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COLUMBIA CITY POLICE OFFICER RECEIVES LIFE SAVING AWARD

On November 18, 2022 Officer Mary Goodwin of the Columbia City Police Department received the Life Saving Award for her role as one of the first responders on scene when State Trooper John Jeffries was critically injured after being struck by a suspect's vehicle in November of 2021. We are extremely proud of Officer Goodwin and grateful to have her on our team!

SUCCESSFUL PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE

A big THANK YOU to all who donated peanut butter! It has been a huge success with 177 jars donated as of November 23rd!

SERGEANT'S CORNER

Be Vigilant Against Scammers! Scammers continue to adjust their tactics to get unsuspecting people to send them money. A common approach is something called "phishing" where scammers pretend to be someone you know, from a website you trust, or from a government agency. Some of them are very good at manipulating you and even the most attentive people fall victim to their tricks. They spoof their caller ID to make it look like they are calling from a local number, even though, in most cases, they are calling from overseas. The emails look like they are coming from legitimate websites. They frequently target older victims, especially in cases where those victims are easily confused. These scammers have NO REGARD for your personal or financial situation. Once a victim has sent them money, there is a next-to-zero chance it can be recovered. If you give them personal information, they can potentially use that information for identity theft.

It is important for everyone to be vigilant, protect your personal information, and do not send them money.

Here are some common scams:

- The "Fraud Department" from a well-known online shopping site detected an issue with your account and needs your personal information to fix it.

- While you are browsing the internet, a warning pops up on your computer that suspicious activity has been detected, or you have a virus, and you need to call a phone number to fix it.
- You are being charged for software or technical support work that you never agreed to but they can help cancel and refund money by navigating to a website and having you download a program.
- A government agency like the FBI or Federal Trade Commission calls you and says you owe money or there is a warrant for your arrest and if you do not send money, you will be arrested. They may even give you an ID or badge number and they may yell at you or use other high-pressure tactics.
- A person calls posing as "your grandchild" after being put in jail and requesting money to get bailed out.

Here are the most common ways to identify if you are being scammed:

- You are requested to go withdraw cash from the bank and send it via US Postal Service or another shipping method. An additional clue is they will ask you to wrap that money in tin-foil.
- They say you have been "over-refunded" when they were trying to refund your money and the only way to make it right is to go to the local store and purchase gift cards to reimburse the "over-refund." This is especially deceiving if they have access to your computer, they show you this "over-refund" on your own computer screen, and say that you are the one who caused the "over-refund".
- You are told you will be thrown in jail unless you go to the local store and purchase gift cards or send them money.
- They ask you to give them the gift card codes after you purchase them.

If you are unsure if you are being scammed, and before you withdraw and send money or purchase gift cards, ask someone else around you like a family member, a neighbor, or call the police department to see if it passes the "sniff" test. If it smells like a scam, it probably is.

Let's be careful out there!

COLUMBIA CHORALE OF OREGON



If you like to sing, they would love you to join! Reach out to: columbiachoraleoregon@gmail.com or www.columbiachorale.org.

**Blood Drive
Columbia City**

Community Center
1850 2nd Street
Columbia City, OR 97018

**Thursday, December 22, 2022
12:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

To schedule your appointment or for more information, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS

or visit www.redcrossblood.org; Sponsor Code: SaintHelens

LIBRARY NEWS

We have been slowly reconfiguring the front room of our library to make it more open and bright. We want to make it more inviting for groups to meet there. Stop by and see what we've done so far!

The Friends of the Library have given a gift to the teachers at the Columbia City School. Each of the 12 teachers will receive \$50 to spend on books for the classroom. Merry Christmas to all of you!

Design a Christmas Ship. Children grades 1st through 6th during the month of December can design a Christmas Ship at the Columbia City Library and receive a FREE book! Come during the open hours listed in the newsletter to find out more.

Magpie Murders. Haven't you always heard that the book is better than the movie? Check it out with *Magpie Murders* by Anthony Horowitz, just finishing season one on PBS.

New to the Library. This month we added 128 titles to the library:

Best sellers:

The Song of the Cell by Siddhartha Mukherjee

The Maze by Nelson DeMille
Fairy Tale by Stephen King
Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver

Graphic Novels:

The Adventures of Robo-Kid by Diana De Groat
Bug Boys by Laura Knetzger
Green Lantern: Legacy by Minh Le

Large Print:

Long Shadows by David Baldacci (best seller)
Our Missing Hearts by Celeste Ng (best seller)
Righteous Prey by John Sandford (best seller)
Dreamland by Nicholas Sparks (best seller)

Closures. The library will be closed Saturday, December 24 (Christmas Eve) and Saturday, December 31 (New Year's Eve). Have a wonderful holiday!

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

www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com

Reach our book catalog:

<https://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com>

CHRISTMAS SHIP EVENT – December 10th

The Christmas Ships assemble at the St. Helens City Docks at 6 p.m. and head downriver to Columbia City. If weather conditions permit, they will cross to the Washington side of the river and pass by the Columbia Riverfront RV Park in Woodland, and then pass by Columbia City again on their return trip to St. Helens. The fleet will be out for approximately two hours.



MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2022

	December 15 th	6:30 p.m.		Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall		
	December 20 th	6:30 p.m.		Planning Commission Meeting via Zoom*		
	December 23 rd	CLOSED		City Hall is closed for the Christmas holiday		
	December 26 th	CLOSED		City Hall is closed for the Christmas holiday		
	December 27 th	6:00 p.m.		Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall - canceled		

*For zoom information contact City Hall.