

Columbia County Commission on Children and Families

The Columbia County Commission on Children and Families holds public meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 5:30 PM. The meetings are held at the OSU Extension Office, 505 N. Columbia River Hwy., St. Helens, Oregon. The next meeting is November 18, 2010.

Learn About Cub Scouting

Attention all first through fourth grade boys! The Vernonia Cub Scouts would like to invite you to our next Pack meeting. Come learn more about Cub Scouting in Vernonia. November 17, 6:30 PM at the Scout Cabin.

Flu Clinics

Columbia Health District-Public Health Authority will be providing walk-in flu shot clinics around the county this fall. Vaccinations will cost \$10 this year. Oregon Health Plan (OHP) will be billed in lieu of the \$10 charge for those insured by OHP.

For the most current information about flu visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention site www.cdc.gov/flu For information about where to get flu shots: www.flu.oregon.gov (800) 978-3040.

Clinic Dates and Times

Vernonia

Friday, November 19th, 2010
9:30 AM to 2:30 PM
Vernonia Senior Center

Skein Slayers Knitting/Crocheting Group

The hope is that this will become a multi-generational group that talks about whatever the hot topics are, particularly teens, and knit or crochet hats and scarves for our students in need and for the Community Closet. Sponsored by the Vernonia Prevention Coalition, the Kiwanis and community volunteers, Skein Slayers is a knitting/crocheting group whose goals are to invite people of all ages who can knit or crochet or just want to hang out and talk. We'll have topics that we'll talk about each night and a table of supporting materials for the topic; i.e. suicide prevention, bullying, etc. Flyers will be posted around town. Don't know how to knit? You're in luck because Creatures is offering a knitting class on Monday night's at 7:00 PM. After taking their class, you can come down and join us. We're also looking for yarn and needle donations. Mondays, November 8 & 22, 6:00 PM.

Contact: Catherine Helmer, 503-914-9525, catherine.helmer@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Events

Winter Preparedness Forum, November 13, 12:00 PM at the VCLC, 939 Bridge St. City and County staff will discuss emergency preparedness and storm response.

Rabies Clinic and Photos with Santa, November 14, 12-3 PM at the Columbia Humane Society, 2084 Oregon Street in St. Helens.

VHS Alumni Volleyball Game, November 19, 7:00 PM at the VHS Gym. All proceeds go to the Zack Rumbolz Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Logging Slide Presentation, November 20, 6:00 PM, Vernonia Public Library. Cory Colburn will present photographs taken by Janelle Wiggins between 1976-1985 of area logging.

Photos with Santa, November 26, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM, pets and people welcome. Fundraiser for Costa Rica Kids at Creatures Pet Store, 936 Bridge St.

Vernonia New School Ground-breaking, December 2, 10:00 AM at the new school site, end of Missouri Avenue.

Vernonia Christmas Booster Bazaar, December 3-5, at the Vernonia School Cafeteria.

Bottle/Can Drive, December 4, at the covered play area, fundraiser for Costa Rica Kids. Continues on the first Saturday of each month.

Vernonia Senior Center Holiday Sale, December 4-5. Tables available for rent/\$10. Contact Pauline for more info 503-429-3912

The Spirit of Christmas in Vernonia, December 4, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM, downtown Vernonia. Baking contest, live nativity scene, story telling, choir and carolers, Christmas tree lighting, Santa and Lighted Parade.

Vernonia Community Theater Group Presents *Expose: Holiday Celebrities Tell All!* December 10, 7:00 PM and December 11, 1:00 PM & 7:00 PM. \$5 per person or \$20 per family at Washington Grade School.

Friends of the Vernonia Public Library

Membership Dues:

Family: \$10.00 Individual: \$5.00

Minimum: \$1.00 plus 2 hours minimum of work in the library

Make checks payable to: Friends of the Vernonia Public Library

Mailing Address: 701 Weed Avenue, Vernonia, OR 97064

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Date _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____

I am interested in helping with the following committees (optional):
Please Circle • Membership • Endowments • Book Sales • Publicity & Public Relations • Fund Raising • Library Services • Finance-Budget-Legal Matters

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To The Editor,

I would first like to thank everyone who went out and voted on November 2nd and made a difference in the future of Vernonia, Oregon, and the USA. I would also like to thank all of you in Vernonia that had felt that I could help to lead this community to recovery and cast your votes for me. When I first decided to run for city council it was because I felt that we (Vernonia) needed some new blood and a change of direction. I knew that there were going to be some tough decisions that were going to need to be made, and I wanted to make sure we had the people in place that were willing to make those decisions. Once I went down and registered to run for council and then later saw who was running and the number of people running, I felt much better about everything. I believe that for the first time in a long time, the people of Vernonia had

more than the "same old, same old" to choose from and that meant nothing but good things for the community.

Now I would be lying if I said that I wasn't a little disappointed that I didn't win, I mean it's human nature to want to win, and when you have spent a good deal of your life as a competitor and winner, you don't like the taste of defeat. BUT, I really like the choices that the people of Vernonia made. I think that we have a new Mayor that can effectively lead the council, and I think that the young ladies that were elected to the council seats will do a great job. I have had an opportunity to speak to both of them before the elections, and I wanted to vote for both of them. I think they both have the backbone to stand up for their beliefs, and I think they both have nothing but what's best for our community at heart. I also believe that they know that there are

still tough times ahead and know that there will be tough choices to be made and are willing to take the heat for making those choices.

It is my belief that Vernonia is turning the page and starting a new chapter and I am very excited to see what's in store. At the time that I am writing this letter, it is still too early to tell who will be leading our state, but it is my hope that Oregonians will remember what happened in the past and why they changed leadership before, and will move in the new direction. We have seen across the nation that people do not like what is happening, and I think the new faces that will be in Washington don't want any of the old crap that has been dished out by either of the parties, and will lead us in a direction that is about the people and the constitution.

I didn't mean to get on a soap box, I was only writing to say thank you to all my supporters and that if in the future I see a need for someone to step up, I will do so knowing that I have many friends and supporters in the community that believe in me. Thank you once again and congratulations to Mayor Josette Mitchell, Councilor Willow Burch, and Councilor Marilyn Nicks. Thank you Ernie Smith Vernonia

Dear Voters,

I began this campaign because I care for Oregon and the people of Oregon. I was not happy with the downward spiral Oregon has been in for the last 20 years and the voting record of my Senator, which I felt contributed to this. During this campaign I have highlighted that voting record while emphasizing the changes that I would like to see in Oregon.

This has been a heartfelt election, both sides pushing to get their points of views across. In the end, this election came down to some close numbers, and my campaign is proud to say that no one has come near this close to winning this district in years.

This is not a concession, yet, for there are ballot discrepancies, some in my district and some much more severe discrepancies in others, where over 1/5 of the ballots case have been set aside for what ever reason and not counted and we must find out why. The discrepancies in my district will not change the outcome of my race, but by not conceding yet it may push to a fuller accounting of all ballots. Out of ten Senate Districts three districts had 1 in 5 votes set aside and not counted, five districts had about 1 in 10 votes set aside, compared to this district that had 1 in 31 votes set aside. Even though this

continued on page 7

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.