

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

May 2019

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY
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The City of Columbia City
In Columbia County on the Columbia River



CITIZEN SATISFACTION SURVEY

Columbia City provides a range of services to the community. We'd like to ask you to please take a moment to let us know how we are doing. Your input is important to us, and we look forward to hearing how we might better serve you. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and you need not answer all of the questions.

Your feedback is appreciated!

Please return completed surveys to City Hall during the month of May

PO Box 189 ♦ 1840 Second Street ♦ Columbia City, Oregon 97018

Phone 503-397-4010 ♦ Fax 503-366-2870

E-mail colcity@columbia-city.org ♦ Web site www.columbia-city.org

Question 1:

A. In the past year or so have you, or has anyone in your household, had a direct contact with a representative of the City Hall Office?

Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 2)

B. If you answered yes to Question 1A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):

1=not at all satisfied

5=very satisfied

_____ Water or Sewer Utility Payment or Inquiry	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Municipal Court Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Building, Plumbing or Mechanical Permit	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Nuisance/Code Violation Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Land Use Related	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Street Light Problem	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 2:

A. In the past year or so have you, or has anyone in your household, had a direct contact with a representative of the Police Department?
Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 3)

B. If you answered yes to Question 2A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):

1=not at all satisfied

5=very satisfied

_____ Criminal Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Traffic Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Traffic Stop	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Nuisance/Code Violation Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 3:

A. In the past year or so have you, or has anyone in your household, had a direct contact with a representative of the Public Works Department?
Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 4)

B. If you answered yes to Question 3A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):

1=not at all satisfied

5=very satisfied

_____ Water Service Need or Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Sewer Service Need or Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Park Facility Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Storm Drain Problem	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Street Maintenance Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 4:

What is your perception of the overall quality of services provided by the City of Columbia City?
(circle one)

1
(Poor)

2

3

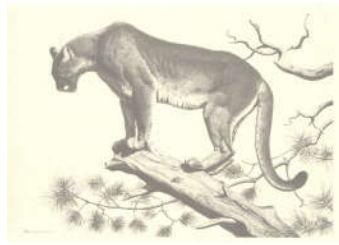
4

5
(Excellent)

Additional comments you would like to make: _____

COUGAR REPORTS

We recently received a report of a cougar sighting in the area Sixth and E Streets in Columbia City. **If you spot a cougar in Columbia City, please IMMEDIATELY call 9-1-1 to report the incident.**



After the sighting, please leave paw prints and other signs undisturbed until authorities arrive.

Identifying characteristics: Adults of both sexes have light tan coats and long black-tipped tails, with black coloration on the backs of their ears. Adult males may exceed 8 feet in length, from nose to tail, and weigh between 130 and 170 pounds. Adult females can be 7 feet long from nose to tail and weigh between 75 and 105 pounds.

Safety precautions: The potential for human/cougar interactions has increased in recent years. However, more people are injured or killed by deer, bees, dogs and spiders than by cougars. If you are concerned about safety, familiarize yourself with the signs of cougar and their habitat and follow these suggestions:

- **Keep an eye on your children.** Don't let your children play unattended in the backyard, especially when cougars are known to be in the area. You also want to keep your children away from dense brush, which the cougar may use for cover.
- **Be cautious at dusk and dawn.** Contrary to popular belief, most predators are most active at dusk and dawn. This is a time to be especially cautious.
- **Don't leave food or garbage outside.** The strong smell of food or garbage may attract a cougar into your yard.
- **Keep your pets indoors.** While you may have left your pet in the backyard in the past, you may want to start bringing it indoors with a cougar in the area. Cougars can easily kill the largest dog and leaving your pet out may prompt an attack. Don't feed pets outside as this can attract cougars and their prey.
- **Don't feed wildlife.** By feeding deer, raccoons or other wildlife in your yard, you may inadvertently attract cougars, which prey on them as a food source.
- **Do not hike alone.** Go in groups, with adults supervising children.

EASTER PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The second annual Easter pancake breakfast was a success! Thank you to all who attended and helped with this fundraising event.

Special thanks to the Easter GGGGrinch who helped raise \$440 towards the new roof on the Community Hall. What a fun addition to the day.



Mayor Casey Wheeler and City Administrator Mike McGlothlin pose with our special guest The Easter GGGGrinch.



Congratulations to Lynn Vellenga, the winner of the handmade bird feeder.

LOST AND FOUND

At the Easter Breakfast a blue coffee tumbler was left behind in the Community Hall. Also a radar detector was found in the area of 100 K Street. If you think either of these items belong to you, please contact City Hall.

Benefit Concert

featuring

Michael Allen Harrison

MONDAY, MAY 6th, 6 PM

Tickets: \$20.00 per person

Purchase tickets at City Hall now or at the door

Event location:

**Columbia City Community Hall,
1850 Second Street**

**Food and beverages,
including beer and wine,
will be sold during the event**

All event proceeds will benefit
Our Community Hall

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING SET

The Columbia City Budget Committee will meet on Thursday, May 23th, 2019 at 6 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to receive comments from the public about the proposed budget. A copy of the proposed budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 20, 2018, at City Hall. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed budget.



CITY RESERVOIR AND WATERLINE PROJECT

The City Council approved a construction contract with PCR, Inc., after having gone through the formal bid process, for the Columbia City 2019 Water System Improvements Project at the March 7, 2019 Council Meeting. This project, funded through grants from FEMA/OEM and loans through the Business Oregon Program, will improve waterline function and efficiency along The Strand and First Street areas, as well as refurbishing and making necessary seismic upgrades to our City's water reservoirs. Citizens should expect to see construction operations starting within these areas in the coming weeks.

KEEPING IN TOUCH... OR NOT?

In the March 2019 edition of our community newsletter citizens were asked that if they wanted to start receiving city agendas and minutes to email a request to the city's website. Many citizens did, and we appreciate the opportunity to stay in touch with you about the work of our City Council and various City Committees. Conversely, at this time we would like to ask those who no longer wish to receive agendas or minutes to please contact us as well. This request to cease receiving agendas or minutes can be made via our email address at colcity@columbia-city.org.

ONLINE BILL ACCESS – AVAILABLE NOW

You can access your water and sewer bills online. This allows you to see your billing and usage history. Also save paper by signing up for e-bills to receive the current bill and newsletter electronically. Contact City Hall if you have any questions or need assistance.

Available at –

<https://columbiacity.merchantransact.com>

SUCCESSFUL SPRING CLEAN UP EVENT

We would like to extend a very special thank you to our site sponsors, volunteers, and the City staff members that made the Columbia City Spring Clean Up Event a great success!!! This event would not be possible without their continued support and participation. Site sponsors include: Beaver Bark, City of Columbia City, Columbia County Transfer Station, Drake's Towing & Recovery, Habitat for Humanity, ReStore, Hudson Garbage Service, Hudson Portable Toilet Service, Les Schwab Tire Center - St. Helens, St. Helens School District, South Columbia County Chamber of Commerce, and Stan's Refrigeration.



FREE WATER CONSERVATION KITS

The City has free water conservation kits available to water customers while supplies last. Kits include a moisture meter, leak detection dye tablets and a deluxe water efficient hose nozzle. Limit one kit per water customer, while supplies last

LIBRARY NEWS

Parents! Remember there is a play area for kids in the library. They can play while you look for books for them (and maybe sneak off for one of your own!)

Novel Quilters: The Novel Quilters showed their quilts based on *First Light: A Magical Journey* by Carol O'Biso. For the next six months we will be reading *A Woman's Place* by Lynn Austin. Please join us as we discuss the book and other books we've read on the third Wednesday of most months.

New Books at the Library: We added 49 new items to the library this month. Check out the new books shelf at the library, it changes every week.

The AARP Retirement Survival Guide by Julie Jason

The Last Camel Charge: The Untold Story of America's Desert Military Experiment by F.B. Johnson

One Nation Undertaught: Solving America's STEM Crisis by Vince M. Bertram

Out and About with Kids: Portland, by Nelle Nix

Garden of Lamentations by Deborah Crombie

Martin Marten by Brian Doyle

Duel to the Death by J.A. Jance

Verses for the Dead by Douglas J. Preston

Every Fifteen Minutes by Lisa Scottoline

Middle School Study Guides: Science, Math, American History by Workman (in Juvenile nonfiction)

Library Hours:

Monday through Thursday 3-6 pm

Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

City Celebration Planning Meeting

Monday, May 6 – 6:30 pm

Novel Quilters

Wednesday, May 15 – 6:30 pm

Friends of the Library Meeting

Monday, May 20 - 6 pm

Mystery Book Club

Wednesday, May 29 - 7 pm

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

Reach our book catalog:

<https://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com>

MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY COLUMBIA CITY VETERANS PARK

Please join us in honoring all American veterans on Monday, May 27 from 11 am to noon at the Columbia City Veterans Park.



Before attending the event, please review these **IMPORTANT transportation and parking instructions:**

Free bus service will be offered to and from the event! To catch the bus, park near the Caples House Museum, Community Hall or City Hall, or park at the CC Rider Park 'n Ride in St. Helens, and be bussed directly to the park! Bus service will start at 9:30 am.

Parking near the Veterans Park is **NOT RECOMMENDED.**

Vehicular access to the park from Highway 30 will be **PROHIBITED** on event day.

Parking along Highway 30 on event day will be **PROHIBITED.**

Refreshments will be available, compliments of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Mt. St. Helens Chapter.

STILL TIME TO GET BRICKS FOR THE VETERANS PARK MEMORIAL WALL

In May we have our annual Memorial Day event at the Veterans Park. There are a limited number of bricks available on our 5th and final wall. If purchased by Monday, May 13th they will be engraved before the event.



You can also purchase a brick in support of the Park or as a sponsor. These bricks are located at the base of any of the walls.

All bricks are \$75.00. Forms are available online at the City's website or at City Hall.

CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

Keep grass and weeds cut: Between April 15th and September 30th weeds and grass cannot exceed 10 inches in height within the City limits.

RV, boat, trailer parking/storage:

- **Within the right-of-way:** Recreational vehicles, boats, and trailers may be parked temporarily on an improved public street for no more than five 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 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. Storage is limited to one unit that is designed for human occupancy.



For more specific information, contact City Hall.

SERGEANTS CORNER

Spring is here! As the weather improves more families and children will be outside enjoying the spring air. This means the pedestrian traffic will be increasing and the use of the parks will be on the rise. Please use more caution on the side streets and park areas as you drive through our

community. Let's all watch out for each other and enjoy this wonderful spring season.

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 ~ Sergeant Jerry Bartolomucci

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

On a Plumber's truck:
 "We repair what your husband fixed."

At a Tire Shop:
 "Invite us to your next blowout."

At a Towing company:
 "We don't charge an arm and a leg. We want tows."

In a Nonsmoking Area:
 "If we see smoke, we will assume you are on fire and take appropriate action."

On a Taxidermist's window:
 "We really know our stuff."

At a Car Dealership:
 "The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment."

Outside a Muffler Shop:
 "No appointment necessary. We hear you coming."

In a Veterinarian's waiting room:
 "Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"

At a Propane Filling Station:
 "Thank heaven for little grills."

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - MAY 2019

May 6	6 PM	Michael Allen Harrison Concert at Community Hall
May 9	6 PM	Municipal Court at City Hall
May 14	2:30 PM	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall
May 16	6 PM	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
May 20	8 AM – 5 PM	2019-20 City Budget available for public review
May 21	6:30 PM	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall - Cancelled
May 23	6 PM	Budget Committee Meeting at City Hall
May 27	11 AM - noon	Memorial Day Ceremony at Columbia City Veterans Park
May 27	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Memorial Day