

Scholarship Recipients

Sports Awards

Century 21 All Professional	Rebekah anne Peerson	\$ 500
Clatsop County Safety Council	Cody Davis	\$2000
Columbia County 4-H	Mackenzie Carr	\$ 500
Equestrian Scholarship	Marissa Clement	\$ 500
	Mackenzie Carr	\$ 500
Gene Weller Memorial	Caleb Stevens	\$ 500
Hancock Forest Management	Matthew Baldwin	\$ 500
Holce Logging	Sahrina Smith	\$ 1000
	Lauren Lason-Dyer	\$ 1000
	Mackenzie Carr	\$ 1500
	Kelsey King	\$ 1500
	Ashton Yontz	\$ 1500
	Lindsay Shaw	\$ 1500
	Megan Perry	\$ 3000
Izaak Walton League	Michael Calhoun	\$ 500
J. M. Browning Logging, Astoria	Cody Davis	\$ 2500
Joe Curl Memorial	Lauren Lason-Dyer	\$ 1000
Karen Pitt-Kilgore Memorial	Mackenzie Carr	\$ 500
Kris Duane Crowston Memorial	Shandee Cota	\$ 600
	Lauren Lason-Dyer	\$ 600
	Cody Davis	\$ 1200
PEO	Kelsey King	\$ 500
	Megan Perry	\$ 500
Vernonia Boosters	Jake Thompson	\$ 500
	Caleb Stevens	\$ 500
	Mackenzie Carr	\$ 500
	Marissa Clement	\$ 500
Vernonia Education Association	Benjamin Bamburg	\$ 250
	Ashton Yontz	\$ 250
	Lauren Lason-Dyer	\$ 250
	Tarrah Johnston	\$ 250
	Marissa Clement	\$ 250
	Megan Perry	\$ 250
	Lindsay Shaw	\$ 400
	Kymberlia Sebring	\$ 800
Vernonia Lions' Club	Mackenzie Carr	\$ 500
	Megan Perry	\$ 500
	Lauren Lason-Dyer	\$ 1000
	Cody Davis	\$ 1000
VHS Alumni	Ashton Yontz	\$ 1000
Wauna Federal Credit Union	Mackenzie Carr	\$ 500
	Kelsey King	\$ 500
Windermere	Michael Calhoun	\$ 500
WOEC, Sam Hearing	Mackenzie Carr	\$ 500
	Michael Calhoun	\$ 500
	Kelsey King	\$ 500
Zack Rumbolz Memorial	Lauren Lason-Dyer	\$ 5000

Football	
Most Improved	Kyle Brixey
Most Inspirational	Jake Thompson
Most Valuable Lineman	Taylor Smith
Most Valuable Defense	Jeramey Lende
Most Valuable Offense	Byron Schorzman
Most Valuable Player	Jeramey Lende
Volleyball	
Most Valuable Player	Mackenzie Carr
Most Improved Player	Heather Bassett
Most Inspirational Player	Karly DeWitt
Coach's Award	Tricia Levenseller
Black and Blue Award	Shandee Cota
Horizontal Award	Ashley Paleck
	Samantha Lee
Wrestling	
Most Inspirational	Kodiack Stone
Most Valuable	TommyCarr
Most Improved	Tyler Bernardi
Girls Basketball	
Honorable Mention All League	Tricia Levenseller
Boys Basketball	
Letter, Most Inspirational	Benni Scheytt
Most Improved	Blake Moeller
Most Outstanding	Byron Schorzman
Golf	
Most Improved	Jacob Alf
Most Improved	Calvin Barnes
Most Valuable, 2 nd Team All League	Paul Whiteman
Baseball	
Most Improved	Taylor Smith
Honorable Mention All League	Alex Lende
Coach's Award	Tim Brown
Most Valuable, 1 st Team All League	Byron Schorzman
2 nd Team All League	Cody Davis
1 st Team All League	Jeramey Lende
Equestrian	
All League	Mackenzie Tarkalson
Most Improved	Chantel Szlavich
Most Improved	Allee Chadek
Most Valuable, All League	Brianna Carr
Most Inspirational, All League	Jamie Benes
All League	Bryan Benes
Track	
Best 1 st Year	Nora Hieronimus
Best 1 st Year, All League	Shelby Grittman
Most Inspirational	Benni Scheytt
All League	Mat Krause
All League	Tommy Carr
Most Improved	Justin Caputo
All League	Samantha Lee
Most Inspirational	Megan Hieronimus
Most Valuable, Most Dedicated, All League	Blake Moeller
Most Dedicated	Michael Calhoun
Softball	
1 st Team All League	Karly DeWitt
1 st Team All League	Bonnie Birkmaier
2 nd Team All League	Souvanny Miller
2 nd Team All League	Brittney Paden

Auf Wiedersehen

Matthias Kreuter-Neuss

In April 07 my exchange program first told me, that I was going to spend the next school year in a state named Oregon. A state I had never heard of before. The first thing the helpful internet later told me about Oregon was that it usually rained here 200 days a year. Later I would say it felt more like 300 days of rain per year. But first of course I thought it was just some exaggerated number, because I just couldn't imagine a place with more rain than Germany.

It turned out, I had no idea.

About a month later my exchange program told me they had found a family in a nice town named Vernonia. A town I never had heard of before either. But at first I was very glad because it was close to the Pacific and relatively close to Seattle, both places I really wanted to visit. My excitement stopped about when I realized that the town looked extremely tiny on the map.

But in the end, what first seemed to be a huge bummer, ended up to be the best thing that could have ever happened to me.

The first thing that overwhelmed me in different ways was my host family, who couldn't have been kinder, more welcoming and funnier. There support and love would be the base for the wonderful 10 month to come. They showed me their amazing home state, they introduced me to a number of great people, and they spent fun weekends with me and laughed a countless number of times with me. Without them I clearly couldn't have had a time so awesome like the one I had. I think every host family, but especially the Stewards deserve a huge applause.



But Vernonia was an amazing place in a lot of different ways, even because it is so small. The school was smaller, so I didn't get lost and could easily find new friends. The teachers were nicer to the students, which made school fun for me and not boring torture, like it used to be. And the town itself was so small I dealt with the same people almost every day, which made it all feel more like a big family. Everybody accepted and involved me as a part of their life already after a few months.

When I look back I can see an enormous amount of experiences, ones that made me laugh, and ones that amazed me, ones that shocked me and also ones that made me cry. But every one of them I will never forget. I experienced the unbelievable force of water, 200 to 300 days of rain, homecoming, prom, an unusual Christmas, my host family in an IKEA, I went to the beach, Seattle, Montana- the place where dreams come true, I stepped in one or the other language trap, I got an amazing new nickname, I found self-confidence, I almost died doing white water rafting and then doing Cross Country, I experienced how long 3 miles are, I spent a month getting up at 10 o'clock to go to school, I started hating bus rides and I started loving church, I got bombed with sarcasm 24/7 by my host mom, I consumed a ton of hash browns, brownies and tater tots, I made new friends, I missed my family, I had cats for the first time, but hopefully not the last, I didn't have to wash dishes by hand for almost a year, I found out how helpful garbage disposals were, I got to prove that somebody can live for ten month on muffins and McDonald's without exploding, I learned the real meaning of the word Dork, I fell in love with a beautiful girl, I got kicked out of Mr. Browns class, I missed out on experiencing a lock-down, I lived in a purple painted room for 10 months, I went skiing and snowboarding and had to get rescued by the snow patrol, I went paint balling and got shot in the butt, I had to listen to lame jokes in Psychology and Film Studies, I got a thousand new reasons why soccer is still the best sport in the world, I lost an old accent and got a new one and had the best time of my life.

For all that I can only say: Thank you very much Vernonia!