

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER November 2025



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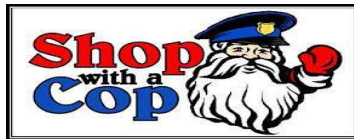
MICHAEL ALLEN HARRISON HOLIDAY CONCERT

Columbia City is excited that Michael Allen Harrison will be joining us for our 9th Holiday Concert on Monday, December 1st at 6 pm in the Community Hall. Doors will open at 5:30 pm. Tickets are \$20 per person and can be purchased at City Hall. Seating will be limited.

Food and beverages, including beer and wine, will be available for purchase. Proceeds from this year's concert will go towards the Columbia City Centennial Celebration in June 2026.

NOMINATIONS NEEDED! DONATIONS WELCOMED!

The Columbia City Police Department is hosting its 17th annual Shop with a Cop program.



We are accepting nominations for families in need until Monday, November 24th at 5:00 pm. Forms are available online or at City Hall if you have a family in mind.

We are also accepting donations to help support this year's program. If you would like to help, please send your donation to City Hall, PO Box 189, Columbia City, OR 97018. Please be sure to identify the donation is for Shop with a Cop. Thank you for your support of this rewarding program!

Food Drive



Please help us **Feed the Need** by bringing your donations of boxed and canned foods to City Hall during the month of November. The most wanted foods items are:

canned meats - tuna, chicken, salmon, beef and corned beef, canned soup & chili, peanut butter & almond butter, canned fruits and canned vegetables.

Also accepted: packaged, shelf-stable food items including but not limited to pasta, cooking oils, sauces, rice, dried beans and oats. Also, unexpired baby food and formula, personal care items, personal hygiene items, laundry detergent and dryer sheets.

All of the collected goods will be given to the Columbia Pacific Food Bank in St. Helens. Other ways in which you can help may be found on the Columbia Pacific Food Bank website – www.cpfoodbank.org.

4th ANNUAL PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE

The St. Helens School District Backpack Weekend Food Program is again conducting a peanut butter drive during November. The mission of the Program is to help ensure that no child goes hungry. Those in need are given a bag on Friday with food for two breakfasts, two lunches, two dinners, plus fruits and a snack. The desire is to send peanut butter once a month as a good protein source. All food is purchased with funds from individuals and business donations. Food bags are prepared by volunteers from the First Methodist Church, the St. Helens Lions Club and other local groups, with 200 bags being distributed per week! The need is for **16 ounce PLASTIC** jars of peanut butter. Over the last 3 years Columbia City has collected 543 jars! All donations are greatly appreciated! Drop donations at City Hall in Columbia City.

FALL BURN PERIOD

Starts at Dawn Nov 1st / Ends at Dusk Nov 16th

Remember burn permits are required! Available at City Hall, any Fire Station within the CRF&R District, or on-line: www.CRFR.com. Always call the "Burn Line" at (503) 397-4800 each day to see if burning is allowed that day.

**** DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS NOV. 2nd ****

**YOUR TOWN, YOUR VOICE:
CONSIDER JOINING A CITY COMMITTEE**

Have you ever wondered how decisions get made in Columbia City? From updating local ordinances, to considerations for rate adjustments, the work of our city government is a collective effort. And one of the most direct ways for you to contribute is by serving on a city committee.

You don't need to be a policy expert or government insider. We need neighbors, business owners and engaged citizens - people like you - who care about Columbia City's future.

The following committees have members whose terms expire on December 31, 2025, and we are opening the positions to anyone who might be interested in serving. Applicants must reside within the City. Applications for any of these committee positions may be picked up at City Hall or can be found on the City's website at www.columbia-city.org – under "Doing Business", Public Service Forms.

Audit (2 Positions) - The Audit Committee is comprised of individuals with knowledge of accounting and finance. They meet twice a year to ensure the city maintains the highest level of financial accountability. Members of this committee serve 2-year terms.

Budget (3 Positions) - 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.

Hazard Mitigation Planning Group (3 Positions) - The Hazard Mitigation Committee has 2 positions with terms expiring and 1 vacant position currently available. This 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 is scheduled to meet monthly, but there are many months without discussion topics.

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

CHIEF'S CORNER

Winter Tires. We are approaching the winter season and studded tires will be legal to use on Oregon roadways from November 1st, 2025, to March 31st, 2026. It is estimated that studded tires cause nearly 40 million dollars of damage to all of Oregon roadways annually. There are some great alternative winter tires that use siping to provide more traction in winterlike conditions. These tires also provide better rides and better traction on wet or dry pavements. Whichever option you choose, now is the time to prepare for winter weather.

The Police Department serviced the following calls during September 2025: 3 animal complaints, 3 assist agencies, 1 cold burglary, 2 civil enforcements, 2 criminal mischiefs, 1 fight disturbance, 1 extra patrol, 3 follow ups, 1 harassment/threat, 2 hazards, 1 motorist assist, 2 parking complaints, 56 premise checks, 2 suspicious circumstances, 1 suspicious person, 5 suspicious vehicles, 1 suicide attempt, 1 suicide threat, 3 traffic complaints, 1 trespass, 10 traffic stops, 3 welfare checks and 1 warrant service. In all the Police Department serviced 112 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

**CURBSIDE YARD DEBRIS COLLECTED
WEEKLY IN NOVEMBER**

Hudson Garbage Service provides weekly curbside yard debris collections during the month of November for customers who currently pay for yard debris collection.

Contact Hudson Garbage Service at (503) 397-1534 if you have any questions.

LEAVES, GRASS & DEBRIS ON STREETS



Please be reminded that purposely blowing, raking or sweeping your leaves, grass and other debris into the public right of way is considered a violation of City Ordinances.



and all materials are provided. Just bring your imagination. Register by email: scrapwithcat@gmail.com or call the library at 503-366-8020.

Saturday, November 8th – 11 am to 2 pm
Tuesday, November 11th – 6 to 8 pm
Saturday, November 29th – 11 am to 2 pm

It has been a fun time at the library. On Saturday, October 18th Halloween crafts were in full swing. Mosaic pumpkins, pretzel spider webs and billowy ghosts were just some of the fun choices. Leftover crafts are being re-packaged for Grab & Go Fall pick-up.



Then on Wednesday, October 25th the library's Novel Quilters met to show off their quilted interpretations of Fiona Valpy's novel *The Sky Beneath Us*. Soaring Himalayan mountains, unusual plant life in the shape of a blue poppy, and breathtaking sky are all featured in this inspiring novel.



Thank you, ladies for bringing your beautiful works. We look forward to seeing the finished quilts at the 2026 City Celebration.

Novel Quilters. We chose the book *Cloud Cuckoo Land* by Anthony Doerr as our next selection. The next meeting will be in January.

Our featured books this month will be Edgar award winners and nominees. The Edgar awards honor the best in mystery fiction and non-fiction, as well as television, film and theater. We have over 150 in the library.

More Craft Events. Get ready for the holidays with our popular Card Buffet. This is paper crafting at its best, where you can create your own special cards for special people. The cost is just \$2 for each card,

Secondhand Prose Book Shop. Special books for special people. Need an idea for a holiday gift? We have lovely coffee table books for sale for \$5 each during the month of November. There are books about space, nature, famous places, Elvis and many others. These books are offered at a great deal and originally cost much more. **Do your holiday shopping early!**

New to the Library. 70 new titles were added this month, some of the titles are:

- Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line* by Deepa Anappara (Edgar award winner)
- The Secret of Secrets* by Dan Brown (best seller)
- Greenwood* by Michael Christie (Crime Writers of Canada award winner)
- Deer Season* by Erin Flanagan (Edgar award winner)
- On a Quiet Street* by Seraphina Nova Glass (Edgar award winner)
- We Solve Murders* by Richard Osman (recent best seller)

For younger readers:

- The Long-Lost Secret Diary of the World's Worst Olympic Athlete* by Tim Collins
- The Children of Castle Rock* by Natasha Farrant
- Dogs of the Deadlands* by Anthony McGowan
- The Simpsons, Seasons 1-11* (DVDs)

Storytime: Mondays at 11 am
Friends of the Library: Mon, Nov 17 at 6:30 pm
Mystery Book Club: Wed, Nov 19 at 7 pm

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 12 – 6 pm / Thurs 3 – 6 pm

Email: ccllibrary@live.com

Website & Card Catalog:

www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com

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, November 10th, they will be there starting at 9 a.m. If you're interested in helping, join them that morning. Bring gloves and tools for weeding. They'd love to see you there!

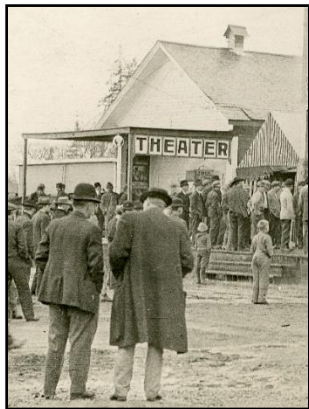
A VIEW INTO THE PAST

Remembering Columbia City

Columbia City's Oldest Home (sort of) Part 1

by Mark Stevens - markstevens@colmuseum.org

In 1849 Captain Francis Lemont purchased the Brig John Davis and loaded it with finished lumber and house frames and headed to the West coast sailing around South America to get to St. Helens via San Francisco. The lumber was used to build several buildings including the Knighton house which was built in 1850, Lemont's own home which he built in 1851, and a store that was built in 1850.



That little store is the subject of this article. An article published in the February 28, 1941 Sentinel Mist newspaper revealed the following: "City's Oldest Store Building To Fall Before Wrecking Ball". The article goes on to say that the store was constructed from the lumber that Francis

Lemont had brought along with timbers from the Perry mill located on Milton Creek. The first proprietor was a man named Mcllany, who was a peddler, trading with the Indians, before he became the owner of the store.

In about 1874, the old Durrell sawmill was purchased by the Muckles who built a store across the street

from the Mcllany place and a year or two later bought the pioneer merchant out and then moved into his building to use it as an office.

In September 1904, a great fire swept the St. Helens waterfront but spared the old store which stood on Strand Street.

Shortly after the blaze, the Muckles sold out to Charles R. McCormick, who moved the store up the street and used it for an office.

About 1912 the store metamorphosed again and became a movie theater, one of the first if not the pioneer flicker place in Columbia County.

After some years as a theater, the aging building became an entertainment center of another sort, it was transformed into a pool hall and was owned by Eddy Wood and was known as "Eddie's Place". Apparently, the business, which was extremely handy to its mill-working clientele, flourished for Mr. Wood and continued at the location for a considerable time.



The final owner who actually used the place was Bob McGloughlin, who also used it at as a pool hall until his death at which time the old building went silent.

The Pope and Talbot mill either purchased the store, or possible already owned it, but in any case, the mill decided that they needed the space to expand their mill and decided to tear it down.

So, you say, what does this have to do with Columbia City? Well, you will have to wait until the next installment of this article to find out.

MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - NOVEMBER 2025

| | | |
|---------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| November 1 st | dawn | First day of open burn period |
| November 11 th | CLOSED | City Hall is closed in observance of Veteran's Day |
| November 16 th | dusk | Last day of open burn period |
| November 18 th | 6:30 pm | Planning Commission Meeting – canceled |
| November 20 th | 6:00 pm | Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall |
| November 25 th | 6:00 PM | Hazard Mitigation Planning Group Meeting at City Hall - canceled |
| November 27 th | CLOSED | City Hall is closed on Thanksgiving Day |
| November 28 th | CLOSED | City Hall is closed the day after Thanksgiving |