

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 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
www.columbia-city.org



SATURDAY, MARCH 5th - 5 PM

A Legacy to Treasure
benefit concert with



Michael Allen Harrison

In addition to being a sought after producer, composer and arranger, Michael Allen Harrison is a well-known concert pianist who has been in the music scene for over two decades.

Adult tickets: \$20.00 (*Sorry - no minors!*)
Food and drinks, including locally crafted beer and wine, will be available for purchase.

Event location:

School Gymnasium, 2000 2nd, Columbia City

Purchase your tickets at City Hall now!!

All event proceeds will benefit

"Our Community Hall

- A Legacy to Treasure - Capital Campaign."

THE SNOWMAN FOUNDATION'S PLAY IT FORWARD PROGRAM OFFERS UPRIGHT PRACTICE PIANOS TO YOUNGSTERS

The Snowman Foundation has offered three refurbished upright practice pianos to local families with a child or children that have a demonstrated talent and/or a strong desire to play the piano. Through its Play It Forward Program, the Snowman Foundation works to inspire the next generation by matching young musicians with real instruments.



The Snowman Foundation, which started as a vision of Northwest composer and pianist Michael Allen Harrison, has evolved into a community effort that shares the joy, the healing, the learning, and the life-changing gifts music has to offer by giving children access to music through inspiration, instruments and instruction.

If you are interested in obtaining a free refurbished piano for your child or children, please complete the form on page 8 and return it to City Hall by March 15, 2016!



PICK UP YOUR FREE 2016 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CALENDAR

Stop by City Hall and pick up a free 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.

**CITY RECEIVES
IPP FUNDING AWARDS
FROM THE PORT OF ST. HELENS**

We are pleased to announce the City's receipt of two Intergovernmental Partnership Program (IPP) awards from the Port of St. Helens. The IPP is designed to leverage a limited amount of Port funds by working with County, Cities, and Special Districts to enhance economic development, support limited infrastructure, and improve safety within the Port district. The IPP promotes healthy partnerships and enhances areas within the Port district.

The City's RCE Sewer Pump Station Improvements project will receive IPP funding in the amount of \$25,000. The project involves electrical service upgrades, pump upgrades, and piping improvements to the City's main sewer pump station, which is located in the River Club Estates subdivision. The City intended to fully fund the project with proceeds from DEQ Clean Water Loans and sewer system development charges, but the cost of the project exceeded the original cost estimates. The IPP funding, coupled with revenue from sewer usage fees, will cover the remaining revenue shortfall. The RCE Sewer Pump Station Improvements project is currently under construction.

The City's Community Hall - Our Legacy to Treasure - Capital Campaign will benefit from IPP funding in the amount of \$15,000. The project consists of remodeling the kitchen, creating men and women restrooms, adding a unisex shower facility, installing retractable basketball hoops, and adding easily accessible storage for chairs and tables. Funding for the project will come from a variety of sources, including foundation grants, corporate and private sponsorships, various fund raising activities, and donated labor and materials. The IPP funding represents ten percent of the total estimated revenue needed for the project. The Community Hall Improvements project is now in the design phase.

We are very appreciative of the IPP funding awards from the Port of St. Helens.

**No act of kindness,
however small, is ever wasted.**
~Aesop~

**SUPPORT THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY
THROUGH THE
FRED MEYER REWARDS PROGRAM**

You can support the Friends of the Columbia City Community Library with your Fred Meyer Rewards Card under the Fred Meyer Community Rewards program. Just link the Friends of the Library to your Rewards Card, and when you shop at Fred Meyer you'll earn rewards for yourself and for the Friends of the Library! Visit the Fred Meyer website to link your Rewards Card with the Friends of the Library under the Fred Meyer Community Rewards program, or stop in and visit with a Fred Meyer customer service representative for assistance.



LOST AND FOUND

A silver hoop earring was found in Ruth Rose Richardson Park in mid-January. For more information, please contact City Hall.

**SPRING CLEANUP DAY
SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2016
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 23rd, 2016, from 8 am to noon** at the

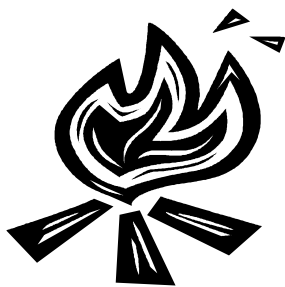


Columbia City School. You can drop off your first two loads of yard debris, trees and limbs for FREE! Extra bulky waste or hard-to-dispose-of items, such as old furniture, lawn mowers,

mattresses, etc., and extra loads of yard debris will be accepted for a fee. More information will be in the next issue of the newsletter.

OPEN BURNING PERIOD FOR YARD DEBRIS BURNING PERMITS REQUIRED

The next **biannual burn period will begin on Saturday, April 2nd and end on Sunday, April 17th**. 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 or online at www.crrf.com. 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 five-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 six feet wide by four feet high.
- ❑ The ground must be cleared not less than ten 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 three feet in diameter; and a 25 foot separation if the burn pile is less than three feet in diameter.
- ❑ The fire must not adversely affect neighbors (smoke).
- ❑ It must be daylight hours during a designated burn day.

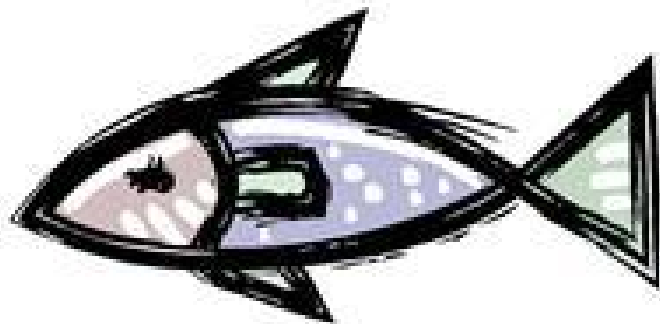
Have questions? Please call the Fire Marshall, at (503) 397-2990.

**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.

COLUMBIA CITY IDENTIFIED AS A RADON HOT SPOT

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has identified Columbia City as one of several radon hot spots in Oregon.

The EPA recommends you:

- **Test your home for radon - it's easy and inexpensive.**
- **Fix your home if your radon level is 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) or higher.**
- **Radon levels less than 4 pCi/L still pose a risk, and in many cases may be reduced.**

Radon is a cancer-causing, radioactive gas. You can't see radon. And you can't smell it or taste it. But it may be a problem in your home. Radon is estimated to cause thousands of lung cancer deaths in the U.S. each year. That's because when you breathe air containing radon, you can get lung cancer. In fact, the Surgeon General has warned that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the U.S. today. Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths. If you smoke and your home has high radon levels, your risk of lung cancer is especially high.

Radon can be found all over the U.S. Radon comes from the natural (radioactive) breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water and gets into the air you breathe. It can get into any type of building - homes, offices, and schools - and result in a high indoor radon level. But you and your family are most likely to get your greatest exposure at home, where you spend most of your time.

You should test for radon. Testing is the only way to know if you and your family are at risk from radon. The EPA and the Surgeon General recommend testing all homes below the third floor for radon. Testing is inexpensive and easy - it should only take a few minutes of your time.

You can fix a radon problem. Radon reduction systems work and they are not too costly. Some radon reduction systems can reduce radon levels in your home by up to 99%. Even very high levels can be reduced to acceptable levels.

How to test your home. There are many kinds of low-cost "do it yourself" radon test kits you can get through the mail or in some hardware stores and other retail outlets. If you prefer, or if you are buying

or selling a home, you may want to hire a qualified tester to do the testing for you. Visit www.nrpp.info or www.nrsb.org to obtain a list of certified radon testers.

Short-term testing. The quickest way to test is with short-term tests, which remain in your home from two to 90 days, depending on the device. Because radon levels tend to vary from day to day and season to season, a short-term test is less likely than a long-term test to tell you your year-round average radon level. If you need results quickly, however, a short-term test followed by a second short-term test may be used to decide whether to fix your home.

Long-term testing. Long-term tests remain in your home for more than 90 days. "Alpha track" and "electret" detectors are commonly used for this type of testing. A long-term test will give you a reading that is more likely to tell you your home's year-round average radon level than a short-term test.

The EPA recommends the following testing steps:

- **Step 1. Take a short-term test. If your result is 4 pCi/L or higher, take a follow-up test (Step 2) to be sure.**
- **Step 2. Follow up with either a long-term test or a second short-term test:**
 - **For a better understanding of your year-round average radon level, take a long-term test.**
 - **If you need results quickly, take a second short-term test.**

(The higher your initial short-term test result, the more certain you can be that you should take a short-term rather than a long-term follow up test. If your first short-term test result is more than 8 pCi/L action level, you should take a second short-term test immediately.)
- **Step 3.**
 - **If you followed up with a long-term test: Fix your home if your long-term test result is 4 pCi/L or more.**
 - **If you followed up with a short-term test: The higher your short-term results, the more certain you can be that you should fix your home. Consider fixing your home if the average of your first and second test is 4 pCi/L or higher.**

For more information about radon, visit the EPA's website www.epa.gov/radon.

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.

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 dental floss, diapers, wipes, 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.

Report violations by calling City Hall (503) 397-4010.

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 13th.

ROSALYNN CARTER INSTITUTE'S RESOURCES FOR ENHANCING ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER HEALTH (RCI REACH)

Are you or is someone you know providing care for someone with Alzheimer's? RCI REACH is an evidence-based program proven in the community setting to improve the caregiver's experience by:

- Reducing caregiver burden scores by 15%;
- Improving caregiver self reported health by 10%;
- Reducing depression scores by 16%.

Certified RCI REACH interventionists provide caregiver's with current information on Alzheimer's disease and related dementia, and teach strategies for coping with troubling behaviors of their loved ones. Interventionists share techniques to help offset the impact of stress on the caregiver's health, and tools for effectively identifying solutions to their specific challenges. They also offer caregiver's encouragement, support and understanding.

RCI REACH addresses:

- Emotional well being and stress management;
- Problem solving and communications skills;
- Coping with troubling behaviors;
- Caregiver self-care and health management;
- Accessing resources and supports.

The RCI REACH services are tailored to individual caregiver needs and delivered over a six-month period during nine home visits and three telephone sessions. For more information about RCI REACH, contact the Community Action Team, Inc., Senior Services - 503-397-3511, or send an e-mail to jdavis@cat-team.org.

💧 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.



LIBRARY NEWS

The Libri Foundation offered us the opportunity to apply for a grant from them again. We applied, and they have awarded us \$1000 worth of books from the Junior Library Guild, plus an annual subscription (12 books) for 3rd through 6th grade science books. And no matching funds are required! We will also be setting up a web site with the Junior Library Guild where you can donate money directly for children's books. Stop by the library to see their catalog and find out what wonderful books they offer! The catalog offers hardcover books for children from pre-kindergarten through young adult, both fiction and non-fiction.

Saturday Crafts for Kids:

Come to the library to find out what Spring Pop-Up cards are all about. This is going to be fun for kids of any age. You supply the kids and we will supply everything else necessary for them to craft some fun cards



to take home. While you are here, check out some of our fun crafts books appropriate for kids and adults. Visit the Columbia City Community Library Saturday, March 12 between 11 am and 2 pm.

What is Second Hand Prose? Second Hand Prose is a used book store within the library. We have 4,000 books arranged alphabetically for fiction, and by the Dewey Decimal system for non-fiction. Fresh books are added weekly. Prices are \$2 for hardcover books and \$1 for paperbacks, with monthly half price specials. All proceeds help fund the library.

Get Your Garden Started with Second Hand Prose! In March, all books about gardening and collecting 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 111 books to the library during the past month. Some recent additions to our library include:

Senior Fitness by Ruth Heidrich
Grow a Living Wall by Shawn Coronado
American Pie: Slices of Life (and Pie) from America's Back Roads by Pascale Le Draoulec

The Complete Pond Builder: Creating a Beautiful Water Garden by Helen Nash
Mariner's Compass Quilts by Judy Mathieson
In the Kingdom Of Ice: The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette by Hampton Sides
Killing Reagan by Bill O'Reilly
The Man in the High Castle by Philip K. Dick
The Kill List by Frederick Forsyth
The Girl in the Spider's Web by David Lagercrantz
The Murder House by James Patterson
Obsession in Death by J.D. Robb
Where'd You Go, Bernadette by Maria Semple
The True Adventures of Charley Darwin by Carolyn Meyer (for grade schoolers)
The Five Lives of Our Cat Zook by Joanne Rocklin (for grade schoolers)
Pillsbury Kids Cookbook: Food Fun for Boys and Girls

Library Hours:

Monday 10 am - 2 pm
Wednesday 4 pm - 8 pm
Thursday 2 pm - 6 pm
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

Story Time

Every Monday at 11 am

Columbia City Celebration Planning Meeting

Tuesday, March 8 at 7 pm

Saturday Craft - Pop-Up Cards

Saturday, March 12 from 11 am to 1 pm

Novel Quilters

Wednesday, March 16 at 6:30 pm

Friends of the Library Meeting

Monday, March 21 at 7 pm

Mystery Book Club

Wednesday, March 30 at 7 pm

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



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 both Facebook and Twitter as well!

INCOME TAX FRAUD ALERT! As several of our citizens are aware of, the income tax filing season brings out incidents of attempted telephonic fraud. While this is not a phenomenon specific to Columbia City several of our residents have received calls from individuals purporting to be with the Internal Revenue Service. All of these calls have originated with an area code of "202", which does come back as the area code for Washington D.C. However, the Internal Revenue Service does not generate calls in this manner and will instead originate all communications in writing. Persons receiving calls of this nature are encouraged to contact the police department for reporting and investigative purposes.

POLICY ACTIVITY REPORT - FEBRUARY 2016: Your police officers answered 193 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: Assault, Civil Situations, Criminal Mischief, Attempted Fraud, Harassment, Juvenile Investigations, Nuisance/Code Violations, Suspicious Persons and Circumstances, Theft, and Traffic Crashes.

COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY:

Residential Security Checks: 60
Area Patrols: 7
Foot Patrols: 6
Assist the Public: 6
Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 3
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 15
Parking/Traffic Complaints: 3

Nuisance Complaints: 6
Reserve Police Officer Hours Worked: 50

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:

Investigative Follow Up's: 6
Suspicious Circumstances, People, and Vehicles: 7
Traffic Stops: 32
Assault: 1
Attempted Fraud: 1
Theft: 1
Narcotics Activity: 2
Traffic Crashes: 2
Juvenile Investigations: 1
Criminal Mischief: 2

CALLS OF INTEREST:

Motor vehicle crash investigation on Fourth Street near M Street on 02/01/2016. Investigation closed with responsible driver identified.

Motor vehicle crash investigation on Highway 30 near E Street on 02/07/2016. Investigation closed with responsible driver identified.

Attempted Fraud investigation in the 800 block of K Street on 02/09/2016. Investigation remains open.

Criminal Mischief investigation in the 2000 block of Second Street on 02/15/2016. Investigation closed with leads exhausted.

Criminal Mischief investigation in the 1800 block of First Street on 02/16/2016. Investigation closed with leads exhausted.

Theft investigation in the 700 block of James Street on 02/17/2016. Investigation remains open.

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



CRAFTS DAY AT THE LIBRARY MARCH 12TH, 11 AM - 2 PM



Come to the library to find out what Spring Pop-Up cards are all about. This is going to be fun for kids of any age. You supply the kids and we will supply everything else necessary for them to craft some fun cards to take home. While you are here, check out some of our fun crafts books appropriate for kids and adults.

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - MARCH 2016

March 3 rd	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
March 5 th	5:00 pm	Michael Allen Harrison benefit in the School Gym
March 7 th	6:00 pm	Municipal Court at City Hall
March 8 th	7:00 pm	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
March 12 th	6:00 pm	Street Committee Meeting at City Hall
March 13 th	2:00 am	Daylight Saving Time begins
March 17 th	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
March 22 nd	5:00 pm	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall



PLAY IT FORWARD PIANO APPLICATION

Name: _____ Phone No.: _____

Address: _____

Age of child or ages of children with an interest in playing the piano: _____

Why do you believe a piano would be a good match for your child or children? _____

Return completed application by March 15, 2016 to City Hall, 1840 Second Street, PO Box 189, Columbia City, OR 97018

