

# COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

## JUNE 2023



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### PROPOSED FIRE STATION

The following are pertinent facts:

The population of Columbia County is increasing, and as a result, so will the service demands of the CRF&R Fire District. Currently, Columbia City equals approximately 7% of CRF&R's call volume. However, CRF&R provides 100% of our ambulance and fire services.

In order to maintain/improve response times, the CRF&R is going to build another fire station; the question is where? One of CRF&R's choices is Columbia City and to do so, the CRF&R plans, through grants, to build and furnish a new fire station without an extra levy on Columbia County taxpayers.

Preliminary CRF&R projections include the new station to need, at a minimum, one fire truck, one ambulance, a water tender truck, and full time (24/7/365) firefighters/paramedics assigned to this proposed station. This will be the case regardless of where the new station is located.

The one thing CRF&R needs is land, approximately 1.25 acres, to build on. Grants, historically, will not be awarded to projects that don't already have ownership of their land. An exhaustive search has been conducted for possible sites within Columbia City to potentially build this fire station and, after due diligence has been completed, it has been determined that the only viable option within the city limits where the City has control over the land/property needed is a portion of Bundy Park, which totals a little over 3 acres.

Columbia City owns more parks than we can properly care for. The city can legally donate land to another municipal organization. If the new owner ceases to need or use that property it reverts back to Columbia City.

Last, but not least - this is a three to five year project. The sooner it starts the sooner it's finished in order to better provide for ambulance and fire services within our community through quicker response times.

**Survey Results.** Below are the results of the survey regarding the proposed fire station development in Columbia City. A complete listing of all comments provided during the survey can be found at the City's website which is located at [www.columbia-city.org](http://www.columbia-city.org) Thank you to all who shared your voices with the City Council!



**Total Survey Responses:** 109

Number who **attended** at least one of the informational meetings: 35

Number who **did not attend** at least one of the informational meetings: 74

Number who **support** a fire station being built in Columbia City: 51

Number who **do not support** a fire station being built in Columbia City: 40

Number who are **undecided** about a fire station being built in Columbia City: 18

Number who **support** a fire station being built within a portion of Bundy Park: 37

Number who **do not support** a fire station being built within a portion of Bundy Park: 55

Number who are **undecided** about a fire station being built within a portion of Bundy Park: 17

Stay tuned for an additional survey opportunity in July's newsletter.

## COMMITTEE VACANCIES



The City currently has vacancies on the following Committees or Commissions.

Applications for any of these positions may be picked up at City Hall, or may be found on the City's website at [www.columbia-city.org](http://www.columbia-city.org) – under Doing Business, Public Service Forms.

**Budget.** 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.

**Hazard Mitigation.** The Hazard Mitigation Committee monitors and documents progress made on the implementation of the City Hazard Mitigation Plan, reviews actions taken in response to disasters or emergencies that occur, makes recommendations for new projects or revises action items and discusses implementation as problems arise. The committee usually meets quarterly.

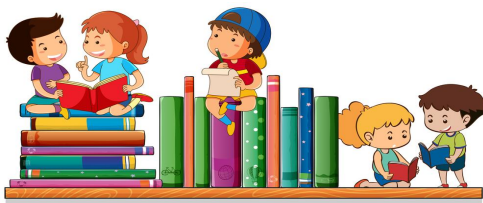
**Planning Commission.** The Planning Commission currently has two open positions. Terms are for four years and applicants must reside within the City or the City's Urban Growth Boundary. The Planning Commission meets at 6:30 pm on the third Tuesday of each month if there are topics to discuss.

If you have any questions about any of these available positions, please call City Hall.

## KEEP YOUR KIDS READING THIS SUMMER

While the school library is closed for the summer, the Columbia City Library is just next door and is open with lots of kids' books for all ages. It's easy to check out with a no-cost library card.

Pick up a Summer Reading Log at the Library and chart your child's progress.



## SERGEANTS CORNER

**High Water.** With the recent nice weather and higher temperatures the Columbia River is experiencing higher water levels than in the recent past. If you have been to Trestle Beach or Pixie Park you may have noticed there is not much beach available for use. Please be cautious when using the parks. This high water can be very dangerous with continuously changing currents, floating debris, ship and boating waves, and ever changing bottom contours. If you are going to swim in these conditions or allow children in the water, it is always recommended that everyone use a life jacket or flotation device. We encourage everyone to get out and enjoy your local area, but always keep safety in mind.

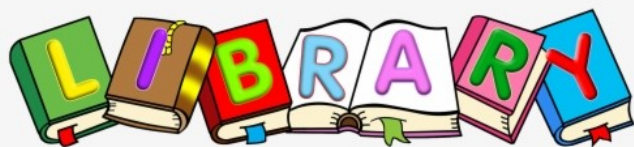


The Police Department serviced the following calls during April 2023: 2 abandoned vehicles, 1 assist fire, 2 audible alarms, 3 animal complaints, 1 agency assist, 7 assist persons, 1 behavioral health, 2 civil enforcements, 1 assist fire (AED), 1 criminal mischief, 1 death investigation, 1 DHS referral, 2 domestic disturbances, 6 follow ups, 1 threat/harassment, 3 motorist assists, 1 ordinance violation, 5 parking complaints, 14 premise checks, 2 suspicious circumstances, 1 suspicious person, 1 suspicious vehicle, 1 suicide threat, 1 traffic crash non-injury, 18 traffic stops, 2 welfare checks, in all there were 96 activities for the month of April.

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

## LIBRARY NEWS



Our book sale last month went great! We had about half our sale books on display, and made \$280, with 58 people visiting the library that day. We will do this kind of sale again, after the Columbia City Celebration.

### **Dolly Parton Imagination Library 5 Year Party!**

Columbia County and our library have been providing the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to children in our county for five years now. DPIL sends a book each month to children from age 0 to 5, giving them a love of books before they even start school. So to celebrate, we will have cake and a story at the library on Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am. Come join us!

**Display in the Library.** John Knight is showcasing his photographs in the library this month.

**Riverside Safety.** Summer is just around the corner. Water safety is everyone's responsibility. Learn how to keep you and your family safe. Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 6:30 pm the Library will have the following speakers: Jerry Bartolomucci, Sgt with the Columbia City Police Department, Rosemary Jeffrey a riverfront resident of Columbia City and Maybeth Cousins from Eisenschmidt Pool.

If you have used life jackets, still in good shape that you no longer need, please bring them to the library. We want to keep everyone safe this summer.

**City Celebration Planning.** We are considering some additions to the Columbia City Celebration, but need volunteers to execute on the ideas. We're considering a bake sale, coffee starting at 6 am, and Bingo. If you can help with any of those activities, contact us at the library.

**New to the Library.** This month we added 65 titles to the library, some of which include:

*Heavy Rotation* by Rex Michaels (a Young Adult book donated by the author, who is local)  
*Don't Take My Grief Away From Me* by Doug Manning (one of several books dealing with grief)  
*The Unlikely Thru-Hiker: an Appalachian Trail Journey* by Derick Lugo

*A Confederacy of Dumptys* by John Lithgow  
*The Light We Carry* by Michelle Obama (best seller)

*Happy Place* by Emily Henry (recent best seller)  
*The Way of the Bear* by Anne Hillerman (recent best seller)

*Dark Angel* by John Sandford  
*North to Alaska* (video)



### **Graphic Novels:**

*To Dance: A Memoir* by Siena Cherson Siegel

### **Large Print:**

*Crying in H Mart* by Michelle Zauner (best seller)  
*Hang the Moon* by Jeannette Walls (recent best seller)

### **Meetings:**

Dolly Parton Birthday Celebration:  
Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am

City Celebration Planning:  
Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

Friends of the Library\* (*time change*):  
Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm

Novel Quilters: Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 2 pm

Riverside Safety Speakers:  
Thursday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 pm

Mystery Book Club: Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm

### **Columbia City Community Library**

2000 Second Street / PO Box 189 / Columbia City  
503-366-8020 / [ccclibrary@live.com](mailto:ccclibrary@live.com)

**Website:** [www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com](http://www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com)

### **Reach our book catalog:**

<https://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com>



### **Library Hours:**

Mondays & Saturdays 10 am – 2 p.m.  
Wednesday & Thursdays 3 – 6 p.m.

## DOG PARK CONCERN



Public Works employees are once again experiencing large volumes of dog poop making grass maintenance difficult. The City will be posting signs considering the closure of the Dog Park.

Pick up after your dogs! Bags and waste receptacles are provided for your convenience at the park.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDER

**Keep grass and weeds cut:** Between April 15<sup>th</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> weeds and grass cannot exceed 10 inches in height within the City limits. An owner or person in charge of property shall cut down or destroy grass, shrubbery, brush, bushes, weeds or noxious vegetation **as often as needed to prevent them from becoming unsightly**, from becoming a fire hazard, or, in case of weeds or other noxious vegetation, from maturing or **going to seed**.



## ROSE FESTIVAL FLEET WEEK

Since 1907, visiting ships have made their way to Portland's waterfront. Ships will be arriving June 7<sup>th</sup> and departing June 11<sup>th</sup>.

## MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - JUNE 2023

June 6 <sup>th</sup>	2:00 p.m.	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
June 19 <sup>th</sup>	CLOSED	City Hall is closed for the Juneteenth Holiday
June 20 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
June 20 <sup>th</sup>	6:30 p.m.	<del>Planning Commission Meeting</del> — <b>canceled</b>
June 28 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 p.m.	Hazard Mitigation Committee Meeting at City Hall

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events

**Saturdays: Feb. 25, Jun. 10, Aug. 26, and Oct. 21 8 am - 2 pm**  
Columbia County Transfer Station - 1601 Railroad Ave., St. Helens

### BRING to HHW Events:

- Lawn / Garden Chemicals
- Herbicides / Pesticides
- Pool / Spa Chemicals
- Light Ballasts
  - remove from light fixture
- Fluorescent Tubes
- Art / Hobby Chemicals
- Solvents / Thinners
- Items Containing Mercury
- Propane Cylinders
- Compressed Gas Cylinders
- Batteries
  - all types and applications
- Cleaners / Detergents
- Poisons
- Ammunition
- Fireworks / Flares
- Gas / Diesel / Fuels

Bring product in original container and **Secure Your Load**

### DO NOT BRING to HHW Events:

- Asbestos
- Garbage / Trash
- Liquids in Containers **Larger Than 5 Gallons**
- Unwanted / Unused Medicines or Pharmaceuticals
  - drop off at the County Sheriff's Office

### RECYCLE these items at the Transfer Station (during business hours):

- Latex and Acrylic Paint, Oil-Based Paint, Enamels, Stains, Lacquers, Shellacs, Varnishes, and Primers
- Used Motor Oil and Antifreeze
- Electronics
  - TVs, computers, monitors, etc.

### MEDICAL SHARPS:

must be in sealed, OSHA approved, puncture-proof containers.  
(available at the Transfer Station scale house)

### For All OTHER MATERIALS:

including Commercial Generators (CEG) and liquids in containers larger than 5 gallons: call Mark Haynes with ACT Enviro (971.303.2979) at least 2 weeks prior to an event for an appointment.

### REMOTE

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events:

- April 22, 2023 - Vernonia
- May 20, 2023 - Rainier
- October 7, 2023 - Clatskanie

**SATURDAYS, 8 AM - NOON**

Call **Jake Anderson**, Solid Waste Coordinator, at **503.397.7259** for additional information



## CITY COUNCIL BUDGET HEARING

City Council will hold a public hearing on Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers to discuss the budget for fiscal year July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the budget as approved by the Budget Committee, to receive comment from the public on the budget and to approve the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. A copy of the budget document is available for review at City Hall and on the City's website.