

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Vernonia, OR 97064  
Permit No. 37

# THE INDEPENDENT

Vol. 23, No. 44 "The Upper Nehalem River Valley"

It's been a long time since we had snow like Christmas



A log truck continues to travel on the road as snow becomes increasingly snow-covered on Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2011. This photo was taken at 10 a.m.

## Reward offered for information on damage to trees

A reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for criminal activity on Longview Timber property, off Scappoose-Vernonia Hwy. near milepost 14. The incident occurred either on the morning of Friday, November 1, or the early morning hours of Saturday, November 2, 2011, when a log truck used equipment to damage re-prod timber trees. The damage estimated at approximately 100,000 dollars. Anyone with information regarding this incident should contact Sr. Trooper Robin May at 503-397-0325 ext. 43, or the Oregon State Police TIP line at 1-800-452-7888. Callers may remain anonymous. The reward is being offered by the Oregon Hunters Association-Columbia County Chapter and Longview Timber in cooperation with the Oregon State Police Game & Wildlife Division.

## Vernonia Cares still serving the community

Back to basics these three simple words describe the efforts at Vernonia's food bank. We all have a role to play in shelter. Everyone is affected by the effect of the current economic crisis across the country and it is compounded, here in Vernonia, in the wake of last December's flood. Back to basics to helping local residents with food assistance. "Our goal is to really stretch your dollar through the Pacific Food Bank. It's making a difference to approximately 14 percent of the population here in need, right here. The dollars saved in meat products, and the dollars saved in meat products, is what Vernonia Cares to help this community.

## Epler resigns

Paul Epler, resigned his position during the December 9 meeting of the Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District Board of Directors. His resignation was effective December 15. When contacted for comment, Epler said he was not returning phone calls on Tuesday.

The board will fill an interim position in order to maintain the community and going to pursue full position," stated Epler. "I will not return phone calls on Tuesday."

**The INDEPENDENT  
GIFT SUBSCRIPTION  
1 YEAR ONLY \$20  
503-429-9410**



Children, like this one, enjoyed the snow on Wednesday, Dec. 1, 2011, at Vernonia's Anderson Park.

purchase a turkey and a thirty-dollar donation for a family's meal, including turkey, stuffing, and cranberry sauce. You can specify your donation as 'turkey, stuffing, or 'general fund'. As always, it is 100 percent tax deductible. Vernonia Cares needs your help.