



COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER January 2026

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CELEBRATION OF LIFE – COLLEEN CALKINS

An Open House Celebration of Life for Colleen Calkins has been scheduled for Sunday, January 25, 2026, from 2 to 4 pm in the Columbia City Community Hall.

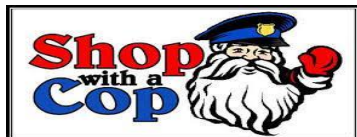


Colleen started working for Columbia City in September 2001 and retired after 16 ½ years. All her family still live in Columbia City.

Family and friends are encouraged to bring stories to share that capture her spirit. In lieu of gifts or flowers, donations can be made to the Friends of the Columbia City Library or the Providence Cancer Institute Franz Clinic.

CHIEF'S CORNER

Shop With A Cop. I would like to thank our local community for all their kindness and generosity for the Shop With A Cop Program. Each year Columbia City organizes this event, and it is supported by donations from all of you and our local Walmart, who kindly awarded us a grant this year, along with a wrapping station and treats for the families. This year marked the 17th Annual Shop With A Cop event and was held on December 13th at the St. Helens Walmart. As a result of all the support, the event was able to make Christmas much brighter for 19 children in our local community. I would also like to thank our local Law Enforcement partners for giving their time and support to create a positive and memorable experience for these children during the Christmas Season.



The Police Department serviced the following calls in November 2025: 2 assist fires, 1 audible alarm, 3 animal complaints, 1 assist agency, 1 assist person, 1 cold burglary, 1 burglary in progress, 3 civil enforcements, 2 DHS referrals, 1 domestic dispute, 3 follow ups, 1 incomplete 911, 1 juvenile problem, 1

motorist assist, 68 premise checks, 1 prowler, 1 subject stop, 1 suspicious circumstance, 4 suspicious vehicles, 2 suicide threats, 2 out with suspect vehicles, 1 traffic complaint and 15 traffic stops. In all the Police Department serviced 126 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



MONTHLY RECYCLING TIP
Everything Must Be Clean and Dry



Non-metalized gift wrap (no ribbons or bows) – can be recycled. For more information visit:
www.columbiacountyor.gov/recycle.



Exciting News. The Friends of the Library has a new Board:

- President & Library Director, Cathy Lundberg
- Vice President, Cathy Lambert
- Secretary, Lisa Klein
- Treasurer (temporary) & Past President, Kit Gardes

The other exciting development is that the library has hired its first part-time office manager. Laura Drew of Columbia City will start January 1st and will spend the month being trained in her position. Look for extended open hours starting in February.

December Was A Busy Month. Katrina Clift read to the young audience from the Columbia City Elementary RISE afterschool recreation program through the St. Helens Recreation Program.

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One Wednesday a month the library will host a story time and craft hour for these children. After hearing the fiction book, *The Bear Who Wasn't There* by LeUyen Pham, the older kids created air-dry clay bears to take home, and the younger kids made bear puppets. Then they enjoyed the library toys and activities. In January, they will have an activity about snow.

The annual Library Volunteer Appreciation party was held December 5th at the Plymouth Presbyterian Church fellowship hall. Games, prizes, great food and a short speech capped off the year of progress and a celebration of the 25 years that the library has been serving the community.

Secondhand Prose. We have the way to start your New Year. Are diet and exercise for a healthy life on your New Year's resolutions list? Come to Secondhand Prose for the half-price January special. (Hardback books \$1, and Paperback books \$.50) *Eat This Not That*, *Yoga*, *Running*, *Fit or Fat*, are among the many book selections available.

A Note of Passing. Long-time volunteer and dear friend, Colleen Calkins passed away in early December. She was one of the very first volunteers while the library was still in the Columbia City Elementary School. She served as both a valued desk volunteer and held various Friends of the Library board positions. She is greatly missed by all who knew her. See page 1 for Celebration of Life details.

TOP 10 HITS. The following list is the Top Ten books checked out of the library during 2025, have you read any of them?

The Housemaid by Freida McFadden, *James: A Novel* by Percival Everett, *In Too Deep* by Lee Child, *The Edge* by David Baldacci, *Say "Please"* (a book about manners) by Catherine Lukas, *The Women* by Kristin Hannah, *Battle Mountain* by C.J. Box, *The Big Empty* by Robert Crais, *Dark Rites* by Heather Graham or *The Devil's Hand* by Jack Carr.

New to the Library. 132 new titles were added last month, some of the titles are:

The Gales of November by John U. Bacon (best seller)
Being Henry: the Fonz... by Henry Winkler (past best seller)
The Girl Bandits of the Warsaw Ghetto by Elizabeth Hyman (best seller)
Nash Falls by David Baldacci (best seller)
Exit Strategy by Lee Child (best seller)
The Killing Stones by Ann Cleeves (best seller)
The Correspondent by Virginia Evans (best seller)
The Widow by John Grisham (best seller)
The Black Wolf by Louise Penny (past best seller)
Alchemised by SenLinYu (best seller)
We are All Guilty Here by Karen Slaughter (past best seller)

Large Print:

Clive Cussler's Hellburner by Clive Cussler & Mike Maden
Swan Song by Elin Hilderbrand
Gone Before Goodbye by Reese Witherspoon

Storytime: Mondays at 11 am

Friends of the Library: Mon, Jan 19 at 6:30 pm

Novel Quilters: Wed, Jan 21 at 2 pm

Mystery Book Club: Wed, Jan 28 at 7 pm

Columbia City Community Library

2000 Second Street, PO Box 189

Columbia City OR 97018

HOURS: Mon & Sat 10 am – 2 pm

Wed 12 – 6 pm / Thurs 3 – 6 pm

Phone: 503-366-8020, **Email:** ccclibrary@live.com

Website & Card Catalog:

www.columbiacitycommunitylibrary.com

MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - JANUARY 2026

January 1 st	CLOSED	New Year's Day Holiday
January 13 th	6:00 pm	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
January 15 th	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
January 19 th	CLOSED	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
January 20 th	6:30 pm	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall - canceled
January 27 th	6:00 pm	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall

