

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

again. How will we handle a forest fire?

All subjects for another conversation.

I don't know about you, but I'm on a fixed income. I'm still paying for flood damage not covered by insurance or Flood Relief. Even though my house has been elevated I still have to maintain flood insurance. With higher property taxes for the new school, higher electric rates due to W.O.E.C.'s fancy new building, higher gas prices that make everything more expensive, my paltry income takes a heavy hit. I can't imagine how people raising children do it.

I know the City Council is trying hard to finally end the MOA imposed by DEQ and meet the demands of FEMA. An admiral undertaking, but let's do a little more talking before we sign on the dotted

line and put another financial burden on our ever lessening utility users.

Sally Harrison  
Vernonia

To the Editor,

The thought of the water / sewer bill increasing about \$20 per month, is just too much, and bad for town morale. People will be grumpy. We've already had a substantial increase, from \$89 to \$103. Four years ago I was told the \$89 would decrease as a loan ended, but now a loan just gets bigger. I've read the information presented by authorities, which is stretched over decades, and we must consider alternatives. Preventing large increases in basic services should be a top priority.

1 - It would be great to have water billed like other utilities, by quantity used. It's always seemed strange to me to bill \$103 for 2000 gallons, but it's only a few bucks more per 1000 more gallons. I often use less than 2000 gallons, but pay nearly the same amount as someone who uses 4000 gallons. Twice as much for almost the same price! It seems their could be a more fair pricing schedule, and make more economic sense for our budget.

2 - The town is lit up all night long while we're asleep. We all turn off lights when we go to bed. Maybe Vernonia should to. I have a bright street light over my property that I find much more annoying than helpful. It ruins much of my landscape. I always think of money wasted looking at it.

3 - The police budget is very high and maybe that should be reduced. Perhaps a basic white police car versus the custom paint job is has.

4 - When riding our great bike trail, I look at the "bicycle skills park." I guess that's what it is, the grassy land adjacent to the bike path. It's been unfinished, and sometimes flooded, for some time. Is this really going to generate any serious income for the town? How much has been invested? I think lower utility bills are a much higher priority for Vernonians.

5 - Is NPDES compliance that critical? How close are we? Is it worth the time and money?

6 - Can we work something out with the state? Because the proposed increase is just too much.

7 - We could face more delinquent, unpaid bills because of the large increase.

The high sewer rates are tough to swallow, especially in an era where banks make mistakes, and get bailed out. I hope we can find creative, smart solutions to this problem.

Peter Nelson  
Vernonia

To the Editor,

One's basic nature eventually betrays itself, Mister Kay. Consider this play on a biblical passage: Beware of false profits which come to you in cheap clothing but inwardly they are ravaging wolves.

Mike Kay's revised tort claim, if true, speaks volumes about conspiring with thieves. Obviously, in order for Mike's lawyer to come to these conclusions, Mr. Kay must have been in agreement with

two or more said parties to violate the law at some time during his "unofficial capacity" as Vernonia's police chief. This, to me, stinks of a RICO [Racketeer Influence and Corrupt Organization Act] violation. Thus the monies gained by his tort claim must be forfeited, by law, to the federal government.

It seems to me Mr. Kay is creating a fire-storm to simply buy time for further arbitration on his discretionary revocation evaluation.

Yes... the hills are fraught with marauders that generally take the circuitous route that usually deposits them at the edge of an abyss that reads: dead end.

Mark J. Akers  
Vernonia

To the Editor:

The Vernonia Senior Center would like to say "Thank You" to all its members who helped with the "Annual Plant Sale". We also had help from two Master Gardeners who jumped in at the last second to help sort, price and sell, so a "Thank You" goes out to Leticia Soma and Pat Stacklie. A "Thank You" to Noni Anderson for volunteering to cashier on Saturday. Also, a big "Thank You" to May at "Jim Dandy's" and Tammy at "Woodstock Nursery" - for the wonderful garden plants. A big "Thank You" to Trader Joe's and Linda Tellef and her Manager Klea at Joe's, for the weeks of plants we were able to pre-sell. Plus, the many many plants Linda gave from her own garden. "Thank You".

We were able to raise about \$1,200! Good Job Vernonia, "Thank You All" for making the "Annual Plant Sale" a huge success. Hope to see everyone next year!

Jack Harvey  
Vernonia Senior Center

To the Editor,

Hey Artists! The art display at City Hall was well received and I want to thank you for your participation.

I have your art work at my home at: 1689 N. Mist Drive. My phone number is 503-429-8425. So, please, come and get it when you can.

Thank you all,

Sally Harrison  
Vernonia

P.S. I hope you are all still drawing!

### Upper Nehalem Watershed Council Beneke and Gilmore Creek In-stream Salmon Habitat Enhancement CALL FOR BIDS

This project requires the services of an excavation contractor with documented experience in constructing salmon habitat enhancement projects to complete an in-stream habitat enhancement project with-in Beneke Creek and tributary Gilmore Creek. The project sites are located with-in the Jewell Meadows Wildlife Management Area (JMWMA) near Jewell, Oregon in central Clatsop County, T6N, R7W, SEC 2. The work will occur on both public land managed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), and on adjoining private industrial forest land (Weyerhaeuser, Hampton) and one small woodlot. Project involves the placement of 107+ logs (some with rootwads attached) into 19+ log jam assemblages with-in active channel/s, removal on one small culvert and the placement of 10 boulders, at designated sites. The project will be contracted and administered by the UNWC, with ODFW - Restoration Biologist directing and inspecting all on-the-ground work. Project is authorized by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under the terms and limitations of Nationwide Permit No. 27 - Aquatic Habitat Restoration, Establishment, and Enhancement Activities. Project is exempt from the State of Oregon Removal - Fill Requirements. Project has been reviewed by Clatsop County and is compatible with the local comprehensive plan and zoning ordinance.

**Bid documents, consisting of those components outlined in the Table of Contents (Section 01), may be examined or obtained from the:**

Upper Nehalem Watershed Council  
825 Bridge St., Vernonia, Oregon 97064  
Phone: 503-429-0869  
email: Maggie@nehalem.org  
Website: <http://unwc.nehalem.org/>

**All bid documents and specifications are available now until bid closing.**

**This contract is subject to ORS 279C.800 to 279C.870 (Prevailing Wage Law).**

**Prequalification requirements: documented experience in construction of salmon habitat enhancement projects, with 3 references.**

**Mandatory site meeting will be held Wednesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> @ 10am, sharp. Interested contractors are to meet ODFW and UNWC reps at intersection of Hwy 202 and Beneke Rd.**

**Sealed bids shall be submitted to:**

Upper Nehalem Watershed Council  
Attn: Maggie Peyton  
825 Bridge St., Vernonia Oregon 97064

Sealed bids shall be received no later than 1:00 PM, Wednesday, June 27<sup>th</sup> 2012. Bids received after this time shall be returned unopened. Bids may be withdrawn at any time, prior to opening, upon written request of the Bidder. **NO BIDS WILL BE ACCEPTED BY WAY OF FAX OR ELECTRONIC DATA INTERCHANGE.**

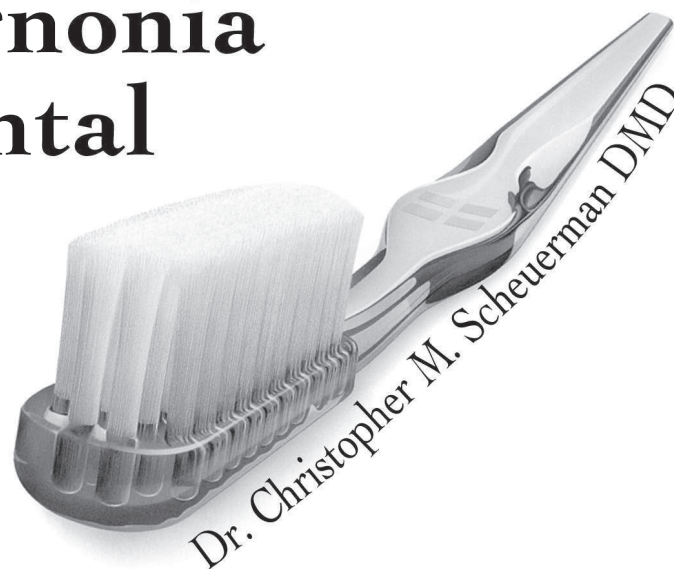
## Terry's Gym



**JOIN  
THE TEAM!**

503-901-1705  
16720 Noakes Rd. Vernonia

## Vernonia Dental



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