

## Community

### Women's Resource Center now has regular schedule in Vernonia

A representative of the Columbia County Women's Resource Center is now available in Vernonia every Wednesday from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Ollie Gibson-Lovell will be in Vernonia to provide information or referrals, and assistance with restraining orders. She will also arrange for other services provided by WRC.

The local office of the Women's Resource Center shares space with Columbia Community Health in the credit union building. The Vernonia phone number for WRC is 429-1053; the 24-hour crisis line is 503-397-6161 and collect calls

are accepted.

Additional services available through the Women's Resource Center include emergency shelter for battered women and their children, peer/support counseling, legal advocacy/court support, emergency transportation, youth and teen outreach programs, low-income housing information, rape advocacy, and much more.

To learn more about how the Women's Resource Center may assist members of the community, call Gibson-Lovell at 429-1053.

### Ridge Riders schedule work day

The May trail ride of the Vernonia Ridge Riders will be held Saturday, May 20. The ride is open to club members and their guests. The time and location has not yet been confirmed. Call George Bellingham at (503) 429-9523 for more information.

A workday has been scheduled for the Anderson Park horse arena. Please show up at the arena on Sunday, May 7 at 10:00 a.m., if you are able to help. Call Bellingham for further information.

The Ridge Riders Poker Ride has been set for Satur-

day, June 24. It is open to anyone interested in attending. Prices have not yet been set, but there will be lots of prizes! The first riders will leave at 9:00 a.m., with the last rider out at 11 a.m. Liz Brainerd, (503) 647-5172 is the contact for the poker ride.

The annual Jamboree Play Day will be Sunday, August 6. It is also open to anyone interested in participating. Call Beverly Grant at (503) 429-8470.

The next meeting of the Ridge Riders will be Thursday, May 25 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vernonia Public Library.

## Senior News

By Patricia Olson

There is an old saying in Oregon; "If you don't like the weather, wait 20 minutes." That has seemed to be the case lately. We really can't complain too much as we've had some very nice days...and then, some of the other kind. Every day is nice when you're in good company and enjoying yourself. That's what we do a lot at the Senior Center. The only sad thing is when we can't

### Anna Naspini wins Easter Story contest

Eleven-year-old Anna Naspini was the winner of an Easter Story contest sponsored by Specialized Engraving for children ages 7 through 11.

Naspini, who wrote her story as a poem, won an Easter basket full of fun things and a beanie baby. Second place went to Michael Calhoun, who won a book, a jell pen and candy sticks. Brittney Lindauer won a calendar and candy sticks for her third place entry. All who participated did a great job.

The winning entry:

Easter comes in the midst of Spring  
All the flowers and splendor of a king.  
With life and beauty that the birds all sing,  
In so comes our Lord,  
Christ our King!

— Anna Naspini

built as needed due to population increase.

You may have seen some of the television advertising the bureau put out this past month to encourage viewers to fill out their census forms and get their "Slice of American Pie." The census helps determine where a new fire station, senior citizens center or daycare facilities are needed.

Other government departments and institutions are dependent on allocated monies for funding their needs. These are determined solely on population. You don't need to have a job, be a voter or a taxpayer to be listed on the census. The only qualification was to be living on April 1st or before.

Census taking is not a new idea; it goes way back to Ancient Rome. In 1066, England started a census, and cities in Germany started a count in the 1400s. In 1666 the people of New France (Canada) were counted. Sweden started the first national census in 1749. Today, Canada has a census every five years.

Basic questions asked for the census are age, gender, race, marital status, place of birth and relationship to head of household. In the 2000 census, only seven questions were asked on the short form, the fewest in the past 180 years. The long form goes into more detail, with 34 questions that deal with a broad spectrum of American people. These responses will help determine long range planning for future generations.

The long forms went to about one of every six households, so feel privileged if you were chosen to be part of "A Snapshot of America!"

In years past, questions might have included whether you had a telephone or a kitchen, or a bathroom in the house with running water. They wanted to know how people lived, to help determine economic needs and assistance. At differ-

share it with you.

COLCO announces the following: Door to door transportation for all residents of Columbia County. Our new Vernonia office phone number is 429-4304. Call us for your transportation needs.

Jacqueline wishes to announce that she has moved her knitting and crochet classes to her home at 1105 Riverside Drive, Sp.4. The time is from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays.

The last announcement I have is for a paid position for janitorial service one day a week at the Center. We need someone to vacuum, sweep and generally tidy up. It will pay minimum wage.

Last week, April 24th, nine people from our Center visited Rainier for five-area lunch. We had a good time fellowshiping with old friends and there was a good turnout from all the

Centers.

Last, but far from least, our chairman is back! Fred Oviatt returned to Oregon just in time for our last board meeting. He is very busy so we haven't seen him very much, however.

Lots of new things are coming in to the Thrift Shop and Pat Lloyd is doing a great job presenting them in our store area. Several pieces of small furniture items have been brought in. We can't take large items, due to small floor space.

We are still seeing paper and items on the door stoops. Please, how can I encourage you to use the drop box? It will save many items from meeting an early death in the dumpster.

Watch out for those sneaky frosts. Several people got surprised last week. It's fun to garden but heart-breaking to lose plants to frost bite. Spring is here but the weather is not reliable yet. Enjoy the splendor of this season. It's a beauty!

## Mother's Day Breakfast

May 14<sup>th</sup> 8 am - Noon

At the Scout Cabin in Hawkins Park



All you can eat Pancakes  
Choice of Sausage or Bacon

Fresh Fruit Cup

Coffee, Juice, Tea



\$4/Person - 3 & Under Free  
Free Corsage w/advance tickets!

Tickets available from Boy Scouts  
or call 429-4035 or 429-6008

## A Little History

By Robb Wilson

### Stand up and be counted!

Or at least take the time to fill out your census form if you haven't already.

Where were you on April 1st? The 22nd United States Federal Census was under way. April 1 was "CENSUS 2000 DAY," when the hope of the U.S. Census Bureau was to have a count of all residents and all people living in the United States. Close to 60% of all households had returned their forms by the April 19 deadline. The other 40% are still being gathered by census workers. At the beginning of April, every household should have received by mail or hand delivery, a census form to fill out.

The first census for the United States of America was taken in 1790 by order of the United States Constitution and, thereafter, every ten years. The census was (and still is) a way to determine the number of representatives each state will have in Congress. The population count for that first census 210 years ago was 3,929,214 people. It was conducted by 217 persons in nine months. Today there are about 265,000 persons working for the bureau, which hopes that the count will be completed by July.

This is the largest peacetime call up of workers for the government, ever. Very few of these employees are full time, some have been working for almost two years preparing, but most of those hired will work only a few months and some may have an assignment that lasts just one day or an evening! Columbia County has about 70 people working for the bureau.

Beside the number of congressional representatives, the census lets officials know about economics and needs so they can determine where monies for federal and government projects can be allocated. Schools, hospitals, roads, institutions, water and sewer projects, etc., are

## Vote Susan Easley County Commissioner



### Proven Leader

- Elected Twice to St. Helens School Board
- Appointed Twice to Commission on Children & Families
- 5+ Years Budget Management & Policy Development
- 5+ Years Experience in Collective Bargaining
- Strategic Planning & Partnering with Private, County and State Agencies
- Successful Small Business Owner

Experienced Effective Involved

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Susan Easley, 292 S. 1st Street, St. Helens, OR 97051

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