

## Upcoming Events

**Ralph Painter Memorial Run, July 15, 7:30 AM** at Rainier High School. 10K Run, 5K Run/Walk. On-Line Registration and information at [www.signmeup.com//84333](http://www.signmeup.com//84333)

**Columbia County Fair and Rodeo, July 18-22** at the Columbia County Fairgrounds, 58892 Saulser Road, St. Helens.

**Vernonia Friendship Jamboree and Logging Show, August 3-5**

**Bear Creek Run, August 11, 7:45 AM** starts at Anderson Park in Vernonia. 10K Run along paved Banks -Vernonia Linear Trail or 5K Walk/Run around Vernonia Lake. This is a fundraiser for Vernonia Cares Food Bank. On-Line registration at [www.signmeup.com/82872](http://www.signmeup.com/82872).

**Vernonia Schools Grand Opening Celebration, August 21**

**Annual Community Wide Garage Sale, August 25, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.** All residents & businesses wanting to be included on the maps can sign up by calling Helen Bateman at 503-429-6203, last day to sign up is August 21st. Maps of all participating locations will be available Friday before the sale. In the past years over 45 locations have held a sale.

## Time for the Bear Creek Run

It's time, again, to don your runnin' shoes!

Believe it or not the Bear Creek Run in support of Vernonia Cares is just around the corner. We are busy preparing for a super fun time this year so please plan to join us on Saturday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at the Anderson Park Pavilion. The races will begin promptly at 9:00 AM. Be on the lookout for Bear Creek brochures located at many of our local businesses. You can fill out the form and send it in or sign up on line at [www.signmeup.com/82872](http://www.signmeup.com/82872). Same day registration will be at 7:45 AM at Anderson Park.

We are still in need of sponsors so please consider sponsoring this event. Hopefully, most of our local businesses have already received their sponsorship letters. Your donation is tax deductible and goes to a great cause; Vernonia's own food bank! If you want your business name to appear on our advertisements and the back of our race T shirts you need to have your donation and company logo in no later than July 1<sup>st</sup>!

If you need more information, would like to become a sponsor or volunteer to help on race day please contact our race director, Kellie Murray, at 503-429-3021.

See you on August 11<sup>th</sup>!

## Ralph Painter Memorial Run

**DATE & TIME:** Sunday, July 15, 2012  
**DISTANCE:** 10k Run - 9:00AM 5k Run & Walk - 8:30AM

**PACKET (BIB NUMBER) PICKUP:** Race bib number packet pick-up & day of race registration from 7:30AM-8:15AM day of race.

**START LOCATION:** Rainier High School, Rainier, OR

### RALPH PAINTER

Ralph Painter, a long-time resident of Columbia County and most recently Chief of Police for the city of Rainier, Oregon, was an avid runner for many, many years. An alumnus of St. Helens High School, Ralph was a member of both the cross country and track & field teams from 1972-74, excelling in the half mile, mile and two mile events.

He was always a top contender in any race he ran and earned honors as an All-League Athlete and was nominated to the Who's Who in Track & Field his senior year. From 1974-76, Ralph continued to run while pursuing a degree in criminal justice at Clackamas Community College. Even after joining the Rainier Police Department in 1988, Ralph continued his passion for running. In 1990, he ran in the Police & Firemen's' Olympics in Canada, finishing 2nd in both the mile and 1/2 mile events. Ralph also ran in the Hood to Coast Relay several times and had been in training for the Portland Marathon, as he had promised his daughter Jennifer he would run the race with her.

On January 5, 2011, Ralph Painter was tragically killed while in the performance of his duties. This 10k memorial run has been established in his honor and all proceeds from the race will go into a scholarship fund for deserving high school seniors in Columbia County.

**EARLY REGISTRATION:** 10k Run: \$30.00 with t-shirt 5k Run & Walk: \$20.00 with t-shirt

**LATE REGISTRATION:** (after July 11th) 10k Run: \$35.00 with t-shirt map 5k Run & Walk: \$25.00 with t-shirt

**DAY OF RACE REGISTRATION:** 10k Run: \$35.00 5k Run & Walk: \$25.00

**ON-LINE REGISTRATION:** [www.signmeup.com/84333](http://www.signmeup.com/84333)

## 2012 Summer Canning Class Schedule

Have you thought about learning to can this summer? Are you an experienced canner who would like an update on the latest USDA recommendations? Plan to attend one or more of the canning classes offered by the Columbia County Extension Service. Classes will be held at the First Lutheran Church, 360 Wyeth St., St. Helens. Each class will cost \$20.00 or \$70.00 for all four. A small number of scholarships are available. Payment must be made in advance to hold your spot. Class size is limited.

• Wednesday, July 11th, 5:30 to 8:30 PM - Canning Jams & Jellies

• Wednesday, July 25th, 5:30 to 8:30 PM - Canning Fruits and Pie Fillings

• Wednesday, August 8th, 5:30 to 8:30 PM - Pressure Canning Vegetables & Meats

• Wednesday, August 22nd, 5:30 to 8:30 PM - Canning Pickles, Tomatoes and Salsa

For more information and to register for classes, please call or visit the OSU Extension Service office at: 505 N. Columbia River Highway, St. Helens, OR 97051. 503-397-3462

## ShoeString Community Players Celebrate 30 Years of Performances

The ShoeString Community Players (SSCP) will celebrate its 30 year anniversary with the summer musical revue "A Shoebox of Memories." The revue will feature solo and choral numbers from the many musicals that the group has produced. Featured performers will include original cast members from past productions and performers new to SSCP as well.

The six performances will be in both Scappoose and St Helens. The three shows in Scappoose will be at the Scappoose High School Auditorium on July 13 at 7:30 PM and July 14 at 2:00 PM The July 19, 20, and 21 shows will be at 7:30 PM the St. Helens High School Olmscheid Auditorium.

There are several sponsorship opportunities available to businesses and individuals. SSCP is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

Call 503-366-4406 or go to [www.sscpmusicals.com](http://www.sscpmusicals.com) for ticket purchase information.

## Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor,

This is the ending to the story you ran for our family.

A huge thank you goes to Nancy and Henk from Oregon Reality in Vernonia. They found us a beautiful home. They both tried to find us a home in Vernonia but it didn't work out. So they found us one in St. Helens, Oregon.

Our family is all together plus we have room for our extended family and visitors. Our family feels whole once again. We wish to send a thank you to all of those in Vernonia who made us feel

welcome while we worked things out as our family made the transition from working for 27 plus years to making the choice to retire and spend time with our three teens.

My other reason for writing you is due to the article which was written about those not so happy with the way things are going in Vernonia. I have thought about a response for over a week. Our family had ups and downs with the school and city hall but we choose to deal with those issues differently. Those ups and downs

affected our teens more than us. When the first house we choose didn't work out we listened to our teens opinion. Cost of living did play a part in their opinion. What weighed more in their minds was the open and accepted use and open discussion of drugs and alcohol by some teens within the community, (parks, school and homes). Also the disrespect some teens showed to teachers, staff and folks in the community. My youngest would rather be with upper class-men who are at school to learn than with some students her own age due to their immature behavior. Not all students around her fell into this category. One needs to understand that my teens have been to a public charter which set high standards per one's behavior/character

and achievement on and off campus. It was an honor to attend and one behaved honorably.

What standards we teach, accept or allow will set the stage for an outcome. Vernonia is a wonderful town. We enjoyed and loved the friendship, kindness, willingness to lend a hand, to protect one another and those with wonderful stories of Vernonia's history. I had wished we could have settled in your town. While we don't always know what's going on in another's heart, we must all be understanding and choose to solve issues in an honorable manner.

Wisdom is understanding whats' really important.

The Brandt Family  
St. Helens, OR



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**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.