

The INDEPENDENT

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"Voice of the Upper Nehalem River Valley"

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Autumn glory



It may be hard to remember this year's remarkably colorful fall once winter's grey sets in, so we need to enjoy this glorious autumn while it lasts.

Hyde, Fisher win; Banks School bond is voted down

Columbia, Washington and Clatsop Counties agreed with the majority of Oregon voters for federal and state candidates, so this article will refer only to election issues of interest to voters in The INDEPENDENT circulation area.

Columbia County

Columbia County voters returned Republican Tony Hyde to the Board of Commissioners, Position 3, for another term in his race against Democrat Pat Zimmerman. Hyde was one of few Republicans approved by county voters in this year's General Election, a result that reflected both his constituent service and a widely-held opinion that the BOC should be non-partisan.

Democrat Earl Fisher won handily over Republican Glen Dorschler for the Columbia

County Board of Commissioners, Position 1.

Judge Jenefer Grant retained her position on the coun-

ty Circuit Court, fending off challenger David Herr.

Justice Court Judge Wally
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Woodcutting set for flood victims

The next Society of American Foresters woodcut for Vernonia flood survivors will be Saturday, November 15. Volunteers are asked to meet at 8:00 a.m. at the weigh station on Hwy 26 near the junction with Hwy 6 (to Tillamook). From there, empty pickup trucks will go to the home of Kim and Linda Swanson of Banks, who have donated 3-4 loads of cut and split wood to be picked up and delivered to Vernonia.

In Vernonia, the meeting place is the Wauna Federal Credit Union parking lot be-

tween 9:30 and 10:00 a.m. (across from city hall). From there, a crew will go to the home of Mitch and Leslie Seibert to cut, split and load wood.

Needed items to bring; open bed pickup trucks, trailers, wood splitters, splitting mauls, chain saws, and related gear. Anyone running a saw should have chaps, goggles, ear protections, and gloves.

Everyone should dress for the weather and bring water, coffee and lunch.

For more information, call Robert Alverts at 503-639-0405.

Zoning is first step for possible airport project

By Rebecca McGaugh

Does Vernonia need more land near the Airport designated as Airport Industrial? Local businessman Tim Bero thinks the answer is yes, so he took the question to the Columbia County Planning Commission on August 18.

The Planning Commission's answer was a 2-3 split in opposition to the requested zoning change.

What is this all about? A number of years ago, some of the city-owned land at Vernonia Airport was rezoned as Airport Industrial. That would allow airport related businesses to open shop at the airport. For instance, those businesses could repair planes, make plane parts, or run any other business that would meet the definition for that zone. To date, no businesses have developed on the city-owned industrial land at the Vernonia Airport.

Recently, Tim and Michelle Bero, who own and operate TNW Firearms, Inc., on Timber

Road, bought land that includes 27 acres adjacent to the Vernonia Airport. The Beros applied to the county to change the zoning for that acreage from Primary Forestland to Airport Industrial and are calling their development plan, Eagles Nest Business Park. Using their property, they would like to extend the airport's runway to make it safer and more accessible to small planes. Tim Bero said they would also like to make the existing house on the property into a bed and breakfast, set up additional

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Loggers head to State playoffs

The Vernonia High School Loggers Football team will play in the first round of state football playoffs on Friday night, November 7.

Willamina (6-3), West Valley's No. 2 seed, will host Vernonia (3-6) at Willamina.

GO LOGGERS!

Lesson: Turkeys don't float!

This lesson we learned very well last year as many of the donated turkeys perished in the flood. With the help of Patty Fogel, Marc Farmer, Columbia Pacific Food Bank in St. Helens and other generous donations of turkeys, food and money, Vernonia Cares gave out over 300 Christmas food boxes following the flood. It is time, once again, to begin herding turkeys for this annual event. Cares will provide groceries for an entire Christmas dinner, including a turkey, for low-income households. This is the sixth year for the Christmas Turkey Drive.

Currently, more than 450 clients (approximately double since last year) representing

160 households are helped each month according to Director Sandy Welch. The goal this year is to provide 300 to 350 Christmas food boxes to clients as well as other households who need a helping hand during the holidays. Many community members are still struggling to make ends meet following the flood's devastation.

Between now and Thanksgiving, most grocery stores advertise their turkey promotions. The turkeys that are donated now are distributed only at Christmas, but now is the time to gather and store them frozen for the Christmas food boxes.

Vernonia Sentry makes it
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