

Can you help fill a Christmas food box?

Vernonia Cares Food Bank (VCFB) plans to offer Christmas holiday food boxes to low income households within the Vernonia community. Registration opened November 2 and the application deadline is December 7.

The boxes will be disbursed December 21, as registered households pick them up from Vernonia Cares Food Bank. The holiday food box will contain the basic groceries for a Christmas meal. "Our target group is the households who fall within the USDA eligibility guidelines," said Vernonia Cares Director Sandy Welch. "That is \$1,805 gross income per month for single person households, plus \$623 per month for each additional person in the household. However, anyone who is a Vernonia resident and does not have the groceries for a Christmas meal is eligible to apply for this spe-

cial food box," she concludes.

Applications may be obtained from Vernonia Cares Food Bank, open on Tuesday and Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., in the American Legion Hall at 627 Adams Avenue. To obtain a form by phone, call VCFB at 503-429-1414 and leave clear mailing information. All applications must be received by Vernonia Cares by December 7. Only pre-registered households will be served.

"At this point, we are planning to provide this service to 200 families and are praying the food and funds arrive to support it," Welch emphasized. "We've had great support for the holiday food boxes from our community in the past and I'm looking to that same support again this year. I'm so glad we are able to brighten people's Christmas through these groceries. What's Christmas with-

out, at the least, a Christmas meal together?" asks Sandy.

"Between now and Thanksgiving is a great time to buy a turkey and donate it towards the Christmas Box Project. That's when the sale prices are available," said Vernonia Cares President Rosie McCoy. "All turkeys will be stored frozen and then distributed near Christmas."

Vernonia Sentry makes it simple to donate. Through their check-stand giving, patrons can designate \$25 which will be used to buy the groceries and a turkey. Individuals and businesses interested in supporting this worthwhile cause, whether through food or funds, may contribute directly at VCFB. Checks may also be mailed to Vernonia Cares Food Bank, P.O. Box 126, Vernonia, OR 97064. Receipts for your tax deductible donation will be sent upon request.

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



Ah – November is upon us. How many of you folks saw the October issue of Sunset magazine? Sept. 25–26 had a nice article on Vernonia, in color, the trees shown in all their glory.

It's real fall weather in the mornings if you're out and about you notice – heavy jackets, caps or hats – and gloves or mittens on the early morning dog walkers. Are you ready for Thanksgiving? Christmas?

New Years? Me – no, I just wrestle with each day I get my feet on the floor. Something like the song; *This Old House*, "ain't got time to worry" and so on.

Good to read of the groundbreaking for the WOEC. I hope it means there is hope for all of us Old Timers to see the groundbreaking for the Senior Center and Vernonia Cares. It's been 12 years. I have expectations of being around for another 12 – so please hurry your time table (this said with tongue in cheek).

Saw a cellphone picture of Snow on the road to Bend this past week – Brrrr.

Oh yes, I heard a new word the other day. It isn't in the English Dictionary, but maybe in the New Slang Version Dictionary. Not sure of spelling either, "coliewables". It is a term or thing, answer next week. It can be spelt "coliewarbles" too. Have fun with it.

I've a bet going with a few friends in Dialysis – when is Spring coming back... Valentine's Day... The Ides of March... Easter... or May Day? I'm going with Mother's Day. We shall see.

The "Elections" will be over by the time this is in print but remember if you didn't vote – you can't complain.

Happy Birthday to me – Nov. 4th.

Nehalem Watershed Town Hall tonight

Come join your neighbors as they kick off a process to develop a Conservation Action Plan for the Nehalem watershed. This effort is being hosted by The Nature Conservancy, Lower Nehalem Community Trust, Lower Nehalem Watershed Council, Upper Nehalem Watershed Council, Tillamook Estuaries Partnership, and the North Coast Land Conservancy.

The public is invited to an open "town hall" meeting in early November. At the town hall, there will be project descriptions, information sharing about the watershed, question an-

swering, and identification of individuals who are interested in participating in the project.

The first meeting was held November 3. But, it's not too late to participate in the second meeting at the White Clover Grange Hall in Mohler tonight, November 4, from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Refreshments from local bakeries will be served.

A map of the town hall meeting location can be found on the internet at <http://goo.gl/64hn> (Mohler). Please come to the November 4 meeting or contact Tom Josephson at tjosephson@tnc.org or 503-802-8148 if you would like

more information or would like to be involved in, or kept informed of, the project.

The purpose of this plan is to develop volunteer conservation strategies and actions that can be supported by landowners, conservation groups and state agencies to help protect and enhance local ecosystems. The group hopes to identify the highest priority conservation strategies, develop partnerships to implement these actions, and create a broader awareness of the conservation needs and opportunities for the Nehalem Watershed.

gone. J. E. Rose of Riverview was equally surprised when he learned his car was not at home.

Apparently, Robert A. Brockman, 46, and Benjamin Low, 27, who were at the Work camp on Wilson river, escaped from there in a bus which they abandoned in Vernonia near the Odam place after taking the Rose car. They somehow got on the Rock Creek road, apparently not knowing it

was dead end. They struck the bridge near the Reed place at which the high water had washed out approaches and wrecked it to the extent that they could drive it no further. They apparently returned to the Keasey place then and took that car which they drove through Forest Grove at high speed and continued on to Hillsboro where it overturned, killing Brockman. Low was captured.

50 Years Ago This Month

The November 24, 1960, issue of the *Vernonia Eagle* included the following news story on the front page:

Two Vernonia cars were involved in the bid for freedom of two escapees from the state prison farm located on the Wilson river early Monday morning while residents of Vernonia slept peacefully through it all without knowing about it until it was over.

Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Keasey of Keasey route were awakened

about 7:00 a.m. by a call from Hillsboro telling them their car

had been wrecked there. That was the first they know of its being

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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 Street. Phone 503-397-4353
Open Mon - Fri 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 11 am. to 5 pm.



Lucy is a friendly girl with a very sweet and gentle temperament. She loves head rubs and being petted. Lucy just had a litter of kittens and she was a great mom. Lucy is now ready for her forever home and would truly appreciate a second chance!

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

This Pet of the Month is Sponsored by:

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