



THE INDEPENDENT

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Lawnmower races provided fun and laughs for both participants and spectators during the 2010 Vernonia Friendship Jamboree, August 6-8. This picture shows Lawnmower race organizer, Gadget Abney (foreground) waving the flag for the first race of the event. Additional pictures from Vernonia's 54th Friendship Jamboree are on pages 16 and 24.

Dallas Brass will return to Vernonia in September

The Dallas Brass return to Vernonia with a concert on September 17, at 7:00 p.m., at Washington Grade School. The Dallas Brass has a strong dedication to working with young musicians, frequently going into the public schools to present clinics and workshops for students of all ages. Dallas Brass will work with Vernonia band students and, later, the students will join Dallas Brass for the performance of a piece in the concert.

Tickets to the concert are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors. Tickets are available at Creatures Pets/Vernonia Florist and at the Vernonia School District office.

Since its founding in 1983 by Michael Levine, the Dallas Brass has become one of America's foremost musical ensembles. The group has established a unique blend of tradi-

tional brass instruments with a full complement of drums and percussion, which creates a performing entity of extraordinary range and musical chal-

lenges. The Dallas Brass repertoire includes classical masterpieces, Dixieland, swing, Broadway, Hollywood and patriotic music.



The Dallas Brass will return for another day of instruction with Vernonia band students, followed by a performance in the evening. Tickets are now on sale for the evening concert.

Governor's order directs state to help in Vernonia's recovery

Governor Ted Kulongoski has issued an executive order aimed specifically at helping Vernonia's physical and economic recovery after the devastation caused by flooding in December, 2007. Executive Orders are written directives of the Governor, setting forth policies and procedures in furtherance of his statutory and constitutional responsibilities.

In his August 3, 2010, Executive Order No. 10-07, Rebuilding Vernonia's Schools and the Surrounding Community in the Wake of the December 2007 Storm, the governor stated, "The community is working valiantly to rebuild," and went on to say, "Notwithstanding the fact that it experienced two significant and damaging flood events in eleven years, Vernonia can be seen as a classic example of the decline of Oregon's rural resource based economy. This community was one of the first historic timber towns to see the loss of its forest products infrastructure. If a strategy can be designed and implemented to bring this community back, beginning with its schools, the economy of the surrounding region can be revi-

talized. In addition to this significant achievement, a model will be in place that can then be replicated across other hard hit communities of the state. Success in Vernonia will send an important message that the tools exist to rebuild economic viability in Oregon's rural, as well as its urban communities."

The Order continues, saying "agencies are encouraged to think broadly and creatively about actions that can be taken," adding, "This Order directs state agencies to work collaboratively and assist Vernonia and its surrounding community to rebuild its schools and public infrastructure."

Specific agencies named to assist Vernonia include the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Oregon Department of Transportation, Department of State Lands, Department of Environmental Quality, Oregon Department of Forestry and the Oregon Department of Energy.

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Pinchot Institute meeting tonight for woodland owners

Private non-industrial forestland owners in Columbia County have been invited to a meeting tonight, August 19, at 6:30 p.m., in the Vernonia High School gymnasium.

Forestland owners with more than 10 acres will meet with representatives from The Pinchot Institute for Conservation to discuss possibilities for being part of the nation's first research project to look at linking carbon investor payments with health care cost funding.

The Pinchot Institute is proposing that Columbia County and Vernonia, specifically, serve as a location for this pilot project.