



Drive carefully on October 31,
there will be many small goblins
and ghosts on the streets



BRAND SOURCE Expert
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

THE BIG EVENT

Why Choose Your Local BRANDSOURCE Store?

• COMMUNITY-BASED

Your locally-owned BRAND SOURCE store is serving you and your community by choice...they care about you - every day!

• BUYING POWER

Your area BRAND SOURCE store is one of Hundreds of Locations with a combined \$4 Billion Dollar Purchasing Power - every day!

• DEDICATION

Your neighborhood BRAND SOURCE store is committed to customer service excellence - every day!

• NAME BRANDS

You are able to choose from America's favorite name brands and get the best price - every day!

• VALUE

Your BRAND SOURCE store offers you the best value - every day!

• PEACE OF MIND

Count on your neighborhood BRAND SOURCE store for prompt professional delivery, set-up and assistance - every day!



Family Size Washer

- 8 Wash Cycles
- 3/4 HP Motor
- 2 Wash/Spin speed Combos
- 3 Wash/Rinse Temp. Options
- 3 Water Level Settings

FWX833AS

Family Size Electric Dryer

- Balance Dry System
- Auto Dry Cycle
- Cool Down Setting
- Reversible Door
- Quick-Clean Lint Filter

FER211AS

5 MONTHS PAY NO INTEREST

Offer is subject to credit approval by Monogram Credit Card Bank of Georgia. Applies to Purchases of Qualified products made on the GECAF consumer credit card account. No Finance Charges assessed on your promotional purchase amount (excluding optional insurance charges) if you pay this amount in full by the payment due date as shown on the monthly billing statement after the purchase date. If you do not, Finance Charges will be assessed on promotional purchase amount from purchase date. If minimum monthly payments on that amount and on any other balances (including optional insurance charges) are not paid when due, all special promotional terms may be terminated. Standard account terms apply to non-promotional balances and after promotion ends, to promotional purchases Variable APR is 21.98% (subject to change) as of (date of Prime rate change) (in PR. Fixed APR is 22.48%). Fixed APR of 24.75 applies if payment more than 30 days late, except in PR. Minimum finance charge is \$1 (\$0 in PR) during specified promotional dates only. See or call store for details.



PROUD SPONSOR



SERVING THE COMMUNITY FOR OVER 60 YEARS

APPLIANCES

2008 Main Street • Forest Grove • 503-357-6011
M-F 8:30-5:30 • Sat 8:30-5:00 • Closed Sunday

Property tax bills in the mail soon

Most Columbia County property owners can expect a predictable three percent increase in their property tax bill each year. "Whether a property owner's tax bill varies more than three percent is largely the result of changes in local option and bonded debt levy rates," Columbia County Assessor, Sue Poling said.

The 9-1-1 levy approved by voters in May replaced the levy that ended last year. While the previous 5-year levy was a lump sum requiring a new levy rate to be calculated each year, the new 5-year levy is a fixed rate of .2900 per \$1000 in assessed value, which is slightly less than the calculated rate of .2976 last year.

The market value of all taxable property in the county increased from \$3.65 billion to \$3.81 billion, an increase of 4.44 percent. The majority of the county's market values remained unchanged.

However, Poling pointed out that property taxes are based on assessed value, not market value. Measure 50 created a "maximum assessed value," for each property. The maximum assessed value was established in 1997-98 by taking the 1995-96 market value and reducing it 10 percent. The assessed value is the lower of real market value or the maximum assessed value.

Total assessed value this year is \$3,108,731,330 or 4.19

percent higher than last year. The increase includes the three percent increase in assessed value and new construction.

Although the assessed value increased by three percent, the actual tax rate varies. Inside the city of Vernonia, the tax rate increased by 2.68 percent instead of 3.00 percent. In rural Vernonia, the increase is 2.48 percent and in Mist/Birkenfeld, it is 2.63 percent.

The first payment of the tax bill is due by November 15. Payments that are mailed need to be post marked by the 15th. At least one third of the amount is due at that time. The second and third installments are due by February 15 and May 16, however the County does not send out statements for the February or May due dates.

Property owners who pay the entire amount by November 15 will receive a three percent discount. If two thirds of the bill is paid by November 15 a two percent discount of the amount paid will be allowed.

Payments can be made at any branch of the St. Helens Federal Community Credit Union, Wauna Federal Credit Union's Clatskanie and Vernonia branches, and Bank of the West in St. Helens. However, if there are taxes owing from previous years, payment cannot be taken by the banks.

Property owners may appeal the value of their property as in past years. However, if the appeal results in a lower market value there would only be a reduction in the taxes due if the market value falls below the assessed value. The deadline for filing an appeal is December 31, 2004. Appeal forms are available from the county clerk or county assessors office.

**UNLIMITED
56K INTERNET**
For information call
503-429-2701
www.agalis.net

FREE! **ANNUAL FALL FAIR CARNIVAL**
Sunday October 31st.
7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
410 North Street
**Vernonia Christian Church
Youth & Family Center**
Refreshments and Fun for the Whole Family!!
WE ARE ACCEPTING CANNED GOODS
AT THE DOOR FOR VERNONIA CARES