

# Vernonia Schools Project Celebrates *continued from front page*

school and visitors to learn about solar technology.” He says school’s teachers are enthusiastic about using the solar installation as a way to bring alternative energy education to the school’s nearly 600 students and the community at large.

SolarWorld is also bringing its partnership with the Foundation for Environmental Education and the National Energy Education Demonstration project to the Vernonia effort. Those two organizations will teach the teachers about solar energy curriculum to bring the concepts alive to the students.

Other speakers at the celebration included City of Nehalem Mayor Shirley Kalkhoven, whose city contributed to the Vernonia schools campaign last year, who spoke about her connection to Ver-

nonia and reissued the statewide challenge she made to other Oregon mayors to support the effort and help this community in their time of need.

Vernonia High School senior Crystal-Ann Carreon spoke about the challenges the community and school students have faced since the Flood of 2007 and how much the community appreciates the help outside companies and individuals have provided. “The community and citizens have continued to move forward and work towards a common goal,” said Carreon. “The development of our new schools has brightened the hope and kindled the spirit of both the community and citizens, creating a goal to better educate our students and future leaders.”



*Top right: Project Manager Steve Effros shows future student Henry Langmaid and his parents Bill and Rachel the new Vernonia School. Above left: SolarWorld President Gordon Brinser with Vernonia Schools Superintendent Ken Cox and State Senator Betsy Johnson. Above right: The new high school gymnasium, one of two in the building, will feature high ceilings and large windows to allow use of natural light.*



## 2011 Salmon Festival

The salmon arrived in the Upper Nehalem Valley at just the right time again—right in time for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Vernonia Salmon Festival on October 1<sup>st</sup>. There were plenty of activities for the whole family including pumpkin carving, scarecrow stuffing, hay rides, and fishing for kids in the trout pond. There was food and other vendors, art on display and for sale,

and even Claudia the giant Chinook stopped by to educate people about the life cycle of the salmon and the environment we all share. It was a great way to start the fall season!

