

Columbia 9-1-1 celebrates National Telecommunications Week

The Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District held its annual Staff and Public Safety Partners Awards Reception on April 7 at the District facility. The reception was scheduled in conjunction with National Telecommunications Week, April 13 through 19, which is designated by Presidential and Governor's Proclamation to be a week honoring the contributions of public safety call takers and dispatchers, nationwide.

"It is an honor to serve this District because of the high caliber of the employees who work here. Their dedication to the

highest standards of performance is of great benefit to all of us in Columbia County," said Board President Katharine Denckla of Vernonia.

"How well the dispatchers carry out their responsibilities is critical to how well the fire, medical and police departments can deliver timely, appropriate emergency services," said Mist-Birkenfeld Fire Chief and 9-1-1 Advisory Committee Chairman Dave Crawford. "The staff here at Columbia 9-1-1 can be depended upon to make correct split second decisions and constantly demonstrate to-

tal commitment to the highest level of service to the public and their public safety partners."

Denckla, Crawford and Board Secretary Dee Wooley of Clatskanie joined District staff in making the following presentations during the ceremony.

Employees receiving Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, Intl. (APCO) awards honoring their role in the handling of specific major critical incidents were Terri Baublitz, Sally Copeland, Tracy Edinger, Debra Franklin, Debbie Gurlen, Trish Hilsinger, Di-

ana Karthaus, Chris Lowe, Josh Marks, Nathan McCallum, Heidi Meyer, Bernadette O'Brien, Heidi Vaughn, Steve Watson and Rhonda Wilkes.

Communications Supervisor Steve Watson received the APCO Local Impact Award for his commitment to excellence by constantly seeking and participating in ways to improve services to users, staff and public, and for his innovative and positive approach to all problems.

Public Safety Partner Awards, in appreciation for contributions to the services pro-

vided by the 9-1-1 District were presented to Clatskanie Fire Chief Dick Long, Lieutenant Bruce Holsey of Columbia River Fire and Rescue Division Chief and EMS Director Brian Burright for valuable and continuing support of the 9-1-1 Emergency Medical Dispatch quality assurance program; Columbia County Animal Control Officer Shaun Barrett and St. Helens Code Enforcement Officer Laura Snyder for responding, day and night, with professionalism and a positive and caring approach; Scappoose

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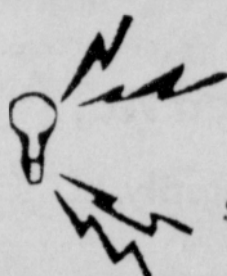
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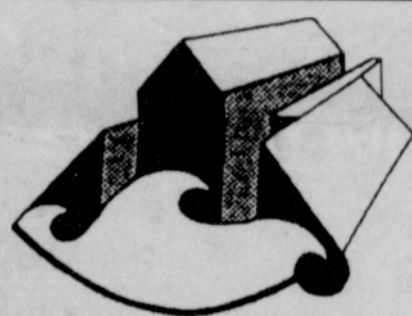
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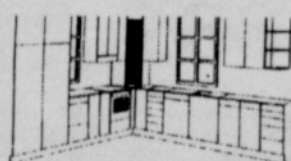
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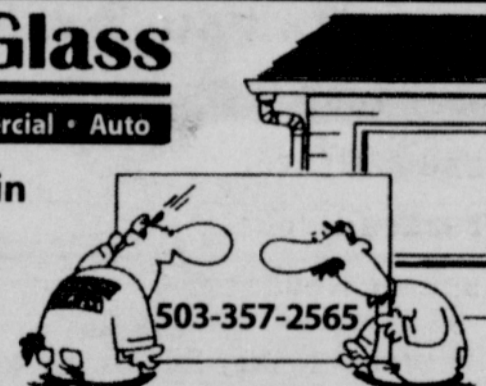
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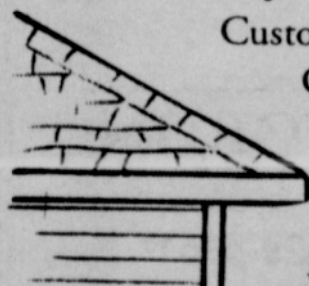
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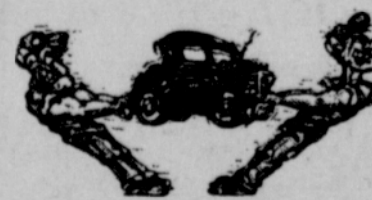
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