

CCCHD announces 2007 grant recipients

Columbia County Citizens for Human Dignity (CCCHD) has announced the recipients of their 2007 Grant program. While many organizations applied for grants this year, funds were limited and those who presented the most compelling applications, along with meeting the CCCHD mission, were selected to receive the funds.

Julianne Cullen, Columbia County Parenting Education & Support Coordinator says "The willingness and generosity of CCCHD volunteers to raise funds and make these grants enables Child & Family Development Programs of Community Action Team, Inc. to make a difference in the community. This grant helps CAT's mission of building bridges to the future and promotes social justice by creating avenues for equal access to literacy education. This is good for the community because our rural areas do not have access to family literacy activities that help the children, the parents, and the whole family."

This year's grant winners and their proposed projects are as follows:

Friends of the St. Helens Public Library for the South Columbia County Everybody Reads Program – A month long program of community cultural events and school activities to increase middle and high school student reading.

Indian Education Program, Northwest Regional Education Service Dept. for a Service Learning Plan – A work session where American Indian and Alaskan Native high school students will learn about the Indian Education Program and create a new service learning program that will ultimately be used by students throughout the IEP NW district.

Scappoose Public Library District for American Indians in Children's Literature – A program to select and purchase appropriate Children's and Young Adult literature and reference books about American Indians.

Columbia County Commission on Children and Families for Youth Services Initiative – A program to establish a network of paid and unpaid employment and community service opportunities for 50 youth in eighth through twelfth grades in St.

Helens and Scappoose.

Community Action Team, Inc. for Emergency Homeless Assistance Program – A program to help families avoid eviction and homelessness, and to help homeless families obtain housing.

H.O.P.E. Emergency Food Cupboard for Crisis Assistance – A program to help families remain self-sufficient by providing emergency cash assistance for basic necessities, such as water/utility shutoffs, gas for doctor appointments and job interviews, and down payments for housing.

Child and Family Development Programs – Community Action Inc. for Learning Together Literacy Project – A program to provide hands-on activities, family literacy education, and in-home literacy enrichment for low income families with young children, for the purpose of increasing literacy in families.

Scappoose Senior Citizens, Inc. for Dance Floor/Workout Floor – A project to install proper flooring for exercise and ac-

tivities for seniors and people with disabilities.

Scappoose Senior Citizens, Inc. for Meals on Wheels Food Tray Trial – A project to enable the Meals on Wheels program to evaluate a new type of biodegradable meal packaging system that will allow meals to stay warm longer and be storable for days when there are no deliveries.

CCCHD congratulates the grant recipients and looks forward to forging lasting relationships with organizations and individuals who share our desire to build a strong and self-sufficient community.

Each year CCCHD hosts a Kaleidoscope Gala to bring the community together and to raise money for these grants.

Columbia County Citizens for Human Dignity (CCCHD) is a group of people who believe in the worth of every person. We believe that democracy flourishes when all are included. We work to assure the basic rights and human dignity of all Oregonians.

Boaters 70 and younger need card

Beginning January 1, 2008, boaters who are 70 years old and younger will need to take a boating safety course and carry their boater education card. The cost of the boater education card is a one-time \$10 fee, which goes toward the card itself and toward funding the mandatory education program.

"We estimate over 30,000 registered boater owners in this age group need to get their boater education card," says MariAnn Koloszar, Education Coordinator for the Marine Board. "So far almost 200,000 boaters have their education card."

Boaters have several options to meet the mandatory education requirement. Class-

room courses are highly encouraged. "People seem to learn more in the classroom courses because of the interaction with the instructor and other students. It's also a great place to learn about local boating opportunities and hot-

Please see page 25



Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



ent disheartened, but still afloat.

The town may be muddy and look like a "has been" place, but the rushing and dashing are folks that have come to help salvage the spirit of the Little town lost in the woods.

We may not understand "why again" but perhaps it is the second cleansing and time to re-evaluate our place in this time.

There is one thing that runs through my brain constantly when I try to stop thinking of the folks in such hurt and need.

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name sake.

Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me. Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Thank you for all the folks who have come to our town to help us regain a stable life. I understand why many are considering relocating in other places to start over. All I can say is: God be with you.

Tickets available to see Vernonian crowned as 2008 County Queen

The 2008 Columbia County Fair & Rodeo Court Coronation will be held Saturday, January 5, at 6:00 p.m., at the Columbia County Fairgrounds Pavilion in St. Helens.

Mackenzie Carr, a senior at Vernonia High School, will be crowned as the 2008 Columbia County Queen.

The event will include din-

ner, a cash bar, silent and live auctions, the coronation ceremonies, and a live band, the Concrete Cowboys. Wear a Hawaiian shirt to be entered in a drawing for a special door prize.

Tickets are \$12 in advance, or \$15 at the door. Contact ccrodeo@hotmail.com or call 503-481-3384.

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