

Columbia City Newsletter

December

2024

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY
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CHRISTMAS SHIP EVENT – DECEMBER 14th

The Christmas Ships assemble at the St. Helens City Docks at 6 p.m. and head downriver to Columbia City. If weather/river 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.



SUCCESSFUL PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE

A big THANK YOU to all who donated peanut butter! It has been a huge success with 122 jars donated as of November 25th!

PLANNING COMMISSION NEWS PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED

The Columbia City Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. to consider proposed changes to the City's Land Use and Development Code (Title 7). These amendments are part of the City's efforts to make regulations more useable for residents, developers and City staff by correcting errors, eliminating text ambiguities and redundancies, and clarifying code text. Amendments are throughout the existing code, including changes to standards related to accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and manufactured homes consistent with state law. They also include the removal of standards that are not clear and objective from chapter 7.120 Site Development Review and changes recommended by the DLCD Oregon State NFIP review to chapter 7.75 Flood Hazard Overlay. Note that the City is not implementing changes to this chapter based on the FEMA Pre-Implementation Compliance Measures for Endangered Species Act (ESA) at this time.

The City Council may consider the Planning Commission recommendation regarding this proposal

at a public hearing on January 16, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. Both hearings will take place in the Council Chambers of City Hall in Columbia City at 1840 Second Street.

Interested persons are invited to attend any of the public hearings and present oral and/or written testimony. If you would like to comment but cannot participate in one of the hearings, you may submit written testimony. It must be submitted to City Hall no later than 2:00 p.m. on December 17 for the evening Planning Commission hearing or no later than 2:00 p.m. on January 16 for the evening City Council hearing. Direct written comments to Office Supervisor, Helen Johnson, at PO Box 189, 1840 Second Street, Columbia City, OR 97018, or hjohnson@columbia-city.org. Failure to raise an issue with sufficient specificity to afford the decision makers an opportunity to respond to the issue precludes appeal on that issue. Only comments on applicable approval criteria are considered relevant evidence.

A complete copy of the proposal record, including the staff report, staff findings and staff recommendation will be available at City Hall for viewing seven (7) days prior to each public hearing.



Blood Drive

Columbia City Community Hall

Community Hall
1850 Second Street
Columbia City, OR 97018

Friday, December 27, 2024
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.





What's Happening. A thank you Holiday Party will be held in recognition of the 35 volunteers who donate their time throughout the year to create and sustain our community library. New volunteer numbers are trending upward. 2025 may allow the library to be open more days and hours per week.

Crafts in the Library. During November several card crafting workshops were held in the library. Watch for details on more workshops in the months to come.



Upcoming Events

January and February artist: Leslie Karlson began drawing and painting at an early age. Her favorite artists are Rembrandt for his mastery of light and shadow, and Salvador Dali for his whimsy.

January 18th at 2 pm: Meet the Mayor - Alex Reed. Alex will be our guest at the library. Come in and enjoy a casual conversation with our new mayor. Light refreshments will be served.

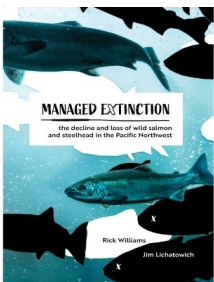
February 22nd at 1 pm: Meet the Artist - Leslie Karlson. Leslie will talk about her work and how her creative energy has taken many forms.

Secondhand Prose. It's not too late to do your holiday shopping at Secondhand Prose! December's half price special is "**Any Holiday Book**" which includes holiday fiction, non-fiction, decor, cookbooks, crafts, etc. We now accept credit card payment for purchases over \$5.



Monthly Schedule

- **Mystery Book Club Meeting** – Dec. 18
- **Storytime** – Mondays at 11 am
- **Friends of the Library** – No December meeting



Local Book News. Local author Jim Lichatowich (deceased 2024) and co-author Rick Williams published a new book that describes the decline in wild salmon and steelhead in the Pacific Northwest. Available for checkout.

New to the Library this month we added 93 titles!
Living off the Pacific Ocean Floor by George Moskovita
Murder at Mallowan Hall by Colleen Cambridge (Agatha award nominee)
Dirty Thirty by Janet Evanovich (recent best seller)
A Refiner's Fire by Donna Leon
The Lincoln Conspiracy by Brad Meltzer (past best seller, nonfiction)
Sisters Under the Rising Sun by Heather Morris (author of *Tattooist of Auschwitz*)
Witchmark by C. L. Polk (World Fantasy award winner)
Maiden Voyages: Magnificent Ocean Liners and the Women who Traveled and Worked Aboard Them by Sian Evans

Large Print

The Edge by David Baldacci (recent best seller)
The Five Star Weekend by Elin Hilderbrand (recent best seller)
Payback in Death by J.D. Robb (recent best seller)

Columbia City Community Library
 2000 Second Street, PO Box 189
 Columbia City OR 97018
 503-366-8020

HOURS: Mon & Sat 10 am – 2 pm
 Wed & Thurs 3 pm – 6 pm

Email: ccclibrary@live.com
Website & Card Catalog:
www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com

KEEPING CATS INDOORS

According to the National Audubon Society and the Seattle Audubon Society, predation by cats is a leading threat to birds and wildlife in urban and suburban areas. By keeping your cats indoors, you help protect local wildlife, and you help your cat lead a longer, healthier life.

Cat facts:

- Outdoor cats (both companion animals and strays) kill millions of songbirds and small mammals per year.
- Cats are not a natural part of ecosystems: they compete with native predators.
- Cats transmit diseases to wildlife.
- Even well fed cats hunt and kill wildlife.
- Bells do not prevent cats from killing wildlife.
- Indoor cats live three times longer, on average, than outdoor cats.

LOST AND FOUND

A child's electronic sketch pad was found in the area of Second and L Streets late October. If you think it might belong to you, please contact City Hall.

PUBLIC WORKS COMPLETED WATER SERVICE LINE INVENTORY FOR LEAD & COPPER RULE REVISION

The Columbia City Municipal Waterworks inventoried all water service lines in the system and determined there were no lead service lines. This determination was made using construction records, construction dates, maintenance and replacement records, and visual inspection.

The Lead and Copper Rule applies to all Community (CWS) and Non-Transient (NTNC) public water systems. EPA adopted revisions to the Lead and Copper Rule in 2021 that include a requirement for public water systems to conduct inventories of service lines and to identify service line material type. The intent of the service line inventory requirement is to identify those service lines made of lead so that they can be scheduled for removal and replacement.

The inventory of our service lines has been submitted to, and approved by, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). Since no lead service lines were found in our system, no further action is required. If you have any questions feel free to contact our Public Works Superintendent, Micah Rogers, at office: 503-366-0454, cell: 971-563-3127 or email: mrogers@columbia-city.org.

CHIEF'S CORNER

Fraud Calls. We are now in the Holiday Season and the number of fraud calls will start to increase. Please be cautious of anyone asking for or demanding money from you. If you receive any emails asking for money or asking you to open any links you are not familiar with, do not open those links. If you are not familiar with the caller or the sender of the email, please give us a call so we can verify the information or caller for you. We hope you all have a safe holiday season.



The Police Department serviced the following calls for service during October 2024: 1 abandoned vehicle, 1 assist fire, 15 animal complaints, 1 assist agency, 2 assist persons, 1 community contact, 1 civil call, 1 civil enforcement, 1 disturbance fight, 1 disturbance verbal, 7 follow ups, 2 harassment/threats, 1 hazard, 1 motorist assist, 1 noise complaint, 2 overdose calls, 68 premise checks, 1 lost/found property, 5 suspicious circumstances, 1 suspicious person, 3 suspicious vehicles, 1 suicide threat, 1 sex crime adult, 1 non-injury traffic crash, 1 cold theft, 3 traffic complaints, 1 trespass, 19 traffic stops and 3 welfare checks. In all the Police Department serviced 154 activities.

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 ~ Chief Jerry Bartolomucci



1925 First Street

Holiday High Tea

Sunday, December 8th / 2 to 4 pm
\$45 Per Person / Reservations Required
RSVP to: caples.house@oregondar.org

Menu includes soup, scones, savories & sweets

Christmas Ships

Saturday, December 14th / 6 to 8 pm
Free Admission

Join us for cookies, hot chocolate and cider while we watch the Christmas Ships on the Columbia River

Museum Tours

by appointment only
\$5 adult / \$4 children

Teas and Sweets

In The Cottage
Friday 12/6 & 12/13 - only
2 to 4 pm

\$5 for tea and a homemade dessert

A VIEW INTO THE PAST

Roughing It

By Mark Stevens—markstevens@colcomuseum.org



Try to imagine if you will, a party of 16 plus individuals making the journey from Columbia City to the base of Mt. St. Helens for a planned camping trip for a month. Now imagine doing this in 1897 (127 years ago) by



horse and buggy accompanied by provision wagons on primitive roads. This is exactly what the Caples family did, accompanied by family and friends numerous times over the years.

Below is an article from the July 20, 1897 Oregon Mist

Jolly Campers – Fred & Miss Willie Caples of Columbia City, Geo. M. McBride & L. Kelly of Oregon City, Boyd Richardson of Salem and Miss Dell Butler

of this city (St. Helens) left here Wednesday for Mount St. Helens.

Tomorrow a second division of the company will start, consisting of Dr. J.H. McBride & family, and Miss Treat, of Wawatoss, WI, who are visiting this place, Dr. Willis Morse, E.C. Giltner & Miss Georgie Giltner, of Salem, Mrs. N.E. Dolman, of St. Helens, and Dr. & Mrs. C.G. Caples, of Columbia City. The party will be reinforced from time to time by others who cannot go at present. They take with them sufficient supplies to last at least a month, and to judge from the preparations made a good time is sure to be the result. During their stay they expect to illuminate Mount St. Helens some night, of which announcement will be made later.



(The first photo is of the Caples horse and buggy at Clatskanie, the second photo is of the Maclay family camping, the third photo of the woman on horseback is non-other than Dell Caples, and the fourth photo is what my family considers “roughing it”)

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - DECEMBER 2024

December 11 th	2:00 p.m.		Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall	
December 12 th	6:00 p.m.	❄️	Municipal Court at City Hall	❄️
December 17 th	6:30 p.m.		Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall	
December 19 th	6:00 p.m.		Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall	
December 24 th	CLOSED		City Hall is closed for the Christmas holiday	❄️
December 25 th	CLOSED	❄️	City Hall is closed for the Christmas holiday	❄️