

# COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2016



**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](mailto:colcity@columbia-city.org)  
[www.columbia-city.org](http://www.columbia-city.org)



## **DOES YOUR FURNACE NEED TO BE REPAIRED OR REPLACED?**

The Community Action Team (C.A.T.) may be able to assist you with repairing or even replacing your furnace.

Please note that income limits apply to this opportunity. If you qualify for Energy Assistance, you will likely qualify for furnace repair or replacement.

Please contact Dayle Shulda at (503) 366-6552 or call C.A.T. at (503) 397-3511. This funding program is limited in duration - please respond as quickly as possible!!

## **CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE FILING DATES**

Two City Council positions will be filled by the voters during the November 8, 2016, General Election. Qualified electors who have resided within the City since November 8, 2015, may run for office. Nominating petitions are currently available at the City Hall. The nominating petitions must be signed by 20 qualified electors, and candidates must submit the signature sheets to the City Administrator/Recorder for verification allowing sufficient time for the verification process to be completed prior to the August 30, 2016 filing deadline. The positions are for a term of four years.

## **PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCIES**

Are you interested in serving on the Columbia City Planning Commission? The City currently has two 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 6:30 pm on the third 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](http://www.columbia-city.org).

## *Calling all Columbia County ARTISTS!*

Display your artwork  
at the  
**Art Show**  
during the  
**Columbia City Celebration!**  
*Saturday, September 17, 2016*



For an application, please contact  
Dana Belisle at (503) 307-4619

## **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.



# Our Community Hall Capital Campaign *A Legacy to Treasure* Sponsors

Diamond - \$1,000 or more:

Port of St. Helens  
The Oregon Community Foundation  
The Samuel S. Johnson Foundation  
Knife River  
Lower Columbia Engineering  
Michael Allen Harrison  
The Snowman Foundation  
Leonard and Sally Ann Marson  
Bake Sale Volunteers  
James and Thelma Hays  
Columbia River PUD  
The Gardes Family Trust  
Parnell and Elsie Hovland  
NW Natural



Ruby - \$500:

Ace Hardware - West  
Lowell Bauer  
Landis & Landis Construction LLC  
Nancy Radcliffe



Sapphire - \$250:

Columbia County Brewing  
Comcast  
Jeff and JoAnn Hughes  
L. Lee Phillips  
Leslie and Chuck Ramsdell  
Steve Schroeder



Emerald - \$100:

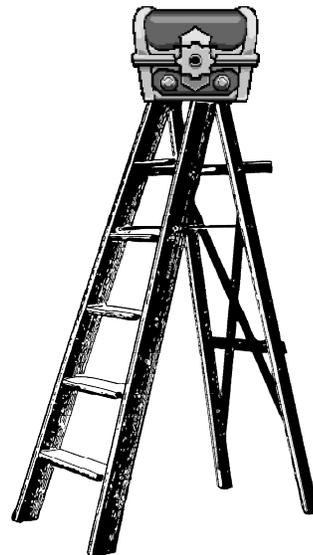
Sheila Bauer  
Hudson Portable Toilet Service  
The Burrito House  
Klondike Restaurant  
Strange Birds Coffee House  
Ronald L. Jaramillo  
Sean and Monica Burns  
Mike and Kay Brown  
Doug and Colleen Calkins  
Marian Calnon



Robert and Carlene Clore  
Columbia City Community Club  
Rich and Jeanette Crandall  
Mark and Barbara Gordon  
Roy "Bud" and Dolores Heinz  
Margaret Jeffries  
Don Jeanroy and Chan Springer  
John and Patti Julian  
Terry and Karen Kent  
Joe and Sue Kovich  
George and Jean LeMont  
Bill and Jan Mansheim  
Jean McBride  
Scott and Sharon Morris  
Robert Schmor and Shirley Palm  
Dorothy M. Rofinot  
Robert and Konnie Speirs  
Tennessee Cable Service, Inc.  
Gordon and Gail Thistle  
Doug and Barbara Wootan

Amethyst - \$50:

Les Schwab - St. Helens  
Dana and Jim Belisle  
Raymond and Sunghe Buckno  
Geneva Burwell  
Jack and Molly Hruska  
Nancy Hudson  
Donna McAtee  
Fred and Winnie Neilson  
Gregory Newcomb  
Northwest Plumbing Services  
Sante and Judy Valpiani  
Cheryl Young



## PROTECT YOUR DRINKING WATER SOURCE!

It is important that we all work together to protect our drinking water supply - not only for the present, but for the future as well. The costs associated with contaminated drinking water are high! Safe drinking water is essential to the long term sustainability of the City, its population and its economy.

Here are some ways that you can help protect our drinking water:

### Household Hazardous Waste:

- Participate in the Columbia County Transfer Station's Household Hazardous Waste Events for the disposal of chemicals, pesticides, herbicides, fluorescent tubes and light ballasts, solvents, thinners, gasoline, diesel, fuels, cleaners, detergents, propane cylinders, etc.
- Properly dispose of used motor oil, antifreeze, paint, etc., at the Columbia County Transfer Station.
- Substitute less hazardous substances for products you use in your home.

### Car Care:

- Check your car regularly for oil and antifreeze leaks, and repair any leaks quickly.

### Lawn Care and Landscaping:

- Use environmentally sound products on your lawn, garden and landscaped areas.
- If you must use pesticides and/or fertilizers, apply them minimally and properly.

### Pet Waste:

- Promptly pick up pet waste.
- Dispose of pet waste by flushing it or placing it in the garbage.

## PLANNING TO GET AWAY?

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 our website.



## 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 the "**Stuff the Bus**" promotion to benefit students in need throughout the St. Helens School District. Through a united effort, last year the United Way of Columbia County and their community partners helped provide school supplies to all schools in the St. Helens School District.



With the donated school supplies from community members and businesses, United Way and its 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. The Columbia City Hall is an official drop site. We 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.



## CHIEF'S CORNER

**A WORD OF THANKS...** The Columbia City Police Department would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all who have expressed their support during these very challenging times in law enforcement. The outpouring of support has been truly humbling and we pledge to continue our efforts to keep Columbia City safe for our community members and visitors. Without each of you there is no way that we could do our jobs on a daily basis. Thanks for having our backs, and we will continue to have yours!

**WELCOMING A NEW OFFICER!** Please join us in welcoming our newest member. Mary Goodwin recently completed the Reserve Police Academy and was sworn into service on Thursday July 21, 2016. Having been a certified police officer in the past, Mary Goodwin brings a wealth of experience, a compassion for others, and a desire to serve our community. We are very lucky that she has chosen to serve with our agency and expect great things during her tenure. Feel free to take the opportunity to say hello whenever you see her out in the community.



**STAY CONNECTED IN EMERGENCIES!** We would like to encourage our citizens to connect with us to receive emergency information and notifications. 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. Register for participation in the CAN network at City Hall or online at [www.columbia911.com](http://www.columbia911.com). Please feel free to follow us on both Facebook and Twitter as well!

**ACTIVITY REPORT MAY - JULY 2016:** Your police officers answered 656 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, we have summarized below both significant community policing and criminal investigations that we conducted. Additionally, we have conducted investigations and/or arrests in the following types of cases: Assault, Domestic Disturbances, Drug Offenses, Fraud, Harassment, Juvenile Investigations,

Missing Persons, Runaway Juvenile, Suicide Threats, Theft, Traffic Crashes, Trespassing, and Warrant Service.

### **COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY:**

Residential Security Checks: 122  
Area Patrols: 34  
Foot Patrols: 10  
Assist the Public: 27  
Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 2  
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 21  
Parking/Traffic Complaints: 2  
Nuisance Complaints: 7  
Welfare Checks: 3  
Reserve Police Officer Hours Worked: 296

### **CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:**

Investigative Follow Up's: 38  
Suspicious Circumstances, People, & Vehicles: 12  
Traffic Stops: 98  
Traffic Crashes: 2  
Harassment: 1  
Assault: 2  
Attempted Fraud: 3  
Theft: 2  
Trespassing: 2  
Threats: 2  
Juvenile Investigations: 3  
Warrant Service: 2

### **CALLS OF INTEREST:**

1. Runaway Juvenile Investigation in the 1900 block of Fifth Street on May 25, 2016. Investigation closed with juvenile located and returned home.
2. Runaway Juvenile Investigation in the 2500 block of Sixth Street on May 26, 2016. Investigation closed with juvenile located and returned home.
3. Theft Investigation in the 1900 block of Third Street on June 9, 2016. Investigation completed with all leads exhausted.
4. Assault Investigation in the 2400 block of Fifth Street on June 17, 2016. Investigation closed with suspect identified and case forwarded to the Columbia County District Attorney's Office for prosecution.
5. Assault Investigation in the 400 block of Pacific Street on July 8, 2016. Investigation remains open.
6. Warrant Service in the area of Highway 30 near Pacific Street on July 8, 2016. Jenny Hawkins, 44, of Yankton was arrested and transported to the Columbia County Jail.

*(Continued on next page)*

## CHIEF'S CORNER *(Continued)*

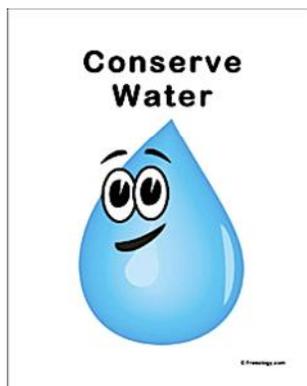
7. Warrant Service in the 300 block of A Street on July 21, 2016. Michael Cole, 35, of Columbia City was arrested and transported to the Columbia County Jail.

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 keep our community safe. We can be reached via 9-1-1 (emergency), (503) 397-4010 (office), or (503) 397-1521 (non-emergency dispatch).

Stay safe ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

### WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

→ Don't over water your lawn. As a general rule, lawns only need watering every few days in the summer. If the blades don't spring back up after being stepped on, it is time to water. A hearty rain can eliminate the need for watering for as long as two weeks.



→ Water lawns during the early morning hours when temperatures and wind speeds are the lowest. This reduces losses from evaporation.

→ Don't water your street, driveway or sidewalk. Position your sprinklers so that your water lands on the lawn and shrubs ... not the paved areas.

→ Install sprinklers that are the most water-efficient for each use. Micro and drip irrigation and soaker hoses are examples of water-efficient methods of irrigation.

→ Regularly check sprinkler systems and timing devices to be sure they are operating properly.

→ Raise the lawn mower blade to at least three inches. A lawn cut higher encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system and holds soil moisture better than a closely-clipped lawn.

→ Avoid over fertilizing your lawn. The application of fertilizers increases the need for water. Apply

fertilizers which contain slow-release, water-insoluble forms of nitrogen.

→ Mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulching also helps to control weeds that compete with plants for water.

→ Plant native and/or drought-tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs and trees. Once established, they do not need to be watered as frequently and they usually will survive a dry period without any watering. Group plants together based on similar water needs.

→ Do not hose down your driveway or sidewalk. Use a broom to clean leaves and other debris from these areas. Using a hose to clean a driveway can waste hundreds of gallons of water.

→ Outfit your hose with a shut-off nozzle which can be adjusted down to a fine spray so that water flows only as needed. When finished, turn it "off" at the faucet instead of at the nozzle to avoid leaks.

→ Use hose washers between spigots and water hoses to eliminate leaks.

→ Do not leave sprinklers or hoses unattended. Your garden hoses can pour out 600 gallons or more in only a few hours, so don't leave the sprinkler running all day. Use a kitchen timer to remind yourself to turn it off.

→ Check all hoses, connectors and spigots regularly.

→ Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water. If you wash your own car, park on the grass to do so.

→ Avoid the installation of ornamental water features (such as fountains) unless the water is recycled. Locate them where there are minimal losses due.

### LIBRARY NEWS

**Volunteer at the Library!** With our additional Tuesday hours (2 pm to 6 pm) we could use some additional volunteers to work the Library desk. If you enjoy books and meeting your neighbors, this could be the job for you! Stop by the Library to fill out a volunteer application.



*(Continued on next page)*

## Columbia City Celebration

# Craft Fair

## Vendor Booth Space is now available!

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

The Friends of the Columbia City Community Library are inviting crafters to join in the City Celebration. Vendors can display and sell items handcrafted within Columbia County. The City Celebration will be held downtown in Columbia City from 9 am until 3 pm on Saturday, September 17, 2016.

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](http://www.columbia-city.org). Registration must be completed no later than 5 pm on Friday, September 2, 2016. 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 Show**

**Prepare Fair**

**Hot Dogs & Hamburgers**

**Ice Cream Sale**

**Stay at the Beach Raffle**

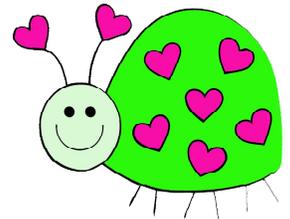
**Saturday, September 17th**

Celebration proceeds benefit the  
Columbia City Community Library

## LIBRARY NEWS (Continued)

**Fred Meyer Community Rewards pays off!** As a result of 17 families participating in the Fred Meyer Community Rewards Program, the Library received \$51.75 for the second quarter of 2016. Consider signing up to benefit the Library. Be sure to reenroll annually if you have already been helping us! Signing up or reenrolling is easy! Go to [www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards](http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards) and look for Columbia City Community Library.

**Summer Reading Program: The Bug Ladies are Back!** On Monday, August 1st at 11 am the Bug Ladies will be visiting us! Come see bugs beautiful and baleful! On Monday, August 15th we will be building boats. Please join us!



**Columbia City Celebration:** There will be a lot of events going on this year during the Columbia City Celebration. All of the event chairpersons are looking for volunteers to help. Please let us know at the Library what you'd like to do to help!

**Looking for a few good bakers!** We're looking for people to sign up to do bake sale items. Last year we sold a lot of brownies to go with the ice cream – help us out and then sample treats you didn't have to make yourself!

**Vender space is now available:** We're still looking for vendors of items that were handcrafted in Columbia County. If you are interested, applications are currently available at City Hall and at the Library.

**Saturday Crafts for Kids:** Please join us at the Columbia City Community Library on Saturday, August 13th, from 11 am to 2 pm. Let's make some boats this month! As always, you supply the kids and we'll supply everything else!



**Second Hand Prose!** This month's sale selection is Mysteries. It's a mystery how we got so many mysteries on our sale shelves! Half price for the month of August!  
*(Continued on next page)*

## LIBRARY NEWS *(Continued)*

**New Books:** We added 76 books to the Library during the past month. Some recent additions to our Library include:

*Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg* by Irin Carmon

*Impossible Odds: The Kidnapping of Jessica Buchanan and Her Dramatic Rescue by SEAL Team Six* by Jessica Buchanan

*The Clockwork Universe: Isaac Newton, the Royal Society, and the Birth of the Modern World* by Edward Dolnick

*The Windup Girl* by Paolo Bacigalupi

*The House I Loved* by Tatiana de Rosnay

*The October List* by Jeffery Deaver

*The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford* by Ron Hansen

*The Art of Fielding* by Chad Harbach

*The Lake House* by Kate Morton

*After You* by Jojo Moyes

*Truth or Die* by James Patterson

*Thereby Hangs a Tail* by Spencer Quinn

*The Lord of Opium* by Nancy Farmer

### **Library Hours:**

Monday 10 am - 2 pm

Tuesday 2 pm - 6 pm

Wednesday 4 pm - 8 pm

Thursday 2 pm - 6 pm

Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

### **Story Time/Summer Reading Program**

Every Monday at 11 am

### **City Celebration Planning Meeting**

Tuesday, August 9 at 7 pm

### **Saturday Craft: Boats**

Saturday, August 13 from 11 am to 2 pm

### **Friends of the Library Meeting**

Monday, August 15 at 7 pm

### **Novel Quilters**

Wednesday, August 17 at 6:30 pm

### **Mystery Book Club**

Wednesday, August 31 at 7 pm

Columbia City Community Library

2000 2nd Street/PO Box 189

503-366-8020

ccclibrary@live.com

## **LOST AND FOUND**

A necklace was found in Harvard Park. If you think it might be yours, please inquire at City Hall.

## **CITY SEEKS RENEWAL OF FIVE-YEAR LOCAL OPTION LEVY FOR POLICE PROTECTION SERVICES**

In 1992 Columbia City voters approved a tax base of \$67,574. With the passage of Ballot Measure 50 in 1997, the tax base transitioned to a permanent tax rate of \$1.1346 per thousand - the lowest permanent City property tax rate within Columbia County, with the exception of Prescott (estimated population - 60), and among the lowest within the State of Oregon. Columbia City is primarily a bedroom community. The greatest majority of tax revenue comes from homeowners. There are few taxable commercial and industrial developments within the City.

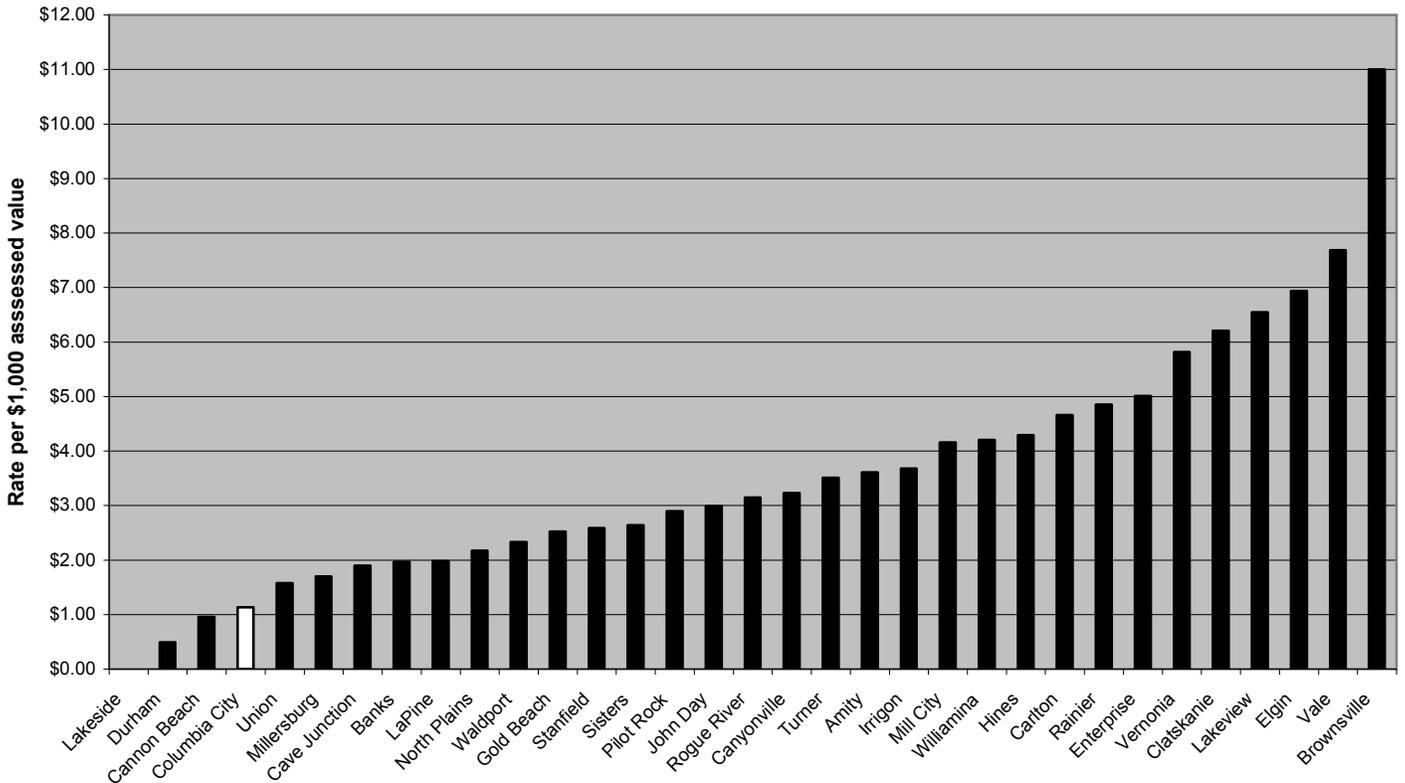
In 2010, the City Council identified police protection as a critical General Fund service that was seriously under-funded. At that time, expenses associated with police protection services had exceeded the total tax revenues collected since fiscal year 2004-05. The amount of total tax revenue generated by the City's existing permanent tax rate consistently fell short of funding a Police Department staffed by 2.5 paid full-time equivalents (FTEs) and volunteer police reserves. The City Council asked voters to approve a five-year local option levy of \$0.67 per \$1,000 assessed value to support police protection services, and voters approved the levy in November 2011.

The five-year levy is now in its fifth and final year, and it will expire after the 2016-17 tax year. In order to continue to provide basic police protection services, the City is requesting a renewal of the five-year operating levy of \$0.67 per \$1,000 assessed value. The request for the renewal of the five-year local option levy will be presented to the voters during the November 8, 2016 General Election. If approved, the City will continue to use tax revenues from this measure to provide basic police protection services.

If approved, the renewed levy will raise approximately \$580,694 for police protection services during the five-year period (an average of \$116,138 per year). The estimated annual cost of this levy for a home assessed at a value of \$200,000 is \$134 per year, or \$0.37 per day.

The following page contains a graph showing a comparison of permanent tax rates for all cities in Oregon similar in size to Columbia City.

## Comparison of Permanent Tax Rates All Oregon Cities with Populations Ranging from 1,500 to 2,500



### MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - AUGUST 2016

August 4	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
August 18	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
August 29	3:00 pm	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall
August 30	5:00 pm	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
August 31	6:30 pm	Planning Commission Meeting at Community Hall – special date/ revised

### CRAFTS DAY AT THE LIBRARY SATURDAY, AUGUST 13TH, 11 AM - 2 PM



Please join us down at the Columbia City Community Library on Saturday, August 13th from 11 am to 2 pm. This month we are going to build small wooden boats: sailboats, powerboats and stern wheelers. Take them home to float in the pool or tub. Captain Chip will muster the crew. You bring the kids, we'll provide everything else!