

# Celebrating Families



## ReWork ReStore Offers Job Training and More *continued from page 15*

and Roxanna Jennings decided to continue the program.

According to Beehler, the ReWork ReStore has had a lot of community support. She says the key to continuing the program was access to the space the program now occupies, the former Ace Hardware Store, by Spud and Leona Sandberg. . "We would not have been able to go forward without them," says Beehler. "If not for their community spirit this program would not have been able to continue in Columbia County."

The program also receives support from Mary Susan Estates, which donates items left from estate sales. The store also offers fifteen consignment spaces, which will hopefully be expanded in the near future. "We thought this would make it easier for them to do business in the community because building space is at a premi-

um," says Beehler. "And we thought it would initially help us because we were new and we didn't think we could fill up the space here." The ReWork ReStore receives rent for the consignment space and then a percentage of their sales. The pallets that were used to build the dividers between the spaces were donated by Taylormade Products in Scappoose.

According to Beehler, Columbia County has one of the highest unemployment rates in the state. She says she would love to see the program expand to include satellite offices and stores in each of the other four large towns in the County. She says she would also like to help develop some partnerships with local businesses to create apprenticeship programs for things like furniture refinishing and appliance repair.

*Kids and their parents had fun during the "Celebrating Families" event on December 20-22 at the Vernonia Community Church. This is the second year that the Vernonia Prevention Coalition has organized the event, which brings together numerous partners to provide fun Christmas activities for children. Kids can make gifts for the holidays, decorate cookies, make wrapping paper and cards and get holiday photos taken. Santa even showed up on Saturday. All the activities are provided for free to the families that participate.*





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