



COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

January 2023

COLUMBIA CITY
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SHOP WITH A COP

The 14th Annual Columbia City Shop with a Cop event was a huge success!! A big thank you to all of the agencies and volunteers who participated in granting not only Christmas wish list items, but much needed necessities.

Many thanks to our local Walmart staff for being amazing community partners. Thank you to those Columbia City citizens and others who financially donated to this worthwhile project and a very special thank you to our special visitors The GGGGrinch and Bubbles. Due to this generosity, we were able to sponsor 15 local children this year!

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.



SERGEANTS CORNER

Holiday Season. For those who like to order items from the internet and have them delivered to your residence or business, keep in mind this time of year is a popular time for package thieves to be most active. Please take the time to track your purchases and be available to receive those deliveries whenever possible. Keep an eye out for vehicles who are following the delivery trucks and report them to your local law enforcement. We wish you all a happy and safe holiday season.

During the month of November we had the following calls and reports: 1 audible alarm, 1 panic alarm, 3 animal complaints, 1 assault, 1 assist person, 6 civil enforcements, 3 assist fire, 3 criminal mischiefs, 2 extra patrols, 1 follow up, 3 hazards, 3 incomplete 911 calls, 1 runaway juvenile, 3 motorist assists, 1 ordinance violation, 5 premise checks, 4 suspicious

circumstances, 1 suspicious person, 3 suspicious vehicles, 1 suicide threat, 5 cold thefts and 10 traffic stops, in all 75 calls were serviced.

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 via 9-1-1 (emergency), (503) 397-4010 (office), or (503) 397-1521 (non-emergency dispatch).

Best Regards ~ Sergeant Jerry Bartolomucci

CAPLES HOUSE – JANUARY EVENTS

After the holiday rush, wouldn't it be nice to relax in the warmth of the Cottage for a nice tea and dessert or listen to a nice fireside chat about travel?

Friday Tea

Every Friday Afternoon 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
At the Caples House Cottage
1925 First Street
\$5 for tea and a homemade dessert

Fireside Chat

Tuesday, January 17th at 7 p.m.
Travel expert extraordinaire, Becky Bozart, will be taking about getaway trends and deals this month.

LIBRARY NEWS

Our Friends of the Library board has approved our 5 year plan. The document is available on our web site. Our goals are a community hub, a paid staff, and a new home. Thank you for your help in filling out the questionnaire last summer, it really helped us determine where to aim. I hope you are excited as we try to improve your library!

Display in the Library - Columbia City History. On display for January and February will be a time-line History of Columbia City with significant dates and photos depicting the journey from the humble beginnings in 1867 when Joseph Caples founded our city through the years to present day.

Library News Continued next page...

Library Hours:

Monday and Saturday 10 am to 2 pm
Thursday 3 to 6 pm

Friends of the Library Mtg: Mon, Jan 16 at 7 pm

Novel Quilters: Wed, Jan 18 at 2 pm

Mystery Book Club: Wed, Jan 25 at 7 pm

Columbia City Community Library

2000 Second Street / PO Box 189

503-366-8020 / ccclibrary@live.com

www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com

Reach our book catalog:

<https://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com>

VIEW INTO THE PAST –

The Caples Family Part Two - Joseph Caples By Mark Stevens

If you will recall our widower Joseph Caples and family traveled by wagon train to Oregon in 1844. The trip was an arduous one and due to some unfortunate decisions the wagon train of 84 wagons and 370 people were stranded for a month trying to cross rain swollen rivers in Kansas. It was recalled by the last survivor, James Smith, of the Gilliam Wagon Train that Marcus Whitman was returning from a trip to the east coast and was a member of the wagon train. The wagon train didn't reach the Whitman Mission until November of 1844 and many of the families decided to winter over at the mission waiting for better weather the following spring to continue their journey.



My cousin Don Caples recounts that Joseph's 9-year-old daughter Joanna had been left at the mission, presumably because she was ill, and that she was present at the Whitman massacre. The story has it she had been hidden in a potato bin for her safety and after the massacre was taken by another family by wagon to Warrenton to be reunited with her family. Why Joseph would have left his young daughter for 3 years with the Whitman's is a mystery (The massacre occurred on 11/29/1847).

Maybe he felt she would be better off there until he could get settled. The fact that she was brought to Warrenton makes sense as Joseph was Sheriff in Astoria from 1846-47. Whether this account is true or not, may never be known, but I can't imagine why the family would have made up such a story unless there were some truth to it.

As the families in the wagon train reached The Dalles, they hired boats to take their belongings to Fort Vancouver where Dr. McLoughlin of the Hudson Bay Co greeted them and did his best to provide the families with provisions so they could continue on their journey.

Joseph and his two sons, Charles and Hezekiah, traveled to Salem in early 1845. We know that Charles filed an Oregon Provisional Land Claim near Salem on 3/26/1846. Another claim was made by Hezekiah north of present day Columbia City on 10/4/1846 followed by a claim made by Joseph on 12/15/1846. Joseph's claim ran approximately between present day L Street all the way to the present day St. Helens city limits. It might be noted that Hezekiah was only 11 in 1846 so his claim was probably a way Joseph could apply for more land than he was allowed to do so by himself. In late 1850, The Donation Land Claim (DLC) Act was enacted by the US Congress and Joseph, for whatever reason, dated his claim as having been settled on 12/1/1847. In this claim he moved his boundaries north to encompass what we now know as Columbia City.

An age old story is that Joseph, when passing down the Columbia River, had been given an opportunity to purchase what is now downtown Portland and that he passed it up, instead filing his claim at present Columbia City. The fact is that William Overton and Asa Lovejoy filed a claim to what later became Portland in 1843. In 1845 Overton sold his share of the claim to Francis Pettygrove. In 1845 Pettygrove and Lovejoy surveyed what would then become the city of Portland. Joseph would have been passing through this area in late 1846 and the fact is that Portland was well on its way to becoming a city and was not for sale.

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - JANUARY 2023

January 12 th	6:00 pm	Municipal Court at City Hall
January 16 th	CLOSED	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
January 17 th	6:30 pm	Planning Commission Meeting at via Zoom* - Canceled
January 19 th	6:30 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
January 24 th	2:30 pm	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall
January 24 th	6:00 pm	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall

