

Readers Lend Their Voices... *continued from page 4*

break the party up and arrest or cite those who are breaking any number of laws. You have no idea of how much alcohol and or drugs are there, or if any of the participant are armed. You contact the property owner and are told to leave because it is private property. Unfortunately, you have no choice but to leave because you cannot enter the property legally.

All you can do is hope than no one leaves the party impaired or that no one at the party is injured. Now the people who reported the activity think that the police and Sheriff's Department are doing nothing, again. As a taxpayer you decide to vote against any appeal for funds to adequately respond. The result is a further deterioration of the ability to serve the residents of the county.

Now the property owner who hosted the site of the party knows that they can get away with breaking the law. So the parties continue during the summer months.

Is it the fault of Law Enforcement or the County Commissioners who have developed an ordinance

that cannot be enforced requiring a permitting process for events, but putting the attendance minimum for the requirement at 500 people. Can you imagine an officer standing outside the property counting the people entering so they can legally go and enforce the law? Or is it the property owner who is hosting the party?

With property ownership comes responsibility – for those attending the function, for damages to neighboring property and ultimately for any loss of life caused by impairment they contributed to by allowing the service of alcohol or drugs. If they charged any admission to the event, they assume a lot of liability as well.

Is it worth it to endanger not only those attending the event, but law enforcement, and also the drivers and their families who must share the roads with those who attended the event? The consequences and stakes are too high.

If you are a property owner, think twice before agreeing to host such an event. The risks and costs are too high for everyone involved including you. If someone dies, it becomes your

responsibility for that death because you provided the location for the party.

Voters, you need to think about consequences as well. We can complain all we want, but we need to be part of the solution, by providing resources that will allow us to have adequate well trained law enforcement. Yes, it does increase your taxes, but for the cost of a latte a week, peace of mind becomes really low cost.

We lost one good police chief earlier this year. Can we afford to lose more law enforcement personnel because we cannot afford adequate coverage due to budget cuts? I would hate to be the lone officer on call to respond to a large function of impaired citizens.

Take responsibility, please. Do not host events with alcohol and other substances available. Do not furnish alcohol to underage youth. If you want to have a large party, hire trained security to monitor the event. It could very well prevent a senseless death or serious injury to someone you love.

And next time a Law Enforcement Levy is on the ballot, vote yes so that we all are protected and served.

Lynn Chiotti
MADD Columbia County
CAS
St. Helens

Editors Note-During the week of July 18, two men from Dream Big Enterprises were circulation through Vernonia looking for a location of at least 40 acres and offering property owners money to allow them to hold an "Arts Festival" during the weekend of July 29-31. When asked why they wanted to hold their event in the Vernonia

area, they mentioned that Columbia County doesn't have a noise ordinance. A view of the event on Facebook gave every indication that this festival, which already had 940 people indicate they were attending, was another rave type event.

To the Editor

As the lead pyrotechnician for the Vernonia Fireworks Crew I would like to say thank you to the following organizations and individuals who's contributions allowed me to put on Vernonia's 4Th of July fireworks show. Vernonia Prevention Coalition, Vernonia Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, Vernonia Mini Mart, Vernonia Lions Club, Vernonia Boosters, Vernonia Volunteer Ambulance Association, Jack and Randal Harvey, Vernonia Hardware, Vernonia True Value, Randy Carlton, Tobie Fenzel, and all who put money in the buckets around town.

Tom Ramsey
Vernonia

To the Editor

July's First Friday at the Scout Cabin featured a gorgeous summer evening of local crafts, original art works, and the magical Celtic music of Alexander Adams. Children painted stars and decorated cookies. Thank you to all the visitors who stopped by and to the Boy Scouts for a moving flag retirement ceremony. Thanks also go to Forest Wheeler for making balloon hats and cats for the kids, and to Sentry Market for donating cookies for decorating. First Friday supports Hand on Art in Vernonia and couldn't happen without the generous efforts of all the volunteers who set up, kept things running smoothly and cleaned up afterwards.

First Friday

PUBLIC SAFETY CONTACT INFORMATION

BROUGHT TO YOU BY: CEPA EXPO

(Columbia Emergency Planning Association) July 2010

IN THE CASE OF AN EMERGENCY ALWAYS CALL 911 FIRST

COLUMBIA 911

COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT

Dispatch 503-397-1521 or 800-696-7795

OTHER DISPATCH CENTERS

BOEC (Multnomah Co.) 503-760-6911
Clatsop Co. 503-325-4411
Clackamas Co. 503-655-8211
Cowlitz Co. (Longview) 360-577-3098
Tillamook Co. 503-815-1911
WCCCA (Washington Co.) 503-629-0111
WSP (Wash State Patrol) 360-449-7950
OSP (Oregon State Police) 503-397-3131

COUNTY AGENCIES

Animal Control 503-397-3935
CENT (Narcotics Team) 503-397-1167
or 866-397-1167
Colum. Co. Emerg. Mngmt 503-366-3905
Colum. Co. Road Dept. 503-397-5090
DMV - St. Helens 503-397-3515
Colum. Co. Juvenile Dept. 503-397-0275
Colum. Co. Mental Health 503-397-2511
or 800-294-5211
Colum. Co. Parole & Prob. 503-397-6253
Colum. Co. Public Health 503-397-4651
Women's Resource Center 503-397-6161
SCF (Serv.to Child & Fam) 503-397-3292

COURTS

Colum. Co. Circuit Court 503-397-0157
Colum. Co. District Court 503-397-2327x316
Clatskanie Justice Court 503-728-3011
Columbia City Muni Court 503-397-4010
Rainier Muni Court 503-556-3200
St. Helens Muni Court 503-397-6272
Scappoose Muni Court 503-543-7146 x225
Vernonia Justice Court 503-429-2441

POLICE DEPARTMENTS

Clatskanie PD 503-728-2145
Columbia City PD 503-397-4010
OSP 503-397-3131
Rainier PD 503-556-3644
Scappoose PD 503-543-3114
St. Helens PD 503-397-3333
Vernonia PD 503-429-7335
Columbia Co. Sheriff 503-366-4611
Columbia Co. Jail 503-366-4630 ext. 0

FIRE DEPARTMENTS

Clatskanie Fire 503-728-2025

Columbia River Fire 503-397-2990
Mist Birkenfeld Fire 503-755-2710
Oregon Dept. of Forestry 503-397-2636
Scappoose Fire 503-543-5026
Vernonia Fire 503-429-8252
Vernonia EMS 503-429-4600

UTILITIES

Clatskanie PUD 503-728-2163
Columbia River PUD 503-397-1844
NW Natural Gas 800-544-1795
West Oregon Electric 800-777-1276
503-429-3021

HOSPITALS

Emanuel 503-413-2200
Good Samaritan 503-413-7711
Kaiser Sunnyside 503-652-2880
OHSU 503-494-8311
Poison Control 800-452-7165
Portland Adventist 503-251-6155
Providence 503-215-1111
St. Johns - Longview 360-636-4818
St. Vincent 503-216-1234
Tuality - Forest Grove 503-357-2173
Tuality - Hillsboro 503-681-1111
VA Hospital 503-220-8262

OTHER MEDICAL RESOURCES

Legacy Clinic - St. Helens 503-397-0471
OHSU - Scappoose Ofc. 503-543-3181
Urgent Care - St. Helens 503-397-7119

PUBLIC WORKS

Clatskanie Public Works 503-728-2622
Columbia City Public Works 503-366-0454
Scappoose Public Works 503-543-7184
St. Helens Public Works 503-397-3532
Rainier Public Works 503-556-9144
Vernonia Public Works 503-429-6921

OTHER

National Weather Service 503-261-9246
ODOT 877-877-4866 dispatch
P&W Railroad 800-800-2203 malfunctions
Red Cross 503-284-1234
Child Abuse Hotline 800-302-0077
Humane Society 503-397-4353

ROAD CONDITIONS

Oregon 511 or 800-977-6368 inside OR
503-588-2941 outside OR
Washington 800-695-7623
From a Cell Phone: 511

We're Right Here, No Need to Speed to the Vernonia 55th Annual Friendship Jamboree and Logging Show August 5, 6, 7th, 2011

EVERYDAY EVENTS

Information Booth
Annual Vernonia Jamboree Softball Tournament
Black Power Encampment
Food and Craft Vendors

FRIDAY EVENTS

Isaak Walton League Kid's Fishing Derby
Friends of the Library Jamboree Book Sale
First Friday Market

SATURDAY EVENTS

Jamboree Pancake Breakfast
"New" Diesel Power - Fastest Diesel Semi Truck
Friends of the Library Jamboree Book Sale
Vernonia Friendship Jamboree Parade
Lawnmower Races
Nehalem Valley Speed and Beauty Car Show

SUNDAY EVENTS

Jamboree Pancake Breakfast
Vernonia Ridge Riders Play Day
Vernonia Friendship Jamboree Logging Show

Have a safe and fun Vernonia Friendship Jamboree and Logging Show
Look for the Vernonia's Voice Jamboree Guide available August 1st.