

## Community

### Senior News

By Karen Miller



Middle age is when you've met so many people that every new person you meet reminds you of someone else.

Here's some great news for anyone needing caregiving respite relief, thanks to the Older Americans Act.

The Older Americans Act provides funding for 10 hours a month of caregiving if you are:

1) A senior 60 and over caring for someone under the age of 18, or

caring for someone 21 or up with special needs,

2) caring for someone over 60 and up.

Finds are available to provide this service and we are always looking for both caregivers and families needing this service. Please call our office for further information.

July 21: Free rides to the Columbia County Fair for seniors, sponsored by Columbia River PUD. Come sign up to attend the selection of the Senior Queen. We can boast of two past queens; Etta Russell and Ruth Bell. Ruth Bell rode in a St. Helen's parade this past week – Good Job! Our senior

selection this year is Sharon Gibson, see you July 21.

From our Vice President and Vernonia Lake caretaker, Bill Yeo: Due to uncontrollable circumstances the bathrooms at the lake will now have to be **CLOSED** from 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. Sorry for the inconvenience. Also, an electric boat motor was found at the lake, must be able to identify to claim.

The Center's vacuum cleaner died this week. Is there anyone out there who could donate a decent vacuum to the Center? If so, call our office.

#### REMEMBER:

- Pastries and bread Wednesday and Saturday a.m.
- Bingo, Mondays at lunch.
- Music with the Golden Oldies on Wednesdays.
- Games on Thursdays.
- Willoughby Hearing every second Friday at 11:00 a.m.
- Sign language class on Mondays, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- Free blood pressure checks the first and third Tuesdays, 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.

If you know of a senior who would like a visit from the Senior Advocate or has any senior needs and concerns, call our office.

#### INFORMATION NUMBERS

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

### Community Yard & Sidewalk Sale set for Sept. 18

Coming up September 18 will be the sixth annual Community-Wide Yard & Sidewalk Sale in Vernonia. People from outside the area are already calling to find out the date.

For more details, or to sign up as a participant call Helen Bateman at 503-429-6203.



## Finzel wins Oregon Senior Spelling Bee

Columbia County's senior spellers continue their winning ways as Tobie Finzel of Vernonia won the Oregon State Senior Spelling Bee, and Betty Flora of Clatskanie (who was Vernonia's Senior Spelling Bee winner in April) placed third. Second place was won by William Long of Salem.

Finzel hopes to compete at the National Senior Spelling Bee in September in Cheyenne, Wyoming. The Oregon competition was held in Aurora last month.

### Country Market returns July 16

Vernonia Country Market will be open Saturday, July 17, in Shay Park from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., with produce, crafts, and what-have-you available. After Jamboree, subsequent Country Markets will be held on the first and third Saturdays of each month, concluding on October 2.

Vernonia Country Market, a family-friendly event, is sponsored by the Vernonia Chamber of Commerce to provide the community with opportunities to display their talents and wares to a larger public. Residents and non-residents are encouraged to participate.

For more information, contact Dennis or Marilyn Nicks at 715 Bridge St., Vernonia OR 97064, or call 503-429-0335.



The top three finishers at the 2004 Oregon Senior Spelling Bee were, from left, Betty Flora, Tobie Finzel and William Long.

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