

# COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

## September 2020



**CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY**  
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### UNIMPROVED CITY RIGHT-OF-WAY MAINTENANCE

Over the next few months, the City will be reaching out to property owners who might not be maintaining areas of the right-of-way that are their responsibility. The City has varying sizes of right-of-way's, from 20' to 80' wide. Your property line is not necessarily the edge of the sidewalk or the street.

Property owners are responsible for repairing and clearing sidewalks and maintaining the part of the right-of-way between their property and the pavement. If a right-of-way is not paved, property owners bordering the right-of-way are responsible for maintenance to the center of the right-of-way.

### UNITED WAY – STUFF THE BUS



Due to COVID-19 and the significant changes in schooling the Stuff the Bus program will only be gathering the following basic supplies.

#### School Supply Wish List:

#2 Pencils	Pens - Blue and Black
Colored Pencils	Wide Rule Notebook Paper
Crayons	

Columbia City Hall is an official drop site and will have a box available for donated items. School supplies stay in the community where they are donated.

### LOST AND FOUND

A flag was picked up from the Veterans Park and turned into City Hall. If you think it could be yours, call City Hall, 503-397-4010.

### FREE SPECIAL PROGRAM



Are you looking to relieve stress, get out of the house, improve your mood with your spouse, significant other or kids, or perhaps lose a couple of pounds? The City is always seeking volunteers to help maintain the City parks. This might be the perfect volunteer opportunity for you! Pick up a volunteer application at City Hall.

Volunteers do not necessarily have the time;  
they just have the heart.



### NOTE FROM A NEIGHBOR

A pastime shared by many Columbia City residents is strolling the streets of our fair city. If you are one of the many who walk about, perhaps consider using your Tuesday walk as a time to pick up any trash that you happen upon. Wednesday being the scheduled day for trash pickup means it won't have to be in your possession for very long! As always, we encourage you to be a good neighbor and to make sure you are not trespassing. Let's all do our part to keep Columbia City beautiful.



## SERGEANTS CORNER

**Trestle Beach.** With the summer heat upon us, Trestle Beach has become a place for people to escape the heat. The off highway parking area has been congested. Please be cautious of pedestrians in the area, and the semi-trucks coming and going from the Clearwater Paper Products Company. The Clearwater Pier is private property and is **NOT** open for public use. It is well marked with no trespassing signs. If you are on any part of the pier or the pilings in the water you will be subject to arrest for Criminal Trespass. Also, please remember to remove all the items you bring to the beach. There is a garbage can provided for visitor use on your way out.

The following is a summary of the Police Department Activity for the month of June: 7 animal complaints, 7 assist persons, 2 agency assists, 2 burglary calls, 2 traffic crashes, 3 cold frauds, 4 civil complaints, 2 Domestic calls, 2 follow up investigations, 1 suspicious circumstance, 1 suspicious person, 2 disturbance fights, 2 suspicious vehicles, 2 welfare checks, 7 traffic stops and 3 premise checks.



The best way we can be reached is via 9-1-1 (emergency) or 503-397-1521 (non-emergency dispatch).

Best regards ~ Sergeant Jerry Bartolomucci

## CENSUS IN TOWN

The census is a critical function of government. Census Bureau workers will be in our area visiting addresses that have not responded to the 2020 Census. They will be taking COVID-19 precautions while attempting to ensure a complete count of the national populace. The deadline for the Census workers to be in the field obtaining information is until the end of September unless the date needs to be extended.

If you are visited by someone from the U.S. Census Bureau, here are some ways to verify the individual is a Census Bureau employee:

- The field representative must present an ID badge which contains: their name, their

photograph, a Department of Commerce watermark and an expiration date.

- They will have an official Census Bureau-issued electronic device, such as a laptop or smartphone, bearing the Census Bureau logo.
- Census takers and field representatives will conduct their work between the hours of 9 a.m. and 9 p.m., local time.
- If you still have questions about their identity, you can call 844-330-2020 to speak with a Census Bureau representative.

## COLUMBIA CITY LIBRARY CELEBRATES 20 YEARS

**Celebrating 20 years of service.** In the year 2020, the library celebrated 20 years of connecting with our community through friends, service and books. Friends of the Columbia City Community Library (FCCCL) is the non-profit sponsor that works to sustain a viable, free library with volunteer staffing and financial resources. We are governed by a board of directors which established several committees that focus on fundraising, sponsoring events and maintaining the used book store "Second Hand Prose."

The library strives to provide popular, recently published and award-winning books. We have approximately 14,500 titles, including large print books, DVDs/videos, audio books, newspapers and magazines. Free computer and wireless internet services are provided on site. Proceeds from "Second Hand Prose" are used for the benefit of the library.

The library's primary fundraising event is the annual Columbia City Celebration which is normally held in September. It features an early morning strawberry pancake breakfast, outstanding car show, huge book sale, craft vendors, an art and quilt show and live music. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, the City Celebration and all other fundraising events have been cancelled, but we'll be back next year! Though impacted by the pandemic, we are striving to continue to provide access to all library services in a safe manner.

As part of our community outreach, the library donates reading materials to groups that serve underprivileged individuals. These include the local women's shelter, laundromat mini library, county

*(Continued on Page 3)*

## LIBRARY NEWS *(Continued)*

jail, the Educational Service District office, and a yearly donation to United Way for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. We've also had the Mystery Book Club and Novel Quilters meeting since 2005. Other events include special guest speakers, local artists' displays and children's programs.

**A short history.** Established in July 2000, the library was originally housed in the Columbia City Elementary School. Three years later it moved south to a building across the street from City Hall. Columbia City budgeted money for rent and other library costs, but in 2010 an economic downturn eliminated this funding and then two years later the leased space was no longer available. Volunteers worked to find a new place to house the library and entered into an agreement with the St. Helens School District to use the vacant modular building at the elementary school in Columbia City. With the help of many volunteers, the library moved north again.

Ms. Cathy Lundberg has been the Library Director since 2003. FCCCL received its 501(c)3 federal non-profit status effective 2004. In 2017 the FCCCL funded facility improvements to separate the Library from the school grounds creating the opportunity for expanded hours and more autonomy for the library. In 2018 the computer system was upgraded to allow access to the library's catalog from anywhere. Streamlining inventory control, overdue notices and social media postings has greatly improved the library's effectiveness.

Volunteers are the heart and soul of our free library. Staffing the library requires a minimum of 8-10 volunteers. Book sale events and the annual City Celebration boost that number to nearly 100 people. As part of the community, FCCCL works with Columbia City to promote the city's assets. Mountain views, Columbia River waterfront access, beautiful parks, and an excellent elementary school

add value and livability to our rural community. The City publishes the library news in its monthly newsletter and is a vital partner in the annual City Celebration. Partnering with the City and the St. Helens School District is greatly appreciated and is a vital community connection.

The library exists because of the goodness of a community that cares. When we are in need, a simple public request for help has always resulted in volunteers coming forward to help, offer suggestions or money to accomplish our goal.

**Vision for the future.** FCCCL will continue to work to promote literacy, the arts and community growth. We will work to be the connector of our community by continuing to partner with others. We will work to find new funding sources and locate a site for a permanent building that will ensure a community hub for the future. We want to inspire additional volunteers who have new ideas for ways to improve service to the community. We sincerely appreciate our volunteers, patrons and local businesses for their loyal support.

**Other notes.** We are extending our Summer Reading Program until the true end of summer, September 21. Turn in your reading logs at the library and get a small prize. We'll do a drawing for our two winners then.

If you missed some of the trivia posters in the parks, they will be posted along the library's fence in September.

### **Columbia City Community Library**

Mon. & Sat. 10 – 2 pm / Thu. 3 – 6 pm

2000 Second Street / PO Box 189

Columbia City, OR 97018

503-366-8020

[ccclibrary@live.com](mailto:ccclibrary@live.com)



Browse our book catalog:

<https://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com>

### **SEPTEMBER 2020 MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR**

September 7 <sup>th</sup>	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Labor Day
September 10 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	Municipal Court at Community Hall
September 15 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 PM	Planning Commission Meeting – Canceled
September 17 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	City Council Meeting via Conference Call*
September 28 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 PM	Hazard Mitigation Meeting via Zoom*

\*For Zoom and conference call information contact City Hall.

Do you have an online account setup to access your water & sewer account information?



NO

Do you want one?

YES

NO

Register at  
<https://columbiacity.merchanttransact.com>.

To complete the first time sign in you will be sent a confirmation e-mail that **must to be acknowledged**. If you do not see it right away, please check your junk email. If you are still not seeing it, contact us at 503-397-4010.

Once your account has been registered and a sign-on created you will instantly be able to see billing, payment, and water usage history. **Please note that additional steps will need to be taken to opt in to receive e-bills.**

YES

Do you receive your bill and newsletter electronically?

NO

YES



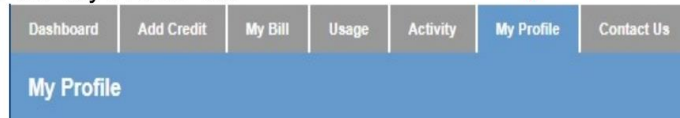
The Trees Thank You!

Do you want to?

YES

Follow the instructions below to 'Opt In' to receiving E-bills:

1. Go to the 'My Profile' tab



2. Scroll down to the 'Your accounts' section and click on the account number hyperlink

#### Your accounts

If you would like to change any of the accounts associated with this settings.

**Default** Set who is your default customer when you log in  
**Paper Bill** Toggle the ability to receive a paper bill in the mail  
**Electronic Bill** Toggle the ability to receive an electronic bill via e-

Account Number	Default Customer	Paper Bills	Electronic Bills	Remove Account
000440-000	✓	✓	✗	

3. Select the radio button for 'no' under the paper bill section and 'yes' under the electronic bill section, then click the 'Submit' button

**Paper Bill via Post Office**

☐ Yes, print and send my paper bill using the postal service.  
☒ No, do not print and send my bill using the postal service.

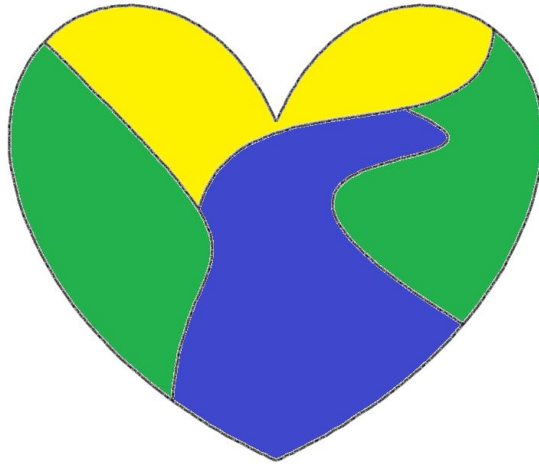
**Electronic Bill via Email**

☒ Yes, send an electronic copy of my billing statement via email when the bill is ready.  
☐ No, do not send the bill electronically.

To be signed up for E-bills and not to receive paper bills and newsletter, your setting should look like:

Account Number	Default Customer	Paper Bills	Electronic Bills	Remove Account
000440-000	✓	✗	✓	

# HAVE HEART



# KNOW THAT WE CARE

**Goal:**

To create safe, healthy, caring communities while encouraging people to explore their parks and exercise. Bringing communities together by spreading kindness & love.

**Directions:**

From September 8<sup>th</sup> until the 30<sup>th</sup> pick up a map from City Hall, the Library or print one from the City's web page. Explore the locations on the map and write down on the map the number of hearts you find. **The first 100 to turn the map into the Library September 28<sup>th</sup> (10 am – 2 pm), October 1<sup>st</sup> (3 pm – 6 pm) or October 3<sup>rd</sup> (10 am – 2 pm) will receive a care package.**

**Sponsored by your Friends in the Community**