

Community

Senior News

By Karen Miller

If there is one thing my teenaged daughter has drilled into me, it's this: "Mom, I don't care what you wear, just don't wear the same things I do!" It was just last week I swung through the door like Loretta Young sporting my "new" knit top. "Where did you get that?" "Down at the senior center," I bragged, awaiting a sweet, music-to-my-ears compliment.

Senior Citizens set business meeting

The annual meeting of the Vernonia Senior Citizens will be held February 2 at 1:00 p.m. at the Vernonia Senior Center.

On the agenda are election of officers and yearly budget.

All members are urged to attend.

Singers and actors needed for cantata

Easter will be here before you know it, and the Vernonia community choir has begun practicing for the annual Easter Cantata (a musical drama). Choir practices are on Sunday afternoons from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church on the corner of "A" and Washington. Especially needed are tenors and basses, and there are a few acting parts that don't require singing talents. For more information, call Lynda Cahill, 503-429-1161, or Sandy Welch at 503-429-9602.

Fund allocated for emergency needs

Four agencies providing services to Columbia County residents will share \$33,712 from the National Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP).

Operating through United Way of Columbia County, the volunteer EFSP board made the following allocations:

- Women's Resource Center, \$8,200 to defray cost of shelter for homeless families
- Community Action Team, \$6,700 for emergency homeless assistance and emergency utility assistance
- Columbia Pacific Food Bank: \$14,012 to purchase high protein and emergency food products
- Turning Point Community Center, \$4,800 for emergency homeless assistance and emergency utility assistance

The money will be distributed directly from the national board to each agency in two equal payments during 2001.

The Columbia County EFSP board includes representatives of the American Red Cross, City of Rainier, VFW, City of Vernonia, Homeless, Veterans, Columbia County Emergency Services, Columbia River PUD and PGE.

"That was mine!", she stared at me in disgust. Sweet music turned to sour notes in an instant. How was I to know she had just taken a bag of her nice clothes down to the center. I slinked into my bedroom to change. "Next time," came her haunting words, "I'll let you pick through them first!"

We appreciate everyone's quality items, furniture and clothes, here at the senior thrift center. Come see us for some great buys. (Well, at least she can't say I don't have good taste!)

The Senior Center will be electing new board members soon. We are seeking fresh faces with a heart to work with seniors. To be elected for a board position, you must be at least 50 years old. In addition to other positions, we will be needing a new treasurer, as our current treasurer, Jacqueline Ramsay, has announced her retirement, effective July 1.

Vienna Choir Boys performance

The incomparable Vienna Choir Boys will perform at Columbia Theatre for the Performing Arts in Longview on Friday, January 26, at 7:30 p.m. The Vienna Choir Boys have enchanted audiences for nearly five centuries with their unique charm and exceptional singing.

The choir's 24 boys, aged 10 to 14, will perform the traditional works they are noted for, plus folk music from around the world and contemporary music. On their Fall 2000 U.S. tour, they brought down the house with a surprise rendition of *New York, New York*. Expect the unexpected from these classically trained youngsters in their beguiling sailor suits.

Ticket prices are \$19, \$29 and \$34, with senior, student and group discounts available.

The current tour, conducted by Johannes Mertl, offers motets from the great composers including Schubert, Haydn and Mozart. Something new will be the performance of spiritual songs from different cultures, including several American pieces, with the Choir Boys playing indigenous instruments. The show will conclude with the Vienna Choir Boys' signature sound of rousing Austrian folk songs and polkas and waltzes by Johann Strauss.

The Vienna Choir Boys were formed in 1498 by Hapsburg Emperor Maximilian I and, for four centuries, they performed exclusively for the Imperial

Join us for the meeting on Feb. 2nd.

Planning is under way for a special Health Fair, February 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., sponsored by the Nehalem Valley Community Corporation and the Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD. Free medically related services, diabetes testing, cholesterol testing and blood pressure checks will be available throughout the day. The Health Fair will be held at the Main Station, 12125 Hwy. 202, Mist. Call our office for further details.

The Senior Centers 5 Area Lunch will be held at the new Scappoose Senior Center on Monday, January 29. If you haven't been there, come along!

INFORMATION NUMBERS

COLCO Transportation
..... 429-4304
Senior Advocate.. 429-9112
Senior Center..... 429-3912

Episcopal and Lutheran churches agree to shared worship services

A common mission was declared by the Episcopal Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and celebrated by members of both churches at a service in the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C., on January 1, 2001.

While entering into full communion with each other, each church will retain its own traditions, liturgy, clergy and identity. They are neither merging nor consolidating, but are welcome to participate fully in the sacraments and activities of both churches.

ELCA clergy may serve in Episcopal churches and Episcopal clergy may serve in ELCA churches. This may be occasional, such as when the clergyperson of one church is on vacation or when two congregations worship together, or

it may be temporary, for instance, when a parish is without a pastor.

This is particularly meaningful in small towns and rural areas, for it allows members of one of the churches to attend the other church when there is none of their own available.

For Lutherans in the Nehalem Valley, who cannot regularly go to Forest Grove, Hillsboro, St. Helens or Rainier, it provides a practical solution. They may fully participate in worship services at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church in Vernonia.

An invitation has been extended by the congregation of St. Augustine's to join them in services on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. and participate in the fellowship brunch afterwards.

For further information, call 503-429-3700.

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Christian Men's Retreat planned

The eighth annual retreat of Columbia County Christian Men will be held February 9 - 10 at Camp Emerald Forest, near St. Helens. The retreat is open to all men 16 years and older. Max Snook will be speaking on this year's theme,

"Encouraged By God's Grace."

The cost of the retreat is \$40, which includes three meals and one night's stay. For more information call Ron Ross at 503-397-5165 or e-mail to omric@juno.com.