

Food/shelter programs – apply for \$

Columbia County has been awarded \$46,377 in federal funds to supplement emergency food and shelter programs in the county.

The selection was made by a national board that is chaired by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and includes representatives from The Salvation Army, American Red Cross, United Jewish Communities, Catholic Charities, USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the U.S. A., and United Way of America, which will provide the administrative staff and function as fiscal agent. The board distributes funds appropriated by Congress under the Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program.

A local board composed of representatives from the VFW, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, community churches, homeless and other community constituencies will determine how the funds are to be distrib-

uted within Columbia County.

Organizations wishing to apply for the grant money must meet the following criteria:

1. Be private voluntary non-profit or units of government.
2. Have an accounting system.
3. Practice nondiscrimination.
4. Have demonstrated the capability to deliver emergency food and/or shelter programs within Columbia County.
5. Private voluntary organizations must have a voluntary board.
6. Organizations must have a permanent Columbia County presence.

Qualifying organizations are urged to apply for a portion of the \$46,377.00 by Friday, January 17, 2005.

Send proposals to P.O. Box 538, Rainier, OR 97048. Inquiries may be made through the United Way of Columbia County at 503-556-3614.

Long term care advocates sought

Volunteer advocates and investigators are needed to serve as ombudsmen for residents of nursing homes, residential care facilities, assisted living facilities and adult foster care homes.

The Office of the Long Term Care Ombudsman will train the volunteers on the aging process, communication skills, problem-solving skills, investigation and other ombudsman skills. The certification training will begin on Thursday, February 3, in Portland.

As Certified Ombudsmen, the volunteers work to improve the quality of residents' lives, by identifying and investigating complaints and concerns on behalf of the residents, then working with the facilities to make changes. The concerns often include resident care; residents' rights, such as privacy, respect and dignity; and quality of life concerns such as appro-

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



Happy New Year.

There has been something going on quietly in Vernonia for the past 5 or 6 months that you should know about concerning the youth of our community. Don't freak out – it is the good they are doing.

Who are they? Venture Crew 201. Boy Scouts of America. Boys and Girls 14-20 years of age. A community service organization that helps teach values and leadership skills. Through community service and high adventure they are learning new skills that will help them in the future. Their advisor is Greig Bevans, President Sandy Bevans, Vice President Jessica Shaw, Secretary Lindsay Shaw, Treasurer Laura Spears. Other members; Nicole Moss and Jolene Botchie. I met them at the Senior Center on 29th serving meals to those enjoying the Golden Oldies. If you stayed home you missed a very tasty dinner and the elephant ears were fantastic, fresh and hot with all kinds of toppings other than sugar. Yum, yum.

appropriate activities and meals. "The volunteers make a tremendous difference in the lives of the residents," said Kathy Walter, Program Administrator. "They are well-prepared and effective."

For further information, call Kathy Walter at 1-800-522-2602.

How was your and your pet's Christmas? Portland was busy and sunny, but cool. I ate too much, saw too many DVDs. Shadow was ready to come home on the 24th (3 cats to be nice to was almost too much). When we got home she raced through the door, dove into her bed, circled 3 times, snuggled in, buried her nose in her blankie as if to say "I'm home, I'm home." Ho Ho – she stayed there for 2 hours.

The lake ducks are still well fed by your generosity of cracked corn. We have enough to see us well into February if the weather cooperates. You'll hear from us if we start running

out, though.

Thank you again for your caring.

I have now started reading footprints in the mud. Not human, animal. Scads of feather weight and small in size. Some deer – some horse, some medium size with 3 claw prints attached but I've decided if the print measures more than 3"x3" you've got a big dog or something else. One set this weekend looked more like an elk print. Much too large for a deer.

Pickin' 'em up and setting them down is good for the figure but goin' slow and studying what walks with you is good for the soul.

DEADLINE 2005 DOG LICENSE

Elizabeth E. Huser, Columbia County Clerk, reports that the deadline for licensing dogs in Columbia County* is

MARCH 7, 2005

You may mail your rabies vaccination certificate (if not on file in our office) along with the appropriate fee to Columbia County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, 230 Strand Street, St. Helens, OR 97051. Commercial and non-commercial kennel licenses are available. Contact Clerk's Office for information.

**To All Columbia County* Dog Owners
\$10 Penalty after March 7, 2005**

**\$25 Penalty after April 4, 2005 (Without Citation)
\$50 PENALTY IF CITATION IS ISSUED**

Dog License Fees are due on ALL DOGS IN THE COUNTY* with permanent teeth or that are six months of age in 2005.

*Does not apply to the City of St. Helens, which will handle dog licensing for residents within the city limits.

FEEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

On or Before March 7, 2005	
REGULAR, NOT SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....	\$30.00
DOG SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....	\$12.00
SENIOR CITIZEN-DOG NOT SPAYED OR NEUTERED....	\$15.00
SENIOR CITIZEN-DOG SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....	\$5.00
(Senior Citizen is 65 Years or Older – 1 per Household)	
REPLACEMENT TABS.....	\$5.00

2005 APPLICATION FOR DOG LICENSE

Owner: _____
 Residential Address: _____
 Mailing Address: _____
 _____ Zip: _____
 2004 License No.: _____ Phone: _____
 Dog's Name: _____
 Breed: _____
 Sex (Check one): Male _____ Female _____
 Neutered: _____ Spayed: _____

A VALID (Good through Oct. 31, 2005) Rabies Vaccination Certificate MUST accompany this application or be ON FILE in the Courthouse, along with a spayed/neutered certificate if applicable.

WE WILL RETURN YOUR LICENSE AND DOG TAG TO YOU BY RETURN MAIL.

Flu shots Jan. 9

Flu shots will be available Sunday, January 9, 12-5:00 p.m. at Bales Thriftway, 12675 NW Cornell Road, on a first-come basis.

The clinic, scheduled by Washington County Department of Health & Human Services, in conjunction with Get-a-Flu Shot.com, will have as limited supply of vaccine.

Eligibility includes those age 50 and older, ages 12 and older with chronic medical conditions, and out-of-home caregivers and household contacts of persons in high-risk groups.

Flu shots will cost \$20 and pneumonia shots will cost \$35. Medicare clients should bring their card and are covered for flu vaccine under Part B.

For flu shot clinics in the metro area, call the Oregon Flu Hotline at (503) 872-6900.

VALLEY VETERINARY CLINIC



**RABIES
SPECIAL
\$8⁵⁰**

Thursdays 10 am - 5 pm

58376 Nehalem Hwy. S. Vernonia (Near Sunnyside Cafe)