

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, (June 12, July 10, August 14, Sept. 11) from 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM in the District Office parking lot. Donations appreciated. All proceeds go to band events, festivals and instrument repairs.

Lions Club Offers Health Screenings

The Vernonia Lions Club is sponsoring a free Health Screening on May 14 from 12:00 to 4:00 PM. for community members. The Oregon Lions Mobile Health Screening Van will be located at the Washington Grade School and no appointments are necessary. Screenings will be done for Visual Acuity, Blood Pressure, Glaucoma, Hearing, and Diabetes. If you want a Diabetes screening you must fast for at least 3 hours prior to the screening.

May Events at Stub Stewart State Park

Come out for the Planet Parade OMSI Star Party on Saturday May 15, 2010 at 8:30 PM to gaze at the spring night sky at Hilltop Day-use Area inside L.L. “Stub” Stewart State Park. The event free with \$5 parking per vehicle, if you are not a registered camper. Warm clothing and a flashlight with red light are recommended. Personal telescopes and binoculars are welcome. OMSI staff and volunteers from the Rose City Astronomers

will be on hand to provide information and views from an array of telescopes of objects like the Orion Nebula, the moon, planets, constellations, star clusters and more!

On the scheduled day of each OMSI Star Party, it is suggested that interested visitors call the OMSI Star Parties Hotline, (503) 797-4610 ext 2, or check the OMSI Star Parties web site <http://www.oms.edu/starparties> for possible weather-related cancellations.

On Sunday, May 23, 2010 from 12:00 - 4:00pm, The Friends of Stub Stewart State Park and Banks-Vernonia Rails-to-Trails will be hosting a vendor open house for those whose wares may fit within the park theme. Items will be considered for consignment at the Discovery Depot Interpretive Center and Store. Those interested in attending should contact Heather Currey at 503-324-0606 x223 or Karlene Thompson, store manager, at (503) 680-6667

The Friends of Stub Stewart State Park and Banks-Vernonia Rails-to-Trails would like to invite you to their monthly meeting at Stub Stewart State Park, Thursday, May 27, 2010 at the Mountain Dale Meeting Hall at Stub Stewart State Park. Meeting topics include the Discovery Depot Store, website design, park events (Dates TBA: State Parks Day, Cowboy Day, Youth Tri Hike-Bike-Dash). New ideas and comments are welcome, please attend! For more information, contact Helen Johnson, President at (503) 693-9096

Northwest Trails Alliance mountain bike trail build days - Saturday May 29, 2010 and Sunday May 30, 2010. Any interested volunteers should contact Joe Rykoswki either via email: joer@nw-trail.org or visit the Northwest Trails Alliance website: <http://nw-trail.org>.

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor

Many many thanks to all of you who turned out for Vernonia Pride’s clean up day. We had approximately 160 volunteers.

We accomplished some of our goals, the Boy Scouts planted close to 150 trees and plants, the new fire rings for Anderson Park were set in, bark was spread around the play structure at Anderson, some of the moss between the bricks up town was removed, and general litter picked up in some areas.

A lot of prescription drugs were turned in, and if you missed this opportunity, they will be doing this again at a later date.

We also want to thank all the people who donated the food for our lunch, who come through for us year after year. Sentry Market for the hot dogs and water, Reesers for the salads, Frito Lay for the chips, and Franz for the hot dog buns and breakfast rolls.

Once again we want to thank all of you who participated in any way, and hope to see you all again next year.

DeLoris Webb
Vernonia Pride

I’d like to thank everyone who helped me go to Washington DC. It was truly a once in a lifetime experience. All the people that helped with donating bottles & cans, bought baked goods, came to the bingo/spaghetti dinner & gave generous cash donations - you have my gratitude. I made many new friends & met lots of new people. My favorite thing there was probably Williamsburg & Arlington National Cemetery. You have no idea how thankful I am. Thank you!

Bridger Steward
Vernonia

To the Editor:

Columbia County needs Shawna Sykes and her knowledge and experience in economic growth and development. Having served most recently as an economist, and earlier as a Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, she understands the need to focus on business development as a way of bringing jobs to this county. Shawna has a breadth of knowledge not shared by any of the other candidates for Columbia County Commissioner. Shawna Sykes is a leader. Resourceful and responsive, she

has worked with the Ford Family Foundation and the Oregon Community Foundation as a volunteer. She has participated in many regional economic development efforts with great success and has developed an extensive network of individuals and resources she can draw upon. Shawna can hit the ground running. She can be an effective Commissioner much sooner than any other candidate for this office because her learning curve will be shorter. Shawna is smart, committed and is ready to go to work for Columbia County. She has my full support. I hope you’ll join me in casting your vote for Shawna Sykes for Columbia County Commissioner, Position 2. She’ll work for you.

Susan Conn
St. Helens

The Columbia County Commissioners Race is interesting. Whom will I vote for, I am still undecided; however I know which candidate I will not vote for and that is Judith Taylor, simply because of Hank Bartholomew. His vile and hate filled letters remind me of Washington D.C. politics, which by the way is where he is from. Bringing that style of politics to Columbia County is unforgiveable, therefore Judith, you will

not have my vote as I don’t want anyone who brings that to Columbia County to represent me, my friends, our neighbors or Columbia County. I urge everyone to vote, just not for her. If you don’t have anything nice to say, then don’t say anything at all.

J. Gosina
Columbia County

To The Editor:

JUDITH TAYLOR Deserves Your Vote

People who serve in public office deserve more credit and thanks than they usually receive. Promoting awareness and involvement with issues affecting local citizens are at times frustrating.

I know this from experience, working on a letter writing campaign to keep Bank of America in Rainier and helping to put on a Chamber of Commerce forum about LNG (liquefied natural gas) and the proposed project at Bradwood, Oregon.

Judith Taylor has demonstrated

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Upcoming Events

Child Safety Seat Check, May 13, 4-6PM - Vernonia Fire Station 555 E. Bridge St.

Quarterhorse, The Lyon’s Den, May 14, 8PM - Playing all of today’s country hits. No cover charge.

Live Music, The Birkenfeld Store, May 15, 22, 29, 7-10PM - 5/15 Lock, Stock and Barrel, 5/22 Megan James Band, 5/29 Bridgetown Underground

OMSI Star Party, May 15, 7:30 PM- at Stub Stewart State Park, Hilltop Day use area. Event is free, \$5 Parking fee for non-campers. Telescope and Astronomy expertise provided.

Fire Fighters Pancake Breakfast, May 16, 8AM-1PM- At the VHS Cafeteria. Support your local Fire Volunteers. Great food, blood pressure checks, fire engine rides.

Staley’s Junction ODOT Open House, May 18, 5-7PM - Learn about the variable speed sign pilot project at Banks Christian Academy, 22785 NW Fisher Rd. Buxton.

Ridge Riders Play Day, May 22, 10AM - at Anderson Park Arena.

Vernonia Schools Fundraising Walk, May 22, 10AM-12PM - at Vernonia Lake.

Jamboree Committee Meeting, May 27, 6PM - at Vernonia City Hall.

June First Friday, June 4, 5-8:30PM--at the Blue House Cafe. VHS Student Art Exhibit, Junior Salmon Auction, Live Music and more.

Vernonia Short Track Mountain Bike Race, June 12, First Race at 10AM--At the Bicycle Skills Park, parking at Vernonia Lake. Come watch or compete, categories for all levels of riders. Final Pro Race starts at 2:30 PM. This is an OBRA sanctioned event.

Upcoming School Events

- 5/13 School Board / Budget Committee meeting 6:00 PM, District Office
- 5/13-16 Equestrian State Meet
- 5/14-15 District Track Meet
- 5/18 Baseball and Softball League Playoffs
- 5/21-22 State Track Meet
- 5/26 VHS Spring Sports Awards Dessert 6:00 PM
- 5/26 Alumni/Friends of Vernonia Schools meeting
- 5/26 Principals Awards
- 5/27 Budget committee meeting 6:00 PM
- 5/27 WGS Field Day
- 6/1 VHS National Honor Society Induction
- 6/5 Graduation!
- 6/11 Last Day of Classes

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.