

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2010



COLUMBIA CITY
1840 SECOND STREET
PO BOX 189
COLUMBIA CITY, OR 97018
PHONE: (503) 397-4010
FAX: (503) 366-2870
colcity@columbia-city.org
www.columbia-city.org

ARE YOU READY FOR DISASTERS? EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PRESENTATIONS ACROSS THE COUNTY

Join your Columbia County Emergency Management staff for an hour packed with useful information on how to get ready for winter and how to prepare for disasters in general.

This interactive presentation will feature Columbia County emergency management staff discussing what the most common disasters are in Columbia County, how to build your own personal disaster kit, and how to make sure you, your family and pets are ready for the next big one. There will be a prize drawing for participants at each presentation.



Please join us at Columbia City's presentation:

Date: Monday, October 18, 2010

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Location: Columbia City Community Hall
1850 Second Street

Visit the Columbia County Emergency Management blog at <http://columbiacountyeem.blogspot.com> for more information.

✂ THANK YOU ✂

- ✂ We'd like to extend a special thank you to Marian Calnon, Gloria Chinell, Gladys Riahi, Phyllis Rowley, Lynn Vellenga and Vonnie Walker for helping with the utility billing and newsletters in August.
- ✂ Joyce Nelsen for donating hundreds of daffodil bulbs to Bundy Park.



TRICK OR TREAT BAGS



On behalf of the Columbia City Police Department, free Trick or Treat bags are now available at City Hall!

OREGON HOMEOWNERSHIP STABILIZATION INITIATIVE (OHSI)

The US Department of Treasury has approved plans submitted by Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) for Oregon to receive \$138 million dollars in funds to assist families hardest hit by unemployment and the threat of foreclosure on their homes. OHCS will be implementing the program by year-end. It is important for people in the counties of Tillamook, Clatsop and Columbia not to wait to seek assistance if you are struggling making your mortgage payments or think you might be in this situation soon. The process involved in foreclosure prevention can be lengthy. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has a website (www.hud.gov) where you can locate a HUD approved housing counseling agency near you for assistance. The services offered are free of charge. Community Action Team, Inc. is a HUD approved counseling agency proudly serving Tillamook, Clatsop & Columbia Counties. They have assisted approximately 200 households in the last 18 months with foreclosure prevention. Community Action Team plans to hold community meetings once the final OHSI plan is released by OHCS. But please do not wait if you feel you are in need of assistance – they are here to help. (503) 325-9215, ext. 2303 or cindkp@cat-team.org.

BURN PERMITS ARE REQUIRED FOR OPEN BURNING PERIOD FOR YARD DEBRIS

Beginning **Saturday, November 6, through Sunday, November 21**, yard debris may be burned outdoors within Columbia City. However, **burn permits are required prior to burning!** Permits may be obtained at City Hall or at any Fire Station within the Columbia River Fire & Rescue District. Please remember you will also need to call the "Burn Line" at (503) 397-4800 each day to see if it is a burn day.



Have questions? Please call Bill Goodwin, Fire Marshall, at (503) 397-2990 Ext. 17. Watch for additional information in next month's newsletter.

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

I wish to publicly thank our City Council, staff, volunteers, and citizens for helping make the Columbia City Celebration a success again this year. We started out a few years ago with several events and refined it as we went along. This year we cut out the oral auction primarily because of economic conditions currently and only had a small silent auction and a bingo game. We did have our library book sale, T-shirts, and raffles and we had our Strawberry Pancake Breakfast, which has turned out to be a great way to meet and greet the community at large and thank our volunteers for their hours of love and labor throughout the year. The food was good ... the service from our staff and volunteers even better.

I would also like to encourage everyone to get involved, be informed, and vote this election year. Ballots will be mailed out soon and must be returned by Election Day, Tuesday, November 2. Candidates and issues, pros and cons, and everything in between



are as critical this year as any year, but economic conditions, unemployment, and the deterioration of hard fought and hard won principles and policies throughout the history of the United States have caused heartache for so many

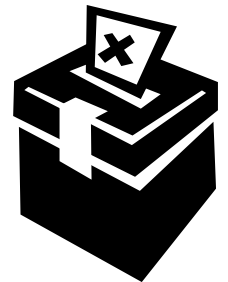
lately. Sometimes individuals vote with their heads and more often with their hearts. I suggest we need to do both. However, I am not asking you to vote one way or another on any issue or candidate.

For instance, Columbia City has a measure on the ballot this November asking for a three year levy to basically do three things: (1) fund the Police Department at pre-cut back level (we recently had to downsize - we are not asking for additional hours); (2) street preservation (not big projects, but basic patching, resurfacing, and maintenance); and (3) perform mandated (by the State of Oregon) and unfunded storm water improvements in our City. More often than not, the State and Federal governments make rules that adversely impact cities financially and we must comply with the new rules whether we like it or not and whether we have ever budgeted for them or not. They follow these new unfunded mandates with threats of fines if we do not comply within certain guidelines and dates and sometimes the fines can amount to more than the cost of immediate compliance. We are faced with the age-old predicament of noncompliance because there is just no way we can come up with the money. This

is true especially now with so many people out of work or trying to cut back and prepare for the future.

The timing is not good to ask our citizens for more in taxes. The entire City Council realizes this; however, we would be negligent in our administration and leadership if we did not try at all and give you, the citizens, the right and privilege of choosing for yourselves which way you want us to go. We have a duty to present and inform and you have the right to listen and make up your own minds. We have offered town hall meetings to explain why we are presenting this measure to you. Our staff has prepared insightful and clear information related to our financial status. They do an excellent job. Our City Administrator took a voluntary pay cut and others have not received cost of living increases, and some have forfeited hours and wages. Sacrifices have been made. Your City Council, Planning Commission, and other volunteers are just that ... they receive no pay for their service (salary or stipend).

Thus, although the timing is not good, I believe we are doing the right thing by putting this measure on the ballot. I am not asking you to vote one way or the other. I am just encouraging you to vote. We will work with whatever our citizens decide. Believe me, I don't want my taxes to increase either ... I don't think any of us sits around and says, "Oh, can government come up with something else for me to pay?" I know the importance of what cities have been asked to do to provide better service to our citizens and provide for the future of our cities. I object as much as anyone else when we are commanded to do something we can't afford at the time. I wish the cost of living wouldn't keep going up and I don't care what some are trying to tell us ... the cost of living is, and has been, going up whether our incomes have or not. As I stated before, we need to explain why we need these improvements and what may, or may not, happen if we don't do them. We need your help and support no matter how you vote.



Cheryl A. Young, Mayor

WATER CONSERVATION TIP

Use the garbage disposal sparingly.
Compost vegetable food waste instead and
save gallons every time.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

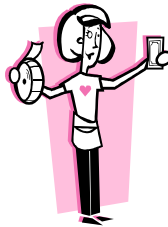
Small, non-farm businesses in **Washington** County and the neighboring counties of **Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia, Multnomah, Tillamook** and **Yamhill** are now eligible to apply for low-interest disaster loans from the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA). These loans offset economic losses because of reduced revenues caused by freezing temperatures that occurred in Washington County from December 1, 2009 through December 13, 2009. For more information or application forms, contact SBA's Customer Service Center by calling (800) 659-2955.

The deadline to apply for these loans is **April 4, 2011**.

For more information, visit SBA's Web site at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance or call the SBA Answer Desk 1-800-U-ASK-SBA (1-800-827-5722), send e-mails to: answerdesk@sba.gov or write to SBA Operations Center – West, P.O. Box 419004, Sacramento, CA 95841

RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS!!

1st place – Mike Emmert
2nd place – John Helm
3rd place – Elsie Jones
4th place – Mike Emmert
Quilt winner – Bea Stansberry



Congratulations!!

LIBRARY NEWS

One comment we frequently hear is how welcoming our library is. Everyone you see behind the desk is there because they want to be. All of our staff volunteer their time – some every week, and some once or twice a month. Another comment is how fresh and nice our books are. That's a consequence of being a relatively new library – our ten-year anniversary was this summer – and of having limited shelf space. To fit in new books, old ones must be removed (thus helping stock our book sales!) If you have not started using the library, you are missing out on a good deal!



Thank you to everyone who participated in the Columbia City Celebration. We made \$632 from the sale of used books – that's a lot of books! Thanks for all your donations. Book sale money goes to Friends of the Library, as do your Friends of the Library dues.

A \$25 donation can buy a new book from the Best Sellers list, 8 books from Paperback Swap, or the materials we need to prepare 51 hardcover or 471 soft cover books to be circulated.



If you get a water bill from Columbia City, you see the Library News column, and will see a request to join Friends of the Library in the newsletter. The library will be handing out bookmarks this month to everyone who checks out a book, giving them an opportunity to support us by joining Friends of the Library. In fact, about one third of our patrons live outside of Columbia City. For those of you who have friends who do not live in Columbia City, let them know that the library is free even if they do not live in Columbia City.

The library is an asset to our community, and we need to continue supporting it. We are very frugal in our use of your money and your donated books. The library gives you the opportunity to exercise your personal responsibility, to learn and to help others. Our library is a great resource, let's get the maximum use out of it!

We are adding another reading group. Adults Reading Kids books (ARK) will begin meeting on the second Wednesday of each month. A selection of two or three Young Adult books will be discussed at each of the meetings. Teens are welcome too!

Story Time:

Every Monday, 11 AM

Friends of the Library:

Monday, October 11, 7 PM

Adults Reading Kids Books (ARC)

Wednesday, October 13, 7 PM

Novel Quilters

Wednesday, October 20, 6:30 PM

Mystery Book Group:

Wednesday, October 27, 7 PM

Staffed Library Hours:

Monday, 10 AM – 2 PM

Wednesday, 4 PM – 8 PM

Thursday, 2 PM – 6 PM

Saturday, 10 AM – 2 PM

Columbia City Community Library

205 "I" Street, PO Box 189

Columbia City OR 97018

(503) 366-8020

cclibrary@opusnet.com

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

CHIEF'S CORNER

Be on the lookout!!! We have seen an increase over the past month with thefts from motor vehicles that have been left unlocked. While the amount of financial loss has been minimal the cost in peace of mind has been significant. Don't give criminals the chance to make you a crime victim!!! Help us by remembering to lock your vehicles when they are unattended and by closing your garage doors. Keep looking out for each other and report any suspicious activity that you may see or hear.

We have also noticed an increase in attempted frauds here in our City. These are being attempted through the mail, e-mail, and by telephone call. The recent pattern has been with unknown persons contacting a citizen offering a "processing fee" for cashing large checks that a person has "won"... Remember, if it appears too good to be true then it probably is...

2010 "Shop with a Cop Program:" The Police Department has been continuing fund raising efforts this year for our annual "Shop with a Cop" program. We are requesting assistance from you in helping us identify a needy family, preferably with children, who could use assistance during the Holiday Season. Our priority will continue to be providing warm winter clothing, winter necessities, and as many "wish list" items as we possibly can. Please see the enclosed nomination form if you wish to nominate a Columbia City family. The nomination form may be placed in the drop box, which is located at the front desk area of City Hall. As always, anyone who is interested in donating to the program may also do so at the front desk at City Hall. A receipt will be provided to anyone that wishes to donate.

Word of thanks: Special recognition goes, once again, to our Reserve Police Officers this month. These officers have to go through a stringent screening process prior to appointment with our agency. Additionally, they have to successfully complete a Reserve Academy as well as our Field Training Program before they can work solo patrol. The amount of dedication these officers bring to our community is noteworthy. Reserve Officers Alex Bubar and Chris Cowen have contributed over 120 hours of volunteer service to our community within the past month! Keep up the great work!! Four additional Reserve Officer Candidates will be competing shortly in order to join our ranks.

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 with any information that you feel would help us in keeping our community safe. We can be reached via 911, 503-397-4010 (Office), or (Non-emergency) Columbia 911 at 503-397-1521.

Thanks, ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

Political signs: Political signs may be displayed no sooner than 45 days prior to an election, and must be removed within 15 days of election. For the November 2nd General Election, signs may be displayed until November 17th.

Yard ad signs: Temporary signs advertising ongoing painting or construction work must be removed within 15 days after the work is completed.

COLUMBIA CITY T-SHIRTS

The new Columbia City T-shirts are still available if you missed getting yours at the Celebration. They are short sleeve, adult size only, light gray in color. The logo is printed in color, centered on the front of the shirt.

Adult sizes:

Small through X-Large: \$13
2X: \$14, 3X: \$15, 4X: \$16



CAPLES HOUSE MUSEUM COMPLEX OCTOBER ACTIVITIES

Friday Teas

Every Friday, 2 to 4 PM, \$5/per person

Barbie turns 50

Friday, October 8, 10 AM, \$7.50/per person

Harvest Festival

Saturday, October 16, Noon to 5 PM, free event

The Museum is located at 1915 First Street in Columbia City. For more information go to their website: www.capleshouse.com or call 503-397-5390.

**POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT
August – September 2010**

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

Stay safe, ~ Chief Michael S. McGlothlin



Your police officers answered 401 calls for service during the past reporting period. These activities increased from 328 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: 18
- Area Patrols: 51
- Foot Patrols: 3
- Assist the Public: 18
- Welfare Checks: 1
- Radio Calls: 238
- Animal Complaints: 6
- Civil Situations: 2
- Nuisance Complaints: 6
- Traffic Complaints: 1
- Assistance Outside Agencies: 6
- Disabled Vehicles: 2
- Road Hazards: 2
- Lost/Found Property: 4
- Noise Complaints: 2

Criminal Activity:

- Burglary Investigations: 1
- Criminal Mischief Investigations: 1
- Domestic Disturbances: 3
- Theft Investigations: 3
- Traffic Crash Investigations: 1
- Investigative Follow Up's: 13
- Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles and Prowler Calls: 5
- Traffic Stops: 56
- Juvenile Investigations: 3
- Disturbance Calls (other than Domestic): 3
- Fraud Investigations: 1
- Trespass Calls: 1
- DUI Arrests: 1
- Probation Violations Arrests: 1

Calls of Interest:

1. Theft investigation at 1900 block of 6th Street on 08/02/2010 – Investigation complete with Leads Exhausted.
2. Disturbance call in the 1900 block of 2nd Street on 08/03/2010 – Peace restored with no arrests required.
3. Criminal Mischief Investigation in the 300 block of Metlako Way on 08/05/2010 – Investigation complete and criminal case Unfounded.
4. DUII arrest on Hwy 30 near Pacific Street on 08/10/2010 – Driver arrested and criminally charged-awaiting trial.
5. Theft investigation in the 3300 block of 6th Street on 08/10/2010 – Investigation complete with Leads Exhausted.
6. Disturbance call in the 2400 block of 5th Street on 08/11/2010 – Peace restored with no arrests required.
7. Suspicious person Hwy 30 near Pacific Street on 08/14/2010 – Person checked out OK.
8. Burglary investigation in the 400 block of A Street on 08/19/2010 – Investigation complete and suspect identified-forwarded to District Attorney's Office for prosecution.
9. Suspicious circumstances in the 200 block of H Street on 08/19/2010 – Circumstances and persons involved checked out OK.
10. Suspicious vehicle on Hwy 30 near Pacific Street on 08/19/2010 – Vehicle and operator checked out OK.
11. Theft investigation in the 1800 block of 2nd Street on 08/20/2010 – Investigation concluded with suspect identified-case forwarded to District Attorney's Office for prosecution.
12. Fraud investigation in the 2300 block of 7th Street on 08/20/2010 – Criminal investigation Unfounded with Civil Compromise reached. Victim refunded monies.
13. Suspicious vehicle in the 300 block of A Street on 08/25/2010 – Vehicle checked OK but driver was found to have active warrants for violation of probation-driver arrested and criminal charges pending.
14. Suspicious circumstances in the 2000 block of 8th Court on 08/27/2010 – Circumstances and persons involved checked out OK.



2010 "Shop with a Cop" Nomination Form

Dear Citizen,

It is time once again for the Columbia City Police Department's "Shop with a Cop" Program. This is our second year hosting this worthwhile endeavor within our city and we need your help! For those that are interested, we need assistance in selecting a needy family within our community. Our goal is to provide warm clothing, winter necessities, and Christmas wish list items for the nominated family. Please take the time by filling out the information below if you wish to nominate someone who you know could use some assistance during the holiday season.

Thank you,

Michael S. McGlothlin
Chief of Police

Name of Family: _____

Family Address: _____

Family Bio (Please answer all that apply): ___ Father ___ Mother ___ Number of children

Reason for your nomination: _____

Return completed nomination forms to: Columbia City Hall, PO Box 189, 1840 Second Street, Columbia City, OR 97018



Friends of the Columbia City Community Library Membership Application

_____ I am renewing my membership _____ I am a new Friend of the Library

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail (only if you want to receive our meeting minutes): _____

Special Interests: _____

Please make checks payable to:
Friends of the Library
Return to: The Library or City Hall
PO Box 189, Columbia City, OR 97018

Annual Dues: \$25.00

Additional Donation Amount: _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$500