

PCC to hold forum on Col. Co. access

Dr. David Rule, Campus President of Portland Community College Rock Creek, will make a presentation on accessibility to PCC in Columbia County during a public forum to be held Wednesday, October 21, at 6:00 p.m. in St. Helens Council Chambers, 265 Strand Street in St. Helens.

Dr. Rule will address local concerns about limited access to services since the closure of PCC's St. Helen's Center in 2001, and discuss goals identified by PCC leadership to improve accessibility to PCC for residents of Columbia County.

"PCC will be visible and approachable in Columbia County," says Dr. Rule. "Within two years, Columbia County residents will have increased opportunities to benefit from PCC."

Current services offered by PCC in Columbia County include: Math, English, Social Studies, and Art classes held in Columbia County, access to Teleweb DVD at the Vernonia Learning Center, a shuttle that runs from Columbia County to PCC several times a day and a partnership in the Regional Public Safety Training Center

Next Museum Talk scheduled

Jack Burnham will be giving a talk at the Vernonia Pioneer Museum on Sunday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m.

Burnham will talk about the Pleasant Hill School where his father, Francis Burnham, taught. He will also include information about Mist and the Mist Store as his mother, Ona Libel Burnham, was born and raised in Mist.

Everyone is invited to this free talk to learn more about the area.

So, do you think you have talent?

"So, You Think You Have Talent" is the name of a competition to be held at Banks Performing Arts, 14175 NW Sellers Road, Banks, on November 14, starting at 7:30 p.m.

Vernonia and Banks area talent are invited to register and perform. Call 503-24-0112 to pre-register.

Project targeted for Scappoose.

The forum is open to the public and will be followed by a brief question and answer period.

If you are unable to attend,

Help Girl Scouts to help others

The Vernonia Cadette Girl Scouts are seeking donations of yarn, crochet hooks, and those quickie looms (the kind that used to make hats and scarves). The color/sizes of the items do not matter, all donations can be used. The Scouts want to make hats, scarves and shawls for the homeless and for endangered women and children. Items will be do-

nated to Help Oregon's Homeless, a non-profit corporation started by a Vernonia resident. In addition, any hats, scarves, gloves or mittens that are looking for a new home are welcome as well. Please contact Tori Fallau at 503-429-0919 or 503-369-6781. The Scouts wish to thank everyone who chooses to donate to this project.

CCRider to hold groundbreaking

Columbia County will hold a ground breaking ceremony for the Columbia County Rider Transit Center on Friday, October 23, at 2:00 p.m. at 1155 Deer Island Road in St. Helens. The public is invited and encouraged to attend this event in support of Public Transit for Columbia County.

This ground breaking event marks a milestone for public transit in Columbia County, as the new transit center will provide a hub for all public transit activities, including administration offices and dispatch, vehicle maintenance and service, and a Park & Ride facility.

In June, the County purchased property at 1155 Deer Island Road that was previously used as a mill site by Stimson Logging Company. Funding for the property was provided by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

and a grant provided by the Oregon Connect II Program. Both funding programs were obtained through the Oregon Department of Transportation.

The site was selected as part of an update of the Columbia County Community-wide Transit Plan that was completed this last summer. Several potential sites were reviewed and considered, with the size, location, proximity and access to US Highway 30 of the Stimson site being the most attractive for public transit uses.

CCRider Transit staff anticipates that the project will be completed by the end of 2010. For more information on the event call 503 397-1035. For information on trip schedules and transit services call Dispatch at 503-366-0159 or go to the website at www.columbia-countyrid er.com

Senior News

By Karen Miller



Good job with the great Halloween decorations, Fran, Marsha and Jeri's pumpkins.

Come join us October 26, for our 5-area lunch and costume contest. Clatskanie, Rainier, St. Helens and Scappoose seniors will be joining us in the fun. See you there.

Reminder: You can get fresh made fritters for \$1.50 or maple bars for \$1.00 here at the center and the proceeds go to the center. Take your chances or call ahead to

be sure there are some here for you.

Vernonia Senior Center: 503-429-3912.

Donate pet food to Bailey's Pantry

During difficult times, many people rely on their pets for comfort and love. People who live alone, on fixed incomes or have suffered a job loss, have been known to sacrifice their own needs for their beloved pets. Vernonia Cares must use its limited funds to provide emergency groceries for people and has pet food to distribute only when donations of such products are made.

Knowing this, local animal advocate Carol Davis has held several fundraisers for what she calls the "Pet Food Division" of Cares. After the 2007 flood, Davis worked long hours to secure pet food donations for people affected by the disaster. When her cherished dog,

Bailey, was recently diagnosed with terminal cancer, friends who wanted to know what they could do to help Davis, were asked to give pet food or money designated for that purpose to Vernonia Cares in Bailey's name. As a result, Vernonia Cares has established a separate fund for pet food donations, and the shelf for these now has a new sign: "Bailey's Pantry."

Donations of food for people and their pets are received with gratitude at Vernonia Cares. Monetary contributions for pet food should be designated for that purpose and sent to Cares at P.O. Box 126, Vernonia, Oregon 97064.

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Vernonia's Got Talent!

5th ANNUAL
 VARIETY SHOW

Music  Dance
 Comedy & Song

Saturday, November 7, 7 pm
Vernonia Grange 375 North St.
Adults \$5, Kids 2 cans of food

Benefits Vernonia Hands-on Art, Vernonia Grange & Vernonia Cares