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THE INDEPENDENT

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November 7, 2012



The rain didn't dampen the spirits of the participants of the Vernonia Costume Sidewalk Parade, held downtown. An estimated 300 children came trick or treating and collected goodies along Bridge Street.

"The thousand foot mission" needs you

If your heart is burdened with the need to help out a local mission, then opportunity is knocking!

The Vernonia Seventh-Day Adventist Church has served the Vernonia community for 75 years. Whether members are in the community passing out water to a parade watcher at Jamboree, or making children smile with a grab bag from the Jamboree "fishing pond", or helping those in need by showing Christ's love, members embrace the community and look for ways to serve. So now opportunity is knocking at your door.

It all began in 1935 in an old deserted store on Bridge Street in downtown Vernonia, where a small group of Christians gathered to worship and listen to a sermon preached by Pastor Ray Bagley. The church members saw a need for a church and began the provisions for building it. It was then that the ladies came together to make and sell Fudge to raise money.

The lumber was donated by Mr. Bennett, who at that time

owned and operated The Oregon - American Sawmill.

The church was completed in 1936. It was a state-of-the-art building at that time, with its 10 foot ceilings, a bell tower and a wood burning stove to maintain a warm, comfortable environment.

Now, 75 years later, the church building is in need of

major repair. The cedar logs that were placed as a foundation have decomposed and a major overhaul is needed. In addition, the siding needs to be replaced, as well as the old windows, carpets, doors and interior walls.

The members of the Vernonia Seventh-Day Adventist

See Church on page 14



Seventh-day Adventist Church building needs some TLC.

Unofficial early election results for city and county

Because of printing deadlines, *The Independent* cannot provide the final tally of votes for yesterday's general election in this issue.

Following are the available results for local elections as of 4:06 a.m., with 48 of 54 precincts counted.

Tony Hyde	8,376
Tammy Maygra	5,314

Columbia Co. Sheriff	
Jeff Dickerson	8,655
Dave Fuller	5,665

Vernonia Mayor and Council

There were no contests for Vernonia Mayor or City Council. In the absence of a write-in campaign, the incumbents – Mayor Josette Mitchell, Councilor Randy Parrow and Councilor Kim Tierney – will be re-elected.

Columbia Co. Commissioner

Position 1	
Earl Fisher	7,258
Wayne Mayo	6,930
Position 3	

Cutright to be honored for heroism at house fire

Seth Cutright, the 12-year-old Vernonia youth who rescued his grandmother from their burning home, will be honored with a Life Saving Award from the Oregon State Sheriff's Association. Cutright was nominated by Columbia County Sheriff Jeff Dickerson, and will be recognized at the association's awards banquet in Bend on December 5.

Seth and his grandmother, 64-year-old Rose Cutright, were the only ones home, Oct. 12, when the house burst into flames. He grabbed his grandmother, whose clothes were on fire, and carried her outside, receiving serious burns to his hands and face. By the time he got his grandmother outside, the flames on her body had gone out. He then ran to a neighbor's home and told them to call an ambulance.

When Vernonia Rural Fire District arrived about 2:45 p.m. the garage of the family's home on E. Bridge Street was fully

engulfed in flames, and the house and shop were burning. Seth and his grandmother were outside. Firefighters rescued the family's kittens from the home, as well as chickens in a coop attached to the house. One of the family's dogs died in the fire.

The explosion may have been caused by a leaking propane tank. Seth said he smelled gas just before his grandmother lit a cigarette. They were both taken to the Oregon Burn Center at Emanuel Hospital in Portland.

Vernonia Rural Fire was assisted by Mist-Birkenfeld, Banks and Scappoose fire districts, as well as law enforcement for traffic control.

Seth's father, Roger Cutright, called his son "a hero", a sentiment echoed by Sheriff Dickerson, who said, "Seth Cutright's valor and fearlessness in braving the inferno to save his grandmother's life is an inspiring story."

**Veteran's Day is
November 11**