

COLUMBIA CITY NEWSLETTER

November 2013



COLUMBIA CITY
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OPEN BURNING PERIOD FOR YARD DEBRIS NOVEMBER 2ND TO NOVEMBER 17TH BURN PERMIT REQUIRED

Yard debris may be burned outdoors beginning **Saturday, November 2nd, and ending Sunday, November 17th**. Burning is restricted to yard debris only, and burn barrels are prohibited. Yard debris is lawn clippings, leaves, brush, trimmings/prunings, sawdust and wood scraps. It is **not** dirt/gravel, paper/plastic, metal, rocks/bricks, sod, or food waste.

Burn permits are required prior to burning!



Permits may be obtained at City Hall, at any Fire Station within the Columbia River Fire & Rescue District, or on their website: www.CRFR.com. 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.

You must follow these basic rules for proper open burning:

- ❖ You must have a garden hose, or a shovel and a 5-gallon bucket of water at all times, and the fire must NOT be left unattended at any time until out.
- ❖ Yard and garden trimmings must be cut and piled no larger than 6 feet wide by 4 feet high.
- ❖ The ground must be cleared not less than 10 feet around the burning area. There must be a separation of 50 feet between the burn pile and any structure, trees, vehicle or property line if the burn pile is greater than 3 feet in diameter; and a 25-foot separation if the burn pile is less than 3 feet in diameter.
- ❖ The smoke from the fire must not adversely affect neighbors.
- ❖ It must be daylight hours during a designated burn day.

WATER CONSERVATION TIP

When you are washing your hands, don't let the water run while you lather.

ONE VERY GOOD REASON TO KNOW HOW AND WHEN TO SHELTER IN PLACE

Anhydrous Ammonia. Anhydrous ammonia is produced by a chemical plant located less than one mile to the north of Columbia City and is transported through Columbia City by train. It is trucked through Columbia City on Highway 30, and shipped through Columbia City along the Columbia River.



If an accidental release or an incident involving anhydrous ammonia occurs in or near Columbia City, you and your family members may need to shelter in place.

Ammonia is an irritant and corrosive to the skin, eyes, respiratory tract and mucous membranes. Exposure to liquid or rapidly expanding gases may cause severe chemical burns and frostbite to the eyes, lungs and skin. Skin and respiratory related diseases could be aggravated by exposure.

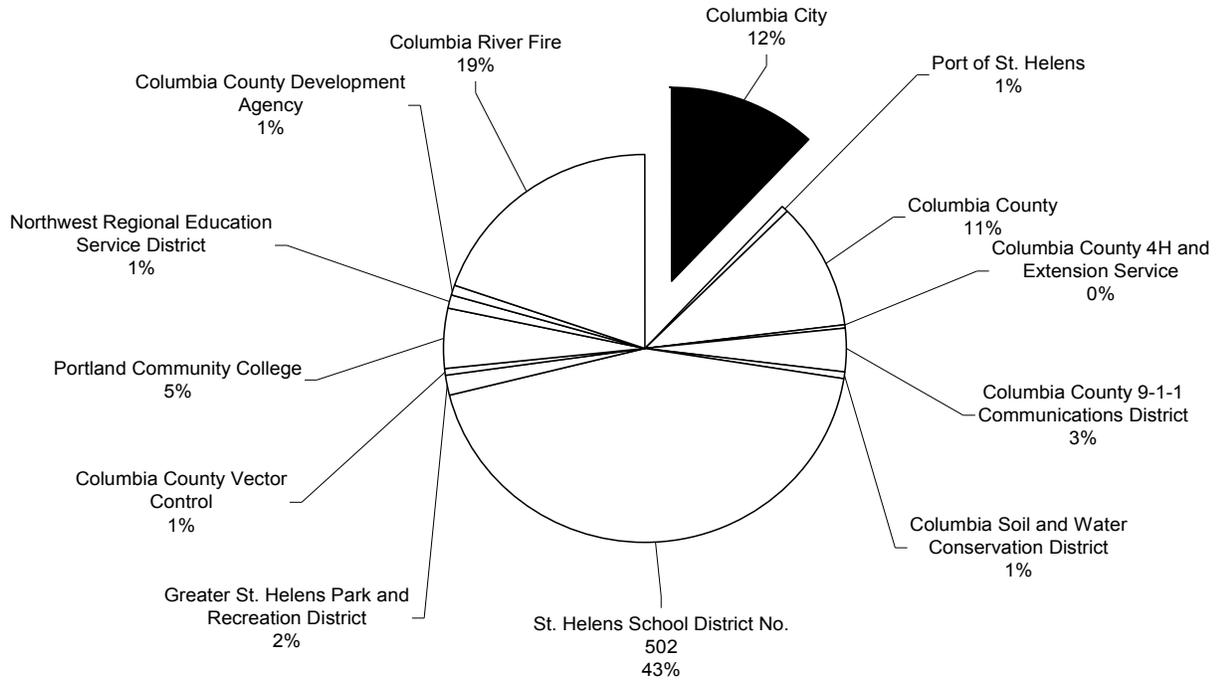
According to the Oregon Health Authority, Columbia County had the highest number of qualifying ammonia releases between January 2005 and November 2012 of any county in Oregon. If you notice a strong smell of ammonia, seek shelter and report the problem by calling 9-1-1.

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Don't forget - on November 3rd (the 1st Sunday in November) clocks are set back one hour at 2:00 am local daylight time, which becomes 1:00 am local standard time.



Columbia City's share of your 2013-14 Property Tax Bill



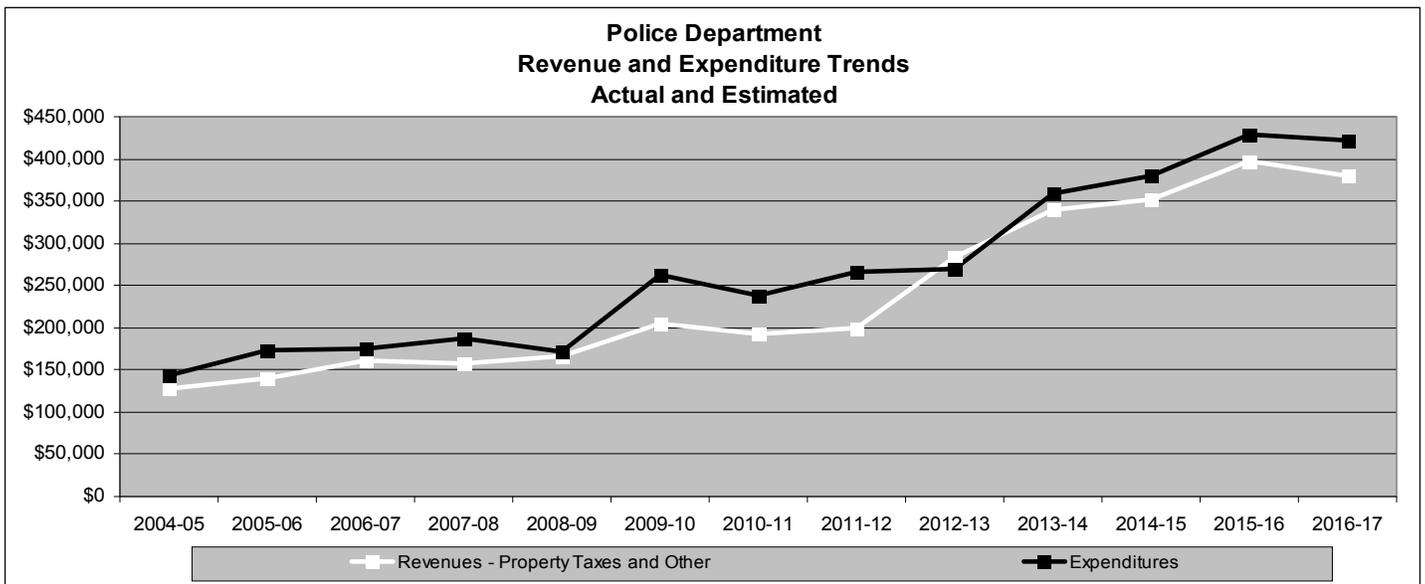
COLUMBIA CITY PROPERTY TAXES SUPPORT POLICE SERVICES

Property taxes are one of Columbia City's largest revenue sources, equal to 43% of the anticipated General Fund revenues this year. Columbia City uses the property tax revenue it collects to provide police protection services to the community.

This year 11% of the amount you pay to the Columbia County Assessor for property taxes is representative of the taxes Columbia City levies. Columbia City

levies two separate taxes - a permanent tax levy of \$1.1346 per \$1000 assessed value, and a local option levy in the amount of \$0.67 per \$1000. The City of Columbia City tax listed on your 2013-14 tax statement from the County Assessor equates to the combination of these two tax levies with a total combined rate of \$1.8046 per thousand.

89% of the amount you pay to the Columbia County Assessor supports other governmental agencies, such as the School District, Fire District, and Columbia County.



REMEMBER TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 5TH!

Every vote counts! Return your ballot to the Columbia County Courthouse no later than 8 pm on Tuesday, November 6th!



BETTER BURNING TIPS FOR CLEANER AIR



During colder months in Oregon, smoke from fireplaces and woodstoves is one of the largest threats to healthy air. Wood smoke is basically fuel from your firewood that does not burn and becomes air pollution.

If you heat your home with wood you can take steps to burn cleaner (good for your health)

and more efficiently (good for your pocketbook):

- Use only dry, seasoned wood. Dry wood for at least 6 months.
- Burn only wood. Do not burn garbage, plastics, rubber, paint or oil, briquettes, paper, etc. – burning these items releases harmful chemicals into the air.
- Build small, hot fires instead of large, smoldering ones.
- Don't "bed the fire down" for the night. Holding a fire overnight is a fire hazard and can create serious indoor and outdoor air pollution problems.

COLUMBIA COUNTY SAFE KIDS CAR SEAT EVENT

Columbia County Safe Kids will be holding a child safety seat checkup event on Thursday, November 14th, 2013, at the St. Helens Fire Station, 105 S. 12th Street, St., Helens, from 4 to 6 pm. The clinic provides an opportunity to have a child safety seat checked by a certified technician who is trained to correct misuse, help with installation, teach you how to correctly install the seat, and check for seat recalls. The clinic services are free to the public.

Child safety seats are also available to low-income families at a reduced cost while supplies last. Questions: Call (503) 397-7211 or ACTS Oregon Child Safety Resource Center 1 (877) 793-2608.

BEST EXERCISE PROGRAM

Physical exercise is good for you. I know that I should do it daily, but my body doesn't want me to do too much, so I have worked out this program of strenuous activities that do not require physical exercise. You are invited to use my program without charge.



- ✓ Beating around the bush
- ✓ Jumping to conclusions
- ✓ Climbing the walls
- ✓ Passing the buck
- ✓ Throwing my weight around
- ✓ Dragging my heels
- ✓ Pushing my luck
- ✓ Hitting the nail on the head
- ✓ Wading through paperwork
- ✓ Bending over backwards
- ✓ Jumping on the bandwagon
- ✓ Balancing the books
- ✓ Running around in circles
- ✓ Climbing the ladder of success
- ✓ Pulling out the stops
- ✓ Opening a can of worms
- ✓ Putting my foot in my mouth
- ✓ Starting the ball rolling
- ✓ Going over the edge
- ✓ Picking up the pieces

Whew! What a workout! I think I'll exercise my caution now, and sit down.

PLANNING TO GET AWAY?

This time of year many residents escape to warmer locations or make plans to visit family and friends out of town. The Columbia City Police Department would like to remind you that, at your request, they will periodically check your home while you are away. To request this service, please register with the Columbia City Police Department before you leave. Forms are available at City Hall and on line at www.columbia-city.org.



CHRISTMAS SHIPS

The Christmas Ships will visit Columbia City on Saturday, December 7. Watch for more information in next month's newsletter.



DOLLY TEA

Please join the Daughters of the American Revolution for a Dolly Tea on Saturday, November 16th from 2 to 4 pm at the Caples House Museum, 1925 First Street. Admission: Adults - \$20.00, children 8 years and under - \$12.50. Tour of Children's Attic is included.



LIBRARY NEWS

Holiday Bazaar: We had a lot of fun last year holding a holiday bazaar at the Library. We had two vendors, lots of items that were donated to the Library to sell, and some bake sale items, plus hot apple cider all day. We will again be having a holiday bazaar on Friday, November 15 and Saturday, November 16, between 10 am and 4 pm. We are still looking for vendors. If you are interested, call the Library at (503) 366-8020 and we'll be glad to add you!

Tutoring at the Library: Starting this month, the Columbia City Community Library will be offering free one-on-one tutoring in most subjects for grades 5 through 12. If you or one of your kids feels that a little extra help might be of some benefit, come into the Library and sign up because spaces are limited. Tutoring will be Wednesday afternoons between 4 and 7 pm.

Secondhand Prose is open! In October, Secondhand Prose added over 200 books in the used book area at the Library. Look for the white stickers on books added in October and orange ones for November additions.

Novel Quilters New Book: We are reading *River's Edge*, by Marie Bostwick for our next book. After the death of her mother, Elise Braun is sent to live with a new family in the United States and to start a new life. Her father only wants to save his daughter from the impending war in her native Germany -- and the horrors of the new Nazi regime. But Elise can only

feel a sense of abandonment and resentment toward the one man who is supposed to protect her. An accomplished pianist, music has become her only solace from the loneliness and loss that makes it so difficult for her to love or trust anyone....

Magazine Subscriptions: This is the time of year that magazines try to get you to renew your subscriptions and send a new subscription to a friend, all in the same price! Think of the Library as a friend, and add us as you are renewing your subscription! Our mailing address is Columbia City Community Library, PO Box 189, Columbia City, OR 97018. What a low-cost way to benefit everyone in the community! Thanks in advance!

New Books. We added 157 new books to the Library during the past month. Some recent additions to our Library include:

- *Volcano: First Seventy Days, Mount St. Helens* by Robert Shangle
- *Amelia Peabody's Egypt: A Compendium* by Elizabeth Peters
- *Silver Girl* by Elin Hilderbrand
- *Joyland* by Stephen King
- *The Inn at Rose Harbor* by Debbie Macomber
- *Bite Me: A Love Story* by Christopher Moore
- *Private London* by James Patterson
- *True Grit* by Charles Portis
- *The Midwife of Venice* by Roberta Rich
- *The God of War* by Marissa Silver
- *Avatar: The Last Airbender 2* by Michael Dimartino (Graphic Novel)
- *The Tales of Beedle the Bard* by J.K. Rowling (from the Harry Potter universe)
- *What I Saw and How I Lied* by Judy Blundell
- *Magic or Madness* by Justine Larbalestier

Library Hours:

Monday 10 am - 2 pm
Wednesday 4 pm - 8 pm
Thursday 2 pm - 6 pm
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm

Storytime:

Every Monday at 11 am

Friends of the Library:

Monday, November 18 at 7 pm

Holiday Bazaar:

Friday & Saturday, November 15th & 16th
from 10 am to 4 pm

Novel Quilters:

Wednesday, November 20 at 6:30 pm

CHIEF'S CORNER

SHOP WITH A COP 2013: This year's Shop with a Cop event is scheduled for Saturday, December 14, 2013 at the Walmart in St. Helens. This program continues to focus on providing a needy family and children with wintertime necessities and as many "wish list" items as we can provide. As in previous years we need your help with nominating a Columbia City family. If you are aware of a family in need please take the time to nominate them for selection! Please fill out the nomination form (see page 8) and submit it at the front desk at City Hall no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, November 20, 2013. Nomination forms are also available at City Hall or online. Your help is greatly appreciated!

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 your thoughts, questions, or any information that you feel would help us in keeping our community safe. We can be reached via 9-1-1 (emergency), (503) 397-4010 (office), or (503) 397-1521 (non-emergency dispatch).

Best regards, Chief Michael S. McGlothlin

POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2013

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

ACTIVITY REPORT: Your police officers answered 238 calls for service; both self-initiated as well as



dispatched calls, during the reporting period. 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. Additionally, within the reporting period we have conducted investigations and/or arrests in the following types of cases: Burglary, Domestic Violence/Assault, Possession of Controlled Substances –

Methamphetamine and Marijuana, Harassment, Traffic Crashes, Theft, Trespass, and service of Arrest Warrants.

COMMUNITY POLICING ACTIVITY:

Residential Security Checks: 101
Area Patrols: 10
Foot Patrols: 11
Assist the Public: 12
Disabled Vehicles/Hazards: 6
Radio Calls: 5
Nuisance/Code Enforcement Complaints: 4
Assistance to Outside Agencies: 2
Parking Violations: 2
Welfare Checks: 3
Reserve Police Officer Hours Worked: 80

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY/INVESTIGATIONS:

Investigative Follow Up's: 10
Suspicious Circumstances, People, Vehicles and Prowler Calls: 14
Traffic Stops: 52
Burglary: 1
Theft Investigations: 2
Service of Arrest Warrant(s): 1
Domestic Violence/Disturbance Investigations: 3
Criminal Trespass: 1
Motor Vehicle Crash: 1
Narcotics Investigations/Arrests: 5
Contempt of Court Arrest: 1

CALLS OF INTEREST:

1. Theft investigation in the 1400 block of Second Street on 09/21/13. Investigation remains open and active.
2. Theft investigation in the 1800 block of Second Street on 09/23/13. Investigation remains open and active.
3. PCS Methamphetamine arrest in the area of "E" Street near Fifth Street on 09/25/13. Suspect arrested and transported to jail.
4. Theft and PCS Methamphetamine investigation and arrest in the 1900 block of Third Street on 10/03/13. Suspect arrested and transported to jail.
5. Driving While Suspended (Misdemeanor) arrest in the area of "G" Street near Highway 30 on 10/04/13. Suspect arrested and transported to jail.
6. Contempt of court arrest in the 2400 block of Fifth Street on 10/05/13. Suspect arrested and transported to jail.
7. PCS Methamphetamine, PCS Marijuana, and Warrant arrests in the 2400 block of Fifth Street on 10/11/13. Suspects (3) arrested and transported to jail.

FOUND ITEMS

A duck decoy was found on the street and turned into City Hall. To claim this item, please contact City Hall.



CODE ENFORCEMENT REMINDERS

Sidewalks: The owner of property abutting a sidewalk is responsible for keeping the sidewalk free of yard debris, snow, ice, and other obstructions.

Water Meters: It is unlawful to turn water on or off at the meter. Contact the City for assistance by calling (503) 397-4010 during regular business hours, or call C-COM at (503) 397-1521 for after hour emergency service.

Curfew: Curfew is in effect between 10:30 pm and 4:00 am Sunday through Thursday, and between midnight and 4:00 am Friday and Saturday.

Animals: Animals must be kept on a leash when away from the owner's property, and droppings must be picked up.

Please report violators to City Hall.

**"Whether you think you can,
or you think you can't, you are right."
Henry Ford**

PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

Interested in serving on the Columbia City Planning Commission? The City currently has a position available. Applicants must reside within the City or the City's Urban Growth Boundary. The term is for a period of four years. The Planning Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month when there are topics to discuss. Applications are available at the City Hall.

STREETLIGHT ISSUES



Is there a streetlight in your neighborhood that is out, blinks on and off throughout the night, or stays on all day? If so, contact City Hall with the address closest to the light or cross streets and we'll have it repaired.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS KIT

Through its Ready Campaign, the Federal Emergency Management Agency educates and empowers Americans to take some simple steps to prepare for and respond to potential emergencies, including natural disasters and terrorist attacks. *Ready* asks individuals to do three key things: get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan, and be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses. All Americans should have some basic supplies on hand in order to survive for at least three days if an emergency occurs. Following is a listing of some basic items that every emergency supply kit should include. However, it is important that individuals review this list and consider where they live and the unique needs of their family in order to create an emergency supply kit that will meet these needs. Individuals should also consider having at least two emergency supply kits, one full kit at home and smaller portable kits in their workplace, vehicle or other places they spend time.

- ✓ Backpack & fanny pack
- ✓ Water (1 gallon per person per day, extra for pets)
- ✓ Water filter bottle
- ✓ Non-perishable foods-food ration bars, granola bars, MRE's (can opener if needed)
- ✓ Spoon, fork, knife
- ✓ Headlamp, flashlights & light sticks
- ✓ NOAA radio & AM/FM radio (battery-powered or hand crank)
- ✓ Extra batteries for all
- ✓ Fire lighter, flint, fire starters, matches
- ✓ Knife, utility knife, scissors
- ✓ Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)
- ✓ Hand sanitizer, wet wipes, soap
- ✓ Whistle
- ✓ Duct tape
- ✓ Survival blanket
- ✓ Hotties, gloves, socks
- ✓ Safety glasses
- ✓ Kleenex
- ✓ Medications
- ✓ Sunscreen
- ✓ Map
- ✓ Pet food
- ✓ Cash or traveler's checks and change
- ✓ Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper
- ✓ Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- ✓ Bottle opener
- ✓ 1st aid kit
- ✓ Poncho
- ✓ Face/dust mask
- ✓ Tube tent
- ✓ Bio bags
- ✓ Tooth care
- ✓ Important papers
- ✓ Paper and pen
- ✓ Change of clothes

This information was brought to you from the FEMA website. For more information visit www.ready.gov.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FAIR

The Emergency Management Fair was a great success with over 100 residents attending the event. "Shelter in Place Kit" door prizes went to more than 30 attendees, and three lucky utility customers won payment of their next month's water and sewer utility bill. Attendees registered for the Columbia Alert Network (CAN) in order to receive emergency notifications that might be distributed by the 9-1-1 Communications District, gathered valuable information about how and when to shelter in place from the Columbia County Public Health Foundation, and signed up to learn more about the Columbia Amateur Radio Association.



Citizens visited with members of the Community Emergency Response Team and American Red Cross and obtained a wealth of information about how to better prepare themselves and their family members for an emergency, and talked with first responders from the Columbia River Fire and Rescue and Columbia City Police Department.



We would like to extend a very special thank you to everyone that attended the event, to Dyno Nobel for providing the door prizes and refreshments during the event, and to all of the members of the Columbia City Hazard Mitigation Team for coordinating the event!



**MEETING AND EVENT CALENDAR
NOVEMBER 2013**

November 2 nd	dawn	First day of open burn period
November 3 rd	2:00 am	Daylight Saving Time ends
November 4 th	6:00 pm	Hazard Mitigation Committee Meeting at City Hall
November 5 th	8:00 pm	Deadline to return completed ballots on Election Day
November 7 th	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
November 11 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed in observance of Veteran's Day
November 12th	7:00 pm	Planning Commission Meeting at City Hall canceled
November 14 th	6:00 pm	Municipal Court at City Hall
November 17 th	dusk	Last day of burn period
November 18 th	10:00 am	Audit Committee Meeting at City Hall
November 18 th	7:00 pm	Friends of the Library Meeting in the Library
November 19 th	6:00 pm	Parks Committee Meeting at City Hall
November 20 th	3:00 pm	Comp Plan Review Committee Meeting at City Hall
November 20 th	5:00 pm	Nominations for "Shop with a Cop" program are due
November 21 st	6:00 pm	Regular City Council Meeting at City Hall
November 28 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed on Thanksgiving Day
November 29 th	CLOSED	City Hall is closed the day after Thanksgiving



2013 "Shop with a Cop" Nomination Form

It is time once again for the Columbia City Police Department's "Shop with a Cop" Program. This is our fifth 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
Nominations will be accepted until 5 pm on Wednesday, November 20, 2013

