

More Business Notes

CAT will administer grant for housing repairs, rehab

Housing Preservation Grant funds are available in Columbia County to help low income homeowners with critical repairs for their homes. The zero-interest, deferred payment loans may be used for repairs to improve the health and safety of the family or preserve the integrity of the structure, such as roof, foundation, plumbing, electrical, windows or energy-saving measures.

If you are a very low income homeowner residing in Columbia County and would like information regarding the program, call Community Action Team Housing and Weatherization Programs at 397-

1675 to request an application to be placed on our waiting list. The address is C.A.T., Inc., 474 Milton Way, St. Helens, OR 97051.

Very low income is 50-percent of the median income for Columbia County, as established by Section 8 income limits proportionate to household size. As an example, the income limits for a one-person household, is at or below \$18,350. For a family of three, it is \$23,600.

The Housing Rehabilitation Program of Community Action Team, Inc., is administering this grant, which expires in September, 2000. The contact

people for C.A.T. in St. Helens are .

For further information, call Casey Sherrell, Director of Housing Rehabilitation of Columbia County, or Katie Lewis, Loan Specialist, at 397-1675.

Event will help first-time buyers

Home Ownership Made Easy (H.O.M.E.) is an organization formed in Columbia County to help educate the community about home ownership.

H.O.M.E. is a not-for-profit organization formed to provide educational seminars for community members who are interested in learning about buying a home.

"We have been meeting for the past couple of months to establish our goals and objectives," said Micki Gettman, a volunteer for H.O.M.E. "This is an exciting project to work on. The community will have access to education which will al-

low them to make more educated home buying decisions."

One of the first projects for the organization is a HOME Fair on July 31. The HOME Fair will include businesses and organizations from all over Columbia County to talk about real estate, mortgages, maintenance and much more. There

will also be presentations on different home topics.

The HOME Fair will be from 10 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. at the St. Helens High School Commons Area.

For more information on H.O.M.E or the HOME Fair, contact Stacy Garrett at 397-3537 or stacyg@keytitle.com.

Arnits resigns from United Way

Suzanne Arnits, the first executive director of United Way of Columbia County, is leaving after eight-and-a-half years. She has accepted the job of Foundation Director for Community Home Health and Hospice based in Longview, Wash., with a satellite office in Vancouver, Wash.

Arnits conducted eight successful fundraising campaigns that increased revenues 146%, while while United Ways nationally have experienced an average increase of 8-percent over the same period.

"Ultimately, I am very proud of what I have helped accomplish in the support of less fortunate citizens in Columbia County," said Arnits. "United

Way of Columbia County is well positioned in the community. Indeed, the organization's reputation for integrity and honesty is well-recognized regionally.

"For years to come, my heart will remain close to United Way and to the many residents of Columbia County with whom I have worked closely," she concluded.

Charly Warren, President of the Board added, "We will miss Suzanne and her leadership, but certainly wish her well in her new position! With her leadership, great progress has been made toward supporting our communities' needs. In addition, she has helped develop a very capable replacement in Kathye Beck, who will assume the executive director position."

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Community Calendar

VERNONIA

Alcoholics Anonymous	Sundays	7:00 p.m., St. Mary's Church
Alcoholics Anonymous	Tuesdays	6:00 p.m., 1st Christian Church
Boosters	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., VHS Library
Boy Scout Troop 201	Tuesdays	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Boy Scout Troop 860	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., LDS Church
Cemetery Beautification Comm.	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Chamber of Commerce	2nd Wed.	Noon, Lew's Place
Cub Scout Parents	Last Tuesday	7:00 p.m. WGS Cafeteria
Doll Club	3rd Wednesday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center
Elem. Schools Site Council	1st Tuesday	3:15 p.m., WGS Library
Friends of the Scout Cabin	4th Monday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Girl Scouts	Thursdays	6:30-8 p.m., Christian Church
Izaak Walton League	3rd Thursday	For location call 429-7193
Lions Club	1st & 3rd Tuesdays	6:30 p.m., Lew's Place
Nehalem Valley Car Club		For Info Call 429-4074
Parent-Teacher Assoc.	3rd Thursday	7:00 p.m., WGS Library
Preschool Story Hour	Wednesdays	10:30 a.m., City Library
Senior Center Directors	1st Friday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center
TOPS	Tuesdays	6:15 p.m., 1st Baptist Church
Upr Nehalem Watershed Council	4th Thursday	For location call 429-2401
VHS Site Council	1st Monday	3:15 p.m., VHS Library
Vernonia Airport Committee	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Vernonia Cares Directors	1st Thursday	For location call 429-1414
Vernonia City Council	1st Monday	6:30 p.m., City Library
Vernonia Grange	2nd Friday	7:00 p.m., Grange Hall
Vernonia Health Center	2nd Wednesday	6:00 p.m., 854 Grant Ave.
Vernonia Planning Comm.	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Vernonia Pride		For Info Call, 429-1204
Vernonia Ridge Riders	Last Thursday	7:00 p.m., VHS, Rm. 6
Vernonia RFPD Board	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
Vernonia School Board	2nd Thursday	8:00 p.m., District Office
Vernonia Volunteer Firefighters	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
WOEC Directors	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., WOEC

MIST-BIRKENFELD

M-BRFPD Board	2nd & 4th Tuesday	7:30 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Ambulance Assoc.	1st & 2nd Thurs.	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Firefighters Assoc.	1st & 2nd Wed.	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Rescue	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Helping Circle	2nd Wednesday	10:00 a.m., 755-2346 for info.
Natal Grange	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., Grange Hall

BANKS

Alcoholics Anonymous	Fridays	8:00 p.m., Methodist Church
Banks City Council	2nd Tuesday	7:30 p.m., City Hall
Banks Planning Commission	Last Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Banks School Board	2nd Monday	7:30 p.m., Jr. High Library
Banks Youth Group	Sundays, Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., UMC Youth Bldg.
Chamber of Commerce	1st Thursday	12:30 p.m., Brown Derby
Citizen Participation Org.	3rd Monday, odd months	7:15 p.m., City Hall
Friends of the Library	1st Saturday	10:00 a.m., City Library
Lions Club	1st & 3rd Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., Methodist Church
Sunset Park Assoc.	3rd Wednesday	8:00 p.m., Gun Club
TOPS	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., Jr. High Library
Tri-City RFPD Board	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Station 13

COLUMBIA COUNTY (All meet in St. Helens unless otherwise noted.)

Board of Commissioners	Wednesdays	10 a.m., Courthouse
Citizens for Senior Justice	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Sunset Park Church
COLCO Transportation	2nd Friday	10:30 a.m., Courthouse
County Council of Seniors	2nd Friday	1:00 p.m., Courthouse
County Fair Board	2nd & 4th Mondays	7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds
County Parks Commission	3rd Thursday	6:00 p.m., 1054 Oregon St.
Emergency Comm. Dist. (9-1-1)	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Courthouse
Historical Society	4th Wednesday	Noon, location call 429-3713
Traffic Safety Commission	1st Wednesday	7:00 a.m., Village Inn

Organizations and meeting dates not listed may be included by calling 429-9410 or by mail to The INDEPENDENT, 725 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064.