

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER May 2024

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY
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MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY COLUMBIA CITY VETERANS PARK

Please join us in honoring all American veterans on Monday, May 27 from 11 am to noon at the Columbia City Veterans Park.



Before attending the event, please review these **IMPORTANT** **transportation and parking instructions:**

Free bus service will be offered to and from the event! To catch the bus, park on Second Street near the Caples House Museum or park at the CC Rider Park 'n Ride in St. Helens, and be bussed directly to the park! Bus service will start at 9:30 am.

Parking near Veterans Park is **NOT RECOMMENDED.**

Vehicular access to the park from Highway 30 and parking along Highway 30 will be **PROHIBITED** on event day.

Refreshments will be available, compliments of the Mt. St. Helens Chapter of the DAR

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



VETERANS PARK CLEANUP

The St. Helens Garden Club works monthly in the Columbia City Veterans Park to help keep the park looking its best. On Monday, May 20, 2024, the Club will be at the park starting at 10:00 a.m. If you are interested in helping out, come to the park that morning. Bring gloves and tools for weeding. They'd love to see you there!

WATER AND SEWER RATE ADJUSTMENT PUBLIC HEARING - JUNE 20, 2024, 6:00 PM

The Columbia City Council will hold a public hearing on June 20, 2024, at 6:00 pm to accept testimony about proposed adjustments to the current water and sewer rates. It is anticipated that the new rates will generate additional revenue equal to approximately 4% in sewer and 4% in water. If approved, the new rates will take effect on June 26 and show up on the July 26 bills. The additional revenue will help pay for operation and maintenance costs associated with the utility systems, make annual debt payments, meet loan debt coverage requirements, and complete necessary capital improvements as outlined in the water and wastewater system master plans.

Monthly Water Rates (inside City limits)		
Residential Meter 3/4" or 5/8"	Current	Proposed
Base Rate - includes 100 cf	\$40.3200	\$41.9300
Per cf over 101 and up to 500	\$0.0247	\$0.0257
Per cf over 501 and up to 1000	\$0.0392	\$0.0408
Per cf over 1001	\$0.0536	\$0.0557

Monthly Sewer Rates		
Residential Connection	Current	Proposed
Minimum Base Rate	\$46.3700	\$48.2200
Usage Fee (per cf - Oct-May)	\$0.0085	\$0.0088
Usage Fee (per cf - Jun-Sep)	\$0.0000	\$0.0000

cf = cubic foot

Information about the proposed rates for other customer classes may be obtained by contacting City Hall.

LIONS CLUB – EARTH DAY CITY CLEAN UP

A big **thank you** to the St. Helens Lion's Club for organizing a garbage pick-up event in Columbia City on Saturday, April 20th, and for assisting the City with the Spring Clean Up event.



Blood Drive

Columbia City Community Hall

Community Hall
1850 Second Street
Columbia City, OR 97018

Thursday, May 23, 2024
12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To schedule your appointment or for more information,
please call 1-800-RED-CROSS

The American Red Cross blood drive event in March resulted in 20 lifesaving donations collected.

Your commitment to participating in these blood drives truly makes a difference helping to boost the community blood supply and ensure hospital patients have the lifesaving blood they need!

Selfless? Check! Helpful? Check! Inspirational? Double-check! You have all the qualities that this world needs more of! Thanks so much for your contribution. Just one small act from you has helped the Red Cross to help many.

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING SET

The Columbia City Budget Committee will meet on Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers. The purpose of this meeting is to present the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the proposed budget for fiscal year July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. A copy of the proposed budget document may be inspected or purchased on or after May 23, 2024.

A VIEW INTO THE PAST

Fred Lockley and his connection to Columbia City
By Mark Stevens - markstevens@colcomuseum.org

About a year ago I became aware of a man named Fred Lockley. Fred was a newspaper columnist who wrote articles for the Oregon Journal. He was also a very close friend of Fred Caples (the son of Charles Caples).

Fred traveled all over Oregon, usually staying overnight at the homes of people he met. Interested in their histories, he began writing about pioneers and pioneer life. In 1900, he mined gold in Nome Alaska where he met Fred Caples who was also a miner there and they became lifelong friends.



In 1913 he became part of the editorial staff of the *Oregon Journal* and in 1919, he began writing the column, "Observations and Impressions of The Journal Man."

The following is an excerpt from one of his columns dated January 22, 1923 that pertains to Columbia City that I thought may be of interest to you.

"Recently I visited the Oregon State hospital. One feels mixed emotions in going through this tragic and wonderful institution." "The tragedy comes in knowing that so much of the ever-growing burden of Insanity is needless."

"After I had spent two afternoons with Dr. R. E. L. Steiner in visiting the various activities carried on there he called one of his assistants and said: "I have told Mr. Lockley that he can go wherever he pleases, talk to whomever he pleases and investigate this Institution, from the receiving ward to the ward for the criminal insane: so I am going to ask you to see that he is taken wherever he cares to go." What I saw on this trip furnished me sufficient material to make a score of articles, but I am going to mention only a few incidents of my tour of Investigation."

"I stopped to talk to a very interesting man in one of the wards and for 10 or 15 minutes he told me of the early history of Columbia County. He spoke of Fred Caples, an old-time friend of mine, whom he had known since Fred was a boy. He told me of the McBride's and many other old-timers and finally I said to my guide, "This man seems to be perfectly sane." My guide said. "Ask him about his money." I asked the old gentleman what he had done with his money. He said, "That is what is worrying me. I made a fortune in the racetrack. I also broke into the penitentiary some years ago and got all of their money. I stored it in a big chest in an old barn, not far from Columbia City. I am afraid the boys will discover it and steal it, for most of my wealth lay in 10-dollar and 20-dollar gold pieces, and the chest in so full it is apt to flow out and become scattered."

So I'll leave it to your imagination, was this man really crazy or is there a hoard of Gold coins in an old dilapidated barn somewhere outside of Columbia City? Has anyone else ever heard of this story? The man's name was not given in the article so a little more research is still needed to discover his identity.

LIBRARY NEWS

Fly into Summer with a display of kites in the library; some old, some new; all fun.

We are doing a quarterly newsletter, called Book, Line, and Thinker, to expand who the library can reach. We are doing an art contest for the newsletter banner. Submissions are due by July 1. To subscribe to the library's newsletter, email us at ccclibrary@live.com.

Our People's Choice winner for bird art in March was Jim Lichatowich, with his carved birds on driftwood. Second place honorable mentions go to



Chip Gardes for his photograph of a golden eagle and Loretta Sampson for her oil painting of seagulls. For more photos from events, please go to the library's website: www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com.

Secondhand Prose. Thinking of traveling this summer? Check out the half-priced travel books in Secondhand Prose for the month of May.

City Celebration "Vendors Wanted". The Columbia City Celebration is taking reservations for the August 10, 2024, event. 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.

Novel Quilters. The Novel Quilters revealed their quilts based on *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. Our next book will be *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks, set in Kentucky in 1850. An enslaved groom named Jarret and a bay foal forge a bond of understanding that will carry the horse to record-setting victories across the South.



New to the Library. This month we added 66 titles to the library. Some include:

Stolen Focus: Why you can't pay attention-and how to think deeply again by Johann Hari
Three-Inch Teeth by C. J. Box (recent best seller)
Fatal Flaw by Warren C. Easley (most recent book by an Oregon author)
James by Percival Everett (best seller)
The Hunter by Tana French (best seller)
The Women by Kristin Hannah (best seller)
Twisted Love by Ana Huang (best seller)
Unnatural History by Jonathan Kellerman (recent best seller)
Cold Victory by Karl Marlantes
Expiration Dates by Rebecca Serle (recent best seller)
Baseball by Ken Burns (DVDs of the PBS series)

Library Hours:

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

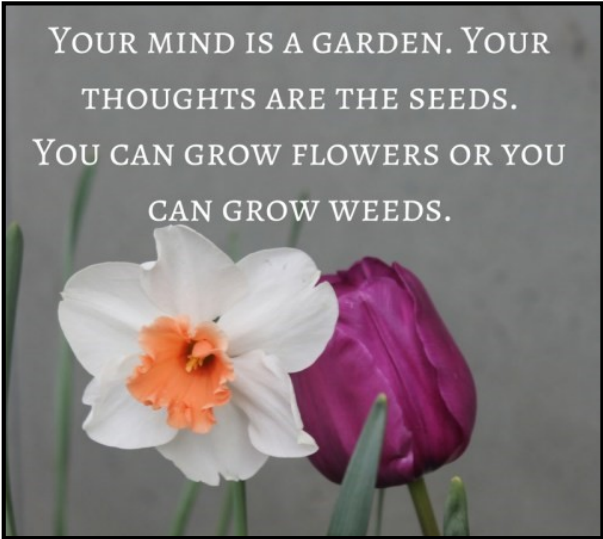
Storytime-Every Monday at 11 am
Friends of the Library-Mon, May 20th at 6:30 pm
Mystery Book Club-Wed, May 29th at 7 pm

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>



CC RIDER – RIDE SHARE PROGRAM FOR COMMUTERS IN COLUMBIA COUNTY

CC Rider recently partnered with Enterprise offering “The Commute Program”, which matches riders who are interested in riding together with others who have similar work shifts in similar areas. The program customizes each vanpool to the specific needs of the group and provides a vehicle, insurance, maintenance and ongoing support.

To find out more about the program you can visit: <https://columbiacounty.info/commute> or contact John Dreeszen with CC Rider at john.dreeszen@columbiacountyor.gov or David Meigs with Commute with Enterprise at David.C.Meigs@em.com.



CHIEF’S CORNER

Leashing your dog. With the nicer weather and more frequent walkers, we just want to remind our citizens that we do have a leash requirement here in Columbia City. This requires each person who is walking a dog to have that dog always leashed unless you are inside the dog park. This would also apply to when you are using Pixie Park and Trestle Beach. Keep in mind that you know your dog and it may be friendly as can be, but a person who does not know your dog can be traumatized by having



your pet run up to them not knowing what to expect when it rapidly approaches them. If you would like to review the City Ordinance, go to www.columbiacity.org. Under Your Government, you will find City Ordinances and Charter, Chapter 4 – Offenses 4-2 Animal Control Ordinance No. 387, Sec. 1. 2. and Section 3. 1. outlines the requirement for animals to be leashed.

The Police Department serviced the following calls during March 2024: 1 abandon vehicle, 1 audible alarm, 2 animal complaints, 1 assist agency, 7 assist persons, 3 behavioral health, 1 civil call, 1 civil enforcement, 1 criminal mischief in progress, 1 death investigation, 1 DHS referral, 4 follow ups, 2 harassment/threats, 2 hazard calls, 1 incomplete 911 call, 2 juvenile problems, 1 minor in possession of alcohol/drugs, 2 motorist assists, 2 ordinance violations, 4 parking complaints, 88 premise checks, 1 found/lost property, 1 promiscuous shooting, 2 prowlers, 4 suspicious circumstances, 1 suspicious person, 2 suspicious vehicles, 1 traffic crash non-injury, 2 traffic complaints, 1 trespass, 13 traffic stops, 1 violation of restraining order and 1 welfare check. In all the Police Department serviced 172 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



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
\$5 for tea and sweets

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - MAY 2024

May 7 th	6:00 p.m.	Regular Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
May 13 th	6:30 p.m.	Special Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
May 16 th	6:30 p.m.	Special Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
May 23 rd	8:00 a.m.	2024-25 City Budget available for public review
May 23 rd	6:00 p.m.	Special City Council Meeting at City Hall
May 27 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Memorial Day
May 27 th	11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Memorial Day Ceremony at Veterans Park
May 30 th	6:00 p.m.	Budget Committee Meeting at City Hall

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CITIZEN SATISFACTION SURVEY

Columbia City provides a range of services to the community. We'd like to ask you to please take a moment to let us know how we are doing. Your input is important to us, and we look forward to hearing how we might better serve you. Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and you need not answer all of the questions.

Your feedback is appreciated!

Please return completed surveys to City Hall during the month of May

PO Box 189 ♦ 1840 Second Street ♦ Columbia City, Oregon 97018

Phone 503-397-4010 ♦ Fax 503-366-2870

E-mail colcity@columbia-city.org ♦ Web site www.columbia-city.org

Question 1:

A. In the past year or so have you or anyone in your household had direct contact with a representative of the City Hall Office?

Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 2)

B. If you answered yes to Question 1A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):

1=not at all satisfied 5=very satisfied

_____ Water or Sewer Utility Payment or Inquiry	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Municipal Court Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Building, Plumbing or Mechanical Permit	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Nuisance/Code Violation Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Land Use Related	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Street Light Problem	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 2:

A. In the past year or so have you or anyone in your household had direct contact with a representative of the Police Department?
Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 3)

B. If you answered yes to Question 2A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):
1=not at all satisfied 5=very satisfied

_____ Criminal Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Traffic Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Traffic Stop	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Nuisance/Code Violation Complaint	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 3:

A. In the past year or so have you or anyone in your household had direct contact with a representative of the Public Works Department?
Yes _____ No _____ (skip to Question 4)

B. If you answered yes to Question 3A, please indicate the nature of the contact(s) and rate your satisfaction (circle one):
1=not at all satisfied 5=very satisfied

_____ Water Service Need or Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Sewer Service Need or Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Park Facility Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Storm Drain Problem	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Street Maintenance Issue	1	2	3	4	5
_____ Other: _____	1	2	3	4	5

C. Additional suggestions or issues not specifically covered above: _____

Question 4:

What is your perception of the overall quality of services provided by the City of Columbia City?
(circle one)

1 (Poor) 2 3 4 5 (Excellent)

Additional comments you would like to make: _____

