

Columbia City Newsletter



February 2015



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



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.

CITY RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD

Columbia City has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its 2014-15 Budget.

The award reflects the commitment of the City Council and staff to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting. In order to receive the award, the City had to satisfy nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. These guidelines are designed to assess how well an entity's budget serves as:

- a policy document,
- a financial plan,
- an operations guide, and
- a communications device.



Budget documents must be rated "proficient" in all four categories, and the fourteen mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award. Columbia City has received the award for fourteen years.

WATER CONSERVATION TIP

Insulate hot water pipes to reduce the amount of water that must be run in order to get hot water from the faucet.



VALENTINE TEA

The Caples House Museum, 1925 First Street, will host a High Tea with a literary program. In keeping with the literary program theme, please consider bringing a book to donate to underprivileged children. The event is on Saturday, February 14, 2015, from 2 to 4 p.m. The cost is \$25.00 per person. For reservations and tickets call (503) 366-4010. More information is available on the Caples House website at www.capleshouse.com or find the Caples House Museum on Facebook. *Note: The Caples House hosts tea every Friday all year long from 2 to 4 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. 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.



Pick up after your pets:

Pet owners must pick up after their pets.

LOST & FOUND ITEMS

- Keys were found on The Strand near "E" Street.
- An iPod was found on the bike path to the south of Fourth Street.

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

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.

AFTER HOUR WATER AND SEWER EMERGENCIES

When City Hall and Public Works offices are closed and an urgent water or sewer situation arises, call **(503) 397-1521**. The dispatcher will contact the appropriate person to respond to the situation.

COLUMBIA CITY VETERANS PARK

Grant Funding:

2014 Veterans and War Memorial Grant

2013 Veterans and War Memorial Grant

Sponsors:

Diamond Level Sponsors:

Anonymous Private Donor
Samuel S. Johnson Foundation
Hamer Electric
Knife River
West Oregon Wood Products
Geneva Floors
Brundage Bone
Columbia River PUD
Comcast
NW Natural

Platinum Level Sponsors:

St. Helens Garden Club
Artisan Concrete
Veterans of Foreign Wars #1440
Ferguson Waterworks
CalPortland
Columbia County
Hudson Garbage Service
St. Helens-Scappoose Septic Tank Service
Wayne Mayo Construction

Silver Level Sponsors:

Ferguson's Fragrant Nursery

Bronze Level Sponsors:

CenturyLink
RS Media
Brad Witt

*"I can no other answer make
but thanks, and thanks, and ever thanks."
~William Shakespeare~*

VETERANS PARK SPONSOR OPPORTUNITY

It's not too late to sponsor the Columbia City Veterans Park or purchase engraved bricks for the veteran walls or the sponsor section!



Sponsor Levels:

Diamond Level (\$1,000+): Diamond level sponsors will be recognized with one brick engraved with their company logo or personalized message and placed in the sponsor section of the park. They will also receive three complimentary engraved bricks for the Veterans Wall to honor the special veterans of their choice.

Platinum Level (\$475-\$999): Platinum level sponsors will be recognized with one brick engraved with their company name or name and placed in the sponsor section of the park. They will also receive three complimentary engraved bricks for the Veterans Wall to honor the special veterans of their choice.

Gold Level (\$400-\$474): Gold level sponsors will be recognized with one brick engraved with their company name or name and placed in the sponsor section of the park. They will also receive two complimentary engraved bricks for the Veterans Wall to honor the special veterans of their choice.

Silver Level (\$325-\$399): Silver level sponsors will be recognized with one brick engraved with their company name or name and placed in the sponsor section of the park. They will also receive one complimentary engraved brick for the Veterans Wall to honor the special veteran of their choice.

Bronze Level (\$250-\$324): Bronze level sponsors will be recognized with one brick engraved with their company name or name and placed in the sponsor section of the park.

Purchase an engraved brick (\$75): Bricks may be engraved in honor of a special veteran and placed on the veteran walls, or bricks may be engraved with the name of a company or park sponsor and/or personal message and placed in the sponsor section of the park.



**SPRING CLEANUP DAY
SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2015
8 AM TO NOON**



Spring cleaning is just around 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 18th, 2015, 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. More information will be in next month's newsletter.

ATTENTION: SENIORS WITH A NEED FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT IN PORTLAND

Twice a month Columbia County Rider provides a Wednesday Medical Shuttle to West Portland area Hospitals and Medical Clinics. This service is provided for Qualified Dial-A-Ride passengers, who have attained an Honored Citizen card through a qualifying process for Dial-a-Ride service. With a phone call, dispatch can assist with the application for honored citizen status and scheduling rides.

Due to service demand and coverage area, medical appointments must be made for the time period between 10 am and 12 pm. This is a door to door service, with the cost based on the Dial-A-Ride mileage pricing.

2015 Medical Shuttle Schedule

- February 4 and 18
- March 4 and 18
- April 8 and 22
- May 6 and 20
- June 3 and 17
- July 8 and 22
- August 5 and 19
- September 9 and 23



HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT

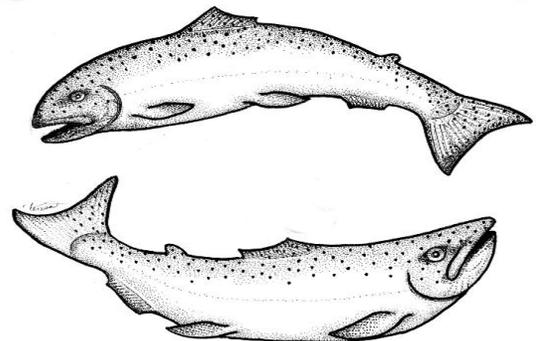
The Columbia County Transfer Station will hold a Household Hazardous Waste Event on Saturday, February 28, 2015 from 8 a.m. to noon. For more information regarding the event or any other solid waste issues, please contact Columbia County Solid Waste at (503) 397-7207.

CHIEF'S CORNER

STAY CONNECTED IN EMERGENCIES! We would like to encourage all of our citizens to connect with us in order to receive emergency information and notifications in times of emergency. In order to achieve this goal several communication forums are used. In addition to the educational efforts of the City Newsletter we also incorporate participation in the Columbia Alert Network (CAN) system, as well as continued involvement with Facebook and Twitter accounts. Registration for participation in the CAN network can be completed at the front desk of City Hall. Please feel free to follow us on Facebook and Twitter as well!

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 (503) 397-1521 (non-emergency dispatch). Best regards ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

COLUMBIA CITY



OREGON

T-SHIRTS FOR SALE

We've restocked our shelves with these navy blue T-shirts. Stop by City Hall to make a purchase!
Small-XL - \$10; 2X - \$11; 3X - \$12; 4X - \$13

MAYOR AND COUNCIL INAUGURATION

Cheryl Young was re-elected by voters during the recent November election, and 2015 marks the start of her eighth term as Mayor. Gordon Thistle and Nell Harrison were both appointed to the City Council last year to fill vacancies, and in November the voters gave them their stamp of approval. Mayor Young and Councilors Thistle and Harrison were sworn in on January 6, 2015 to begin their new four-year terms.



LIBRARY NEWS

We always have lots of volunteers for the City Celebration, but this year we have half a dozen people who are putting their own plans before the City Celebration's needs! We will be looking for coordinators for several areas of this year's City Celebration, including hanging the Novel Quilters quilt show, running the plant sale, publicity, vendor coordination, and planning signs. There are always lots of people needed as cashiers and strong backs to help set up and take down the book sale. We meet once a month so that the job isn't overwhelming during September. If you can help, please contact the Library. As we get closer to the Celebration, we will be more specific on what kind of help we need so expect to see this message again! Our next planning meeting is Tuesday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m. in the Library.

Second Hand Prose promotes H.E.A.R.T! In February, all books by authors with the above initials will be half price at Second Hand Prose. That's almost 1/5 of our sale books!

Everyone is great at giving us books for the Library and for book sales and Second Hand Prose, now come take some of them away! Books are a bargain at \$2.00 and \$1.00!

New Books: We added 144 books to the Library during the past month. Some recent additions to our Library include:

Trees to Know in Oregon by Edward Jensen
Oregon for the Curious by Ralph Friedman
Suicide of a Superpower: Will America Survive to 2025? By Patrick Buchanan
Harry and the Terrible Whatzit by Dick Gackenbach (perhaps from your childhood?)
Panda Bear, Panda Bear, What Do You See? By Bill Martin
Mean Streak by Sandra Brown
The Burning Room by Michael Connelly
Flesh and Blood by Patricia Cornwell
Havana Storm by Clive Cussler
The Whole Enchilada by Diane Davidson
Edge of Eternity by Ken Follett
Broken Harbor by Tana French
Outlander by Diana Gabaldon
The Museum of Extraordinary Things by Alice Hoffman
Tricksters Point by William Krueger
A Sunless Sea by Anne Perry
The 6th Extinction by James Rollins
Snowbound by Richard Wheeler
Insurgent by Veronica Roth

Library Hours

Monday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Wednesday 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Thursday 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Storytime

Every Monday at 11 a.m.

City Celebration Planning

Tuesday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Friends of the Library

Monday, February 16 at 7 p.m.

Novel Quilters

Wednesday, February 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Mystery Book Club

Wednesday, February 25 at 7 p.m.

Columbia City Community Library
2000 2nd Street/PO Box 189
Columbia City, OR 97018
503-366-8020
ccclibrary@live.com

KEEPING CATS INDOORS

According to the National Audubon Society and the Seattle Audubon Society, predation by cats is a leading threat to birds and wildlife in urban and suburban areas. By keeping your cats indoors, you help protect local wildlife, and you help your cat lead a longer, healthier life.

Cat facts:

- 🐾 Outdoor cats (both companion animals and strays) kill millions of songbirds and small mammals per year.
- 🐾 Cats are not a natural part of ecosystems: they compete with native predators.
- 🐾 Cats transmit diseases to wildlife.
- 🐾 Even well fed cats hunt and kill wildlife.
- 🐾 Bells do not prevent cats from killing wildlife.
- 🐾 Interrupting an attack by a cat usually does not allow the prey to escape and live.
- 🐾 Indoor cats live three times longer, on average, than outdoor cats.

POLICY ACTIVITY REPORT DECEMBER 2014 – JANUARY 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 415 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: Burglary, Criminal Mischief, Elder/Adult Abuse, Attempting to Elude,

Reckless Endangerment, Threats, Violation of Restraining Order, and Warrant Service.

COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY:

Residential Security Checks: 149
Area Patrols: 17
Foot Patrols: 11
Assist the Public: 18
Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 3
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 10
Animal Complaints: 4
Parking/Traffic Complaints: 4
Noise Complaints: 1
Welfare Checks: 3
Reserve Police Officer Hours Worked: 86

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:

Investigative Follow Up's: 12
Suspicious Circumstances, People, and Vehicles: 4
Prowler Calls: 2
Traffic Stops: 92
Threats: 1
Criminal Mischief: 1
Violation of Restraining Order: 1
Warrant Service: 1
Attempting to Elude/Reckless Endangerment: 1

CALLS OF INTEREST:

1. Criminal Mischief Investigation in the 2900 block of Seventh Street on December 29, 2014. Juvenile suspect identified and civil compromise reached between involved parties.
2. Attempting to Elude and Reckless Endangerment Investigation in the area of Highway 30 near "L" Street on December 30, 2014. Suspect; Dustin Deibert, 19, of Corbett, Oregon was arrested and transported to the Columbia County Jail.
3. Warrant arrest in the 3300 block of Tahoma Street on January 22, 2015. Suspect; Seth Niswender, 35, of Columbia City was arrested and transported to the Columbia County Jail.

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - FEBRUARY 2015

February 2 nd	4:00 p.m.	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall
February 5 th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
February 10 th	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
February 10 th	6:30 p.m.	Friends of the Library Celebration Planning Meeting in the Library
February 12 th	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
February 16 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on President's Day
February 16 th	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Meeting at the Library
February 19 th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
February 23 rd	6:00 p.m.	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall
February 24 th	5:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall