 - 50% less water and 50% less energy per load.



CHIEF'S CORNER

The Police Department will soon be fielding a replacement patrol vehicle for our 2005 Ford Crown Victoria, which has reached the end of its safe and dependable service life. While we are fortunate that our geographic jurisdiction and departmental maintenance program make it possible to get approximately 10 years of service out of a patrol vehicle, the procurement of this vehicle allows us to continue to respond safely and effectively to our community. The vehicle selected to replace our 2005 Ford Crown Victoria police car will be a 2014 Dodge Charger police sedan. This model was selected due to its safety, reliability, and projected maintenance costs as well as its competitive pricing. The vehicle will retain our black and white color scheme with applied departmental safety decals. If received in time this vehicle will be placed on display at the Columbia City Celebration on Saturday, September 19, 2015; located adjacent to the event tent in the recreation field area at the Columbia City School. Please feel free to come by and view the vehicle!



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 your thoughts, questions, or 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).

Best regards ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT MAY – JULY 2015

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 687 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 *(cont. on page 4)*

POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT

MAY – JULY 2015

(continued from page 3)

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, Burglary, Criminal Mischief, Criminal Trespass, Death Investigation, Disorderly Conduct, Domestic Disturbance, Drug Activity, Fraud, Harassment, Juvenile Investigations, Missing Persons, Reckless Endangerment, Sexual Assault, Strangulation, Suspicious Persons and Circumstances, Prowler Calls, Theft, Traffic Crashes, Unauthorized Entry Into Motor Vehicle, and Warrant Services.

COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY:

Residential Security Checks: 226

Area Patrols: 25

Foot Patrols: 13

Assist the Public: 38

Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 11

Assistance to Outside Agencies: 44

Animal Complaints: 15

Parking/Traffic Complaints: 7

Nuisance Complaints: 3

Welfare Checks: 3

Reserve Police Officer Hours Worked: 269.5

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:

Investigative Follow Up's: 33

Suspicious Circumstances, People,
and Vehicles: 32

Traffic Stops: 120

Thefts: 5

Theft of Services: 1

Warrant Service: 3

Harassment: 4

Traffic Crashes: 3

Burglary: 2

Fraud: 3

Death Investigation: 1

Assault: 3

Sexual Assault: 1

Criminal Trespass: 1

Criminal Mischief: 2

Reckless Endangerment: 2

CALLS OF INTEREST:

1. Hit and run investigation in the area of "E" Street near Highway 30 on May 1, 2015. Investigation closed with leads exhausted.
2. Strangulation, Reckless Endangerment, and Disorderly Conduct arrest in the area of

Highway 30 near "L" Street on May 3, 2015. James Lee Wilson, 24, of Columbia City arrested and transported to the Columbia County Jail.

3. Theft investigation in the 62,000 block of Highway 30 on May 19, 2015. Investigation closed with leads exhausted.
4. Theft investigation in the 1800 block of Third Street on May 20, 2015. Investigation closed with leads exhausted.
5. Theft of Services and Criminal Mischief investigation in the 700 block of James Street on May 20, 2015. Suspects identified and investigation forwarded to the Columbia County DA's Office.
6. Warrant arrest in the 2400 block of Fifth Street on May 24, 2015. Janae Lewis, 38, of Columbia City arrested and transported to the Columbia County Jail.
7. Death investigation in the 2900 block of Sixth Street on June 6, 2015. Investigation closed with determination of a natural cause death.
8. Assault investigation in the 62,000 block of Highway 30 on June 8, 2015. Suspects identified and investigation forwarded to the Columbia County District Attorney's Office.
9. Unlawful Entry to Motor Vehicle, Theft, and Criminal Mischief investigation in the 62,000 block of Highway 30 on June 8, 2015. Investigation closed with leads exhausted.
10. Warrant arrest in the 62,000 block of Highway 30 on June 10, 2015. A 17-year-old juvenile male was taken into custody and transported to the Cowlitz County Juvenile Detention Center.
11. Sexual Assault investigation in the 2100 block of Third Street on June 16, 2015. Investigation closed as unfounded.
12. Burglary, Criminal Trespass, and Theft investigation in the 400 block of "E" Street on July 4, 2015. Investigation remains open.
13. Warrant arrest in the area of Highway 30 near "L" Street on July 6, 2015. Stephen Pefley, 59, of Portland, Oregon was arrested and transported to the Columbia County Jail.
14. Burglary, Criminal Trespass, and Theft investigation in the 400 block of "E" Street on July 10, 2015. Investigation remains open.
15. Reckless Driving investigation in the 300 block of "A" Street on July 11, 2015. Suspect identified and investigation referred to the Columbia County District Attorney's Office.
16. Theft investigation in the 1700 block of Fourth Street on July 21, 2015. Investigation closed with leads exhausted.

PLANNING TO GET AWAY?

This time of year many residents plan vacations and head out of town while kids are out of school and the weather is so nice. The Columbia City Police Department would like to remind you that, at your request, they will periodically check your home while you are away. To request this service, please register with the Columbia City Police Department before you leave. Forms are available at City Hall and on line at www.columbia-city.org.



LIBRARY NEWS

Summer Reading Program: Our summer reading program this year is *Building Heroes: Every Hero Has a Story*. Our reading log will be building bricks (on paper!) We'll see how high our heroes can jump! Join us on Mondays at 11 am for exciting stories and crafts.

Our final day of the summer reading program is August 24. Join us for a treasure hunt and treats!

Columbia City Celebration: If you are volunteering at the City Celebration, we have library T-shirts at half price. Buy one, we'll put "Volunteer" on the back, and you can wear it during the Celebration so people will know who's working! We have a selection of sizes at the library.

There will be a lot of events going on this year during the Columbia City Celebration. All the event chairpeople will be looking for volunteers to work during the Celebration or before. Please let us know at the library what you'd like to do to help.

We're looking for people to sign up to do bake sale items. Last year we could have used more brownies to go with the ice cream – help us out and then sample treats you didn't have to make yourself!

We need donations of plants to sell to benefit our library. We sell indoor and outdoor plants. August is a good time to divide your early blooming bulbs. Last year we sold African Violets, Irises, Daylilies, etc. Or start some seeds for flowering plants. Call Beverlee Darling at (949) 293-6065 for more information.

We're still looking for vendors of handmade goods. If you are interested, applications are available at City Hall or at the library.

We will be canvassing local businesses for silent auction items this summer. If you have something you'd like to donate, contact us at the library.

Second Hand Prose: All mysteries are half price for the month of August, help us clear our shelves!

New Books: We added 73 books to the library during the past month. Some recent additions to our library include:

Rare and Endangered Plants of Oregon by Donald Eastman

The Whartons' Stretch Book by Jim Wharton

Dream Sewing Spaces by Lynette Black

Our Best Quilts by Better Homes and Gardens

The Year of the Flood by Margaret Atwood

Murphy's Law by Rhys Bowen

Speaking From Among the Bones by Alan Bradley

One Glorious Ambition by Jane Kirkpatrick

Djibouti by Elmore Leonard

The Beautiful Mystery by Louise Penny

Identical by Scott Turow

The Moon Over High Street by Natalie Babbitt

The Boy in the Burning House by Tim Wynne-Jones

Library Hours:

Monday 10 am - 2 pm

Wednesday 4 pm - 8 pm

Thursday 2 pm - 6 pm

Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

Summer Reading Program:

Every Monday at 11 am

Friends of the Library Meeting:

Monday, August 17 at 7 pm

City Celebration Planning Meeting:

Tuesday, August 18 at 7 pm

Novel Quilters:

Wednesday, August 19 at 6:30 pm

Mystery Book Group:

Wednesday, August 26 at 7 pm

Columbia City Community Library

2000 Second Street/PO Box 189

503-366-8020

ccclibrary@live.com

STREETLIGHT ISSUES

Is there a streetlight in your neighborhood that is out, blinks on and off throughout the night, or stays on all day? If so, contact City Hall with the address closest to the light or cross streets and we'll have it repaired.



ONE VERY GOOD REASON TO KNOW HOW AND WHEN TO SHELTER IN PLACE

Anhydrous Ammonia. Anhydrous ammonia is produced by a chemical plant located less than one mile to the north of Columbia City and is transported through Columbia City by train. It is trucked through Columbia City on Highway 30, and shipped through Columbia City along the Columbia River.

If an accidental release or an incident involving anhydrous ammonia occurs in or near Columbia City, you and your family members may need to shelter in place.

Ammonia is an irritant and corrosive to the skin, eyes, respiratory tract and mucous membranes. Exposure to liquid or rapidly expanding gases may cause severe chemical burns and frostbite to the eyes, lungs and skin. Skin and respiratory related diseases could be aggravated by exposure.

According to the Oregon Health Authority, Columbia County had the highest number of qualifying ammonia releases between January 2005 and November 2012 of any county in Oregon. If you notice a strong smell of ammonia, seek shelter and report the problem by calling 9-1-1.

Columbia City Celebration

Craft Fair

**All items must be handcrafted
in Columbia County**

The Friends of the Library expanded the Columbia City Celebration by adding a Craft Fair. Vendors may purchase a booth space to display and sell items handcrafted within Columbia County. The Craft Fair will be open from 9 am to 3 pm on Saturday, September 19, 2015.

Vendors may purchase a booth space for \$20. Registration forms are available at the City Hall and on the City's website at www.columbia-city.org. Registration must be completed no later than 5 pm on August 7, 2015. For additional information, contact City Hall by calling (503) 397-4010.

Other events planned for the day include:

**Strawberry Pancake Breakfast
Show and Shine Car Show
Book Sale
Quilt Raffle
Bake Sale
Silent Auction
Art Guild Show
Vendors
Hot Dogs & Hamburgers
Stay at the Beach Raffle**

Celebration proceeds benefit the Columbia City Community Library

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - AUGUST 2015

August 5	6:00 pm	Municipal Court at City Hall – <i>special date</i>
August 6	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
August 6	7:00 pm	Planning Commission Meeting at Community Hall – <i>special date</i>
August 11	7:00 pm	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall - cancelled
August 17	7:00 pm	Friends of the Library Meeting at the Library
August 18	5:00 pm	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
August 20	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
August 24	6:00 pm	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall