

It's Time For the Columbia County Fair and Rodeo *continued from front page*

Columbia County Rider, as well as free admission. Seniors wishing to take advantage of the free ride need to sign up at their local senior center. Wednesday evening also features a Fair Benefit Stock Car Race.

Thursday is Kids Day, featuring magic by Adam the Great, the Teddy Bear Picnic, karate demonstrations, and music by Redcast, a youth band out of Portland. Kids under seventeen get in free until 3:00 PM. The day ends with the Junior Rodeo, always a crowd favorite.

Friday, you can take center stage and enter the Watermelon Seed Spitting Contest. The NPRA Rodeo starts at 7:00 PM, followed by Dancin' in the Dirt with the band, Backstage Pass.

Saturday get your shot at the big time, with the filming of the scene

from "Country Girl." Saturday the 2012 Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Court Pageant takes place, with the new Queen crowned at the Rodeo Saturday evening. The night ends with the sounds of Hit Machine.

Sunday the Fair wraps up with half price admission. It is Grange Day, starting with an old-time tractor and car parade at noon. There will be a local Farmer's Market, and the 25 Mile Meal, a home-made feast made from products all produced within 25 miles. Also on Sunday is the 8th annual Chili Cook Off. And a new event this year, the Buckle Award Game Show, will benefit the 2012 Rodeo Court.

Everyday the Carnival opens at 12 noon. 4-H animals will be on display and involved in competitions. There will be plenty of top notch musical talent

on several stages throughout the week. Creekside Studios invites you to "Hollywood Lights," a chance to get dressed up, be a star and have your photo taken. The Master Gardener's Demonstration Garden will be open and experts will be on hand to answer your garden questions. The Grange Museum will be open as well. Get in on the act yourself and win a blue ribbon at the Exhibit Hall, as the pavilion will be filled with the best agriculture and horticulture, baked goods, photography, food preservation, art and textiles from Columbia County. There are 150 different divisions to enter in. And of course, the vendors will be on hand with curly fries, lemonade, elephant ears and all your other favorites.

Passes to the Columbia

County Fair and Rodeo are available at all Wauna and St. Helens FCU offices, as well as several other locations around the county—look for the signs.

It looks to be another star-studded event at this year's Columbia County Fair and Rodeo. Don't forget to make an appearance!



County Schedules Friday Courthouse Closures

Beginning Friday, July 15, 2011, and every Friday, through June 30, 2012 the Columbia County Courthouse, including Animal Control and the Justice Court, will be closed to the public. Due to the County's budget situation the Board of County Commissioners approved the Friday closures as a part of the FY 2011/12 budget process.

The public will not be able to conduct county business on Fridays, however there will continue to be

limited access to the Courthouse for State Court Services between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Anyone needing information regarding County operating hours or whether certain departments are open can contact the County information number at 503-397-7210. Also, information regarding departmental numbers or other Courthouse information can be found at the County's website, <http://www.co.columbia.or.us>



Calendar for Summer Reading Program, Vernonia Public Library:

Wednesday, July 13th:	Jugglemania!	6:30-7:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 16th:	Movie Matinee	2:00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 19th:	Story & Craft/Activity Time	10-11 a.m.
Thursday, July 21st:	Chris Leebrick – Storyteller	6:30-7:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 23rd:	Movie Matinee	2:00 p.m.
Tuesday, July 26th:	Story & Craft/Activity Time	10-11 a.m.
Thursday, July 28th:	Knights of Veritas	6:00-7:00 p.m.

Country Musical to Film During Columbia County Fair

Local Indie Film Country Girl to Shoot Song Climax July 16th During Fair

Country Girl is a coming of age road trip country musical that climaxes with a battle of the bands contest. Writer/director Devon Gidley contacted several sites, but by chance, the theme for this year's Columbia County Fair (St. Helens) was Lights! Camera! Action! The fair and filmmaker agreed that filming the song "Fly" during the fair's busiest day would be perfect. Extras are encouraged to attend and sign up for credit in the final film.

Country Girl is the story of a following dreams and finding yourself. Katie Carmen aspires to be a country singer, but first she must learn what it takes to be a musician. She embarks on a road trip chasing her dreams and challenging her doubters. She writes and performs songs along the way. During

the Columbia County Fair scene, Katie must overcome her biggest doubter – herself.

The film features seven original songs written specifically for the story by local musicians Dave Beatty and Jozi Bently. In addition to singing all songs, Jozi plays the heroine Katie Carmen. In an interesting twist, Andy Harmsem was cast as Katie's boyfriend Milo after playing drums on the song recording sessions. The rest of the cast including Kate Belden, Melissa Kaiser, and Phillip Rainford are local Portland area actors.

The director hopes to premiere Country Girl at Sundance (Park City, UT) or South by Southwest (Austin, TX) in 2012. Audiences can expect to see Country Girl in local theaters in time for next years Columbia County Fair.

Senior Center Activities

5-Area Luncheon: Monday, July 25th at the Rainier Senior Center

Connie's Fabulous Breakfasts: Fabulous breakfasts are available to the public on Fridays for a cost of only \$3.50. The event happens at the Senior Center (446 Bridge Street) from 7:30 to 9:00 AM each Friday. Meal price includes a beverage, too. Enter through the side, parking lot door. What a deal!

Week Day Lunches: The Vernonia Senior Center offers nutritious and tasty lunches each weekday for only \$4. These are available to the public, not just Senior Citizens. (Mealtime is noon; late arrivals may not be served.) You can reserve your lunch by calling by 11:15 AM, or further in advance if possible, to assist the cooks as they prepare the day's meals.

Maple Bars available locally! Connie King, the cook at the Senior Center, is making maple bars each day. The maple bars are available to the public, too, and only cost \$1 each. Availability is subject to quantity on hand. You can assure yourself of a good supply by pre-ordering them directly from Connie by calling the Senior Center (503-429-3912) any week day, from 7:00 AM-3:00 PM. Please allow one day lead time for larger orders. The Center's front door opens

at 9:00, but the side parking lot door opens at 7:00. Ah, sweet treats!

Thrift Store: Bargain prices can be found in Vernonia's Senior Center in their Thrift Store. The retail store is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. The Thrift Store provides funds for the Senior Center's facility and its many activities. Donations can also be dropped off during those same hours, and donated clothes need to be clean and in good condition so they are "sales ready". We are offering half off during the first week of each month. Buy locally and support your local Senior Center.

For after hours drop-offs please contact Pauline 503-429-5810.

Special Days: On the last Wednesday of the month Wauna Credit Union will be serving ice cream. On the last Friday of the month we will serve birthday cake and ice cream to celebrate that month's birthdays.

Membership Dues: Another way to support Vernonia's Senior Center is to pay the \$15 annual membership dues. Checks may be mailed or dropped off at the Senior Center. Anyone 50 and older may join.

Questions? Call: (503) 429-3912

Cedar Mist Studios



Deborah Steffen is a registered yoga instructor and certified hypnotist serving Vernonia for over 5 years.

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- Weds 4:30-5:30PM

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