

Business Notes

Vernonia Business Expo provides exposure for local entrepreneurs

Who says there's nothing to do in Vernonia? The merchants, organizations and churches serving Vernonia are invited to present their "wares" during the second annual Vernonia Business Expo. This event, sponsored by Vernonia Cares Food Bank, will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on May 11 in the Washington Grade School gym, 199 Bridge Street.

"There are many Vernonia businesses and groups, both well-established and new," said food bank director Sandy Welch. "The Expo is the perfect avenue for them to come and

show Vernonians what our local area has to offer. I would encourage vendors to contact Vernonia Cares to reserve table space right away. There are a limited number of tables available," encourages Welch. "This event also would allow organizations and churches to present their goals and upcoming events," Welch states.

Cost per table is \$25. Proceeds benefit the food bank.

Registration forms for the Expo are available by calling Vernonia Cares at 503-429-1414 or by email to: cares@vernonia.com

Don't dig up trouble on the job

Buried underground are a complex web of electric, natural gas, oil, fiber-optic, telephone, cable-television, water and sewer lines. One wrong move may cause hundreds or thousands of residents to be cut off from heat, electricity, telephone, 911 and other vital services.

The Oregon Utility Notification Center (OUNC) has a toll

Wu representative will be in area

In April, Jillian Schoene, a field representative with Congressman David Wu, will be available at the following times and locations, so constituents may share concerns, express opinions or discuss problems with federal agencies:

Vernonia City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Thursday, April 25 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Rainier City Hall, 106 West B Street, Council Chambers, Wednesday, April 24 from 11:00 a.m. to Noon.

Clatskanie City Hall, 95 S. Nehalem, Wednesday, April 24 from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

County Republicans schedule meeting

The Columbia County Republicans will be hosting a "Restore America" presentation with David Crowe on April 25 at 7:00 p.m. in the Scappoose Library, 52469 SE 2nd, Scappoose. The public is invited to the presentation.

OSHA plans "brown bag" workshops

Oregon OSHA will offer a no-cost simple safety and health program to the Cornelius and Scappoose business communities through "brown bag" lunch workshops in May.

The Public Education and Conferences Section of Oregon OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Division) designed the Safety and the Small Business Employer (SATSBE) program to help small business owners start implementing safety and health programs in their workplaces. The program consists of two one-hour "brown bag"

workshops. Participants bring their own lunches and Oregon OSHA provides workshop materials for participants. The workshop is free.

The SATSBE workshop is presented in two phases. Attendance is required at the first meeting to participate in the Phase Two meeting two weeks later. Participants will learn how to integrate a safety and health program into their business plan, receive industry-specific resource materials and be introduced to the program's ten short duration safety and health training modules.

Cornelius: May 1, Noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Old Fire Hall, 1310 North Adair Street (Phase II class on May 15 from Noon to 1:00 p.m.)

Scappoose: May 9, Noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Scappoose Library, 52469 SE Second (Phase II class on May 15 from Noon to 1:00 p.m.)

For more information about these workshops or to register, call the Oregon OSHA Education Section, 503-947-7443 or toll-free in Oregon, 888-292-5247 Option 2. Additional information and resources are available on Oregon OSHA's website, www.orosha.org

Habitat for Humanity active in local area

at www.digsafelyoregon.com

In 25 years, Habitat for Humanity, a nonprofit, ecumenical, Christian housebuilding organization, has become a familiar name throughout the United States and in many other countries around the world. Habitat's most famous volunteer, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter, has a lot to do with that, but the basic principle that guides the work - that people need safe, decent homes in which to raise their families - has even more to do with the organization's rapid, global growth.

Since the organization's founding in 1976, more than 100,000 houses have been built or rehabilitated, and those houses now are home to more than 500,000 people.

To be more precise, volunteers and future Habitat for Humanity homeowners build these houses together, learning from each other, sweating with one another, celebrating together each step accomplished in the construction process. Habitat doesn't build houses for people; it builds houses with people.

Construction is not the end

of the process, but the beginning. Habitat homeowners buy their homes through no-profit, no-interest loans over a 20 or 30 year period. Homeowners' monthly payments go into a local Fund for Humanity that is used to build additional modest, but sturdy and healthy houses, so homeowners not only receive help, but also give it.

Habitat for Humanity, although worldwide in scope, is local in operation. It is neighbors helping neighbors, local people solving local problems. Ultimately, Habitat works because people care.

Habitat's goal is to eradicate poverty housing. That goal will be realized with millions of helping hands in thousands of communities doing

many different tasks. At Habitat, regardless of who you are, what your talents are, your creed, your color, or your age, the welcome mat is always out.

Columbia County Habitat for Humanity is a fairly new chapter, but is already working on building a second home for a local family. To get involved with the Columbia County Habitat for Humanity, consider some of the ways you can become a Habitat committee volunteer—as part of the Habitat construction crew, preparing meals for construction workers, making a financial contribution, supplying construction materials, or in many other volunteer positions.

For more information, call 503-366-4595.

**Publicize Your Business or Organization
at the 2nd Annual**

**Vernonia Business Expo
Sat., May 11, 2002 • 10 AM - 4 PM**

**Washington Grade School Gym
199 Bridge Street • Space Rental \$25.00
Space is Limited - Registration Deadline May 3.**

**For more information contact Sandy Welch at
Vernonia Cares Food Bank: 503-429-1414
Home: 503-429-9602
e-mail: cares@vernonia.com**

PROCEEDS WILL BENEFIT VERNONIA CARES FOOD BANK

Sunnyside Cafe

Sunday Buffet is Back!

Every Sunday 8 am - 1 pm

Adults \$7.95 • Srs. \$6.95 • Under 12 \$5.95

ORDERS TO GO: 503-429-4810

Open Mon-Sat 5 am-2 pm • Sunday 7 am-2 pm
58360 Nehalem Hwy. S., Vernonia