

Letters (cont.)

From page 3

United Way agencies. It was down significantly because, despite the best efforts of campaign volunteers and staff, the United Way of Columbia County fell far short of its goal for the first time in ten years.

When you meet or exceed goal everyone celebrates, and the accolades of the community follow. When you fail to meet goal, the celebration and accolades are muted, though the effort and the contributions of those who volunteered to lead the campaign, and those who pledged their support to the agencies, was probably more heroic than usual. That's just human nature.

The Board of Directors and the staff of Riverside Training Centers would like to do a small part to change that. We want to publicly acknowledge and thank everyone who worked on the 2003 United Way Campaign. We want to acknowledge and thank in a special way every donor to the United Way campaign who continues to give so generously to help the less fortunate in the community even in the face of personal uncertainty. We would like to particularly thank those who serve on the United Way Board of Directors and the review panel who had to listen night after night to painful stories of needs, and then make very difficult funding decisions. Kudos to all of you!

Our focus at Riverside is not on how much we were cut. Our focus is on how deeply honored and touched we are that the people of Columbia County continue to support Riverside and all the agencies so generously even in the face of great economic hardship!

While we are at it, we would also like to say a special thank you to everyone who serves in a volunteer leadership role, whether on one of the United Way agency boards, or on the board of a special services district, or on the school boards during these difficult times. We want you to know that your efforts and your leadership are deeply appreciated by all of us, especially when the task before you seems impossible.

Let's all make a point of showing our support and saying a personal "thank you" to those whom we know that are giving of their time, and bearing the considerable stress of volunteer leadership during these



Kids (and adults) enjoyed a visit from Red Robin at T-Ball picnic in Hawkins Park. Red Robin was just one of many donors who helped make the season very successful.

difficult times.

Al Soenneker
Executive Director
Riverside Training Ctrs, Inc.
St. Helens

Your generosity helps meet growing needs

To the Editor:

The Vernonia Cares Food Bank would like to thank the food contributors and postal carriers for a successful Letter Carriers Food Drive on May 10. Thanks to you, 659 pounds of food was added to your local food pantry. Our shelves were becoming empty of certain foods and your addition of canned foods helped to meet the need. Thank you, especially to Peter O'Leary, who headed up this project.

The number of clients continues to increase. In January, we assisted 304 people; in Feb, 298; in March 321; in April 327; and in May 341. This continual climb in the number of people needing food assistance tells us that we're doing what we're supposed to be doing: helping feed the hungry of our community. It takes both food and funds to keep Cares open. Gifts can be sent to Vernonia Cares, P.O. Box 126, Vernonia, OR 97064. All donations are tax deductible.

We also could use volunteers. Could you spare four hours a week? Please call

(503-429-1414) or come by 627 Adams Avenue (front entry of the Legion Hall, behind West Oregon Electric) during our business hours on Tuesday and Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Many of you brought plastic and paper sacks for us to use filling the grocery orders. Your response was great. Thanks! We can still use more, especially paper sacks.

The Food Bank is your hand extended to this community. Thanks, again, to all of you who are willing to help demonstrate that "Vernonia Cares."

Sandy Welch, Director
Vernonia Cares Food Bank

DISCOVERY TOYS

"Your Whole Child is Our Whole Business"

Products & Business Opportunities
Supporting Healthy Growth and
Development of Children
and their Families

- Toys, Books, Puzzles and Software for all ages
- Offering Child and Specialist Tested Educational Products
- Risk Free Guarantee, and the Best Warranty in the Industry
- Convenient Shopping Options: Online, Catalog or Hold a Party
- Earn Free Toys by Hosting a Party and/or Referring Customers
- New Sales and Specials Every Month
- Teacher and Daycare Discounts



Camrin Eyrrick
Educational Consultant

Visit my website:
www.discoverytoyslink.com/letsgoplay
For Free Catalog, Call (503) 429-0470

Generous donations made a great activity

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Jr Midgets Baseball league, I want to send a thank you to all the members of the community who came out and supported our pop can drive in April. We raised nearly \$300 to be used for equipment and our end-of-the-year picnic, raffle and family ball game.

I also want to extend a big thank you to all of the individuals and businesses whose donations made our event a huge success. Because of all the generous donations and discounted products, very little

money was actually used from our general fund. Therefore, there will be money still left for next year.

We even had a surprise visit from "RED", the mascot from Red Robin. Red had his picture taken with all the kids and was a good sport when the kids wanted him to get up to bat. Red was able to hit the ball and the kids even got Red home.

I was very delighted to have so much positive response from people in a time when budgets are so limited.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,
Kinnell Steward
Vernonia

Look at what's new from STIHL®

STIHL® KombiSystem Units



With split shaft technology, buy one powerhead and choose from a whole family of easy-to-switch multi-task tools!

attachments

- Straight Shaft Edger
- Trimmer
- Grass Blade
- Cultivator
- Power Scythe
- Pole Pruner
- Hedge Trimmer
- PowerSweep
- Curved Shaft Edger

As Low As
\$249⁹⁵

Cultivate Your Garden!

STIHL®
YARD BOSS™
\$329⁹⁵ MM 55

Lightweight, powerful, fits in your trunk and stores easily!

The BEST BUY SEAL is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications, LLC, used under license.

PRECISION OUTDOOR Power Equipment

Mon. - Fri.
8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

42425 N.W. Banks Road, Banks
503-324-5221

Saturdays
9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

www.stihlusa.com

STIHL®