



**Summer 2015
Volume 1, Issue 8**

“The impersonal hand of government can never replace the helping hand of a neighbor.”

**- Vice President
Hubert H. Humphrey -**

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Columbia City

CityScene



Hello Neighbor...

By: Mayor Ryan Daniel

Fred Rogers, known from Mr. Rogers Neighborhood, would always start the show by singing “It’s a beautiful day in the neighborhood”. As a child, he always seemed more like a grandfatherly figure than a neighbor-like figure. Now as an adult, I think it would be pretty great to live next to a guy like that. He’s happy, he sings, always sports nice suits, etc.

Amanda and I have lived in a lot of places in our seven years of marriage. Even though we have finally “settled down” in our current home, I look back at the neighbors we’ve had and I’m thankful. It can be a wonderful situation when you move into a home and find your neighbors to be wonderful people. I think of my friends Ross and Becky who decided to blend the Halloween and Christmas season together on some pumpkins we left out a bit too long. On the other hand, it can be miserable to live next to someone whom you dislike. Whether you think they talk too loud, don’t like the way they keep their yard, or think they’re too uptight, your demeanor can be impacted by your neighbor.

Within the City Limits, each person’s property tends to be very close to their neighbor’s home. Lot sizes are smaller in the city, while lot sizes are typically bigger in the County. Because of the close proximity to our neighbors, it is easy to disrupt each other’s livelihood. As a City government, we institute rules and regulations as a guideline to keeping the peace. This is why there are rules about high weeds and grass, junk vehicles, noise, and many other issues. These rules are in place to try and maintain peace among neighbors. Yet, we need you to help us in this quest. Being considerate of your neighbors in the way you interact, keep up your property, and what kind of events you hold can determine how much peace exists in your neighborhood. Will there be disagreements? Certainly, yet by working with our neighbors to solve disagreements, both you and your neighbor can hopefully find common ground and be able to live in harmony. You don’t have to “love your neighbor”, but at least try to get along with them. You never know how nice of people they may be...





Drinking Water Safety

By: Mike Shoda, Water Superintendent

Columbia City's "raw water" is drawn from wells that are located in one well field near our treatment facility, at 920 E Van Buren St. Water that comes from these wells is filtered, and chlorinated for disinfection. The water that our customers receive in their home is tested before it leaves the plant to ensure it is safe for consumption.

Our water department is working with the community to increase awareness of better waste disposal practices to further protect these well sources of our drinking water.

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Community Spotlight on:

Bob Cornmesser

By Martha Acres, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor

After serving in World War II and the Korean War, Bob Cornmesser and his family came to us from Waterloo, Iowa in 1968, to work at the Weatherhead Company as a manufacturing engineer. There, Bob feels he had the opportunity to work with many of Columbia City's outstanding residents.

Bob belonged to the Columbia City Kiwanis Club for over 20 years, who was responsible for contributing many projects to the community, such as Kids Dreamland, Community Thanksgiving dinners, college scholarships and memorials to name just a few.

Over the years, Bob has seen Columbia City meet the various up and down cycles with a positive attitude that put the welfare of the residents of Columbia City first. One of the great things that he likes about Columbia City is the "big small town atmosphere". He feels our businesses provide everything we need in our everyday life and we can trust our neighbors.

Bob will tell you there have been many beneficial people in his life, but the one who has had the most influence is his wife of 61 years, Mary.

Bob's favorite quotation: "DON'T GET YOUR KNICKERS IN A KNOT: IT SOLVES NOTHING AND IT JUST MAKES YOU WALK FUNNY"

Community Events

6/6/15 – 6/7/15

Relay for Life

Indian Springs Middle School

6/20/15

Big G's 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament



Courthouse Square

Lemon Brothers Concert at 7pm

6/21/15

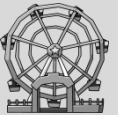
Happy Father's Day

6/23/15 – 6/27/15

Old Settlers Day Festival

Downtown Columbia City

Parade – June 27th at 5:00pm



7/3/15

Independence Day Celebration

Morsches Park

5:00pm – Start Time

10:00ish – Fireworks



7/3/15

City Hall Closed

7/17/15 – 7/23/15

Whitley County 4H Fair

4H Fairgrounds



8/1/15

Junior Achievement Car & Truck Show

Downtown Columbia City

8:00am – 2:00pm

8/7/15 – 8/9/15

Mihsihkinaahkwa Pow Wow

Morsches Park

Tip: Don't Miss an Event by cutting out the Events Schedule and posting on your Fridge.

Street Lights Flickering? CCED can help!

By: Shawn Lickey, Electric Superintendent



If you notice a street light that is out or flickering (also known as cycling), please call our office to report it. We occasionally scan the City at night in search of cycling or failed light fixtures, but they may be on when we drive by, so we may not be aware the light needs maintenance. Contact the Columbia City Utilities office at 248-5110 and report any malfunctioning lights.

Also contact Columbia City Electric Department if you notice the lights in your home flickering. CCED will try to determine where the issue is stemming from by testing the voltage, power coming in, and the connections. Please be aware that the issue might be your responsibility and may require you to hire an electrician. For more information and for more city news go to www.columbiacity.net or follow us on Facebook.

Water Safety – Continued from Pg. 2.



We are also working with other agencies, and local watershed groups to help educate the community on ways to keep our water safe. If you have any questions about our community's water, please contact Superintendent Mike Shoda at (260) 248-5118, or join us at our Board of Works meetings, that are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, in the City Hall Council Chambers at 5:15 PM. We encourage you to participate and value your feedback.

Meetings to Remember

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7:00pm
City Hall – Council Chambers
*City Council Meetings**

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 5:15pm
City Hall – Council Chambers
*Board of Works and Safety**

2nd Tuesday of Each Month, 9am
City Hall – Council Chambers
*CC Redevelopment Commission**

3rd Monday of Each Month, 6pm
City Hall – Council Chambers
*Columbia City Park Board**

3rd Tuesday of Each Month, 5:30pm
City Hall – Conference Room
*Columbia City Tree Board**

3rd Tuesday of Each Month, 5:00pm
City Hall – Council Chambers
*Columbia City Housing Authority**

**Proper notice will be given for any changes to meeting dates and times*



2015 Limb Pick-Up Program Guidelines

By Kelly Cearbaugh, Street Superintendent



The Columbia City Limb Pick-up Program has been initiated as a means to dispose of limbs and branches from storm-related events and small pruning projects. Dates for this year's program are the **WEEKS OF: APRIL 6th, MAY 4th, JUNE 1st, JULY 6th, AUGUST 3rd, SEPTEMBER 7th, and OCTOBER 5th**. Limbs need to be out in the front of your property along the curb (not in the street) ready for pickup at 7:00am on the Monday of the above-mentioned weeks. If they are not out by this time, you may be missed as this program only makes one pass per month. The City reserves the right to refuse pick-up for properties it considers not fitting within the guidelines of the program.

Acceptable: Limbs and Branches up to 4" in diameter, Bushes without roots attached

Not Accepted: Piles exceeding the size of a pickup truck, Brush from fence row clearing, Whole trees, logs or limbs cut by a private contractor, Branches left from private contractor, Bushes with roots still attached, Yard debris (grass, leaves, etc.)

Questions regarding the Limb Pick-Up Program?

Contact Kelly Cearbaugh at (260)-248-5131.



Summer Safety Tips

By: Police Chief Tim Longenbaugh



With the coming of warmer weather lots of people are outside trying to stay healthy and active. The Columbia City police department would like to offer the following safety tips to citizens walking, running or riding bicycles in the corporate limits. Enjoy your summer while staying safe!

Before you leave:

- Plan your outing. Tell a friend or family member where you are going and when you plan to return.
- Carry a cell phone with you.
- Carry an identification card with you.
- Don't wear jewelry or carry cash.
- Wear reflective material so motorists can easily see you.



On the Road:

- Stay alert at all times
- Don't wear headsets. Listen to your surroundings.
- Vary your route. That way, a potential attacker won't know your routine.
- Avoid unpopulated areas, especially at night.
- Be careful if anyone asks you for directions-if you answer, keep at least a full arm's length from the car.
- Run and walk against traffic so you can observe approaching automobiles.
- Runners and walkers must use the sidewalk if available per state law.
- Bicyclists must follow the same rules of the road as motor vehicles. This means stopping at stop signs and stoplights.
- Bicycles operated ½ hour after sunset until ½ hour before sunrise must be equipped with a white light on the front visible from 500 feet and a red lamp on the rear visible from 500 feet.

By following these simple tips, we can all ensure a safe and healthy summer!

What is Community Development?

By Jeff Walker,
Community Development Director



Community development is a broad term given to the practices of civic activists, involved citizens and professionals to build stronger and more resilient local communities. Community development seeks to empower individuals and groups of people by providing them with the skills they need to effect change in their own communities.

One such group is the Columbia City Main Street Association (CCMSA), recognized under the Indiana Office of Community & Rural Affairs. The mission of this organization is to encourage economic development, redevelopment and improvement of the downtown area. Due to its official affiliation under Indiana Main Street, the local group is also eligible for state grants to enhance the downtown area.

There are great things happening in downtown Columbia City. This couldn't occur without the ongoing commitment of downtown businesses, professional services, government and the public who support them. The CCMSA has many events scheduled this year and we are inviting you to come enjoy them. Just a few are: 3 on 3 basketball tournament, summer music concert series and the art festival. Watch for details on these and other Columbia City Main Street happenings at their FaceBook page.

Also, check out the latest news at:
<http://whitleyedc.com/communities/downtown-revitalization/columbia-city-main-street-association-2/>.