



# COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

## January 2018

COLUMBIA CITY  
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### CITY RECEIVES \$27,000 GRANT FROM DLCD TO COMPLETE PLANNING WORK

Columbia City is pleased to announce a 2017-19 Technical Assistance Grant award from the Department of Land Conservation and Development for the completion of an Economic Opportunities Analysis (EOA). The EOA will provide an up-to-date assessment of Columbia City's economic development potential and provide necessary data to support a revitalized focus on the community's workforce, availability of adequate transportation facilities and potential new infrastructure to support economic growth. The analysis will ultimately help City leaders identify local barriers to economic development and determine if additional employment lands need to be brought into the City limits or if the City needs to expand the Urban Growth Boundary.

### BUDGET COMMITTEE VACANCY

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.

## Why was the snowman sad?



*The had a meltdown*

## *Newly remodeled COMMUNITY HALL*

*Rent it for your next event!*

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*

# Happy New Year!



## **KIM KARBER JOINS CITY STAFF**

We are happy to introduce Kim Karber, who recently joined our office staff as our new Account Clerk. Kim, a St. Helens resident, comes to us with a financial and supervision background. Kim can often be found volunteering at fund raising events throughout the County and region.

### **HOLIDAY TIME RECYCLING**

Christmas trees, greeting cards and wrapped presents brighten homes and warm our hearts. After the holidays, however, sometimes these holiday items end up in our garbage cart. That means they will go to the landfill, even though they could have been recycled. When you consider the trees, cards, wrapping paper, envelopes and the stamps, that's a lot of trees cut down for our holiday enjoyment.

#### ***Why should I recycle my tree?***

Recycling your tree "gives back" to the environment as trees are composted for garden mulch. Mulch provides a protective barrier for the roots of other plants while suppressing weeds and holding in moisture. As the mulch decomposes, it provides nutrients that plants need.



#### ***Tree Recycling Tips:***

- Recycle your tree and support Boy Scout Troop 106 in Columbia County. The Scouts offer two recycling options:
  - ✓ Drop your tree off in the drop box at Lawrence Oil in St. Helens for \$6.50.
  - ✓ Schedule curbside pick up for \$8.50. Curbside pickup will be offered on January 2, 4, 5, 8 and 9. To schedule a curbside pickup, call Bill Reese at (425) 615-9531, or e-mail him at [foresttoday@outlook.com](mailto:foresttoday@outlook.com).
- If you have yard debris service, you may recycle your tree by cutting it up and placing it inside your yard debris cart. It must fit entirely in your cart.
- Beaver Bark in Scappoose will process your old tree into compost for a minimum charge of \$9.
- Recycle your whole tree at the Columbia County

Transfer Station. The minimum load fee of \$21 will apply.

Before recycling or composting discarded trees, be sure to remove the tinsel, plastic and other non-recyclable ornaments.



#### ***Wrapping Paper, Gift Boxes, Greeting Card Tips:***

Save used wrapping paper, gift boxes, bows and ribbons this Christmas and reuse it all next year.

- Recycle your non-shiny or non-glittering wrapping paper, the cardboard roll the paper is wound around, tissue paper, gift boxes and tags by placing these items in your co-mingle bin or roll cart.
- You can recycle your greeting cards by donating them to St. Jude's Ranch for Children. The program accepts all types of greeting cards. Only the card front can be used, (please check to be sure the back side is clear of any writing etc.) they are not able to accept Hallmark, Disney or American Greeting cards. 5" x 7" size or smaller is preferred. Mail donations to: St. Jude's Ranch for Children, Recycled Card Program, 100 St. Jude's Street, Boulder City, NV 89005. Currently, they have found the least expensive way to mail large quantities of card donations is through the USPS in a Flat Rate Box which holds up to 70 pounds (available at the Post Office). The ranch provides counseling and opportunities for troubled youth. The kids operate a business taking used greeting cards, creating new ones and selling the results. The kids earn money, experience and a sense of purpose through this program. For more information visit their website: [www.stjudesranch.org/shop/recycled-card-program/](http://www.stjudesranch.org/shop/recycled-card-program/).

***Electronic Recycling Tips:*** Electronics can be recycled for FREE at any time during regular business hours at the Columbia County Transfer Station on Railroad Ave. in St. Helens.



*always pick up  
after your dog.  
it's your duty.*

## PLEASE UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

We frequently find the phone numbers we have listed on our utility accounts are no longer valid. It is very important we have current contact



that

that

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, or
- Let you know your dog was spotted near Highway 30, or
- Contact you in the event of an emergency.

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. To update your contact information, please fill out and return the enclosed form, or email the information to [colcity@columbia-city.org](mailto:colcity@columbia-city.org).

## CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

**Recreational vehicles:** Only one vehicle that is designed for human occupancy (RV, boat, travel trailer, camper, or motor home) may be parked or stored at any single property at any time.

**Home occupations:** Under certain conditions, residents may use their home to engage in small-scale business ventures which might not be sustainable if it were necessary to lease commercial space. All home occupations require a permit.

**Sidewalk maintenance:** The owner of property abutting a sidewalk is responsible for keeping the sidewalk free of ice, snow, yard debris and other obstructions.

**Attention pet owners!** You must pick up after your pets! It's the law!

## WHEN A SERIOUS EARTHQUAKE STRIKES, 6 STEPS TO IMMEDIATELY TAKE

An earthquake is a sudden release of pent-up energy along a fault line in the earth's crust. Without warning, the ground under your feet will begin to shake or roll.

A timely response is critical. Gas leaks may have occurred, which could lead to fire and explosion. People may have been injured. What you do in the **first hour** following an earthquake can save lives, reduce the severity of injuries, and save property.



### What to do:

**Step 1 Check on the well-being of your loved ones and pets.** Do not call 9-1-1 unless necessary. Remember, 9-1-1 is an emergency-only number.

**Step 2 Dress for safety.** Protect your head, hands and feet. Sturdy shoes will protect your feet from broken glass. Leather gloves will protect your hands from sharp debris. A bicycle helmet or hard hat will help to protect your head from falling objects, like chimney bricks or roof edges.

**Step 3 Check the natural gas or propane at your home.** Shut it off if necessary. This is one of the best ways to prevent fire.

**Step 4 Shut off water at the house master shut off valve.** If water pipes have broken, this will help keep the water in your water heater safe from pollutants.

**Step 5 Place an OK or HELP sign in your front window or on your front door.** If you - or a neighbor - have been injured and are going into shock, time is critical. This signals your status to your neighbors and helps prioritize response activity.

**Step 6 Put your fire extinguishers on the sidewalk or street edge** so they are visible and available for immediate use should anyone in the neighborhood experience fire. Time is critical. In a disaster, 9-1-1 fire responders will likely be unavailable.



## 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. The public meeting will take place at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, January 16, 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 are invited to submit written testimony.

The Planning Commission's decision on the above public meeting items 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.

Written testimony must be received by 5:00 pm on Wednesday, January 3, 2018, in order to be considered. Any person submitting timely written comments will receive notice of the decision. Verbal testimony will not be heard or considered.



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. The staff report will be available for review at City Hall on Tuesday, January 9, 2018.

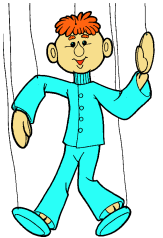
## LIBRARY NEWS

**Library news:** We are upgrading our Library software. Once we are done, you will be able to see what the Library has from your home computer or phone. We're still working through the process, but expect the new system sometime in January!

**Check out our used book store!** Second Hand Prose is open any time the Library is open! Be sure and stop in. We have a great selection of Westerns right now!

**Puppet Theater for Columbia City Elementary students:** Friends of the Columbia City Community Library and the Columbia County Cultural Coalition invite Columbia City K-6 elementary students to an after-school creative arts series on Wednesdays from 12:45 - 1:45 pm, January 24th through February 21st, in the Columbia City School Cafeteria. Make puppets and an optional mini stage using art, humor, acting, recycling, and science. Reserve your spot by emailing [ccclibrary@live.com](mailto:ccclibrary@live.com) or calling (503) 841-3602. Include the students first and last name and grade. You will receive a permission slip and more information. No cost! Join us!

The puppet art series has limited space, so sign up early. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the puppet art series, please contact [ccclibrary@live.com](mailto:ccclibrary@live.com). We could use more volunteers for this short project!



**New Books:** We added 92 items to the Library during the past month. Recent additions include:

*Al Franken: Giant of the Senate* by Al Franken  
*At Home: A Short History of Private Life* by Bill Bryson  
*Settle for More* by Megyn Kelly  
*Dream Golf: The Making of Bandon Dunes* by Stephen Goodwin  
*The Lewis and Clark Columbia River Water Trail* by Keith G. Hay  
*Killing England* by Bill O'Reilly  
*Origin* by Dan Brown  
*No Middle Name* by Lee Child

### LIBRARY HOURS:

**Monday through Thursday 3-6 pm**

**Saturday 10 am-2 pm**

**Friends of the Library** - Monday, 1/15 at 7 pm

**Novel Quilters** - Wednesday, 1/17 at 6:30 pm

**Mystery Book Club** - Wednesday, 1/31 at 7 pm

## COLUMBIA CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT'S SHOP WITH A COP 2017 A HUGE SUCCESS!



***A total of 14 officers from  
five different police agencies assisted  
16 very grateful shoppers during  
Columbia City's 2017 Shop with a Cop event!***



## GET READY FOR WINTER STORMS

1. Minimize the impact of rainwater and melting snow by clearing walkways and keeping leaf piles and debris out of the street and storm drains.
2. Report flooding, downed trees, storm system problems, backed up sewer, and other similar problems to the Public Works Department by calling (503) 366-0454 during regular work hours, or by calling (503) 397-1521 (dispatch) after hours and on weekends.
3. Free sand bags can be picked up at the City Shop, 1755 Second Place, anytime during a declared flood-related emergency.
4. Keep snow from piling up on flat rooftops. In the event of accumulation, heavy snow load can cause structural failures.
5. Listen for unusual sounds that might indicate moving debris, such as trees cracking or boulders knocking together. A trickle of falling mud or debris may precede larger landslides. If you think there is danger of a landslide, leave immediately.
6. Assume highways are not safe. Be alert when driving, especially at night. Don't overdrive your headlights. It should take your car four seconds to catch up to the spot where your low beams were originally at. Embankments along road sides may fail, sending rock and debris onto the road.
7. Remember to check on your elderly or disabled neighbors, friends and family.

***Do all the good you can,  
By all the means you can,  
In all the ways you can,  
In all the places you can,  
At all the times you can,  
To all the people you can,  
As long as ever you can.***

*~ John Wesley ~*

**Special thanks to our  
2017 Shop with a Cop Sponsors!**

*Walmart  
Scappoose Police Officers Guild  
L. Lee Phillips  
Cy Hough  
Thank you!!!*

## TREE RECYCLING

**Why should I recycle my tree?** Recycling your tree “gives back” to the environment as trees are composted for garden mulch. Mulch provides a protective barrier for the roots of other plants while suppressing weeds and holding in moisture. As the mulch decomposes, it provides nutrients that plants need.

### **Tree Recycling Tips:**

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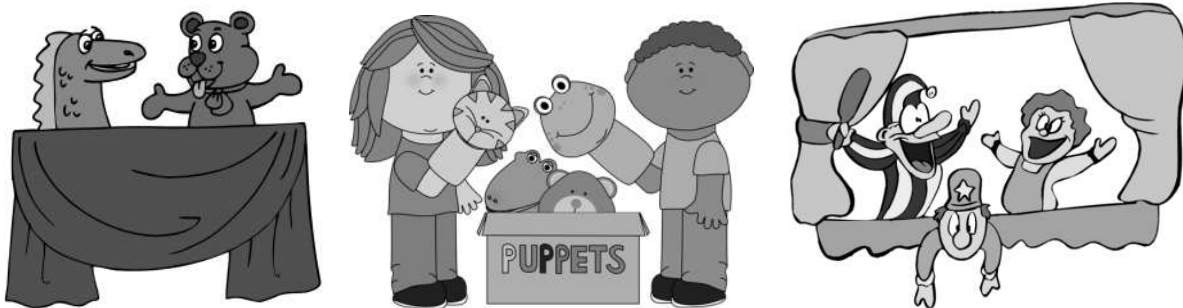
Before recycling or composting discarded trees, be sure to remove the tinsel, plastic and other non-recyclable ornaments.

## MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - JANUARY 2018

January 1st	CLOSED	New Year's Day
January 4th	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
January 11th	6:00 pm	Municipal Court at City Hall
January 15th	CLOSED	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
January 16th	6:30 pm	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
January 18th	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
January 22nd	6:00 pm	Hazard Mitigation Team Meeting at City Hall
January 23rd	5:00 pm	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall



### AFTER SCHOOL CREATIVE ARTS PUPPET SERIES WEDNESDAYS, 12:45-1:45 PM, JANUARY 24 - FEBRUARY 21



For Columbia City Elementary School students!  
Sponsored by the Friends of the Columbia City Community Library and  
the Columbia County Cultural Coalition

Free to kids grades K-6. Limited space!  
Reserve a spot by emailing [ccclibrary@live.com](mailto:ccclibrary@live.com) or calling 503-841-3602, or pick up and complete a permission form from the Library. Be sure to provide the students name and grade.