

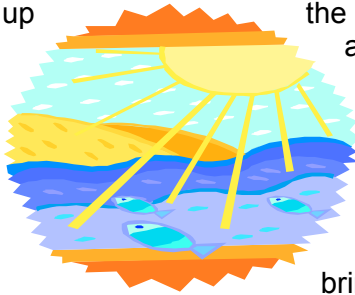
# COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

## May 2009

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY  
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### DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE CLEANUP

Please join us for the ninth annual "Down By the Riverside" project in Columbia City! We are looking for volunteers to assist us with this project in Pixie Park and Datis Park on Saturday, May 16, 2009, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Volunteers will be removing blackberry bushes, morning glory, ivy and debris, as well as planting, painting, and sprucing up the parks as needed. If you



are interested in participating in this project, please contact City Hall, or just show up at one of the parks. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring work gloves!

### BIKE PATH CLOSED TEMPORARILY BETWEEN "A" AND "E" STREETS

The Columbia City Bike Path along Highway 30 between "A" and "E" Streets will be closed during a sewer main replacement project starting in May. The closure is likely to continue until mid-June. We apologize for any inconvenience.

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS POCKET GUIDE

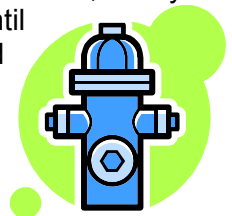
Stop by City Hall to pick up your free Emergency Preparedness Guide, compliments of the Columbia City Police Department. These compact pocket guides are aimed at providing families with assistance in preparing their homes for various emergencies, as well as providing guidance on what to do or not do during the emergency. Remember - emergency relief workers will be on the scene following a disaster, but they may not be able to reach you immediately. Disaster can strike without warning, forcing you and your family to go for days without basic necessities, or to evacuate your home. You need to be prepared, and knowing the steps to take during a disaster can greatly reduce the danger and distress your family may face. Pick up your free Emergency Preparedness Guide today!

### CORRECTION HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

The Columbia County Transfer Station accepts hazardous waste materials on the last Saturday of each month from 8 a.m. to noon. The next Hazardous Waste Disposal Event will occur on Saturday, May 30, 2009. In our April newsletter, we mistakenly stated they accept it weekly.

### PUBLIC WORKS – FLUSHING LINES

On May 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> the City's Public Works crew plans to flush water mains during the very late night and very early morning hours. Our water customers may notice a bit of dirty water and air pockets in the lines as a result of these activities. To rid your lines of the dirty water and air pockets, run your water from an outside hose bib until the air pockets are released and the water looks clean and clear. If you have any questions or concerns, contact the Public Works Department by calling (503) 366-0454.



### ROSE FESTIVAL FLEET WEEK

The official dates for the Rose Festival Fleet Week have not yet been announced. See June's newsletter for additional information or watch for updates online at <http://rosefestival.org/events/fleet/>.

### REMINDER FOR ALL PET OWNERS

We'd like to remind pet owners that the City's Animal Control Ordinance prohibits animals from running at large. Pet owners are required to have control of their pet at all times when it is off of their private property. Pet owners are prohibited from allowing their pets to deposit waste upon property not under their ownership. If their pets do deposit waste on property other than their own, they are required to immediately remove it.



**QUILT RAFFLE**

Purchase your raffle tickets now to win a beautiful quilt! Come by City Hall to see it. The quilt was made by a group of local volunteers. All of the proceeds from this raffle will go to the Columbia City Community Library. Tickets are just \$1.00 each or \$5.00 for six. A total of 5,000 tickets are available for sale. The drawing will be held during the 2009 Columbia City Celebration on Saturday, September 12, 2009, at 1 p.m. You can buy your tickets at City Hall or the Library.

**NEW WATER RATES**

The City Council approved a water rate increase following a public hearing in March. The rate increase took effect on March 26, 2009, and is reflected on the April 26, 2009 billings.

For a residential customer within the City limits, the new rates include a \$.75 increase in the minimum monthly charge, a \$0.15 increase in the first volume charge, for an overall average increase of 2.5%.

<b>Residential Customer In Columbia City</b>	<b>New Rate 3/26/09</b>
Minimum charge - less than 500 cubic feet of usage	\$30.75
For each additional 100 cubic feet, but usage less than 1,000 cubic feet	\$3.75

The rates for commercial, industrial and outside City water users received similar adjustments. For detailed information about other rate classes, please contact City Hall by calling (503) 397-4010.

**FOUND ITEMS**

The following items were found recently and turned into City Hall. Do they belong to you?

- Water bottle in area of Pixie Park.
- Walkie talkie near "C" Street.
- Children's mittens at Pixie Park.

**THANK YOU**

- We'd like to extend a very special "thank you" to:
- Karin Bates, Marian Calnon, Jean Carulli, Kathie Fellows, Dolores Heinz, Vera Moeller, Phyllis Rowley and Carol Yarbrough for helping with the newsletter and utility billing in March.
  - Donald Truedson and "Jackie" for the cookies.

- Vonnie Walker for weeding flowerbeds at City Hall.
- Shelia Bauer, Jack & Molly Hruska, Sally Ann Marson, Gary Hudson, Finos Lunsford, Jim Riahi, the Columbia County Community Corrections community service workers, and the community service workers from the Columbia County Circuit Court Juvenile Department for their assistance with the Annual Spring Clean-Up Day.

**PLEASE KEEP THOSE GRASSES  
AND WEEDS CUT!**

Between April 15<sup>th</sup> and September 30<sup>th</sup> each year, weeds and grass cannot exceed 10 inches in height within the City limits. Additionally, blackberry bushes cannot extend across property lines or into the City's right-of-way, including streets, alleys and sidewalks. Property owners or other persons in charge of the property must keep weeds, grass and



other noxious growth, such as poison oak, cut and maintained to prevent them from becoming unsightly and a fire hazard, and to prevent them from maturing and going to seed. Violators can be cited into Municipal Court. Additionally, the City may abate the nuisance and lien the property for the costs. To report violations, please contact City Hall.

**FEED OUR FAMILIES & FURRY FRIENDS**

SOLV, Rural Development Initiatives and Oregon Volunteers have been commissioned by Oregon 150, Governor Kulongoski's planning commission for the state's sesquicentennial in 2009, to bring you the largest volunteer event in the State's history – **Take Care of Oregon Days!**

As a part of this special event, the City is holding a food drive to benefit families, pets and seniors in our area. You can contribute by bringing your non-perishable food donations for both people and pets to City Hall, or you can donate \$4.00 or more to feed a senior. Cash donations to the Columbia Humane Society, Columbia Pacific Food Bank or the St. Helens Senior Center would be used to pay utilities and other operating expenses.

We will be accepting donations until May 15, 2009, at City Hall. For more information about our event, contact City Hall or go to the following website: [www.oregon150.org](http://www.oregon150.org) to find more activities happening in other areas of the state.

## LIBRARY NEWS

We have a great book sale coming up at the end of this month. Saturday, May 30 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Community Hall we will be selling great books that you have donated. Keep those books coming. We almost always find something good for the Library in a donation, and the rest are books that someone else will want to read! I love finding the best possible use for a book, whether it is in our Library, a treasure for our book sale, or sent away to someone so that I can request a great book for our Library. As always, we will need lots of help for setting up the book sale from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Saturday morning. Call or stop by the Library to let us know you can help – we had a great crew last sale, about 12 people showed up to help setup. Thanks to all of you!

This month I read *The World is Flat* by Thomas Friedman, which points out how so many jobs are going anywhere in the world that has access to the internet. The people who get the jobs are those who are educated, who can create ideas. The sciences in particular are the area where new ideas and, consequently, new products and jobs are generated. And yet a smaller percentage of US science and engineering college students are American now compared to twenty years ago. We need kids who can graduate from college to create the video games and the electronics that go with them, not just play the games. An interest in science now will make your kids more likely to succeed when they choose their careers and go out on their own. The ability to read well is the most critical part of doing well in school. So send them to the Library. Encourage them to read some of the books in our non-fiction sections. Encourage them to read science fiction, and think about what could be. Encourage them to read anything. The more you read, the better you are at it, and the better your life will be.

## New at the Library

I bought two books by Julia Spencer-Fleming from the GLOW book sale at the PUD. Dee Loyd, who works with me on Mondays, took one home and read it, and returned the next week for the other. *In the Bleak Midwinter* is a 2003 nominee for both the Agatha and Anthony mystery awards. *All Mortal Flesh* is a 2006 Agatha nominee, and a 2007 Anthony nominee. With that kind of a record, how could I go wrong getting other books in the series? The Library now has four books by Ms. Spencer-Fleming. The books are set in a small upstate New York town, where the Episcopalian priest Clare Fergusson and married police chief Russ Van Alstyne are constantly battling the growing attraction between them, but each time they promise themselves to stay apart, a crime in their town pulls them together.

### Staffed Library Hours:

Monday & Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Wednesday 4 p.m. - 8 p.m.  
Thursday 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.

### Story Time:

Every Monday at 11 a.m.

### Friends of the Library Meeting:

Monday, May 18 at 7 p.m.

### Novel Quilters Meeting:

Wednesday May 20 at 6:30 p.m.

### Mystery Book Group:

Wednesday, May 27 at 7 p.m.

### Book Sale:

Saturday, May 30 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Phone:** (503) 366-8020

**Address:** 205 "I" Street

**E-mail:** cclibrary@opusnet.com

## MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - MAY 2009

May 7 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
May 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Budget Committee Meeting at the Community Hall
May 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
May 16 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m.	Riverside Cleanup at Pixie and Datis Parks
May 18 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Meeting at the Library
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
May 28 <sup>th</sup>	7:30 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
May 25 <sup>th</sup>	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Memorial Day
May 30 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 a.m.	Friends of the Library Book Sale in the Community Hall



**TEN WAYS TO SAVE WATER**

1. Water your lawn only when it needs it. Step on your grass. If it springs back when you lift your foot, it doesn't need water. So set your sprinklers for more days in between watering. **Saves 750-1,500 gallons** per month. Better yet, especially in times of drought, water with a hose. And best of all, convert your lawn to native plants.
2. Fix leaky faucets and plumbing joints. **Saves 20 gallons** per day for every leak stopped.
3. Don't run the hose while washing your car. Use a bucket of water and a quick hose rinse at the end. **Saves 150 gallons** each time. For a two-car family that's **up to 1,200 gallons** a month.
4. Install water-saving showerheads or flow restrictors. **Saves 500 to 800 gallons** per month.



5. Run only full loads in the washing machine and dishwasher. **Saves 300 to 800 gallons** per month.
6. Shorten your showers. Even a one or two minute reduction can **save up to 700 gallons** per month.
7. Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks. **Saves 150 gallons** or more each time. At once a week, that's **more than 600 gallons** a month.
8. Don't use your toilet as an ashtray or wastebasket. **Saves 400 to 600 gallons** per month.
9. Capture tap water. While you wait for hot water to come down the pipes, catch the flow in a watering can to use later on houseplants or your garden. **Saves 200 to 300 gallons** per month.
10. Don't water the sidewalks, driveway or gutter. Adjust your sprinklers so that water lands on your lawn or garden where it belongs--and only there. **Saves 500 gallons** per month.

**FREE! - WATER CONSERVATION KITS!**

The City is still offering free water conservation kits to each water customer. Kits include one-touch on/off tap saver, a moisture meter, leak detection dye tablets, and water conservation tips. Stop by City Hall to pick up your kit today! Limit one kit per customer.

We are also offering water customers the opportunity to purchase a deluxe 7-spray water saving hose nozzle for just \$6.00.

To obtain your free water conservation kit and/or to purchase a water saving hose nozzle, please complete the form below and bring it to City Hall.



**YES! I would like a FREE Water Conservation Kit!**

*The information requested below must be provided to receive your kit. You must be a Columbia City water customer. Limit one kit per customer.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Water Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes - I would like to purchase a deluxe water saving hose nozzle for \$6.00 (*limit one per customer*)

