

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023



CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY
1840 SECOND STREET
PO BOX 189
COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018
PHONE: (503) 397-4010
FAX: (503) 366-2870
colcity@columbia-city.org
www.columbia-city.org



SAVE THE DATE MICHAEL ALLEN HARRISON HOLIDAY CONCERT

Michael Allen Harrison, Portland area composer, songwriter and pianist with a three-decade career, will be returning for a Holiday Concert in Columbia City on a new night, Tuesday, December 5th, at 6 pm, tickets will go on sale in November for this special event.

2ND FUGITIVE DUST COMMUNITY MEETING *Article provided by resident Jan from Lower Columbia City*

Another meeting will be held on Thursday, October 12th at 6 pm in the Community Hall to discuss the pollution coming from the Lignetics pellet plant in lower Columbia City. If you are negatively impacted by the fugitive sawdust and potential VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds) that come from this plant, please join us as we discuss the various avenues we can pursue and determine next steps. We had some very good suggestions come from the September meeting and met with Lignetics management soon after. Taking coordinated meaningful action is the best way we can expect to improve the pollution we have been experiencing and continue to experience.

CHIEF'S CORNER

Be Prepared. We are starting to see the weather change and soon our roadways will become more challenging to travel on. We will all need extra time to reach our destination so plan accordingly. Make sure your vehicle is ready for the weather change as well. Make sure your vehicle has good wiper blades, check your tires for proper tread, and make sure your belts are in good condition. Adding an emergency kit is always a great idea too. Don't wait until the last minute. Safety should always be first.



The Police Department serviced the following calls for service during August 2023: 1 assist fire, 2 audible

alarms, 1 panic alarm, 7 animal complaints, 1 agency assist, 11 assist persons, 3 behavioral health, 1 cold burglary, 1 civil action, 6 civil enforcements, 3 criminal mischiefs, 4 details, 1 disturbance fight, 1 domestic, 1 DUII, 12 follow ups, 1 fraud, 2 harassment/threats, 3 incomplete 911 calls, 1 missing juvenile, 1 motorist assist, 1 noise complaint, 1 ordinance violation, 21 premise checks, 1 lost/found property, 9 suspicious circumstance, 3 suspicious vehicles, 1 suicide attempt, 5 suicide threats, 8 cold thefts, 4 traffic complaints, 5 trespass calls, 10 traffic stops, 1 unwanted, 1 violation of restraining order, 6 welfare checks and 1 warrant service. In all the police department serviced 158 activities.

The Police Department requests 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 ~ Chief Jerry Bartolomucci



HELP WANTED:

As we enter 2024, the Columbia City Community Library is in need of volunteers to fill four Board positions (President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer).

You can help lead us into the future. If the Library is to continue operating after 23 years, Friends of the Library must have new volunteers to fill these two-year term positions. Please help us continue to serve Columbia County. Contact Kit Gardes at kitgardes@yahoo.com.



CURBSIDE YARD DEBRIS EXTRA NOVEMBER COLLECTIONS

Don't forget!! Hudson Garbage Service will provide weekly curbside yard debris collections for subscribed Columbia City customers during the month of November. Yard debris service is provided on an every-other-week basis during the remaining 11 months of the year. Yard debris collection service is provided on the same weekday as the customer's regular garbage collection service. Interested citizens may subscribe for the yard debris service for a minimum period of one year by contacting Hudson Garbage Service at (503) 397-1534.



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
- ♦ Flammables / Corrosives
- ♦ Ethyl / Ether
- ♦ Liquids in Containers **Larger Than 5 Gallons**
- ♦ More than 25 Gallons of Liquids
 - per household (excludes paint and oil)
- ♦ 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 materials from Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs, <220 lbs./mo.) and liquids in containers larger than 5 gallons, call Mark Hayes | ACT Enviro (971.303.2972) at least 2 weeks prior to an event for an appointment.

REMOTE HHW Collection Events:

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

SATURDAYS, 8 AM - NOON



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

This event is only for Columbia County residents. Proof of residency may be requested before any waste is accepted. Columbia County may limit the amount of waste collected. No commercial or other organizational waste will be accepted.

OPEN BURNING PERIOD FOR YARD DEBRIS COMING IN NOVEMBER

Columbia City's burn period is scheduled to begin **Saturday, November 4, and end Sunday, November 19.**

Burning is restricted to yard debris only (lawn clippings, leaves, brush, trimmings/pruning, sawdust and wood scraps). It is **not** for dirt/gravel, paper/plastic, metal, rocks/bricks, sod or food waste. Burn barrels are prohibited!

Burn permits are required prior to burning! Permits are free and can be obtained at City Hall, any Fire Station within the Columbia River Fire & Rescue District, or on their website: www.CRFR.com. Please remember you will also need to call the "Burn Line" at (503) 397-4800 each day to see if it is a burn day and follow all regulations outlined on the permit.

CAPLES HOUSE – OCTOBER EVENTS

Caples Museum Tours

Hours: Friday – Sunday 1 to 5 pm
\$5 adult / \$4 children

Teas and Sweets – in the Cottage
Every Friday Afternoon through October
2 to 4 pm
\$5 tea (or coffee) and a dessert plate

The Caples House Orchard
Open for you to pick a bag of apples and pears
\$5 per bag



Harvest Festival

Sunday, October 8th 12 to 5 pm

Enjoy pioneer crafts, games and a raffle. Tours and tales about the Caples and McBride families, including special tours for children. Is your home on land that was once owned by a Caples family member?

Admission is free but the food and raffle have small charges. The event is mostly outside. While you're visiting, take a tour of the museums, where historian and genealogist Gene Foley, our new resident coordinator, might share some of the history of our community...and how it, literally, has been a part of changing the shape of America!

A VIEW INTO THE PAST
The Sommarstrom Shipbuilding Company
(Part 1)

By Mark Stevens -

markstevens@colcomuseum.org

During World War I due to the loss of U.S. ships from German submarine warfare in the Atlantic, the United States Shipping Board (USSB) created the Emergency Fleet Corporation (EFC) to address the need to fill the losses by granting contracts to build steam freighters. Steel was in short supply and the EFC turned to wooden ship building companies to help fulfill their needs.



On May 14, 1917, a month after the United States entered WWI, Hezekiah Caples sold property from the Columbia River up to 4th Street and bounded by L Street to the North all the way to what we know now as Dalton Lake to the South to M. F. (Matts Felix) Sommarstrom. The Sommarstrom family had built ships in Sweden and when the boundaries changed to Finland decided to move to San Francisco to build wooden ships and were looking for a spot to construct a new shipyard in the Northwest to build wooden vessels for the EFC.

The following article appeared in the February 22, 1918 St. Helens Mist.

“The natural advantage of Columbia City for deep water location is most remarkable, and this modest though picturesque and beautiful place on the magnificent Columbia River has at last come into just recognition as a shipbuilding point and as a factor in the world's progress.

The Sommarstrom Shipbuilding Company, of which Major Tilden is president, is here located. It is a most ideal place for a shipyard, being provided with excellent deep water facilities. The river is over a mile wide at this point, giving plenty of room for launching. This shipyard occupies a commanding location, the land being on a gradual slope down to the river, and

roundabout on almost every side are beautiful forests of the noted fir trees for which Oregon is so famous. Looking northward, one stands in awe and admiration, gazing upon the wonderful expanse of water and on the opposite shore viewing Mt. St. Helens and Mt. Hood. At this time of the year these mountains are snow-covered and dazzling in splendor, a most inspiring spectacle. Columbia City, until recently, was a modest country place of scattered homes and one grocery store and post office. Last July, Major Tilden, with others, looked for a location for a new ship-building plant and having discovered the place, behold now the change, almost unbelievable, in so short a time. Three large hotels, over thirty new houses, modern in every detail and two stores have been erected, and a large hall and club house is being built and more residences. When the club house is completed another Red Cross benefit will be given. Thus, in a about six months' time, a new city has sprung into existence like a mushroom in the night, the shipyard alone having one of the best equipment's to be seen on the whole Columbia River. The noise of the building of the ships rings in our ears day and night—a joyous sound Indeed in these times of submarine ravishes.”

What a picture to take in, but glad it's quieter today.

More to come...

PROCLAMATION & FESTIVAL ATTENDANCE

At the last City Council Meeting there was a Proclamation recognizing the Vietnamese American Heritage and Freedom Flag as the official flag of Vietnamese Americans in the City of Columbia City, from Thao Duc Tu, President of the Vietnamese Community of Oregon. He then invited everyone to the Vietnamese Fall Festival on Saturday, September 23rd. Mayor Sue Ziglinski went to the festival, and Thao explained to the crowd who she represented, and that she had come a long way to join them. Mayor Sue was amazed and so impressed with the talent of the young people that performed their traditional dances and playing their instruments which many of them she had never seen. One of the instruments sounded as if it was singing. It was a great adventure and she learned so much about their culture.



LIBRARY NEWS

The Dolly Parton Imagination Library now has 1354 children enrolled in the county. If you have children under 5, they are eligible to receive a free book each month. Enrollment forms are available at the Library and at City Hall.

Our volunteer Jacob Longshore has been working at the Library since June, 2021. He has a Masters in Library Science so we were thrilled when he agreed to volunteer! He is now working two jobs equaling full time, and will no longer be able to work on Saturdays. We will miss him, but he will still be helping us out. Thank you Jacob!

Novel Quilters. We will be doing our quilt reveal for *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. Expect to see octopuses! You are welcome to join us Wednesday, October 18 at 2:00 pm in the library.

Fairy Gardens at the Library. In cooperation with Columbia City Elementary and Scappoose Garden Club, 8 -10 year-olds can make a Fairy Garden. See the flyer on our website. We could use some volunteers to help with the program.

Storytime:

Every Monday at 11 am

Friends of the Library Meeting:

Monday, October 16 at 7 pm

Novel Quilters (Quilt Reveal):

Wednesday, October 18 at 2 pm

Fairy Garden:

Wednesday, October 25 at 1 pm

Mystery Book Club

Wednesday, October 25 at 7 pm

Columbia City Community Library

Mon. & Sat. 10 – 2 pm / Wed. & 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>

OCTOBER 2023 MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR


October 10 th	6:00 PM	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
October 12 th	6:00 PM	Municipal Court at City Hall
October 17 th	6:30 PM	Planning Commission Meeting – canceled
October 19 th	6:00 PM	City Council Meeting at Community Hall



**Friends of the Columbia City Community Library
invite you to support our rural library and become a FOL Member.**

Columbia City Community Library
2000 2nd Street, Columbia City, OR 97018

website: www.columbiacitylibrary.com

 facebook.com/ColumbiaCityCommunityLibrary

Email: ccclibrary@live.com

Name _____ Phone _____ Date _____

Mailing Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email _____ Annual Dues \$25.00

Additional Donation Amount Total Enclosed _____ Please send a receipt

Additional donations are very much appreciated and will help with our operating expenses. We are a 501(c)3 non-profit

This form can be filled in online at our website and printed. Make check payable to Friends of the Columbia City Community Library, P O Box 189, Columbia City, OR 97018 or deliver to Columbia City Hall or the library.