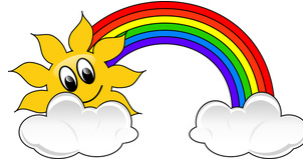


COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024



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MEMORIAL DAY EVENT

Join us in honoring all veterans on Monday, May 27th from 11 a.m. to noon at the Columbia City Veterans Park.



More information will be provided in the May newsletter.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS TO RAISE THEIR BRANCH FLAG

Each year at the City's hosted Memorial Day event we try to arrange for a representative from each of the military branches to raise their flag. If you or someone you know has served in the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard or Merchant Marines and would like to raise the flag of their branch, please reach out to City Hall as soon as possible. In uniform would be preferred, but not required.

SPRING BURN PERIOD April 16th to April 21st

The biannual burn period will begin on Saturday, April 6th, and end on Sunday, April 21st. The burn period is for yard debris only and it must be a burn day. Burn barrels are prohibited. **Burn permits are required prior to burning!** Permits may be obtained online at www.crfr.com/burn-information. Call (503) 397-4800 for burn day information each day before you burn.



LOST AND FOUND

A Traeger cover was turned in at City Hall that was found in the area of Second Street in-between H & I Streets in last month's wind event. If you think it might be yours, call City Hall at 503-397-4010.

PUBLIC WORKS BACKHOE

In March Public Works acquired a new to them John Deere backhoe. The department has been without a functioning backhoe since June of 2023. Their previous backhoe was a 1986 model and served the City well. RIP Deere backhoe.



SPRING CLEAN UP

The 2024 Spring Clean Up is on Saturday, April 20, 2024. See included flyer for more information.

Handicapped or elderly citizens needing assistance with transporting items to the event site may contact City Hall prior to the day of the event by calling (503) 397-4010.

VETERANS PARK – BRICKS AVAILABLE

All bricks on the upright sections of the five memorial walls are engraved, but there are still bricks available for engraving on the flat areas in front of each wall. This is a great way to honor or remember anyone whether it be a veteran, someone special, a pet, a business or your family.

All bricks are \$75. Proceeds are used to maintain the park. Order forms are available at City Hall or at our website.

Please turn in order forms by Monday, April 29th, 2024 so bricks can be engraved before the 2024 Memorial Day Event. (weather permitting)

CHIEF'S CORNER

Nighttime Pedestrians. We have been receiving information that citizens are seeing more people walking around during the night. We appreciate your watchfulness and ask that you continue to take care of each other and your neighborhoods. If you see someone entering yards or driveways, please call the non-emergency number (503-397-1521) or 911 if you believe they are committing a crime. With the weather improving we will likely see more activity like this during the nighttime hours. We try to take a proactive approach, but your call will ultimately be the key to reducing the nighttime activity.



The Police Department serviced the following calls during February 2024: 1 audible alarm, 5 animal complaints, 5 assist persons, 7 behavior health calls, 2 civil actions, 1 civil enforcement, 2 assist fire, 2 death investigations, 9 follow ups, 2 cold frauds, 1 juvenile problem, 1 juvenile runaway, 1 motorist assist, 1 noise complaint, 1 ordinance violation, 111 premise checks, 2 suspicious persons, 1 suspicious vehicle, 2 suicide threats, 2 non-injury traffic crashes, 2 cold thefts, 4 traffic complaints, 27 traffic stops and 1 welfare check. In all the Police Department serviced 207 activities.

The Police Department would like to request 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

CAPLES HOUSE MUSEUM

Caples House Museum is **FLOWERING!** YOUR local museum is not simply a historic treasure, it is a garden paradise with roses and flowering plants that are beginning to show their colors. Whether you are planning an event, or you simply want to walk the grounds, you are welcome to share both the beauty and history of this property. If the Second Street gate is open, you are welcome to come onto the property and enjoy the centuries-old trees, the orchard and the gardens. Bring your children and have a picnic. Your dogs are welcome, as well.



April is a special time at Caples House. Weddings, meetings and events can still be booked. Of course, the museums are available to be toured at any time the open sign is up... or call for a special tour. This is your museum. So, if you haven't been here... or it's been a long time... visit now. If you want to book a particular time, just let us know. Call (503) 397-5390 NOW.

Museum Tours

Friday, Saturday, Sunday
1 to 5 pm

Admission: \$5 Adults / \$4 Children

Friday Tea

Every Friday Afternoon 2 to 4 pm
In The Cottage

1925 First Street

\$5 for tea and sweets

CODE ENFORCEMENT – WEED ABATEMENT

The weed abatement season is here once again. Please consider this a friendly reminder City ordinances prohibits the uncontrolled growth of weeds, grass and other noxious vegetation.

Starting April 15th and ending September 30th weeds and grass cannot exceed 10 inches in height. An owner or person in charge of property shall cut down or destroy vegetation **as often as needed to prevent it from becoming unsightly**, from becoming a fire hazard, or, in case of weeds or other noxious vegetation, from maturing or **going to seed**.

If you hire a business to help keep your property compliant, please be sure they have a current City business license. Also available at City Hall is a list of mowing and yard maintenance companies for anyone interested.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Steven Bubar became a part-time paid employee of the Columbia City Police Department in early 2024. Prior to that he had been part of our reserve program since October 2017. He also grew up in the community.

Steven has been in the Army National Guard for 14 years. He says he gets out and enjoys camping as much as possible rain or shine, because, "it's just so relaxing." Steven also has three dogs, a German Shepherd, a Pitbull and a mini Aussie.

LIBRARY NEWS

There has been a lot going on at the Library this past month. We hope you have noticed our new sign on Second Street. It was made possible by a grant from Columbia



County Cultural Coalition and a generous donation from Dyno Nobel. Dale Clark from Clark Signs worked with us to design and install it.

Our Build a Birdhouse event was a huge success.

Special thanks to Elaine Rolf and Mark Ebert for providing a lot of the wood, Chip Gardes and Donny Brooks for doing all of the cutting and drilling to create the kits. Also, thanks to Ray Clift, Karen Brooks, Kay Brown and Kit Gardes as well as Donny and Chip for helping the kids make the birdhouses. Seventeen birdhouses will hopefully find new nesters this spring.



One child was heard saying: "Isn't this a library? Aren't we supposed to be quiet?" as the pounding of nails went on.



We hope you had an opportunity to see all of the amazing bird art on display at the library and voted for the "People's Choice" award. The winner will be announced next month.

Reader's Recommendation. *Lessons In Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus was recommended. This compelling story is about a young woman in the 1950s who studies to be a chemist, only to butt up against the stereotypical norms of the day that believe a "woman's place is in the home". Elizabeth Zott and her *Supper at Six* television program give women new hope and inspiration.

Secondhand Prose: How does your garden grow? April's special in Secondhand Prose is just in time for Spring! All gardening and plant care books ½ price (\$1 hardbacks, \$.50 paperbacks).

Novel Quilters. The Novel Quilters will reveal their quilts based on *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. Please join us Wednesday, April 17th at 2 pm. We will also find out what our next book will be.

City Celebration "Vendors Wanted". We are now accepting reservations for the Celebration on August 10, 2024. If you live and create in Columbia County, and would like to sell your work, this is a fun day in your community. Applications are available at City Hall or the Columbia City Community Library.

Indie Authors Take Over Columbia City Library. Meet local authors as they read from their books, or talk about their literary journey. Books from each author will be on display in the library during the month of April, and they can be purchased at the event on **Saturday, April 13th – 10:30 am to 2 pm.** You will also have an opportunity to participate in a short writing workshop conducted by Jana Mann.

At 10:30 each of the following authors will be giving a 10 minute presentations, starting with Jana Mann, then Patti Higgins, then Ellen Jacobson and then Shaun Kennedy. From 11:25-12:00 there will be a break and then starting again at 12:00 with Mike Exinger, then Sharon Hughson, then Chip Gardes and ending with Stephanie Patterson. From 1:00-2:00 will be book signing and sales.

Library Hours:

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

Storytime – Every Monday at 11 am
Friends of the Library - Mon, April 15th at 6:30 pm
Novel Quilters - Wed, April 17th at 2 pm
Mystery Book Club - Wed, April 24th at 7 pm

Columbia City Community Library

2000 Second Street / PO Box 189
503-366-8020 / ccclibrary@live.com

Website: www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com

Reach our book catalog:

<https://columbiacitycommunitylibrary.follettdestiny.com>

A VIEW INTO THE PAST
An Update on Past Articles

By Mark Stevens - markstevens@colcomuseum.org

As I continue to research Columbia City history I occasionally run across new information pertaining to past articles I have presented in this forum. Recently I ran across two new items that I thought worthy of sharing.



The first bit of new information pertains to the 1872 Academy that was on Second Street across from City Hall. While I shared a little of what was known about the Academy in the April 2022 newsletter, what I didn't have was a photo to share with you. Last week I ran across an article in the July 7, 1935 Portland Journal that described the removal of the old school. It stated in part "Finis was written this week for an old frame building, formerly owned by Fred Caples of Columbia City, which stood vacant for many years on one of the main streets of that City. The structure was wrecked by Ed Graham and E. E. Cox for lumber to use for farm buildings on the Jim Blaha place near Warren." While the photo in the article isn't of the greatest quality, it gives me hope that maybe a better one will show up in the future.

The second bit of new information involves the McVey House on the Strand (See March 2023 Newsletter).

In this snippet of an aerial photo (on the left) (credit: Von Smith) taken in 1958 you can see what the riverside view of the house appeared like in 1958.



Compare it to the photo on the right (credit: CCMA via Les Watters) taken in roughly 1890 of a building that was just South of the old Hotel (See Sept 2022 Newsletter). You can clearly see that they are the same building. This is further confirmed by the writings of Mary Maclay Whittier (Elijah McVey's niece) who stated that the old hotel was right next to the McVey house.

Looking at a 1998 photo of the house, the entire bottom floor has now been modified. What I find very interesting is that the McVey house originally either had a façade on it or was a flat roof building. I believe it was the latter as the McVey house now has a very shallow slope of a roof on it which was not typical of an 1870's house which would have had a roof similar to the Caples 1870 house. If you look in last month's newsletter you will also find an uncanny resemblance to Elijah McVey's Grocery Store which was built between 1890 and 1900. He would probably have patterned his new store after his old store which was now his house.



MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - APRIL 2024

April 6 th	dawn	First day of open burning season
April 9 th	6:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
April 11 th	6:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
April 16 th	6:30 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
April 18 th	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
April 20 th	8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Spring Clean Up Event at Columbia City Grade School
April 21 st	dusk	Last day of open burning season
April 23 rd	2:30 p.m.	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall
April 24 th	6:00 p.m.	Hazard Mitigation Committee Meeting at City Hall