

## VHS Equestrian Team

The VHS Equestrian Team recently competed in their second OHSET March district meet.

Senior, Brianna Carr, took 1st place in the keyhole event and 4th in barrels, placing 9th in pole bending, and 10th in figure 8. Senior McKenzie Tarkalson, did well placing 5th in In Hand Trail and 6th in steer daubing, and 12th in keyhole. Junior, Brett Benes, took 5th place in steer daubing and 14th in pole bending. Junior, Chrissy Garrison did well earning her team points in every event done. In the team birangle events, Carr and Tarkalson placed 4<sup>th</sup>; in Team Flags they placed 6th.

“As a coach it has been fun watching these athletes team up and work with, and train, their horses for the OHSET,” said Coach Diane Benes. “They have done a great job learning to put their horsemanship skills to the test.”

Coach Benes, says she is proud of the team and feels very confident the team will have some State qualifiers this year. She would also like to encourage the local community to come to McMinnville to show support at the kids last district meet on the 3rd weekend of April.

## Building the Vernonia School Keeping it Local: Matt Clark, Heinz Mechanical

**What they do:** Plumbing and Heating, Ventilation and Cooling

**What's the history?**

Matt, a local resident, has been a field supervisor for Heinz Mechanical for over 10 years. The company, a second-generation family-owned business, is located on St. Helens Road in Portland, and installs plumbing, heating and cooling systems primarily for schools, hospitals and government projects. Matt has lived in Vernonia since 1999 and has three school-age children.

**How's business?**

Heinz Mechanical, with 45 employees, has weathered the recession better than most firms. “We run a pretty tight ship and have been fortunate that hospitals and schools are still generating work,” says Ross Freeman, project manager for the Vernonia project. “While it was a little slow in the fall, we are now very busy.”

**What this project means for business?**

For Heinz Mechanical, it's a very large project that

they are excited to work on. Matt is currently installing pipe on the site for plumbing and, at the peak, the project will employ 15 or more plumbers, sheet metal workers and electricians. For Matt, it also means a three-minute commute to work.

**What this project means for the community?**

“Living on the Nehalem River, we basically had to rebuild our house. Friends and family really came through for us. Because we've got three school age children, I take special pride in working on the school they are going to attend. It's pretty cool,” says Matt.

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Matt Clark (second from left) with his Heinz Mechanical crew at work at the Vernonia School Project.

## Two “Joy for Jaden” Fundraisers Upcoming

Vernonia High School students in the Leadership Class have organized two upcoming fundraisers as part of their ongoing “Joy for Jaden” project.

On April 16 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM a Spaghetti Feed and Bingo Night will be held in Banks at Sunset Park. Cost for the Spaghetti Dinner is \$6 or \$27 for a family of five.

On April 23, the Leadership Class is hosting a Community-wide Talent Show in Vernonia. Acts of all ages and types are welcome and are now being recruited. You can sign up at the VHS office or call 503-429-3521. Cost to register is \$15 for one and two person acts; 3-5 person acts are \$25. Admission for the show will be \$3 for students and seniors and \$5 for adults.

All proceeds from both these fundraisers go to Jaden Krieger and his family. Jaden is a nine year old boy who is suffering from brain cancer. VHS and VMS students are raising funds to send Jaden and his family to Great Wolf Lodge.

## Bookfair and Family Reading Night at WGS

Washington Grade School's Family Reading Night is rescheduled for Tuesday, April 12, 6:30-8:00PM. There will be booths set up with different activities all centered around reading. A few of the activities offered will be: learning how to knit, making gag, and making bookcovers for your FREE books.

Barnes and Noble will be holding a bookfair at WGS Tuesday, April 12 during Family Reading Night. There will be books of all kinds available for purchase at the bookfair. However, if you would like to support WGS but cannot make it to Family Reading Night, then you may purchase books online at [www.bn.com/bookfair](http://www.bn.com/bookfair). Be sure to use ID #10447746 so WGS bookfair will get the credit!

## Barnes & Noble Bookfair supporting Washington Grade School

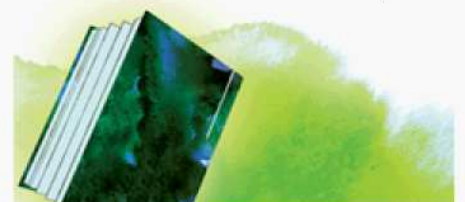
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Please present this voucher prior to making your purchase. A percentage of the net sale will be contributed to your school/organization.\*

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