Mobile operation reaches out to meet rural needs

By TOM VOGT
Columbian staff writer

A CENTER— The issue of rural poverty came into focus a few weeks ago for Janet Borst during her first shift at a new food bank. “Three people came in together. They all lived on the same property. One lived in the house. One lived in a shed. And one lived in a tent,” Borst said Sunday afternoon.

“That made me so acutely aware of the needs of the rural poor,” said Borst, director of the Lewis River Mobile Food Bank.

Janet Borst, director of the mobile food bank, talks about the need to get food to the county’s rural areas.

The food bank is a response to those needs. During Sunday’s distribution near the rural community of View, volunteers drove SUVS filled

FOOD BANK, back page

What’s in a word? Decade’s spirit

By HOWARD BUCK
Columbian staff writer

So, we’ve closed out not only the year 2009, but an entire decade (put aside, for now, the mathematical hair-splitting).

A decade with no name, so far as we can tell.

The “aughts”? The “zeroes”? Nah, nothing that really stuck.

Which is not to say we weren’t at a loss for words, during those trying 2000s — even if they sometimes left us speechless.

Chances are, you’ve Googled something, texted someone, or Facebooked some photos in the last few days, hours, minutes. Did you Botox for the big event? Or just lounge in your man cave, and DVR some more HDTV on your staycation?

We’re letting fly all manner of new words that didn’t exist in December 1999. Or, certainly weren’t in common use around these parts. A look at 10 years gone by is to marvel at unstoppable change, but also to capture the zeitgeist.

At The Columbian, we deal with words, so it seems natural to mark our march with a not-so-serious checklist.

In that span, we’ve gone from soccer moms to hockey moms. From Jail Blazers to, well, Frail Blazers. From CDs to Wiis ... Princess Di to Wi-Fi.

Check our list of new words or phrases on Page A6 and see if they don’t provoke a memory — be it grin or grimace — that always will reside somewhere in the 2000s.
Words of the 2000s*

**Continued from Page A1**

**In our midst:**
Rose Village
Vanlucky
Penguin Nation
crime train
freak dancing
Discovery Corridor
WSU freshman
twirler (also)
civil union
subprime
underwater
upsie-down

**Tech world:**
blog
texting/texting
tweating
Googled
Facebook
BlackBerry
IPod/IPhone
apps
malware
YouTube
viral
podcast

**Fear and loathing:**
9/11
first responder
shoe bomber
WMD (weapons of mass destruction)
IED (improved explosive device)
enhanced interrogation
extraordinary rendition
stop-loss
truthiness
hanging chad
barter
tea party

**New habits/obessions:**
locavore
farm share
community supported agriculture
food porn

- carbon footprint
- LEED-certified
- "green"
- smart grid
- man cave
- bracketology
- staycation
- bucket list
- naughty or nice:
  - friends/unfriends
  - oversharing
  - cyberbully
  - frenemy
  - bridezilla
  - gnomornerge
  - romance/showmanship
  - cougar
  - metrosexual
  - helicopter parent
  - wardrobe malfunction
- Grub bag:
  - crunk
  - hoodie
  - muffle top
  - flash mob
  - camera phone
  - upskirt
  - big pharma
  - hot mess
  - read rage
  - bloody sock
  - tuck rule
  - TSA

- And not forgotten:
  - freedom fries
  - Islam-fascist
  - Mission Accomplished
  - Ground Zero
  - SARS/H1N1
  - Milo
  - dot-com bust
  - thrown under the bus
  - voted off the island
  - Bluetooth
  - wiki

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*OK, if you’re lost? Go ahead and Google it.*
- compiled by Howard Back

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**Food bank:**

**From Page A1**

with food and other supplies to the parking lot of the View fire station at 57064 N.E. 119th Ave.
That’s why "mobile" is part of the new food bank’s name.
"Folks in rural communities don’t have the gas money to drive a 25- to 50-mile round trip," Borst said.
The Oregon Food Bank said that the largest group of un- served people are in rural areas, hidden away in little valleys and behind the trees.
The location was just one of the elements that went into making it a user-friendly experience for hungry people in the area.

During Sunday’s two-hour shift, Borst opened up the food bank with friends Julie Bracken and Andrea Dover.
They don’t want to overstaff the distribution site, Borst said.
People who need the food might be scared away when they see a lot of people waiting for them to pick up groceries.

"There is no way to be sure, but our most public locations have had lower turnouts than we’ve expected," Borst said.
And one of the first things Bracken did was plant another sign along the road, near the food-bank sign.

"That provides a degree of dignity," Borst said.
If somebody happens to drive by the food-distribution event and recognizes a friend or neighbor at the food-give away table, "They can say, ‘I was donating,’” Borst said.
Erik Nielsen, pastor of Highland Lutheran Church just outside La Center, also came by to help.
Borst and Bracken are members of Highland Lutheran, where the notion of a mobile food bank came together.

The church held a series of Wednesday night soup dinners a few months ago, open to community members.

"We found that people were coming because they needed the food,” Borst said.
But it was a lot of work to put together a dinner for 60 people when only 16 had empty fridges.

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**Economy:**

**From Page A1**

likely to reach a whopping $180 billion for the coming fiscal year, twice Texas’ annual budget.
"It’s going to be the toughest year yet,” said Raymond Schep- pach, director of the National Governors Association, who predicted funding could evaporate for higher education, the arts and economic development. "The states haven’t hit bottom."

Mary Ana Neureuter, who runs an adult day care center in suburban Atlanta, saw her state aid cut in half in 2009. The Cambridge House Enrichment Center once offered state-subsidized care to 10 low-income clients with disabilities such as Alzheimer’s.

It’s now down to three, and Neureuter fears funding could dry up altogether this year.

"It’s heartbreaking because I foresee, in the coming year, it’s going to get even worse for services for the elderly,” she said.
States had already closed a $146 billion gap when they put together their budgets for the current fiscal year. They were short by about 20 percent, with 36 states now reporting an additional shortfall of $28.2 billion for the fiscal year that ends in June, according to the National Con- ference of State Legislatures.

That’s because state tax collections lagged behind even projections revised downward to be more pessimistic.

Forty-three states and the Dist- rict of Columbia have already slashed spending on popular services, including education.