

from the editor...

October is always one of my favorite times of year, especially in Vernonia. I just had an email that reported a first sighting of salmon in Rock Creek, which is always a highly anticipated event and reminds me exactly where it is that I call home now-- the Pacific Northwest. Because I spend so much of my time these days inside working on the computer, watching the salmon fight their way upstream gives me a thrilling and gut feeling, a real connection to the natural world. In honor of the salmon's return, in Vernonia we celebrate with Salmon Festival on the first Saturday in October. This year's Fest is extra special, with an old-fashioned melodrama play being performed as part of the festivities. Make sure to stop by with the family-- there's something for everyone at the Vernonia Salmon Festival.

October is also an exciting time, especially if you are a sports fan. Professional football season has started, baseball season is headed down the stretch toward the fall classic, and hockey and basketball are getting ready to start. And of course, here in Oregon, Duck and Beaver fans have renewed their rivalry to see who can suction cup more flags on their cars each weekend. This fall is especially nerve-wracking for me, as my old hometown Philadelphia Phillies try to defend their World Series title, and my new hometown Portland Timbers, fresh off an undefeated run of twenty-four games during this season, try to bring home their first championship for their Timbers Army fans. That computer I'm always strapped to does have its advantages-- it allows me to

keep up with all those sports scores, especially those Phillies scores, with the push of a button.

Fall sports here in Vernonia means Logger Nation is back in action. I had the privilege of speaking with all three fall sports head coaches and they are all excited about the possibilities this season. Football coach Brad Baker's team is struggling through a very tough non-league schedule, but is confident his team will be in the running when they start league play. Volleyball coach Brooke Vanmeter is enthusiastic about her veteran squad and is encouraging the community to come and out and support her Lady Loggers, who just might be the best in their league this year. And Cross Country coach James Brookins has deep teams on both the girls and boys side, with lots of great potential. Homecoming week is October 19-23-- make sure to come out and support your Loggers throughout the season.

Speaking of our schools, October will be the month the campaign to pass a School Bond Measure here in Vernonia really heats up (you didn't really think I was going to get through this piece without mentioning new schools, did you?). This is an opportunity for Vernonia to build an entire new campus, get a ton of help and financial assistance to do it, and show our kids that we value them and care about their education. By the time our next edition is published on November 3, it will already be Election Day and whether Vernonians have "passed the bond, not the buck" will be decided. So this is pretty much our last chance to remind you

to "Vote Yes for Vernonia Schools and Vote Yes for our Future."

Actually, that's not true. *Vernonia's Voice* decided it was important to get as much information about this school bond out to the community. So with the help of the School Bond Committee, we will be publishing a School Bond Special Edition, a short guide that will hopefully answer some of the many questions surrounding this issue for members of our community. In it, we will discuss such issues as, "Where will the rest of the money come from?" "How much will this actually cost me?" and "What is the future of the current school campus?" Look for that Special Edition of *Vernonia's Voice* in the second or third week of October.

One last thing this month: Darrold Mushatt, a long-time resident of this community and a husband with four young children, has been fighting a tough battle. Darrold is in need of a kidney transplant, and needs to raise \$8,000 to cover expenses so he can be placed on the transplant list. With help from the Northwest Kidney Transplant Fund, and through various fundraisers here within the community, Darrold has a good start towards raising those funds. Two more fundraisers take place this month, a Benefit Dinner at the Blue House Cafe on October 11, and a Benefit Concert on October 17, featuring a host of local talented musicians. Hope you can stop by and give a hand to a local family that needs your support.

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VERNONIA'S
voice
reflecting the spirit of our community

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Cash for Candy! Candy for soldiers!



hey kids:

Bring in your left over candy and we'll give you a \$1 per pound for all that sugary stuff! We'll then take that candy and send it to the troops overseas. Stop by and draw a picture or write a letter to go with the care packages to the soldiers!

Candy collection times: the first 2 weeks of November, on Mondays & Wednesdays, from 2pm-5pm

Questions? vernonia Dental 503-429-0880

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Benefit Concert for Darrold Mushatt

Sat. October 17th at 6 PM
at the Vernonia Community Church

Darrold is a young man with a family in our community who is in need of a kidney.

Artists so far include:
Strand, Dennis Chadek,
Shawn Baker, Mark Brown,
Elin Hayes, Clark McGaugh,
Grant Williams, Brian Maynard,
Burt Tschache, Disaster Relief

Please do your part to help while enjoying some of our local artists who also want to help.

All proceeds go to NTA
Northwest Kidney Transplant Fund
in honor of Darrold Mushatt.

COUNTRY DANCE

AT VERNONIA GRANGE HALL

**SATURDAY,
OCT. 3, 2009**

FOLLOWING SALMON FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES

7:00 PM - \$20 PER COUPLE

FORMER WESTERN SWING INSTRUCTOR **REBECCA ARLINT** WILL TEACH: COTTON EYED JOE AND 4 COUNT SWING HALF HOUR INSTRUCTION EACH, FOLLOWED BY SOCIAL DANCE.

PURCHASE TICKETS BY SEPTEMBER 30TH AT DOUBLE C TACK OR CONTACT ALLISON McLEOD AT 503-429-0734

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT VERNONIA COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT.