

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 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



VETERANS PARK UPDATE

Veterans Park Dedication Ceremony - Monday, May 25, 2015 - 11 a.m.



The Columbia City Veterans Park will be formally dedicated to all American veterans and their families on Memorial Day - Monday, May 25, 2015. Please join us for the event! The ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. at the Veterans Park, and adjourn at 12:30 p.m. to a light luncheon served by the Daughters of the American Revolution in the Knapp Social Center immediately following the event. The full event schedule will be published in the next issue of the Newsletter.

Free bus transportation available on event day! Free bus transportation will be provided to and from the dedication ceremony. Pick up and drop off points will include the City Hall, the Knapp Social Center, the Veterans Park, and the CCRider Transportation Park n Ride in St. Helens. A full bus schedule will be published in the April and May 2015 Newsletters.

No tax dollars used! Park development fees, grant funds, and sponsor donations were used to construct the Veterans Park. Many businesses and individuals supported the project by contributing cash, materials, and/or skilled labor to the project.

Support the park with the purchase of an engraved brick! The proceeds from brick sales will be used to pay for the ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the park. Engraved bricks sell for \$75.00 each. Bricks may be engraved to honor a special veteran on one of the veteran walls, or may be engraved with a name and/or special message and placed in the sponsor section of the park. **To guarantee brick engraving prior to the Dedication Ceremony, place your brick order by May 10, 2015!**

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
Boy Scout Troop No. 142
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~*

**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 first two loads of yard debris, trees and limbs for **FREE!** Extra bulky waste or hard-to-dispose-of items, such as old furniture, lawn mowers, mattresses, etc., and extra loads of yard debris will be accepted for a fee. More information will be in next month's newsletter.



CAPLES HOUSE – ST. PATRICK'S DAY



Celebrate St. Patrick's Day at the Caples House, 1925 First Street, on Saturday, March 14, 2015, with corned beef, cabbage and drinks. Adults \$20.00/children (under 12) \$5.00. Dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m., with an Irish sing-along.

RSVP and questions:
(503) 366-4010.

Mail checks to:
Caples House Museum
c/o Terry Maloney
33944 E. Kappler Road
St. Helens, OR 97051

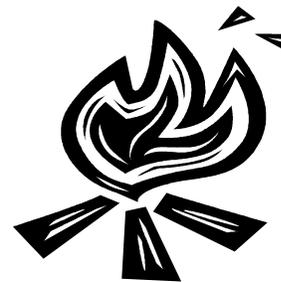
PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

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 at 7 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.



**OPEN BURNING PERIOD FOR YARD DEBRIS
BURNING PERMITS REQUIRED**

The next **biannual burn period will begin on Saturday, April 4th and end on Sunday, April 19th**. The burn period is for yard debris only, and burn barrels are prohibited. Yard debris is lawn clippings, leaves, brush, trimmings, prunings, sawdust and wood scraps. It is **not** dirt, gravel, paper, plastic, metal, rocks, bricks, sod, or food waste.



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. Permits are valid for one year and are free of charge. Please remember you must call the "Burn Line" at (503) 397-4800 each day to see if it is a burn day.

You must follow these basic rules for proper open burning:

- You must have a garden hose, or a shovel and a 5-gallon bucket of water at all times, and the fire must **NOT** be left unattended at any time until out.
- Yard and garden trimmings must be cut and piled no larger than 6 feet wide by 4 feet high.
- The ground must be cleared not less than 10 feet around the burning area. There must be a separation of 50 feet between the burn pile and any structure, trees, vehicle or property line if the burn pile is greater than 3 feet in diameter; and a 25 foot separation if the burn pile is less than 3 feet in diameter.
- The fire must not adversely affect neighbors (smoke).
- It must be daylight hours during a designated burn day.

Have questions? Please call Fire Marshall, at (503) 397-2990.

Unselfish and noble actions
are the most radiant pages in the
biography of souls.
~David Thomas~

LIBRARY NEWS

We have some new volunteers who will be starting to work at the Library in March. Please welcome Lee Landenberger and Hester Thurman to our corps of those who keep the doors open for you! If you are interested in volunteering at our desk or for the City Celebration, please contact the Library. We can find things for you to do!

Get Your Garden Started with Second Hand Prose. In March, all books about gardening are half price. We have some beautiful books, and always too many for our sale shelves! Help support the Library, and take home a lovely book.

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

Killing Jesus by Bill O'Reilly
Nothing Daunted: The Unexpected Education of Two Society Girls in the West by Dorothy Wickenden
Portlandia by Fred Armisen and Carrie Brownstein
The Year 1000: What Life was Like at the Turn of the First Millennium by Robert Lacey
Pooh Goes Visiting by A.A. Milne
Kanga and Baby Roo Come to the Forest by A.A. Milne
Light in the Ruins by Chris Bohjalian
Telegraph Avenue by Michael Chabon
The Cheyenne Trail by Ralph Compton
Deadly Stakes by J.A. Jance
Love Letters by Debbie Macomber
The Secret Keeper by Kate Morton
Blue Labyrinth by Preston Douglas
Bones of the Lost by Kathy Reichs
The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion
The Goldfinch by Donna Tarte

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.

Story Time:

11 a.m. every Monday

City Celebration Planning:
Tuesday, 3/10/15 - 6:30 p.m.

Friends of the Library:

Monday, 3/16/15 - 7 p.m.

Novel Quilters:

Wednesday, 3/18/15 - 6:30 p.m.

Mystery Book Group:

Wednesday, 3/25/15 - 7 p.m.

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



CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

- The outdoor storage of junk, rubbish, trash, and debris upon private property, alleys and streets is prohibited.
- 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.
- Pet owners must pick up after their pets.

Please report violations to City Hall by sending an e-mail to colcity@columbia-city.org or calling (503) 397-4010.

WATER CONSERVATION TIP

Locate the master water shut off valve in your house and mark it for quick identification. If a water pipe were to break, it could cause flooding and tremendous water loss.



DAYLIGHT-SAVING TIME BEGINS



Daylight-saving time begins on the second Sunday in March. Mark your calendars to set your clocks ahead one hour on March 8th.

FIVE EASY WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

1. **Register your cell phone number with Columbia Alert Network (C.A.N.)** This automated emergency phoning system alerts you by sending you voice, text or e-mail messages containing important information in rare instances, such as a search for a small child that is lost in your community, or a chemical spill near your neighborhood. To receive C.A.N. notifications on your cell phone, you must first register your number with your address with the C.A.N. Registry at www.columbia911.com.

2. **Like our Facebook Page and follow us on Twitter.** The City periodically posts timely information and reminders about upcoming events or current issues that may be important to you, such as information about a cougar that has been frequenting the City, or an invitation to a community work party or a Town Hall meeting. In the event of a local emergency, we will post and tweet important event updates. Stay updated - be our friend and follow us.



3. **Provide the City with your current contact information.** We frequently find that the phone numbers we have listed on our utility accounts are no longer valid. It is very important that we have current contact information on file for you. We may need to call you to:

- Let you know about a water leak we discovered while reading your meter, or
- Notify you of a temporary street closure that will impact your access, or
- Let you know your water will be shut off due to a waterline break or other repair work.

For whatever the reason, we hope we have your current contact information in our records when we attempt to call you. If your work phone number has changed, or you have a new cell phone or home telephone number, please keep us informed so we can update our records.

4. **Receive City meeting agendas and minutes via e-mail.** We have two e-mail distribution lists available - one for meeting minutes, and the other for meeting agendas. To sign up, e-mail a request to colcity@columbia-city.org.

5. **Visit the Columbia City Website.** Need more information about a City Council agenda item? Visit our website to view a copy of the entire City Council packet. Heading out of town for the holidays and need to complete a Police Premise Check form? Download a copy of the form from our website. Want to pay your water and sewer bill with a debit or credit card? Visit our website and pay on-line.

A LOCAL SHOWCASE FOR TRILLIUM

From March through June, large-flowered trilliums bloom gracefully on the forest floor throughout Jim Bundy Memorial Park.



The trillium has a large, often white, three-petaled flower above three broad leaves. Along with its three sepals, it's easy to see where trillium got its name. The plants are 8 - 18 inches high with a stem bearing a 2 - 4 inch flower. The white flowers turn pink with age. They grow in rich wooded areas, and trillium is often the first wildflower noticed by casual walkers as other spring wildflowers are much less apparent.

Trillium flowers should never be picked. The three leaves below the flower are the plant's only food source and a picked trillium may die or take many years to recover. Trillium plants take 6 years to grow from seeds to flowers.

Trillium is one of many plants whose seeds are spread by ants and mice. Trillium seeds have a fleshy organ called an elaiosome that attracts ants. The ants take the seeds to their nest, where they eat the elaiosomes and put the seeds in their garbage, where they are protected until they germinate. They also get the added bonus of growing in a medium made richer by the ant garbage.

**TO REPORT
WATER AND SEWER EMERGENCIES
OUTSIDE OF NORMAL WORK HOURS,
CALL (503) 397-1521**

The dispatcher will contact the appropriate on-call person to respond to the situation.

STORM WATER PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS

What is storm water pollution? Rainwater or even runoff from sprinklers or hoses carries contaminants - such as litter, animal waste, automobile fluids, fertilizers and pesticides - into the storm drains and pollutes the City's neighborhoods, creating health risks for children and polluting our waterways.



What can I do to prevent storm water pollution? Here are a few tips that can help improve our storm water quality and protect our environment:

- **Don't put anything in the storm drains but rainwater.** Storm drains can carry surface runoff directly to streams and rivers without treatment. Make sure runoff carries only rainwater.
- **Remove litter from the street.** Trash-laden gutters increase neighborhood pollution and clog drains, which may lead to street flooding.
- **Pick up after your pet.** Animal waste, when left on the ground, washes down storm drains and contaminates waterways and beaches.
- **Recycle your motor oil.** The Columbia County Transfer Station, along with many gas stations, auto parts stores and repair shops will collect and recycle used motor oil.
- **Bag, compost or recycle grass, tree limbs, leaves and other yard waste.** Soggy yard waste is a major contributor to clogged storm drains.
- **Be smart when you apply pesticides or fertilizers.** Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers before it rains. Not only will you lose most of the chemicals through runoff, but you will also be harming the environment. Do not over-water after application. Read the label and do not apply more than recommended.
- **Don't wash dirty paintbrushes under an outdoor faucet.** This dirty rinse water flows into the street and down the storm drain.

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.



RENT THE COMMUNITY HALL

For all types of events!

**Wedding Reception
Baby Shower
Family or Class Reunion
Rummage Sale
Holiday Bazaar
Birthday Party
Retirement Party
Basketball/Volleyball Fun
Memorial Service
Banquet
Crafting Group**



1850 Second Street

\$17.50/hour or \$175/full day

\$30 food/beverage fee

\$200 liquor fee

www.columbia-city.org

Call (503) 397-4010 for availability

**PICK UP YOUR FREE
2015 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
CALENDAR**

Stop by City Hall and pick up a 2015 Emergency Preparedness Calendar while supplies last! These attractive calendars are loaded with emergency preparedness tips and information. The calendars were printed with funds provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and a number of other emergency preparedness partners.

**NOW ACCEPTING DEBIT/CREDIT CARD
PAYMENTS!**

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.

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - MARCH 2015

March 4 th	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall – <i>special date</i>
March 5 th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
March 9 th	6:00 p.m.	Water and Sewer Committee Meeting at City Hall
March 10 th	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
March 12 th	6:00 p.m.	Street Committee Meeting at City Hall
March 16 th	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Meeting at the Library
March 19 th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
March 23 rd	6:00 p.m.	Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting at City Hall
March 24 th	5:00 p.m.	Parks Committee 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.

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

Make checks payable to Columbia City

Signature