

## Donations Needed to Help Fill Christmas Food Boxes

Vernonia Cares Food Bank (VCFB) plans to offer Christmas holiday food boxes to low income households within the Vernonia community. Registration opened November 2 and the application deadline is December 7, 2010.

The boxes will be disbursed December 21, as registered households pick them up from Vernonia Cares Food Bank. The holiday food box will contain the basic groceries for a Christmas meal. "Our target group is the households who fall within the USDA eligibility guidelines," said Vernonia Cares Director Sandy Welch. "That is \$1,805 gross income per month for single person households, plus \$623 per

month for each additional person in the household. However, anyone who is a Vernonia resident and does not have the groceries for a Christmas meal is eligible to apply for this special food box," she concludes.

Applications may be obtained from Vernonia Cares Food Bank, which is open Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. It is located in the American Legion Hall at 627 Adams Avenue. To obtain a form by phone, call VCFB at 503-429-1414, leaving clear mailing information. All applications must be received by Vernonia Cares by December 7. Only pre-registered households will be served.

"At this point, we are planning to

provide this service to 200 families and are praying the food and funds arrive to support it," Welch emphasized. "We've had great support for the holiday food boxes from our community in the past and I'm looking to that same support again this year. I'm so glad we are able to brighten people's Christmas through these groceries. What's Christmas without, at the least, a Christmas meal together?" asks Sandy.

"Between now and Thanksgiving is a great time to buy a turkey and donate it towards the Christmas Box Project. That's when the sale prices are available," says Vernonia Cares President Rosie McCoy. "All turkeys will be stored frozen and then

distributed near Christmas."

Vernonia Sentry, a strong supporter of VCFB, makes it simple to donate. Through their check-stand giving, patrons can designate \$25 which will be used to buy the groceries and a turkey. Individuals and businesses interested in supporting this worthwhile cause, whether through food or funds, may contribute directly on Tuesday or Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at VCFB. Checks may also be mailed to Vernonia Cares Food Bank, PO Box 126, Vernonia, OR 97064. Receipts for your tax deductible donation will be sent upon request.

## Long Standing Partnership Recognized

Sally Jones, Administrator of Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District, presented a plaque and key chain to Jim Huff and Diane Dillard, two of the founders of CEPA in recognition of their teamwork with the 9-1-1 agency.

Columbia 9-1-1 has reached its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It has taken teamwork throughout Columbia County to bring the District to the current level of service that provides for all citizens of Columbia County.

"There are two people who were there every step of the way, I am honored to present this award to Jim Huff and Diane Dillard for their dedication to CEPA and public safety over the years." Said Jones.

Jones presented the awards to the dynamic pair that worked together to form CEPA. CEPA promotes information exchange between industry, public safety, and local governments in Columbia

County for the purpose of emergency preparedness planning.



Left to Right: Diane Dillard, Sally Jones and Jim Huff.

## Readers Lend Their Voices...

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was one of the lower number of votes set aside, I think that 1 in 31 is too high of a number when every vote should count. There are severe problems with our mail-in ballots and this needs to come to the light of day.

That being said, after all is said and done, we must put our divisive politics aside and find common grounds that do not divide us so that we as Oregonians can move forward together. During this campaign both my opponent and I have been saying that we must act fiscally conservatively, cut Oregon's budget and get it under control, streamline regulations for businesses and make Oregon more business friendly so that we can get our economy re-energized. We must all work together and make sure this happens, that the campaign promises end up being our future and simply not campaign promises that are broken. This will take vigilance and follow through on our part, to make sure these promises are kept. This election is not an end but must be a beginning to get Oregon moving forward to a brighter future for not only us but for generations to come. I look forward to continue working and doing what I can to make a better Oregon for all.

Sincerely,  
Bob Horning  
Senate District 16 Candidate  
bob@bobhorning.com  
www.bobhorning.com  
503-647-7754

Letter to the Editor:

People ask me every day how we are doing in business during this tough time, and being positive is hard at times but having hope is the best solution. My family has been part of Vernonia for 15 years now and watched a lot happen, some changes have been good, some great, some need some work. We are

not quitters, and as we say in many games to our children, winners never quit, quitters never win, cheaters never win and winners never cheat. Makes sense in life too. We love this community and when times are tough we can imagine a more prosperous life somewhere else but this community is our life and we are not willing to quit!

We would like for every person who reads this to consider how many of you know someone in school in Vernonia. How many of you shop at Petco, PetSmart, Costco, Fred Meyer... for pet supplies.

We have numerous customers come in to the shop and ask if we have products and yes we are often out. This is not because we lack ordering skills. If the customers are shopping somewhere else then we take what we make and pay the most important things in order to survive, WOEC is \$500 most months (just sayin), we are blessed to have electricity, thank you! Darlene supports our business! We don't think people realize what a business in a small town has to offer and we would like to share this as an eye opener. Please take a minute and check out this site! You will see it as a reminder in our business because it makes so much sense.

Thank you to all who continually support us and our family, we love being part of our customers days, we feel like they are extended family, share hopes, concerns, prayers and more. We pray for blessings for you all!

Ben, Lisa Edgar and Family  
Vernonia  
www.the350project.net

## Alumni Volleyball Fri. November 19th

Come watch VHS Alumni take on the 2010 VHS Varsity Volleyball team at the VHS gym. Donations accepted. All proceeds benefit the Zack Rumboltz Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Save your local economy...  
*three stores at a time.*



**3** Think about which three independently owned businesses you'd miss most if they were gone. Stop in and say hello. Pick up a little something that will make someone smile. Your contribution is what keeps those businesses around.

**50** If just half the employed U.S. population spent \$50 each month in independently owned businesses, their purchases would generate more than \$42.6 billion in revenue.\* Imagine the positive impact if 3/4 of the employed population did that.

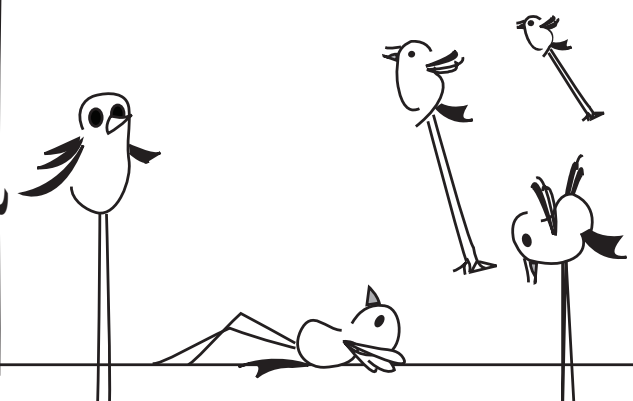
**68** For every \$100 spent in independently owned stores, \$68 returns to the community through taxes, payroll, and other expenditures. If you spend that in a national chain, only \$43 stays here. Spend it online and *nothing comes home.*

**1** The number of people it takes to start the trend...you.

*Pick 3. Spend 50. Save your local economy.*

Visit [the350project.net](http://the350project.net)

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What ever kind YOU are, be a good one!  
Abraham Lincoln