

# COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

## June 2010



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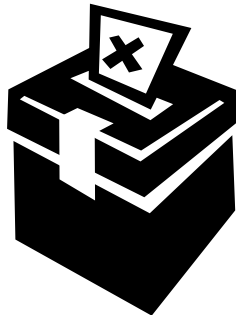
### TOWN HALL MEETING COMMUNITY HALL - JUNE 24, 7 PM

A Town Hall meeting will be held in the Community Hall at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 24, 2010. During the meeting, the City will present information about a proposed three-year levy for police protection services, street system maintenance, and storm water system maintenance.

All citizens are invited to attend and participate in this informal public meeting. The Mayor, City Council and staff members will provide the public with information about the proposal, and citizens are encouraged to attend, voice their opinions, and ask questions. Please mark your calendars and attend this important event!

### CANDIDATE FILING DATES

The position of Mayor and two City Council positions will be filled by the voters during the November 2, 2010 General Election. Qualified electors who have resided within the City since November 2, 2009, may run for office. Nominating petitions will be available at the City Hall beginning June 7, 2010. The nominating petitions must be signed by 20 qualified electors, and must be filed with the City Administrator/Recorder by 5:00 pm on August 19, 2010. The positions are for a term of four years.



### IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO RESPOND TO THE CITIZEN SURVEY!

We'd like to thank each and every one of you that took the time to complete and return the citizen survey that was included in last month's Newsletter. If you haven't returned a completed survey, please take a moment to fill one out at your earliest opportunity. We would like to hear from you! Extra copies of the citizen survey are available at the City Hall.

### THE RIVERSIDE CLEANUP

Please join us for the upcoming riverside cleanup project! Volunteer to help spruce up Datis and Pixie Parks on Friday, June 4, 2010, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We'll be removing blackberry bushes, morning glory, ivy, weeds 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!



### FLEET DAY AT CAPLES HOUSE MUSEUM

On June 3, 2010 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. enjoy a day by the Columbia River watching the ships come in for the Rose Festival. Explore a pioneer house museum and shop for crafts at the Country Store.



A lunch of ham, salad, assorted vegetables and fruits, fresh bread and strawberry shortcake will be served buffet style. Refresh yourself with lemonade, iced tea or coffee on the porch of the Knapp Center. Ring the Caples family's bell when the ships go by!

Tickets are \$15 per person and can be ordered at [museumdirector@capleshouse.com](mailto:museumdirector@capleshouse.com) or by calling 503-397-5390.

### PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

Are you interested in serving on the Columbia City Planning Commission? Applicants must reside within the City or the City's Urban Growth Boundary. The term is for a period of four years, and the Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month. Applications are available at the City Hall.

## ROSE FESTIVAL FLEET

The Rose Festival Fleet Week is June 2 through June 6. Ships from the United States Navy, Coast Guard, and the Canadian Maritime Forces sail in from around the world. Fleet visitation has been an annual tradition for nearly 70 years. The ships usually sail by Columbia City the first two days of that week, but there are no specific times for their arrival.



## THANK YOU

We'd like to extend a special thank you to:

- ❖ Karin Bates, Kathie Fellows, Nell Harrison, Betty Jensen, Barbara Jones, Jean Lord, Phyllis Rowley and Debbie Virts for helping with the utility billing and newsletters in April.
- ❖ Norm Jones for mowing Datis Park.
- ❖ Gary Hansen for mowing Harvard Park.
- ❖ Dorothy Rofinot for picking up trash and pulling weeds around City Hall.
- ❖ Marian and Libby Calnon for donating and planting red, white and blue flowers in the City Hall flower bed.
- ❖ Vonnie Walker for pulling weeds around City Hall.
- ❖ Izzy Wooden for donating fucia plants for Bundy Park, and Marian Calnon for planting them.
- ❖ Gerald Ford for donating bark chips.

## KEEP GRASS AND WEEDS CUT!

Between April 15 and September 30 of any year, **weeds and grass cannot exceed 10 inches in height** and **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.



## BUNDY PARK CLEAN-UP EVENT

The Parks Committee will hold a clean-up event in Jim Bundy Memorial Park on Saturday, June 12, 2010, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Volunteers will be removing blackberry bushes, ivy, weeds and woody debris, and sprucing up the park as needed. If you are interested in participating in this event, please contact City Hall, or just show up on the day of the event! Please wear sturdy shoes and bring work gloves.

### 💧 WATER CONSERVATION TIP 💧

Water slowly until the lawn is soggy. Use a hose; sprinklers allow the water to evaporate before the soil can absorb it. If you must use a sprinkler, use one that makes large drops of water.



## LOOKING FOR CELEBRATION VOLUNTEERS!!

The Columbia City Celebration will be held on Saturday, September 11, 2010, and we are looking for help from volunteers! We need to find volunteers to solicit local businesses for donations and sell raffle tickets. These activities are such a vital part of the success of the event. All proceeds from the Celebration go to our local library. If you are interested, please contact Helen at City Hall at (503) 397-4010.

*We make a living by what we do, but we make a life by what we give. Winston Churchill*

## LICENSE AND PERMIT REMINDER



Planning to hire a contractor to help you with a project around the house this summer? If so, please be sure that your contractor has a current business license to do work within the City of Columbia City.

Also, whether you're hiring a contractor or planning to do the work yourself, please remember that many types of projects require a permit. For building, plumbing and mechanical permit information; call City Hall at (503) 397-4010. For electrical permit information, contact Columbia County Land Development Services at (503) 397-1501.

## LIBRARY NEWS

June 5 is our next spectacular book sale in the Columbia City Community Hall! Stock up on summer reading material! As always, we welcome donated books to help us stock both the library and the book sale. We will have setup Friday, June 4 from 6 pm until we're done, and the sale Saturday, June 5 from 9 am to 3 pm. Volunteers, put it on your calendar! We appreciate your great help in setting up, and I know several of our regular helpers will be out of town that weekend. So even if you haven't helped before, we can find something for you to do!

### Summer Reading Program

Make a Splash! Read!

- Story time (Preschool-3<sup>rd</sup> grade) – Mondays 11 a.m. Bring in your reading log and add water drops or fish to our waves and get a sweet treat.
- Pizza and a Paperback! Reserve your time to get together with friends to discuss books. The first meeting will be Monday, July 5 at 12 p.m. For tweens and teens.



Our summer reading program will start June 28, and continue until August 9. Kids need things to do to keep them busy over the summer, and reading is a great way to travel without leaving town! Regular readers are better prepared when school starts again in the fall. We will have great crafts for the little ones, and I know they love filling up our walls with their accomplishments! Register at the library now for the summer reading program!

### New at the Library...

*Loitering with Intent* by Stuart Woods (an audiobook)

Dumped by his glamorous Russian girlfriend during dinner at Elaine's, and running low on cash, Stone Barrington is having a bad week. So his luck seems to be improving when he's hired to locate the missing son of a very wealthy man—lucky because the job pays well, and because the son is hiding in the tropical paradise of Key West. But when Stone and his sometime running buddy Dino Bacchetti arrive in the sunny Keys, it appears that someone

has been lying in wait. When Stone very nearly loses his life after being blindsided at a local bar, he realizes that the young man he's been hired to track may have good reason for not wanting to be found. Suddenly Key West is looking less like Margaritaville and more like the mean streets of New York...

*The Carhullan Army* by Sarah Hall

An unusual thriller that should appeal to women as much as men, *The Carhullan Army* is set in the future in a Britain that has lost its economic power completely and become a satellite state of the USA. The story takes the form of a report from rebel soldier known as Sister, who repudiates her life prior to becoming a member of the insurgent Carhullan Army, which, as is obvious from the beginning, will not be victorious.

The report begins with life in a northern town for Sister, who is married, but hasn't yet been lucky enough to win a ticket in the baby lottery. This, it becomes clear very quickly, is a dystopia and the eerie and horrible realization as one reads is that it doesn't at all sound impossible.

Things go wrong for Sister, whose marriage is not strong enough to withstand the dispiriting existence it demands of her. So she sets off to find the legendary Carhullan Army - a group of women who refused the compulsory coil insertion and disappeared into the Cumbrian hills to forge an existence outside of state control. So far they have been left alone - not considered dangerous enough to bother with, perhaps. But matters are soon to come to a head. The Carhullan Army leader is the fearsome Jackie Nixon and Sister details the fatal events that are to bring the insurgency to an end.

Closer to an hallucinatory glimpse into the future than hard core science fiction, the book does have its limits as a credible scenario, but nearly 40 years after the inception of feminism (remember that anyone?) it also poses some difficult questions about how anyone's rights, privileges and social autonomy might suffer if things got, even just a little bit, worse. (Eileen Shaw)



## LIBRARY NEWS continued...

### 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:

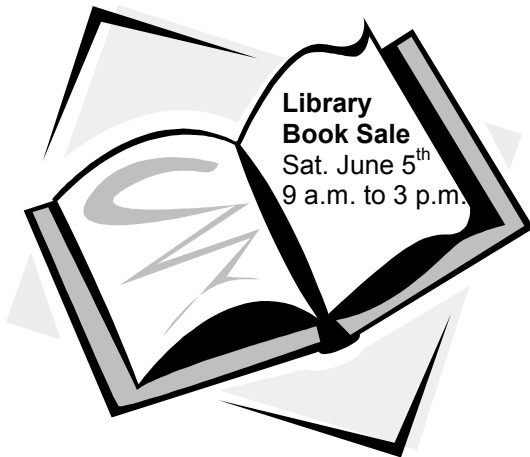
Monday, June 14 at 7 p.m.

### Novel Quilters Meeting:

Wednesday June 16 at 6:30 p.m.

### Mystery Book Group:

Wednesday, June 30 at 7 p.m.



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

**Address:** 205 "I" Street

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

**Website:**

<http://www.freewebs.com/cccomlibrary/index.htm>

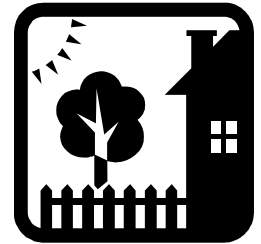
## SPRINKLER START-UPS

As you start up your irrigation system, it is an ideal time to do a little inspection and maintenance. Here are a few items to check:

- ✦ Make sure sprinkler heads aren't choked by grass or obstructed by vegetation, including branches that block spray patterns. If you have a spray system in a mature shrub area, it may be difficult to clear all obstructions. If so, consider converting that area to drip irrigation. It could be easier than you think and may well be a more effective option.
- ✦ Confirm sprinklers are spraying the right distance and direction. Making a few simple adjustments can significantly improve the effectiveness of your irrigation, as well as

preventing water damage to areas not intended to be irrigated.

- ✦ Verify that drip emitters are still functioning properly. If emitters and tubing are difficult to locate, run the system for a while. Then look or feel for wet spots around plants. Uncover buried emitters and/or ends of tubing. They will be easier to find in the future and won't be as likely to become clogged.
- ✦ If plants have grown much since drip emitters were installed, consider increasing the number and/or size of emitters to serve the larger plants. If you currently only have one emitter per plant, adding emitters can also be beneficial by better distributing water around the root zone, along with reducing the chance of a plant dying due to a single clogged emitter.
- ✦ Clean out filters. You may not even be aware that you have a filter, but a properly installed drip system will have a wye filter, and other systems may as well. While regular cleaning of filters is more important if the water source is untreated irrigation water, occasionally cleaning filters is a good idea regardless.
- ✦ Many irrigation controllers have battery backups to keep irrigation programs from being lost during power outages. Regular batteries generally should be changed yearly, while rechargeable batteries may last up to three years.



- ✦ Set an irrigation schedule that is appropriate for the time of year. And encourage deep rooting by not watering too frequently, but using multiple short cycles when you do irrigate.

## TEA ON FRIDAYS AT THE CAPLES HOUSE MUSEUM

Each Friday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. join the Caples House for a pot of tea and sweets. Come alone or bring a friend for a relaxing visit and a lovely setting. Cost is \$5 per person with proceeds going to the museum. Caples House Museum is located at 1925 First Street.



**POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT**  
**April - May 2010**

See below for the department's activity during the most recent reporting period. Please feel free to contact me, or any of your outstanding police officers, with feedback or further questions that you may have.

Stay safe,  
Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

Your police officers answered 425 calls for service during the past reporting period. These activities decreased from 471 calls for service during the previous month. Although many of these calls were self-initiated by officers of this department, we have summarized below both significant community policing and criminal investigations that we have conducted.



**Community Policing Activity:**

- Residential security checks: 171
- Area Patrols: 42
- Foot Patrols: 9
- Assist the Public: 18
- Abandoned 911 Calls: 3
- Radio Calls: 114
- Welfare Checks: 2
- Animal Complaints: 5
- Assist Outside Agencies: 2
- Lost/Found Property: 1
- Noise Complaints: 2
- Traffic Complaints: 2

**Criminal Activity:**

- Hit and Run Investigations: 1
- Suicide Attempts: 1
- Theft Investigations: 2
- Harassment: 2
- Missing Juveniles: 1
- Investigative Follow Up's: 21
- Suspicious Circumstances, People and Vehicles: 9
- Fraud Investigations: 1
- Traffic Complaints: 2
- Traffic Stops: 43
- Juvenile Investigations: 2
- Criminal Mischief: 1

**Calls of Interest:**

1. Suspicious vehicle at Hwy 30 near Jim Bundy Memorial Park on 04/01/2010 – Vehicle checked out OK.
2. Theft reported from the 1700 block of Second Street on 04/02/2010 – Investigation concluded and case unfounded.
3. Juvenile investigation in the 3000 block of Sixth Street on 04/02/2010 – Investigation concluded and case referred to Juvenile Department.
4. Suspicious person at bike path at end of Fourth Street on 04/04/2010 – Person checked out OK.
5. Harassment reported in the 400 block of "B" Street on 04/08/2010 – Investigation concluded and suspect charged.
6. Suspicious person at "D" Street near Fifth Street on 04/11/2010 – Person checked out OK.
7. Suspicious circumstance at Hwy. 30 near Pacific Street on 04/11/2010 – Person checked out OK.
8. Suspicious circumstances at Hwy. 30 near I Street on 04/11/2010 – Person checked out OK.
9. Suspicious person at Sixth Street near "A" Street on 04/14/2010 – Person checked out OK.
10. Harassment reported in the 3000 block of Fifth Street on 04/15/2010 – Investigation concluded and case referred to District Attorney's Office.
11. Suspicious vehicle at Hwy. 30 near Pacific Street on 04/20/2010 – Vehicle checked out OK.
12. Theft reported from the 800 block of "K" Street on 04/23/2010 – Investigation concluded with leads exhausted.
13. Suspicious person at "L" Street near Fourth Street on 04/24/2010 – Person checked out OK.
14. Suspicious person at Second Street near "L" Street on 04/28/2010 – Person checked out OK.
15. Suspicious vehicle at Sixth Street near "B" Street on 04/29/2010 – Vehicle checked out OK.



## BACKYARD SAFETY

As summer approaches, homeowners need to take the time to check their outdoor areas for potential safety hazards. While most people know that pools are a safety hazard for kids, there are lot more things to watch out for in your back yard, like barbecues and grills, lawn equipment and toys. Zero to low cost simple steps can help to keep your family and friends safe in the future:



- Practice constant, adult supervision around any body of water, including pools and spas.
- If you're considering a swimming pool purchase, contact your local Building Department first to determine exactly what permits are needed and what requirements you must follow.
- In-ground and above-ground pools, including inflatable pools holding more than 24 inches of water, must be surrounded by a fence or other barrier at least four feet high. Any gates in the fence must be self-closing and self-latching.
- Designate the grilling area a "No Play Zone" and keep kids and pets well away until grill equipment is completely cool.
- Check propane cylinder hoses for leaks before use. (Source: USFA)
- Do not move hot grills.
- Never add charcoal starter fluid when coals or kindling have already been ignited, and never use any flammable or combustible liquid other than charcoal starter fluid to get the fire going. (Source: USFA)



- Dispose of charcoal properly, keeping ash containers outside and away from combustible construction.
- Place the grill away from siding, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.
- Don't leave toys, tools and equipment in the yard.
- Reserve a spot on a wall or fence near the pool for lifesaving devices.
- Keep steps, sidewalks and patios in good repair.
- A common safety hazard occurs when porches are nailed to buildings rather than being attached with the proper anchors or bolts. Nails are a poor method for attaching porches to buildings because they work their way loose over time.
- Check all swings, slides, playhouses and other structures for sharp objects, rusty metal pieces, breaks or weakened support pieces.
- Learn cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

## SIXTH AND "E" STREET PAVING PROJECT

Recent inclement weather caused further delay of the paving restoration project on Sixth and "E" Streets. Water trench patching and sinkhole repair work is scheduled to begin (weather permitting) mid-June, and paving should take place towards the end of June. This project is funded entirely by grant funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the 2010 Special City Allotment Program. Residents can expect intermittent lane closures or detours during the project.



## MONTHLY MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR - JUNE 2010

June 3 <sup>rd</sup>	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
June 4 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Riverside Cleanup at Pixie and Datis Parks
June 5 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Library Book Sale at Community Hall
June 7 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Municipal Court at City Hall
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall
June 12 <sup>th</sup>	10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	Bundy Park Clean-Up
June 14 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Friends of the Library Meeting at the Library
June 15 <sup>th</sup>	5:00 p.m.	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
June 17 <sup>th</sup>	6:00 p.m.	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
June 23 <sup>rd</sup>	4:00 p.m.	Hazard Mitigation Meeting at City Hall
June 24 <sup>th</sup>	7:00 p.m.	Town Hall Meeting at he Community Hall