

Grants available for community needs

Columbia County Citizens for Human Dignity (CCCHD) is now accepting applications for grants of up to \$500 through its Community Grants program.

Eligible organizations may apply for consideration of arts and cultural projects, health and social service projects, educational and community-oriented outreach projects, seed money for new projects, collaborative projects between agencies, and short-term funding to

address a current need.

All projects must advance social justice in Columbia County and they must support CCCHD's mission, which is to work to assure basic civil rights and human dignity for all.

Those eligible to apply for funds include non-profit or publicly-funded organizations such as educational institutions, social service agencies and human rights or charitable organizations. Groups with no official

legal status, but with a plan of action, such as a group of concerned citizens who want to fund a local, short-term project, may also apply.

The organization and project must operate within Columbia County, have local decision-making personnel, and benefit Columbia County residents.

Grant funds cannot be used to deliver existing social services, but are available to social service programs to address barriers to social justice, such as a language barrier. The funds cannot be used for political organizations or campaigns, annual fund drives, endowments or capital expenditures.

The deadline for grant applications is June 30, 2003. Applications and additional information are available from Abby Dawson at 503-397-5406.

The grants will be awarded in the fall of 2003. CCCHD received 24 applications in 2002 for the first round of grants, and awarded over \$2000 to seven local groups for community projects. Funds for this second round of grants were provided from the CCCHD Kaleidoscope Winter Gala held last January.

Study Club elects officers, plans Silver Tea to benefit local library

The Vernonia Study Club elected officers for 2003 in a meeting, April 3, at the home of Barbara Sturdevant.

Pat Wheeler was elected as president. She will be assisted by Vice-president Pauline King, Secretary Irene Christensen and Treasurer Cozy Tatman.

Plans were finalized for the fourth annual Silver Tea, which will be held on May 14, in the Theile-Petti meeting room at the Vernonia Public Library, from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. All proceeds from this event will be used to benefit the local public library. Vernonia Public Library has, for many years, been a

special project of the Study Club.

Proceeds from the 2002 Silver Tea were used to purchase a microphone and speaker system, which has already proven its value at public presentations at the library.

The musical selections offered during last year's Silver Tea were so greatly enjoyed that Madeleine Gendron has again agreed to arrange a musical interlude for the tea.

Sylvia Kaufman will add a touch of beauty and authenticity with a doll display. As usual, cookies, coffee, tea and punch will be served.

Lions Club free mobile Health Screening Unit will be in Vernonia on Saturday

The Oregon Lions Mobile Health Screening Unit (MSU) will be in Vernonia on Saturday, April 19 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Vernonia School District office building, 475 Bridge Street. The MSU will provide free health screening to the public for visual acuity, hearing, blood pressure, diabetes and glaucoma.

The visit of the Oregon Lions MSU is a community service project of the Vernonia Lions

Club, and is the first visit of the MSU since its inaugural stop in Vernonia in 1995. Local health care providers have volunteered to provide the screenings. Please note that a minimum three-hour fast (no food or drink other than black coffee, tea or water) is required for the diabetes screening. A six-hour fast is preferred. Participants are also encouraged to recycle prescription eyeglasses and hearing aids while visiting the MSU.

Bits and Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



Don't ever say no one hears me. Just after I put my last article to bed, so to speak, a Scout master contacted me, said he heard I needed help. He and some of his boys got my rain water headed in the right direction, for which I owe them a big thank you.

It's been raining here, but if you hop in your car and head for the beach areas, you'll find different weather. Well, possibly not too different, but the view and the surf have been most refreshing. The eighth was fantastic at Manzanita. The wind was whipping up sand and surf and Shadow went nuts trying to catch sea gulls.

Remember the Easter Cantata at Washington Grade School Gym, April 18 and 19, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, the 19, at 4:00 p.m. Also, Easter Sunrise Services, 7:00 a.m. April 20 at the Cemetery.

The fishing has been very good to most fisherpeople. Even I have been enjoying the trout. Thank you to those who just love to fish, but don't eat them, or who want to share the bounty with non-fishing folks.

And, while on the subject of the lake, fish line, fish hooks, empty glass jars and paper trash belong to those who leave it behind. Please pick it up and take it to the cans placed around the lake or take it home. ALSO, remember your duty to pick up after your pets. People are taking their children to fish and they should not have to poop scoop an area before letting the kids play where the adults want to fish. The playground is for kids, not dog poop. Use your plastic bags.

I understand the Vernonia speed limit in town is being challenged and corrections are being enforced by our new Chief. Thank you.

I like the new look on Bridge Street - flags and yellow ribbons. No matter how you feel about the war, our troops need your prayers and thank yous. 9-11 was enough of an invasion for me to not want my country invaded by "any" other nation.

I may not like what's going on, but I have the freedom to think and speak for what I believe in and so do we all.



Keeping connected...

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- Tom Marshall

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