

**UNWC Annual Meeting**

The Upper Nehalem Watershed Council's (UNWC) Annual Meeting has been changed from March 12th to **Saturday May 21, 10 AM- 2 PM**. The meeting is open to the public. UNWC will show the community what they have accomplished and what is planned for the future, explaining their goals, asking for community input, electing new Board Members and amending their Bylaws.

**VHS CRLE Presentations**

Senior Career Related Learning Experience (CRLE) presentations are on Wednesday, March 30, 2011. Times to be announced but working schedule is: Senior arena style presentations in the 'Logger Dome' are from 9:00-11:00. Public invited.

Speeches are at 7:00 PM with students arriving at 6:30 and judges at 6:00 (Student displays will be available for judges to view starting at 5:30).

Anyone interested in being a judge contact Rachel Wilcoxon or Dana Hyde at 503.429.3521 or email [dhyde@vernonia.k12.or.us](mailto:dhyde@vernonia.k12.or.us), or [rwilcoxon@vernonia.k12.or.us](mailto:rwilcoxon@vernonia.k12.or.us)

**Craft Class Scheduled at Vernonia Florist Sip-N-Knit**

With Katie Organ, learn to knit while enjoying your favorite beverage and treat, from Katie's own kitchen.

Great selection of yarn and needles available at Vernonia Florist.

**1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thurs 10-Noon.**

**\$10 For Intro Session**

**\$5 for each additional Session**

Please feel free to request any type or color of yarn.

Kits for each class and patterns will also be available.

**At the Vernonia Grange**

The Grange has a change of date on the April one day rummage sale - it will now be held on Saturday, April 16 from 10:00-4:00

There will also be Bingo at the Grange on Saturday, March 26, April 9, April 23 at 6:30 PM.

**Columbia County Commission on Children and Families**

The Columbia County Commission on Children and Families holds public meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 March 17, 2011.

**Skein Slayers Knitting/Crocheting Group**

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 on the second and fourth Mondays at 6:00 PM. 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. 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. Join us Monday, March 22nd and April 11, 6:00 PM. Contact: Catherine Helmer, 503-914-9525.

**2011 Spring Garden Fair**

Don't miss the Columbia County Master Gardener™ Association's 16th annual fair on April 30th at St. Helens High School, inside the Commons and outside in the courtyard. The sale starts at 9 am and ends at 3 pm. Admission and parking are free. Master Gardeners will offer over 6,000 plants from 34 varieties of standard and heirloom tomatoes, still only \$1.25 per plant. Come early for the best selection. We will also have certified members on hand to provide general gardening information at the Education table and tomato-specific information at the tomato sale. Of course, we will also have our raffle, with tickets on sale for \$1 each and hourly prizes. You don't need to be present to win.

**Readers Lend Their Voices...**

Creatures and Vernonia Florist Have Parted Ways

Not sure what you have heard so we wanted to make it official. After a few months of prayer, Ben and I decided to sell the pet portion of our business. When the decision was made, it was only a month from start to finish. We have sold the "Creatures" pet business to Dennis and Michal Smith (yes Michal is a girl), they will be staying in the same space in the building for at least a couple of years. We would love for you to come in, welcome Michal, and enjoy the changes that Michal is making along with the supplies she is adding. She is definitely an asset to "Creatures" and we look forward to working side by side (in the building) with her for as long as possible.

We are planning to expand the Vernonia Florist business and stay in Vernonia of course. The phone number for Creatures will stay the same, however the Vernonia Florist is 503-429-2000, please call this number to reach Ben or I for any reason and of course for your floral needs. We appreciate all of the support we have had for the last 10 years and will miss many things, however we are very excited to be able to focus on one business and look forward to growing

as Vernonia Florist. Please stay tuned for a "Welcome New Owners, 10 Year Anniversary" Celebration in May.

Sincere Blessings to our loyal customers, Ben, Lisa and Edgar Family

Dear Editor:

I first want to thank our community for all they do to support our school district fundraisers. Without you, our students would not be able to do many important and enriching things like purchasing uniforms and equipment needed for a sport, raising money for prom, and traveling to California, Europe and Costa Rica.

Pop Can and Bottle collecting is an important fundraiser for many of our groups. Recently, a few high school groups have been misrepresented by individuals soliciting donations for cans door to door. My apologies go out to anyone who has been misinformed by these individuals.

Please know that any Vernonia High School pop can/bottle drive fundraiser will never happen during school hours. Most of the drives are held on Saturdays and are advertised

beforehand on the school district reader board and/or in the local newspapers. School groups participating in the drives will have a school ID/Lanyard with "VHS Fundraiser" printed on it. If they don't have the fundraising ID card, they will be wearing team sweatshirts identifying themselves properly.

Our students are grateful for all the time and effort Vernonia community members put in to help them reach their fundraising goals. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at VHS. Thanks for supporting our students!

Sincerely,  
Teri Willard  
Vernonia High School  
Student Activities Director

To the Editor

Sally Harrison presented her numbers, Scott Laird described Vernonia's history of the process, Dr. Cox alerted all to the importance of the timing, and Jim Krahn addressed the micro-management and the pay. The people stood and showed the council members that represent them what they wanted. The leaders and the people of this town spoke.

I have a question. Is it

**Upcoming Events**

**Kids Fishing Derby, March 26, 10:00 AM—FREE!** At Vernonia Lake, sponsored by Pioneer Baptist Fellowship. Prizes and refreshments.

**QPR for Suicide Prevention, March 29, 6:30-8:30 PM—**For anyone interested in preventing suicide in their community. Part of the 5th Tuesday Community Coalition Meetings, at the VCLC.

**"The Voters Have Spoken: Oregon's Controversial Ballot Initiatives," March 31, 6:30 PM—**At the Vernonia Library. Part of the Oregon Humanities Conversation Project, the presentation will be led by Dr. Jackson Miller.

**Spaghetti Feed and Bingo, April 16, 4:00-7:00 PM—**Fundraiser for "Joy for Jaden." Sunset Park in Banks.

**Make Vernonia Shine Day, April 16 -** Vernonia's annual clean-up day, sponsored by Vernonia Pride.

**Vernonia Sportsman's Banquet, April 23--**Guest Speaker, Larry D. Jones. BBQ Dinner. Tickets \$10, available March 21st at Sentry Market video department.

**Community Talent Show, April 23--**Fundraiser for "Joy for Jaden." All acts welcome, sign up at VHS or call 503-429-3521.

**Vernonia Fire Pancake Feed, May 15, 8:00 AM--**Benefits the VRFPD

Vernonia's Voice is published twice each month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday. Look for our next issue in three weeks on April 12th.

is their inexperience, lack of common sense, or personal agenda that caused them not to acknowledge the people that came or spoke? Wouldn't there be more respect for the town's people, and the town's people for the council, if the council decided to table this for more consideration?

I have more questions. Do these council members know the regulations, ordinances, policies, and laws regarding their own positions? Why would a council member make derogatory statements about Bill in public? Couldn't this council member potentially cost the city millions in a lawsuit for these opinionated statements?

Last question; The people came to this council meeting using the process to make their needs known. Isn't this another example of how the process doesn't always work well?

Sonia Spackman  
Vernonia

**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: [scott@vernoniasvoice.com](mailto:scott@vernoniasvoice.com) or mail to: Letters, PO Box 55, Vernonia, OR 97064.