

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER September 2025



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Columbia City Celebration News. This year's Celebration held on Saturday, August 9th turned out to be a perfect summer day and another successful event.

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

Quilt Winner. Earlene Taylor of Clatskanie



Congratulations to the top award winners from this year's Show & Show:

Best of Show – Award sponsored by Les Schwab Tire Center of St. Helens:
Keith Lerche's 1955 Chevy Bel Air

Exhibitor's Choice – Award sponsored by the Port of Columbia County:
James Delgado's 1954 Mercury Monterey

People's Choice – Award sponsored by the Ebert Family:
Peyton Dyson's 2016 Ford Mustang

Kid's Choice – Award sponsored by Iris Poetry Photography:
Cody Coughlin's 2012 Chevy Camaro

The Decades Choice – Award sponsored by Les Schwab Tire Center St. Helens:
Bob Darby's 1961 Chevy Impala

Columbia City Celebration



- ❖ Our thanks go out to Jazzmin Love, coordinator of the event, for putting all the moving pieces together.
- ❖ To Gordon Thistle & Simon Ebert and all their car show volunteers and judges.
- ❖ To Cathy Lundberg and her group of quilters for the gorgeous raffle quilt won by Earlene Taylor.
- ❖ To City Staff and all their volunteers who put on the delicious strawberry pancake breakfast.
- ❖ To the army of volunteers who moved and assorted thousands of books for the book sale.
- ❖ To Michael Nolte for researching and pricing the Special Books for the sale.
- ❖ To Karen & Don Brooks and the Resonate Church for their fun-filled Kid's Zone.
- ❖ To Sherri Sisler and her team who put out all the Celebration signs.
- ❖ To Mark Stevens for his City Tour display and commentary.
- ❖ To the Stansbury family for the beach cabin raffle.
- ❖ To Karen Duffy for her basket raffles.
- ❖ To Stacey Tinney for her role as Celebration photographer.
- ❖ To the Novel Quilters for their quilt display.
- ❖ To all the vendors for their wonderful hand-made local items.
- ❖ To the Caples House for opening their grounds for free tours.
- ❖ To all the other volunteers who turned out to lend a helping hand.

**And Huge Thanks to Our Community for
Coming Out to Support the Library.
We are Very Grateful.**



Get Crafty with Cathy. Adult crafting on the following dates and times in the library are available:

Tuesday, September 9th – 11 am to 1 pm
Card Buffet \$2/card

Tuesday, September 23rd – 11 am to 1 pm
Mini Album, choice of pet or butterfly \$15/album

Tuesday, October 7th – 11 am to 1 pm
Card Buffet \$2/card

Tuesday, October 7th – 1 to 3 pm
Boo or Eek Halloween workshop \$20/per person

Saturday, October 18th – 11 am to 1 pm
Card Buffet \$2/card

Saturday, October 18th – 1 to 3 pm
Boo or Eek Halloween workshop \$20/person

Secondhand Prose. If you missed the giant City Celebration book sale, never fear. Secondhand Prose still has lots of terrific books at terrific prices. Find bargains in the Juvenile (grades 4-6) and Young Adult sections. In September all books on those shelves are just \$1 each.

Columbia County Reads 2025. The works of Willy Vlautin will be discussed during an extended weekend of free literary and historical events centered on the quest for the American Dream. See the schedule below. You can pick up a free copy of *The Horse* at any Columbia County library while supplies last. Columbia City's library has two copies.

Oregon Canneries: A history
Scappoose Library
Wednesday, September 17th at 7 pm

An Evening with Willy Vlautin
Birkenfeld Theatre - Clatskanie
Friday, September 19th at 7 pm

Willy Vlautin's Book Club
Scappoose Senior Center
Saturday, September 20th at 7 pm

If you've checked out books from our library, or bought an ex-library book, you may have noticed that there is sometimes an award sticker at the top of the book's spine. The award sticker means the book has won one of more than 40 awards. The catalog entry for the book will usually say which awards the book won or was nominated for. Try those books first!

Storytime:

Mondays at 11 am

Friends of the Library:

Monday, September 15th at 6:30 pm

Novel Quilters:

Wednesday, September 17th at 2 pm

Mystery Book Club:

Wednesday, September 24th at 7 pm

New to the Library. 89 new titles were added to the library this month! Some of the added titles are:

Wild New World: the Epic Story of Animals and People in America by Dan L. Flores
Birds of the Willamette Valley Region by Harry B. Nehls
When the Wolf Comes Home by Nat Cassidy (recommended by Librarian's daughter)
Murder in the Tea Leaves by Laura Childs
The River is Waiting by Wally Lamb
25 Alive by James Patterson (recent best seller)
The Horse by Willy Vlautin (subject of 2025 Columbia County Reads)

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: ccclibrary@live.com

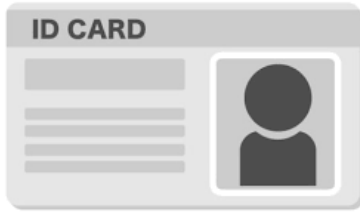
Website & Card Catalog:

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, September 29th, they will be there starting at 9 am. If you're interested in helping, join them that morning. Bring gloves and tools for weeding. They'd love to see you there!

LOST AND FOUND



A University of Providence ID card was placed in the City's drop box in July. If you think it's yours, please contact us.

A VIEW INTO THE PAST

Remembering Columbia City - A Child's view of prohibition and the Great Depression - Part 7
Written by Carl Sigler Annotated by Mark Stevens - markstevens@colcomuseum.org

In the summertime on weekends, we could sit out on the highway and count the cars going to Astoria and the coast. We would count the different state licenses and different makes of cars and wave to the people, and they would wave back. On Sunday afternoon we could see them coming back, bumper to bumper. That was the main route to the coast at that time.

Back to the lake where we fished for catfish. There was an abundance of bullfrogs. When I was about eight years old, I could go to the lake by myself and I built a raft so I could push myself all around the lake. Seeing all the frogs on the lake, I had to figure a way to catch them, because I heard that frog legs were great dishes in Paris. So I got a few fish hook flies and cut a long willow pole to attach a fishing line and put the flies on the line.

I got on my raft and went fishing for frogs. You could see them sitting around with their heads barely out of the water, or sitting on a lily pad or log. I could reach them with the long pole, then dangle the fly in from of them. When he jumped at it, I had him hooked. I caught six that day and headed for home and asked my mother if she would cook them for supper. She said, "How do they cook them?" I said, "I imagine just like you cook a rabbit." She said for me to clean them and cut them up. I skinned them and cut the legs off, so she cooked them with the rest of the dinner. I asked her "When dad asks what's for dinner, just tell him to ask me." When he asked me, I told him to just imagine he is in Paris, France, in one of the finest restaurants. He said, "Oh no, not snails." I said, "Not snails. How about bullfrog legs?" He said that sounded better, and that next time I went frogging, he wanted to go with me. We went many more times, and dreamed we were in Paris, France, eating bullfrog legs. "No snails."

In the twenties was prohibition, so lots of people made their home brew. My dad was one of them. We went to the Italian Importing Company in St. Helens and bought a ten-gallon crock for beer and a five-gallon crock for sauerkraut. He said no one of German heritage should ever have to do without beer or sauerkraut. He could get malt and everything else at the importing company.

The sheriff at that time was (Oscar) Weed. He would call a raid every so often. Someone usually got tipped off, so they would pass it on and everyone could hide their beer.



There was an old Norwegian fellow by the name of Ed Whatney, and one day he came up and asked my dad if he could borrow a couple quarts of beer and he would pay it back as soon as he got his bottled.

He paid it back okay, but when my dad tasted it, it tasted like fish. Old Ed cooked lots of fish in his house and set up his beer in the kitchen. The fish smell went right into the beer. My dad kept the beer, and next time Ed came to borrow some, dad gave him his own beer back.

Dad had his best friends in for a few beers, like Mr. Morgan and Pop Lusk. You could always tell when Pop Lusk had enough. He would always start saying "Rowdy Dow."

So that was the way it was in the twenties and early thirties. I still maintain that my dad moving us here in Columbia City made me the luckiest kid around. It was a great place to grow up.

CHIEF'S CORNER

Back to School. Now that we are entering into September, please watch out for the kids who are going to and from school bus stops. Make sure you stop for the buses when the red lights are flashing. If you encounter a bus on Hwy 30, all lanes of travel must stop unless the highway has a physical barrier. This violation will get you a citation of \$440, so please drive responsibly.

Overnight Thefts. In recent weeks we have seen several thefts occur during the overnight hours. If you see someone looking into cars or appears to be out of place, please call the non-emergency dispatch number 503-397-1521.

The Police Department serviced the following calls during July 2025: 7 animal complaints, 2 assist persons, 1 camping complaint, 5 civil enforcements, 1 assist fire, 1 criminal mischief, 2 follow ups, 2 fireworks calls, 3 harassment/ threats, 1 incomplete 911, 1 information, 4 juvenile problems, 2 motorist assists, 1 marine deputy assist, 1 noise complaint, 3 ordinance violations, 33 premise checks, 3 lost/found properties, 2 promiscuous shootings, 1 suspicious circumstance, 2 suspicious persons, 2 suspicious vehicles, 3 out with suspects, 1 traffic crash non injury, 2 traffic complaints, 1 trespass, 15 traffic stops, 1 drug call and 3 welfare checks. In all the Police Department serviced 115 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

CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

Accessory structures, sheds, detached garages. All storage sheds, workshops, garages etc. must obtain, at minimum, a planning review approval before placement. The approved application

ensures all ordinance standards are followed. Setback requirements, height and size restrictions and lot coverage guidelines vary from zone to zone.

Any structure over 200 sq. ft. or 15 ft. in height **requires a structural building permit.** There have been multiple times over the years where a resident is looking to place a pre-manufactured or prefabricated structure on their property, and the structure is over 200 sq. ft. or over 15 ft. in height and they are told by the company selling and/or placing the structure that a permit is not required. Please contact City Hall if you plan to place any structure on your property to verify what approvals you need to obtain prior to placement. By doing so you can avoid the hassle of having to move it, take it down or pay extras fees.



Reminder: membrane or fabric covered storage buildings or structures are no longer permitted.

Business License Requirement. Contractors, plumbers, landscapers, pest control, painters, electricians, anyone doing business within the city is required to obtain a current Columbia City business license prior to starting work. Some Portland area contractors think their "Metro License" covers them to work in Columbia City, but it does not. Many contractors come to our area to do specialty work, and some of those jobs are completed within a day or two. Those businesses would still be required to obtain a business license, but the City does offer a temporary license for \$25. This is available for businesses who don't normally come to our area, and the job will be completed within 20 consecutive business days.

Business license applications are available on our website at www.columbia-city.org. If you have any questions about business licenses or whether someone has a current business license please contact City Hall at 503-397-4010.

SEPTEMBER 2025 MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR

September 1 st	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Labor Day
September 16th	6:30 pm	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall - canceled
September 17 th	2:30 pm	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall
September 18 th	6:00 pm	City Council Meeting at City Hall
September 30th	6:00 pm	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall - canceled