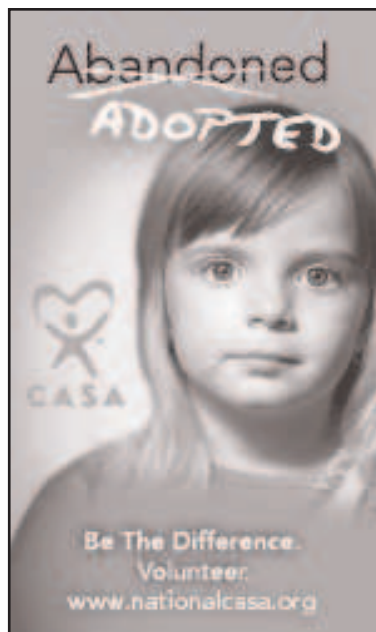


Volunteers sought to speak up for kids

Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) are community volunteers who speak up for the best interests of children in the courts. CASA volunteers are appointed by a judge to discover the best possible outcome for an abused or neglected child. It is the goal of the CASA volunteer to place every one of these kids into a safe, permanent home and to give them hope for a better life.

CASA volunteers review records, research information and talk to everyone involved—social workers, attorneys, judges, parents, teachers, family members and, of course, the children themselves.

CASA is the only organization that empowers everyday citizens as appointed officers of the court. Your involvement will



make a direct impact on a child's life and perhaps for generations to come.

Volunteers are welcomed

from all cultures, professions, ethnic and educational backgrounds.

CASA of Columbia County currently serves 54 children in the juvenile court system. This is only a small portion of the children needing CASA services.

Please consider becoming a CASA of Columbia County Volunteer. You can make a difference in Columbia County!

To find out more, you are invited to CASA of Columbia County's "We Make a Difference", August 31, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at NW Regional Education Service District, 800 Port Ave., St. Helens. A light supper will be provided. For more information, call 503-397-0028 ext. 233.

PTA plans back to school BBQ

Families with students from kindergarten to eighth grade are invited to a Back to School Barbeque on Thursday, September 1, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Washington Grade School and Vernonia Middle School.

In addition to the free fun, food and festivities, students can locate their classrooms before the start of school. This event is sponsored by the Vernonia Community PTA.

Left, Jamie Medearis, riding Chaulk, clutches his trophy at the start of the Vernonia Jamboree Parrade.



Vernonians in East-West Game

Two Vernonia High School graduates contributed to their team's 20-9 win in the 53rd annual East-West Shrine All-Star Football Game, August 7 in Baker City.

West quarterback Tyler Morrill, of Scappoose, connected with Vernonia's Eric Schmidlin for a 33-yard touchdown to start the scoring.

The East followed up with three field goals, for a 9-6 lead at half time.

In the third quarter, Vernonia running back Travis Gwin tore up the sideline for a 41-yard gain, triggering an 89-yard scoring drive to recover the

West lead, 14-9, after a 22-yard touchdown-run by Spencer Smith of Wilsonville and a 2-point conversion by Morrill.

The East's last scoring drive fell short with six minutes left to play. The West team took over, running out the clock and making one last touchdown as time expired.

In addition to having the longest run, Gwin was the game's leading rusher, with 73 yards on six carries.

Wilsonville Coach George Crace coached the team of Class 3A, 2A, 1A players who have graduated.

Record numbers attend Co. Fair

More than 26,000 people attended the 2005 Columbia County Fair and Rodeo, the best attendance ever, beating the record set in 2002 by over 1,000.

Fair Manager Ronda Courtney attributed the increase in attendance to several factors, including "a better rodeo, the

first CEPA fair and some terrific weather."

Fair prices were slightly higher than last year, reflecting the need to increase revenue for the fairgrounds. The anticipated increase in revenue was also exceeded, by \$3,300, according to Courtney

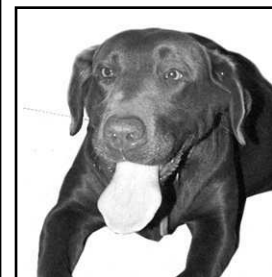


Above right, staring up at riders upside down on one of the rides at the Carnival at Jamboree.

Pet of the Month

Columbia Humane Society in St. Helens has a variety of wonderful pets available for adoption. Find the pet that's right for you in the shelter at 2084 Oregon St. Monday through Saturday, 11 am. to 5 pm. 503-397-4353

Ginny is a wonderful brown lab mix female, about 4 to 5 years old. She has a dark brown coat with some brindle coloring, and is very affectionate. She loves nothing better than attention and petting, and would cuddle all day long if she could find a full-time cuddle-partner. A really nice dog!!



Mention this ad, get a black cat \$10

The Columbia Humane Society is a No-Kill non-profit shelter dedicated to helping friends find each other since 1985.

The Pet of the Month is Sponsored by:

PBM Inc. Precision Building Maintenance, Inc.

503.429.1042

www.PBMaintenance.com

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Head Start seeks students for 2005/2006

Head Start, a federally funded preschool program, is seeking students for the 2005/2006 school year. Head Start incorporates a total family program that includes nutrition, educa-

tion, medical, dental services and home visits for the enrolled child.

Prospective students must be three or four years-old by September 1, 2005. Children

must be from limited income households, or have a disability, special need or circumstance to qualify.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the State of Oregon prohibit discrimination in all USDA programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability. Head Start serves USDA approved meals twice daily. Limited transportation is available.

The Vernonia Center is located at 500 California Avenue. For more information, call 503-429-9243.