

Vernonia Seniors--You've Got Talent!

The Blue House Café would like to invite our many talented Senior Citizens to take part in an OpenMicrophone Talent Show on April 24th, starting at 6:00 PM. This will be a fun and informal evening of music, poetry, song, dance...Seniors, come out and express your gifted side! The performance will be hosted by Shawn Boutwell. Please contact Shawn at 503-312-2925 or Elenora at the Blue House 503-429-4350 to express your interest in being part of the entertainment or for more details.

Share your Passion: Be a Part of FIRST FRIDAY

Looking for anyone with a passion that you'd like to share and demonstrate during First Friday. Magicians, artists, crafters, hobbyists, musicians – we want you!

Floral arranging? Model rocketry? Napkin folding? Knife making or sharpening? Origami? Stained glass work? Car or train models? Bird watching? Pottery? Crocheting? Remote controlled airplanes, gliders boats, or cars? Quilting? Embroidery? Fencing? Scrapbooking? Kites? Leather working? Collecting? Astronomy? Sewing? Rocks and minerals? Metal detecting? Sports cards? Wood working? You name it, we want to see it!

Buy, sell or barter? Do it at First Fridays!

First Friday starts May 7 at the Scout Cabin in Hawkins Park. Next ones will be in the Learning Center Courtyard and the Blue House Café on Bridge street. For more info, contact Erika: epaleck@gmail.com or 503-704-5970, or 503-429-0898.

Celebrate With Larry and Gail Snethen

Larry and Gail Snethen invite all their Vernonia friends and neighbors to join them in

celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary. Join Larry and Gail at the Vernonia Scout Cabin on Saturday, May 8, from 1:00-4:00 PM. No gifts please.

Events At Stub Stewart State Park in April

The Discovery Depot will be open Thursday - Sunday 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

A SOLV IT event will be happening for Earth Day on April 17th at 9 AM. Volunteers must register at <http://www.solv.org>

A Friends of Stub Stewart State Park and Banks-Vernonia Rails-to-Trails meeting will be held at Stub Stewart State Park Dairy Creek Meeting Hall at 7:00 PM Thursday, April 22, 2010. Anyone is invited to attend.

Saturday, April 24, 2010 at 7:30 PM an OMSI Star Party will take place at Hilltop Day-use Area. \$5 parking fee for non-registered campers, event is free. Telescopes and expertise provided by the Rose City Astronomers and OMSI Planetarium Director, Jim Todd.

Vernonia Community Volleyball

Vernonia is now holding Adult Community Volleyball. Join your friends and neighbors for competitive, coed volleyball at the Washington Grade School gym from 7:00 to 9:30 PM every Friday evening. No small children please. For details, contact Teresa Williams at 503-799-3424, or by email at fitnessbytw@netzero.com.

Band Car Wash

The Vernonia Middle and High School Bands will be holding a car wash every second Saturday, April -September.(May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, Sept. 11) from 11:00 AM -3:00 PM in the District Office parking lot. Donations appreciated.

Upcoming Events

Meet The Candidates, April 15, 7:00 PM-at the VCLC, 939 Bridge Street. Candidates for Columbia County Commissioner will answer questions from a pre-selected panel of citizens. Open House to follow.

Mikal Brukken Live, April 16, 6:00 PM - at the Black Bear Café

Make Vernonia Shine, April 17, 9:00 AM- 12:00PM - register at Vernonia school cafeteria. Lunch served after clean up for all volunteers. Informational displays at school covered play area.

OSSOM Week at VHS, April 19-23 - a week of activities to remind students of the hazards of drinking and driving. SKID Program on Thursday 4/22 at 12:45 at Logger Stadium. Public is invited.

Senior Citizen Open Microphone Talent Show, April 24, 6:00-8:00 PM

- at the Blue House Café. All talented Senior Citizens are invited to participate. Informal and fun evening of music, poetry, song and dance.

VHS Prom, April 24

School Town Hall, April 29, 7:00- at school cafeteria. Get the latest news and updates on the new school project.

First Friday, May 7, 5:00-8:00 PM- at the Vernonia Scout Cabin. Maypole dance, music, arts and crafts.

Upcoming Library Events:

B.J. the Clown will help in the celebration of National Library Week on Thursday April 15 at 6:45 PM.

Movie Matinees during Spring Break:

Tuesday, April 23- Bedtime Stories, 2:00 PM

Thursday, April 25-Where the Wild Things Are, 2:00 PM

Movie Night:

Saturday, April 27--New Moon, 6:30 PM

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To Whom It May Concern,

On April 23rd 2010 the Vernonia Foursquare Church will be starting a new community activities program. On this date we will be hosting a movie night at the church. There will, at this time be no admission. This will ensure that anyone who has a desire to participate will not be limited by today's economy. Additionally we will be serving punch and popcorn and no charge, other food and drink will be sold at an additional charge.

These activities are designed primarily for youth and families in the community. All people are welcome to attend all events. The concept is to provide activities for the people of Vernonia that do not involve loitering, alcohol, or drugs. In this small community there seems to be many people who recognize a need for such activities, but nobody to act on that need. The Vernonia Foursquare Church is ready to act, to show this community that there is hope!

Our goal is to raise at least \$6,000 this year. Already we have \$1000 through generous donations. We are hoping to be able purchase a new projector, a surround sound system, and a new screen. We are still needing funds also to expand our ac-

tivities to include a meal program (this will require a grill and utensils), a game night (things like a Wii tournament, network computer gaming and board games) and even a night out.

Please help us reach that goal with your pledge. Your donation is tax deductible. If you wish, you may mail your donation amount today to: Vernonia Foursquare Church 850 Madison Avenue, Vernonia, OR 97064-1107

Please make checks payable to: Foursquare Church. Also in the memo line please designate for Youth Program.

All sponsors will have the option of being listed as such in any related literature and enrolled to receive a newsletter outlining progress made in our program as well as attendance and new programs being developed (please indicate your preferences when your donation).

Thank you in advance for your support. Please call me if you have any questions or comments about these events. I can be reached at 503.621.2375.

Christopher Stoneking
Media/Special Events Coordinator

Dear Community of Vernonia:

On Thursday, April 22nd, the Vernonia High School and we, the OSSOM Leaders, would like to invite you and your family to the third annual SKID (Stopping Kids Intoxicated Driving) event. With the Prom the following Saturday, OSSOM wanted to help remind the prom goers and the community of the dangers of drinking and driving. Unfortunately, 1500 teens are killed every year due to underage drinking with the highest incidents occurring during Prom and Graduation. We are trying to ensure that our students do not become one of those statistics!

Members of the high school and community will illustrate the consequences of drunk driving. The performance presents a realistic reenactment of potential fatalities and injuries sustained in an accident. The Vernonia Police Department has partnered with Life-Flight, Metro West Ambulance and the Vernonia Rural Fire Department to make the experience believable by acting out the devastating effects drunk driving has on parents, families and the community as a whole. Dedicated businesses, including towing companies, a radio station, a mortuary and community volunteers, will be involved in this event.

The SKID event will be presented at Logger Stadium. It will start at 12:45 pm and run until 2:45 pm. You will be joined with students from 7-12th grades to be a witness to the consequences of mixing alcohol and young people together. Many staff will be available during the event to help with interpretation and support.

This is one of a weeklong list of activities hosted by the OSSOM Leadership group to highlight the consequences of and lasting effects of underage drinking. The group has been meeting and planning this program (for teens by teens) since November 2009.

These students are committed to stand up and make change in the issues facing youth today.

Sincerely,
OSSOM Leadership Committee
Students Grades 8th – 12th
SKID Planning Committee
Bonnie Birkmaier, Chris Bamburg,
Genesis Castro, Katie Wilson
OSSOM Advisors
Pete Weisel, Vernonia 7th – 12th Grade
School Counselor
DeAnna Pearl, Vernonia Prevention
Coalition

To the Editor-

Just a friendly reminder that Vernonia Pride will be announcing their "Yard of the Month" starting with the second issue of *Vernonia's Voice* in May 2010.

Ballot boxes will be in place by April 19 at City Hall and Sentry Market (on top of the safe) as they were last year for you to deposit your yard nominations ballots. (Ballots are in place next to each box)

Please help pick the winners by getting your nominations in the ballot box before the 10th of each month.

Janelle Thomas Cedergreen
Vernonia Pride

HOW TO SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vernonia's Voice welcomes and requests your thoughts, opinions and ideas. Please include your name, address and phone number, limit your letters to 300 words or less. Vernonia's Voice reserves the right to edit, omit, respond or ask for a response to letters submitted. We will print letters, space permitting. Deadline is the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. Email to: scott@vernoniasvoice.com or mail to: Letters, PO Box 55, Vernonia, OR 97064.