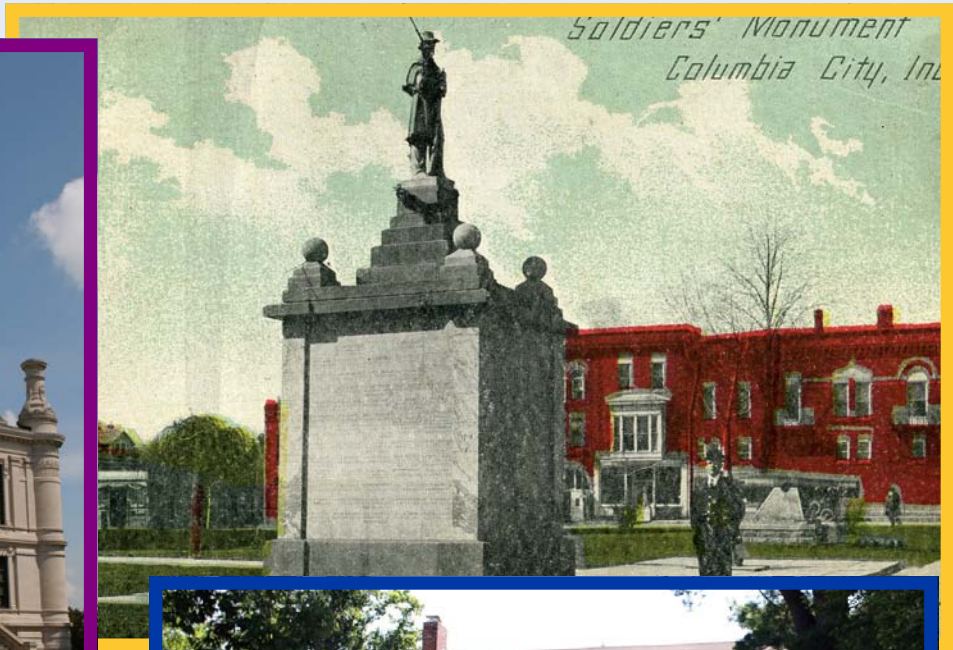




BUILDING A FUTURE TOGETHER



Columbia City

Your Guide

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Greetings!

Columbia City, once known as the Gateway to the Lakes, is now the Gateway to Opportunity! We are proud to call this place home and hope you will as well, whether it be for a weekend or for a lifetime.

Greetings from the

Welcome to the City of Columbia City!

We are so happy you've chosen to join our community. I hope you will find this welcome packet to be informational and hospitable.

As Mayor, I have the responsibility to be both the leader of our City and a representative for you. In our community, you will find a safe and enjoyable place to live, a focus on improving and growing the City, and a wealth of economic opportunities throughout the Northeast Indiana region. In our residents, you will find people who are hard-working, friendly, and focused on improving the community for the greater good.

Our tagline, *Building a Future Together*, truly tells the story of how we are collaborative, innovative, and inclusive in creating a community that we all can be proud of. We've consistently ranked in the Top 20 cities in Indiana for Safety, Economic Opportunity, Health, and Prosperity. Becoming a part of our community will be a choice you won't regret.

So again, from the bottom of my heart, thank you for joining us. I'm so happy you are here and I welcome the opportunity to meet you. If I can be of any assistance, please feel free to contact my office.

 Sincerely,

Ryan L. Daniel



Ryan Daniel has served as the Mayor of Columbia City since his election in 2011 and reelection in 2015. He works with various city departments such as street, parks, fire, and police to create a safe and social environment for the citizens of Columbia City. In addition to this, he organizes the Columbia City Youth Council, which is made up of students from Columbia City High School. He serves with the City Council and Board of Works to implement new ideas and laws in our city.

Columbia City Quick Facts

- Population: 8,850 (2010 census)
- Founded: 1839
- Closest Airport: Fort Wayne International (35 min.)
- Weather:
 - Average Summer Temp: 69.8° F
 - Average Winter Temp: 37° F
- 7th Least Distressed County in Indiana
- 7th Healthiest County in Indiana
- 10th Best Health Factors in Indiana
- 16th Highest Quality of Life in Indiana



Distance To:	Time/ Miles
Fort Wayne	30 min./ 21 miles
Indianapolis	2 hrs./ 124 miles
Chicago	2 hrs, 40 min./ 140 miles
Detroit	3 hrs./ 187 miles

Directory

City and County Contacts

Police, Fire, and Medical Emergency		911	Miscellaneous Phone Numbers	
City Contact Numbers			CenturyLink	
Police and Communications Department		248-5121	New Service	(800)788-3500
Utility Office		248-5100	Repair	(800)788-3600
		248-5110		
Mayor		248-5111	Cable Television- MediaCom	(800)874-2924
City Clerk Treasurer		248-5112	NIPSCO	(800)464-7726
Community Development		248-5114		
Municipal Service Facility		248-5115	Northeastern REMC	244-6111
Park Department		248-5180	Recycling Center	248-3132
Burnworth Memorial Pool		248-5182	Whitley Environmental	248-8300
Water Pollution Control Facility		248-5119	Chamber of Commerce	248-8131
Water Department		248-5118	License Branch	244-7107
			Animal Shelter	244-6664
County Contact Numbers			Post Office	244-5962
Whitley County Sheriff		244-6410	Post & Mail Newspaper	244-5153
Whitley County Auditor		248-3100	Parkview Whitley Hospital	248-9000
Columbia Township Trustee		244-0045	Financial Assistance	211
Columbia Township Assessor		248-3110	Community Action	248-4887
Whitley County Assessor		248-3109		
Whitley County Clerk		248-3102	Whitley County Council On Aging	248-8944
Whitley County Treasurer		248-3105	Whitley County Transit	248-8944
Whitley County Recorder		248-3106		
Whitley County Engineer		248-3107	Schools	
Whitley County Drainage		248-3108	Administration Building	244-5771
Whitley County Planning/ Building		248-3112	Columbia City High School	244-6136
Whitley County Highway		248-3123	Indian Springs Middle School	244-5148
			Little Turtle School	244-3343
Whitley County Health Department		248-3121	Mary Raber School	244-5857
Immunization Clinic		248-2959	Coesse Elementary	244-3351
Welfare Department		244-6331	Northern Heights Elementary	691-2371
			Eagle Tech Academy	244-5707
Establishing a New Business				
Department of Revenue		(317) 232-8039		
Whitley County Economic Development Corp.		(260) 244-5506		

Parks & Recreation

Morsches Park

Located at 1035 East State Road 205, this is the largest park our City has to offer. With amenities such as a skate park, splash pad, bike and walking trails, a playground, both basketball and tennis courts, this park is by far the most popular and is a great place to have family time or to work on your fitness! This park also hosts the majority of our baseball and softball events, as well as the Junior Football



For more information on other parks in Columbia City, visit:
columbiacityparks.us

Devol Field

This park includes a baseball diamond, six lighted tennis courts, a basketball court, a walking trail, picnic tables, an open pavilion, and a very popular sledding hill. It is located at 620 West Old Trail Road right across the road from Every Kid's

Every Kid's Dreamland

The new Everyday Kid's Dreamland, is a playground that is accessible to kids with different kinds of disabilities. The ground has a three inch thick rubber surface which will help kids in wheelchairs get around. It is located at 610 W. Van Buren Street.

Life in the City

- ◆ The **Whitley County Farmers Market** takes place on the courthouse square on Saturdays from May through October. Local vendors provide a multitude of craft and food items for residents to purchase each week.
- ◆ The **Fun Center At Paige's Crossing** is a great place for families with children. They have three different miniature golf courses, batting cages, and an arcade.
- ◆ **Main Bowl** is the local bowling alley. This location is also home to the 11th Frame Bar and Grill.
- ◆ **Happy Valley Skating Rink** offers public roller skating. Their rink is popular with birthday parties and other celebrations. They have skate rentals available, but also allow roller blades.
- ◆ **Bones Theatre** shows recently released movies with a refreshment counter. They have gift cards available for purchase.
- ◆ The **Peabody Public Library** offers memberships and a quiet place to study or read. There is a children's section and a computer lab available for use as well.

Columbia City is proud to offer an abundance of activities in addition to our parks. From the public library to the roller skating rink, our city



PLACES OF INTEREST

Peabody Public Library

1160 E. State Road 205 Columbia City, IN 46725

(260)244-5541

Bones Theatre

655 Opportunity Drive Columbia City, IN 46725

(260)244-0051

Happy Valley Skating Rink

625 W. Old Trail Road Columbia City, IN 46725

(260)248-2584

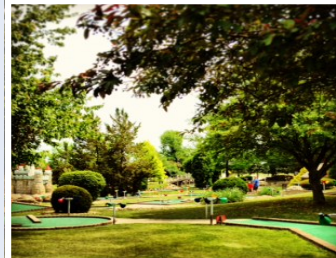
Main Bowl

303 S. Main Street Columbia City, IN 46725

(260)244-6422

The Fun Center At Paige's Crossing

2821 E. Business 30 Columbia City, IN 46725



Columbia City: City of Fun



Old Settlers Day

This festival celebrates the founding settlers of Columbia City. It takes place in late June and features carnival rides, food, and live entertainment. There is a ceremony for the oldest settlers in Columbia City and the Festival Coordinators present them with plaques to commemorate their tenure. The last day of the festival features a parade. This is a great place to bring your family for a night on the town to celebrate the history of beautiful Columbia City.



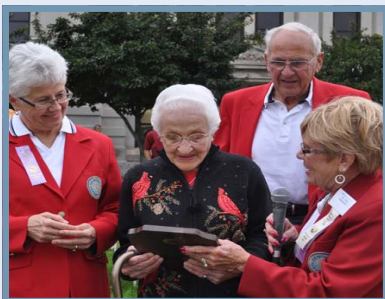
Whitley County 4-H Fair

The Whitley County 4-H Fair takes place in the middle of July. Youth participate in projects such as photography, foods, crafts, and animal projects. There is live entertainment, livestock exhibitions, and more throughout the week. Volunteers are always welcome at 4-H events and are a great way to get involved in your community! This fair is free and available for all ages and non 4-H members as well. Everyone will be able to find something to enjoy at the Whitley County 4-H Fair!



Fourth of July

The city's Fourth of July celebration is in Morsches Park and is usually celebrated on the 3rd. There is live entertainment and food available before the fireworks display.



Columbia City: City of Fun



The car show takes place on a Saturday in August. Car owners come from all over to exhibit their cars to the public for the chance to win prizes. This is also a great place for people to fundraise for different organizations.

Jr. Achievement Car Show

MihsihKinaahkwa Pow Wow



This is a three day event held in August at Morsches Park that honors the Miami Indians and the great Chief Little Turtle.

Lighted Christmas Parade



This Lighted Christmas Parade event welcomes Santa to the Courthouse Square and allows businesses and organizations to join in on the Holiday Spirit!



The Veteran's Day Marathon is sponsored by the Three Rivers Running Club. This event takes place in downtown Columbia City. The race begins and ends at the courthouse. Many groups set up tents along the course to aid the runners.

Veteran's Day Marathon

Community Resources



GROUP VENUES

- ◆ **The Van Buren** — 310 W Van Buren St. Columbia City
(260) 609-9626
- ◆ **Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) Lodge** — 606 W. Van Buren St.
Columbia City
(260) 244-7641
- ◆ **Eagle's Nest Event Center** — 125 S. Eagle Glen Trail, Columbia City
(260) 248-2563
- ◆ **Peabody Public Library** — 1160 E. State Road 205, Columbia City
(260) 244-5541
- ◆ **Morsches Park Pavilion** — 1035 E. State Road 205
Columbia City



Whitley County

950 E. Van Buren
Street
Columbia City, IN
46725



Whitley County Council On Aging and County Transit

710 Opportunity Drive Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 248-8944

The Center For Whitley County Youth

201 W. Market Street Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 248-2977

Whitley County Economic Development Corporation

220 W. Van Buren Street, Suite 102, Columbia City,
IN 46725
(260) 244-5506

Whitley County Chamber of Commerce

128 W Van Buren St, Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 248-8131



Whitley County Historical Society and Museum

108 W. Jefferson Street Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-6372

Whitley County Agricultural Museum

680 W. Squawbuck Road Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-7615

Columbia City Fire Museum

425 S. Whitley Street Columbia City, IN 46725



The Post and Mail—Local Newspaper

927 W. Connexion Way Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-5153

Columbia City Post Office

115 N. Chauncey Street Columbia City, IN 46725
(260) 244-5962

Talk of the Town — Online Resource

<http://talkofthetownwc.com/>



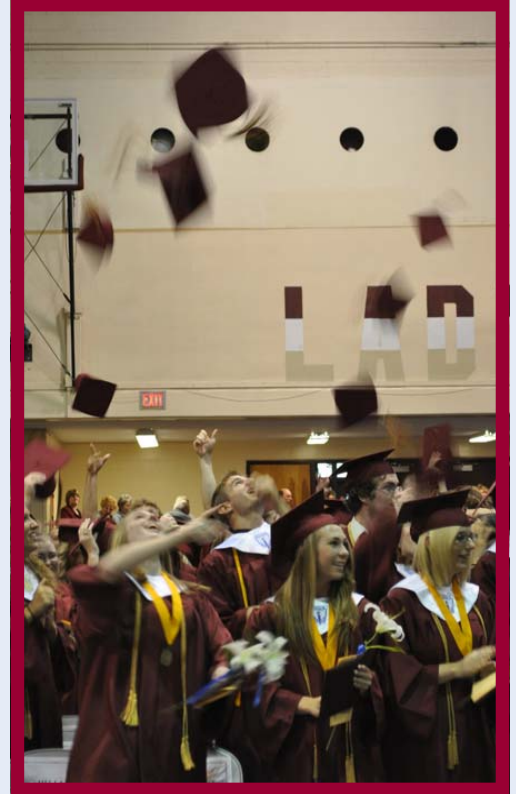
www.columbiacity.net

Education: A Columbia City Tradition

Whitley County Consolidated Schools:

2017 At A Glance

- Total District Enrollment: 3,533
- Average Graduating Class Size: 229
- Graduation Rate: 91.6%
- IREAD-3 Pass Percentage: 90.1%
- Attendance Rate: 96.7%



Whitley County Consolidated Schools

WCCS

Small Town Values. World Class Results.



Post High School Plans

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Four year or more College	197	188	204	157	179
Military	9	10	11	10	10
Not Applicable	54	44	50	46	37
Not pursuing Higher Ed	8	4	4	9	3
Two year College	30	34	26	42	31
Vocational/Technical School	22	13	21	10	8



Columbia City High School

FOUR STAR SCHOOL



Indiana Department of Education

Mary Raber Preschool

Principal: Julie Turpin

Students: 82

700 E. Jackson Street Columbia City, IN 46725

(260) 244-5857



Mary Raber Elementary

Principal: Julie Turpin

Students: 370

Staff: 23

700 E. Jackson Street Columbia City, IN 46725



Coesse Elementary

Principal: Michelle Urban

Students: 286

Staff: 23

2250 S. 500 E. Columbia City, IN 46725



(26
24
33

Little Turtle Elementary

Principal: Angela Ayers

Students: 534

Staff: 34

1710 S State Road 9 Columbia City, IN 46725

0)
4-
43



Northern Heights Elementary

Principal: Wesley Mullett

Students: 477

Staff: 30

5209 N State Road 109 Columbia City, IN 46725

(260) 691-2371



Indian Springs Middle School

Principal: Janet Boylen

Students: 826

Staff: 49

1692 S State Road 9 Columbia City, IN 46725

(260) 244-5148



Columbia City

High School

Principal: Jennifer Reiff

Assistant Principal: Lyle Kuhmichel

Dean of Students: Andrea Salmon

Students: 1,040

Staff: 72

600 N. Whitley Street

Columbia City, IN 46725

(260) 244-6136

Eagle Tech Academy

Principal:
Mullett

Braden



107 N. Walnut St.

Coming Soon!

In the fall of 2015, the residents of the Whitley County Consolidated School district voted to build a NEW Columbia City High School. The building will house students in the fall of 2020 and will continue to expand opportunities for lo-

The City that Serves: City Services

Columbia City Police Department

112 South Chauncey Street
Columbia City, IN 46725

Phone Number:
(260) 248-5121
(non emergency)

Police Department

Our police force works 24 hours a day to keep our community safe and orderly. They take care of various local safety concerns, such as tickets, noise complaints, and other offenses. You can find a list of City ordinances on our website: www.columbiacity.net. In addition to enforcing the law, our officers also educate our community as well as offer permits and other services. It is currently overseen by Chief of Police Tony Hively.

Columbia City Fire Department

112 South Chauncey Street
Columbia City, IN 46725

Phone Number:
(260) 248-5161
(non emergency)

Fire Department

Our fire department offers our community many services in addition to their initial purpose. They provide fire safety training, a fire museum for community residents to enjoy, and even a free candy give away during the Christmas holiday in addition to other community service projects. You can find the fire code on the City's website. The department is currently overseen by Fire Chief Tom LaRue.

Parkview Whitley Hospital

1260 East State Road 205
Columbia City, IN 46725

Phone Number:
(260) 248-9000

Parkview Whitley Hospital

While Parkview Whitley is not operated by the city, our residents find comfort here. This is the location of the nearest emergency room and doctors' offices. The medical plaza is also located on campus and houses other medical services not available at the hospital.

After Hours Clinic

885 Connexion Way, Suite 200A
Columbia City, IN 46725

Phone Number:

Parkview Whitley After Hours Clinic

This is another resource our community has to offer. Parkview Whitley After Hours clinic provides aid to minor injuries and illness. They are open Monday through Friday from 8am to 8 PM and Saturday and Sunday 8am to 2 PM. They are closed on holidays.



Columbia City Municipal Utilities

112 South Chauncey Street
Office Hours: 7:30am.– 4:00p.m. Monday
through Friday
(260) 248-5100

◆ Street Sweeping

All City streets are swept regularly.

◆ Recycling

This is a county operated service. All inquiries should be directed to the recycling contact number in our directory, on page 3.

◆ Sanitation Service

Weekly garbage pickup is provided by Advanced Disposal to City residents and a minimal charge is included on your monthly utility bill. Any questions can be directed to the Mayor's office, see page 3 for his office

Downtown Parking

There is two hour controlled parking in our downtown area. There is a free municipal parking lot located south of the post office on



Snow Removal

All City streets are plowed before the alleys. Citizens are asked to remove vehicles from the streets to allow for curb-to-curb plowing. Salt and sand is applied to the intersections only and sand is applied to alleys as needed. Citizens are required to remove snow and ice from sidewalks within 24 hours of each weather occurrence. It is recommended to wait until the snowplow has passed before cleaning

City Wide Clean Up

Twice a year, one day is set aside as a clean up day for City residents only. This allows residents to clean house and have discards hauled away at no charge for most items. There is no charge for appliances and tires, but we do ask that you contact the city clerks' office and schedule this pick up. This date can be found



Limb Pick Up

Limbs and brush are picked up one week each month from April through October. This is for City residents only. Limbs should be placed in front of the resident's home, near the curb and should be put out by 7 am on the Monday of the week of pickup. There is only one pass of each neighborhood per month. Please check local papers for schedules and regulations.

Leaf Pick Up

Leaf pick up for City residents will begin in the fall when the leaves have fallen. Leaves should be raked between the curb and sidewalk, never in the street or in bags. Leaves are composted and are free to the public in early spring of the following year.

Utility Bills

Bills are mailed the first week of the month and are due on or before the 20th of each month. If the 20th falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, your bill must be in City Hall drop box by 7:30 a.m. of the next working day (postmarks not honored) in order to avoid late fees. The shut off date will fall approximately 10 days after the 20th of each month with special fees as follows:

- ◆ Shut-off fee for Electric and Water: \$20.00
- ◆ Reconnect fee for Electric and Water: \$20.00
- ◆ After hours reconnect fee for Electric and Water: \$60.00

Ordering new Electric, Water, and Sewer Service

A meter deposit is required with service order

- ◆ Residential– Electric and Water \$50.00
- ◆ Commercial– Small \$150.00
- ◆ Commercial– Large \$300.00

24 hour advanced notice is suggested

Method of Payment

We accept cash, check, credit/debit cards, and money orders. You can also sign up to have funds directly withdrawn from your bank account or you can make online payments through the city's website.

You can go directly to the City's webpage, www.columbiacity.net.

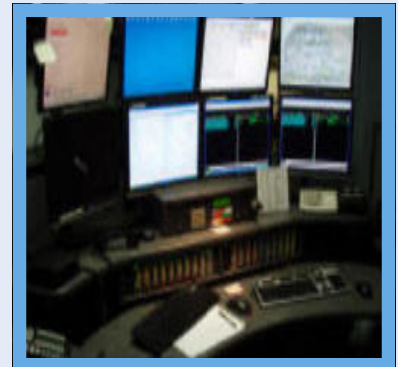
There is a service fee to use credit or debit cards and when making payments online.

Summer Sewage Rates

The city offers allowance for residential sewer usage rates based off April's water usage for your July, August, September, and October sewage bill. This provides for citizens to water lawns, etc. during summer months without additional sewage

Communications

The Communications Department (Dispatch) is located on the first floor of City Hall and open 24-hours a day to assist customers with public safety and after-hours utility issues.



Monthly Meetings

Common Council

City Council is the legislative body of City Government. There are four members to represent the districts and one member at large. The council is lead by the Mayor. They meet on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the 2nd floor of City Hall.

Board of Works and Safety

This governmental body is responsible for the administrative management for all City departments. The Board consists of the Mayor and two of his appointees. The Columbia City Board of Public Works meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 5 p.m. in the Council Chambers on the 2nd floor of City Hall.

City-County Joint Planning and Building Department

All building permits, improvement permits, special exceptions, variances or zoning inquiries in the City and within a two mile jurisdiction of the City should be directed to the City/County Plan Department at 248-3112. They are located in the County Government Building at 220 W. Van Buren Street, Suite 204. The building inspector is also located in this office.

Columbia City Community Tree Board

The responsibility of the Tree Board is to study, investigate, develop, update annually, and oversee the administration of a written plan for the care, preservation, pruning, planting, replanting, removal or disposition of trees and

Columbia City Housing Authority

The Housing Authority provides a low interest loan program for lower and middle income families to update and improve their current housing environment. The Housing Authority's purpose is for the clearance, replanning, and reconstruction of areas in which unsanitary or unsafe housing conditions may exist. Applications for the Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Program may be found in the Mayor's

Columbia City Redevelopment Commission

The responsibility of the Redevelopment Commission is to investigate, study and survey blighted areas within the corporate boundaries and promote the use of the land in the manner that best serves the interests of Columbia City. This board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 9 am in the Council Chambers on the second floor of City Hall.

Columbia City Park Board

The Columbia City Park Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 6 PM in the Council Chambers on the

Mayor



Ryan Daniel

City Officials

Clerk Treasurer



Rosie Coyle

Common Council Members



Nicole Penrod



Dan Weigold



Jennifer Romano



Walt Crowder



Tad Varga

Board of Works Members



Ryan Daniel



Dan Weigold



Walt Crowder

Department Heads



Tony Hively
Chief of Police
thively@columbiacity.net



Tom LaRue
Fire Chief
tlarua@columbiacity.net



Terry Wherry
Director of Communications
twherry@columbiacity.net



Mark Green
Park Director
mgreen@columbiacity.net



Mike Shoda
Water Superintendent
mshoda@columbiacity.net



Kelly Cearbaugh
Street Superintendent
kcearbaugh@columbiacity.net



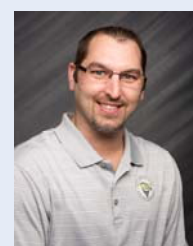
Beth Igney
Human Resources Director
hr@columbiacity.net



Mike Cook
Water Pollution Superintendent
mcook@columbiacity.net



Jeff Walker
Community Development Director
jwalker@columbiacity.net



Shawn Lickey
Electric Superintendent
slickey@columbiacity.net



Welcome Home!