

Columbia City Newsletter

February 2018

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY
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COLUMBIA CITY RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD

Columbia City has received the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its 2017-18 Budget.

The award represents a significant achievement. It 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 14 mandatory criteria within those categories, to receive the award. This is Columbia City's 17th budget award. Award recipients have pioneered efforts to improve the quality of budgeting and provide an excellent example for other governments throughout North America.

BUDGET COMMITTEE VACANCIES

The Budget Committee meets at least once annually to review the proposed budget, hear public testimony, and approve a budget for submission to the City Council. Budget Committee terms are for a period of three years. Applicants must reside within the City. If interested, please inquire at City Hall.

AFTER HOURS 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.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

Trash, recycle and yard debris containers: Store trash, recycle and yard debris containers on private property. Move them into the street right-of-way for servicing, and remove them from the street right-of-way after servicing.



Trash containers, recycle bins, and yard debris bins should not be stored on the street or on the sidewalk where they obstruct views, impede traffic, and/or block on-street parking spaces.

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.

Pick up after your pets: All pet owners must pick up after their pets!



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.

Burning 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.

SPRING CLEAN UP COMING SOON!



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

date of the annual Spring Cleanup Day will be announced in the next issue of the newsletter!

BUSINESS LICENSE REMINDER

Now is the time of year to renew business licenses for the new 2018 year. Be advised that late fees or penalties may apply if the license is not purchased prior to starting work. Business license applications are available on our website at www.columbia-city.org. If you have any questions about business licenses please contact City Hall.



2018 BOTTLE BILL EXPANSION

As of January 1, 2018, additional beverages have been included in Oregon's Bottle Bill and have a refund value of 10 cents per container.

Included: Most beverages in bottles and cans that are sold in sealed glass, metal, and plastic sizes ranging from 4 ounces up to 1.5 liters will have a refund value of 10 cents. Some of the common beverages that are now included are:

- Coffee/Tea
- Kombucha
- Energy and Sports Drinks
- Hard Cider
- Juice
- Protein Drinks

Soda, beer and water in sizes of 3 liters or less still have a refund value of 10 cents.

NOT Included: Beverages that are NOT included:

- Wine/Distilled Spirits
- Milk (dairy and plant-based)
- Infant Formula
- Meal-Replacement Drinks

The refund value on all beverage containers included in Oregon's Bottle Bill is 10 cents regardless of what is written on the label.



VALENTINE'S TEA

The Caples House Museum, 1925 First Street, will host an old-fashioned Afternoon Tea with food, desserts and a program you can't "bear" to miss! The event is on Sunday, February 11, 2018, from 2 to 4 pm. The cost is \$25.00 for adults, \$10.00 for children 12 & under. For reservations and tickets call (503) 397-5390 or send an email to capleshouse@comcast.net. *Note: The Caples House hosts tea every Friday all year long from 2 to 4 pm.*



UNPREPARED A SEISMIC AWARENESS EVENT

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the Portland Post of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) will hold a community awareness event to highlight seismic risks and vulnerabilities in Oregon. The event will be held in the Clatskanie Cultural Center, 75 S. Nehalem Street, Clatskanie, on February 6, 2018, 6-9 pm.

The Columbia County Emergency Management is partnering with the City of Clatskanie, Clatskanie PUD, and Clatskanie Cultural Center to host the event. ASCE will present a showing of the Oregon Public Broadcasting and Oregon Field Guide documentary *UNPREPARED*. A panel of local engineers and emergency managers as well as Allison Pynch, a geotechnical engineer featured in the documentary, will be available for questions following the film. The panel will answer questions about the Cascadia Event as well as other local seismic risks and how Columbia County and Western Oregon are preparing. The event is free and open to all ages. The Clatskanie Senior Parents will be selling food and drinks for the event. Door prizes will be awarded at the conclusion of the event.

The award winning *UNPREPARED* documentary highlights our seismic risks in Oregon and the potential for major disruption after the expected 9.0 Cascadia earthquake and tsunami. It also starts the conversation about what we as Oregonians can do to be more prepared, both individually and as a community.



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 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, a train, or a facility, or intentionally by a terrorist. Should this occur, information will be provided by local authorities by television and radio stations, by a 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.

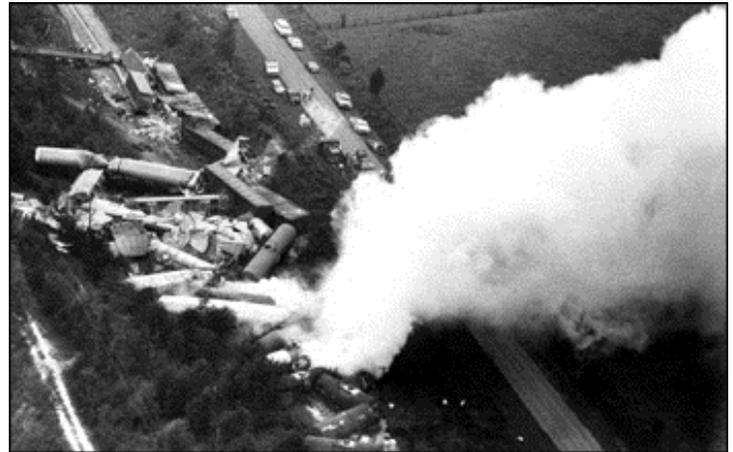
How to Shelter-in-Place:

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.

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.



Anhydrous ammonia escapes from a derailed train in Florida.

COLUMBIA CITY T-SHIRTS FOR SALE AT CITY HALL

Select from three Columbia City T-shirts - one in grey with a front pocket, one in navy blue, and one in white. The grey shirt has the design on the front pocket and on the back of the shirt.



Grey Sternwheeler Shirts:
Small-XL - \$15
2XL - \$16



Navy Blue Fish Shirts:
Small-XL - \$10
2XL - \$11
3XL - \$12



Nautical Flag Shirts:
Small-XL - \$15
4XL - \$18

**POLICY ACTIVITY REPORT
DECEMBER, 2017 – JANUARY, 2018**

See below for the Police 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 674 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: Criminal Mischief, Criminal Trespass, Domestic and Disturbance Calls, Drug Activity, Harassment, Hit and Run Traffic Crash, Juvenile Investigations, Prowler/Suspicious Persons, Theft, and Warrant Service.

COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY:

Residential Security Checks: 173
Area Patrols: 42
Foot Patrols: 23
Assist the Public: 11
Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 6
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 27
Ordinance Violation Complaints: 7
Radio Calls: 31
Animal Complaints: 6
Parking/Traffic Complaints: 5
Welfare Checks: 3
Alarm Calls: 7
Found Open Doors: 4
Reserve Police Officer Hours Worked: 206.75

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:

Investigative Follow Up's: 28
Suspicious Circumstances, People, or Vehicles: 10
Traffic Stops: 87
Harassment: 1
Criminal Mischief: 1
Criminal Trespass: 3
Theft: 2
Disturbance and Domestic Violence Calls: 8
Juvenile Investigations: 2
Warrant Service: 1

Drug Investigations: 2
Hit and Run Investigations: 1

CALLS OF INTEREST:

1. Criminal Trespass Investigation in the 100 block of E Street on December 13, 2017. A male juvenile suspect was identified and the case was forwarded to the Columbia County Juvenile Department.
2. Juvenile Investigation in the 3000 block of 6th Place on December 13, 2017. A male juvenile suspect was identified and the case was forwarded to the Columbia County Juvenile Department.
3. Juvenile Investigation in the 2000 block of 7th Street on December 17, 2017. Investigation remains open.
4. Theft Investigation in the 1700 block of 7th Street on January 8, 2018. Investigation remains open.
5. Theft Investigation in the 3300 block of Tahoma Street on January 25, 2018. Investigation remains open.
6. Driving While Suspended and Warrant Arrest in the area of Highway 30 and Pacific Street on January 26, 2018. Rhonda Graham, 44, of Rainier, Oregon was arrested and transported to the Columbia County Jail.
7. Hit and Run Traffic Crash Investigation in the 2700 block of 6th Street on January 27, 2018. Investigation remains open.

**SNOWMAN FOUNDATION
DONATES BABY GRAND PIANO
TO COMMUNITY HALL**

Michael Allen Harrison's Snowman Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing instruments, instruction and inspiration to deserving children. Last month, the Snowman Foundation donated a baby grand piano to the Columbia City Community Hall.



In keeping with the Snowman Foundation's vision of providing children with access to music through inspiration, instruments and instruction, the Community Hall and the baby grand piano will be made available to music instructors and their students for recitals, programs, and practices. For more information, please contact City Hall by calling 503-397-4010.

WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO TO PROTECT DRINKING WATER SUPPLIES

Columbia City residents can take an active role in protecting the City's drinking water from contamination.



Participate in a Household Hazardous Waste Event:

The Columbia County Transfer Station will hold a free Household Hazardous Waste Event on **Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 8 am to noon**. For more information regarding the event or any other solid waste issues, see the full article on page 6 or contact Columbia County Transfer Station by calling (503) 366-2613.

Substitute less hazardous substances for products used in the home:

- Read the label before you buy, and buy the least-hazardous product available to do the job.
- Buy fragrance-free when possible. Perfumes and fragrances can contain hazardous chemicals and trigger an asthma attack or affect those with sensitive skin.
- Buy the least harmful garden products. Consult the Grow Smart Grow Safe: A Gardener's Guide website at www.growsmartgrowsafe.org or download the Grow Smart iPhone App.
- Choose products that carry the "Safer Choice" label which identifies products that meet the U.S. EPA Safer Product Standards.
- Choose safer art supplies, toys, and plastics and avoid products that contain mercury.

When using products at home:

- Follow product label instructions.
- Never mix household cleaning products - some mixtures make a poisonous gas.
- Use safer methods for common household jobs such as hand washing, laundry, painting, etc.

Car care:

- Check your car for oil or other fluid leaks, and repair leaks quickly.
- Dispose of waste oil properly - never in drains or on the ground. Recycle oil at a car care center or hazardous waste center.

LOST AND FOUND

A key on a lanyard was found in front of City Hall. If you think it might be yours, please contact City Hall.

LIBRARY NEWS

Library news: We are upgrading our Library software and computer. Now you can see what the Library has from your home computer or smart phone because our catalog is now online! Visit: <https://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com> to use it. You will still need to check out material at the Library. We hope it will make the Library easier for you (and us!) to use. We'd love nothing more than to double our circulation!

Check out our used book store! Second Hand Prose is open any time the Library is open! Be sure and stop in.

Children's Craft Saturday: Hey kids, join us and make Valentine pop-up cards and more! Visit the Columbia City Library on Saturday, February 10th, from noon to 2 pm.

New Books: We added 122 items to the Library during the past month. Some recent additions to our Library include:

Under the Wide and Starry Sky by Nancy Horan
A Legacy of Spies by John Le Carre
The Luminous Heart of Jonah S. by Gina Barkhordar Nahai
Midnight Sun by Jo Nesbo
Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Old School by Jeff Kinney
Elon Musk: Tesla, SpaceX, and the Quest for a Fantastic Future by Ashlee Vance
The Quartet: Orchestrating the Second American Revolution, 1783-1789 by Joseph Ellis
Collapse of Dignity: The Story of a Mining Tragedy and the fight against greed and corruption in Mexico by Gomez Urrutia
Getting Physical: The Rise of the Fitness Culture in America by Shelly McKenzie
The Best in Tent Camping, Oregon by Jeanne Pyle
The Lord of the Rings by JRR Tolkien (Audiobook)
The Woman in Cabin 10 by Ruth Ware (Audiobook)
Working Hard with the Rescue Helicopter by Cynthia Benjamin (Read aloud book)

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday through Thursday 3-6 pm
Saturday 10 am-2 pm

Storytime - every Monday at 11 am

Kid's Craft: Valentines – Saturday, 2/10, 12-2 pm

Friends of the Library – Monday, 2/19 at 7 pm

Novel Quilters – Wednesday, 2/21 at 6:30 pm

Mystery Book Club – Wednesday, 2/28 at 7 pm

Columbia City Community Library

2000 2nd Street/PO Box 189

(503) 366-8020 ccclibrary@live.com

PLANNING COMMISSION NEWS

The Planning Commission will consider a request for a 23-lot subdivision and site development review involving 8.34 acres of property located to the west of the north end of Chimes Crest Road, south of Columbia View Heights Subdivision. The property is under the ownership of Brett Byrd, Cameron Byrd and Mark Melchert. The property involves tax lots 5128-28DB-03100 and 5128-28D0-01600. In January, the public meeting was postponed until 6:30 pm on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall.

Subdivision requests and site development reviews are limited land use decisions, which do not involve a public hearing. Interested persons were previously invited to submit written testimony by January 3, 2018.

The Planning Commission's decision must be based on findings that a specific set of criteria have been or have not been met. Comments submitted in regard to these land use applications should be directed toward applicable sections of the Columbia City Development Code. Approval is subject to the applicant demonstrating compliance with the requirements of Chapter 7.45, R-2 Moderate Density Residential Zone, Chapter 7.92, Street and Utility Improvement Standards, Chapter 7.96 Landscaping, Screening and Fencing, Chapter 7.100 Off-Street Parking and Loading Requirements, Chapter 7.120 Site Development Review, Chapter 7.154 Land Division: Subdivision; and Chapter 7.164 Procedures for Decision Making: Limited Land Use Decisions.

Copies of all documents related to the application are available for review at the City Hall located at 1840 Second Street, Columbia City, Oregon. Copies can also be purchased at cost.



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.

HAZARDOUS WASTE EVENT

The Columbia County Transfer Station will hold a Household Hazardous Waste Event on **Saturday, February 24, 2018 from 8 am to noon**. The following hazardous waste materials are accepted during the event:

- ✓ Pool and spa chemicals
- ✓ Lawn/garden chemicals
- ✓ Pesticides/herbicides
- ✓ Light ballasts - *remove from light fixture*
- ✓ Fluorescent tubes
- ✓ Art/hobby chemicals
- ✓ Solvents/thinners
- ✓ Batteries - *only car, rechargeable, button - no alkaline batteries*
- ✓ Gasoline/diesel/fuels
- ✓ Cleaners/detergents
- ✓ Poisons
- ✓ Fireworks/flares
- ✓ Ammunition
- ✓ Items containing mercury
- ✓ Propane cylinders
- ✓ Compressed gas cylinders

***Bring product in original container and
secure your load***

Items **NOT** accepted during the event:

- ⊗ Garbage or trash
- ⊗ Asbestos
- ⊗ Unwanted/unused pharmaceuticals or medicine - *St. Helens Police Department accepts unused prescriptions*
- ⊗ Liquid in containers larger than 5 gallons

The following are not household hazardous waste and are accepted at the Transfer Station anytime, Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 5 pm:

- Latex and acrylic paint, oil-based paint, enamel, stains, lacquers, shellacs, varnishes, primers
- Used motor oil and antifreeze
- Medical sharps - *must be in sealed, puncture-proof containers (available at local pharmacies, at the Transfer Station scale house, or Walmart)*

Toxic.Free.Home.



Participate In Your Local Household Hazardous Waste Roundups

Easter Benefit Breakfast

Strawberries, pancakes, ham and eggs!

MENU:

Breakfast includes a generous slice of ham, scrambled eggs, and two fluffy pancakes topped with strawberries & whipped cream. Breakfast is served with orange juice and choice of coffee or milk.



Breakfast prices:
Adults: \$8.50
Children: \$7.00
(ages 10 and under)



Saturday, March 31, 2018 - 7 am to 10 am
Columbia City Community Hall
1850 Second Street

All proceeds benefit the Columbia City Community Hall - A Legacy to Treasure - Capital Campaign