

Vernonia City News...

At the December 17, 2012 City Council Meeting:

Sheriff Honors Cutright—Columbia County Sheriff Jeff Dickerson presented Seth Cutright with a Life Saving Award from the local Sheriff's Office. Cutright



Columbia County Sheriff Jeff Dickerson presents Seth Cutright with a Life Saving Award.

rescued his grandmother Rose on October 15, after a propane explosion started a house fire. Dickerson reported that Cutright was honored by the Oregon State Sheriff's Association on December 5 in Bend and received a standing ovation from hundreds of public safety professionals. "I also want to recognize this brave young man for his bravery and courage in his selfless act of love," stated Dickerson.

Council Authorizes Contracts—Council authorized City Administrator Bill Haack to sign three contracts; with Community Action Team for Administration of CDBG Grant 6021, With PBS Engineering and Environmental for Brownfield Assessment Professional Consultant, and with FCS Group to conduct a Sewer Rate Study using CDBG Grant 6021. All three contracts went through a public bidding process.

Committee Update Reports—Council

heard annual reports from the Vernonia Prevention Coalition, from the Library Board and received a written report from the Planning Commission.

Council Approves Wetland Agreement—Council authorized the City Administrator to sign a Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions for the City of Vernonia Wetland Mitigation Site for School District 47J. The City and School District previously entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement for the development and management of an engineered wetland constructed on the old O-A Mill site. The School District must meet compliance requirements; this document is the format needed to show compliance to the Oregon Department of State Lands.

Council is Apprized of Legal Expense Overruns—City Administrator Haack informed Council that the 2012-13 Budget has underestimated the actual expenses for legal costs in the Police Department

and the General Fund. Due to a combination of an unresolved and ongoing Police personnel action, complex land development issues and the review of several agreements and contracts, the city has currently overspent its \$60,000 budget by \$27,720. Haack stated that he would bring a plan to Council in January about how to adjust the budget to meet the shortfall in these line items. Councilor Bruce McNair stated that he wanted the public to know where this money is going and that it costs the City money when people fight land use change decisions, contracts and agreements with the City, or personnel matters. "I want the people to know how much this individual is costing us with this litigation [on a personnel matter] that is probably going to end up going nowhere. I want everyone to be aware of it," stated McNair.

Council Approves Master Fee Changes—Council approved amendments to Resolution 14-08 which included changes to Vernonia Parks Fees.

Vernonia Transfer Station Announcement

In order for Waste Management to continue providing Transfer Station services to the community of Vernonia, please note the following changes to the site operations:

EFFECTIVE March 9, 2013

- 30 yard Drop Box's will be removed and replaced with multiple 6.0 yard containers for household waste.
- Material exceeding 48" in length will no longer be accepted.
- Oversized or bulky waste will no longer be accepted.
- The list of prohibited materials by type and quantity are posted at the entrance to the Transfer Station and remain unchanged.
- Drop Off for recyclable items at no charge and items that require a fee remain unchanged.

Thank you,
WM of Columbia County

Vernonia's Voice is published twice each month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday. Look for our next issue on January 8th.

City Information and Updates Available by Email

Citizens who wish to receive meeting information and updates can request to be placed on an email list at City Hall. Please contact Joann Glass at joann@vernonia-or.gov and asked to be placed on the "Citizen Notification List."

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7 PM:

Monday, January 7th, 2013
Tuesday, January 22nd, 2012

City Closures are scheduled for:

Tuesday, December 25th
Monday, December 31 at Noon
Tuesday, January 1st
Monday, January 21st

Dates and times subject to change due to conflicts of schedules

2013

First Day Hike

America's State Parks First Day Hikes launched in all 50 states on January 1st, 2012 with Stub Stewart State Park being a founding partner. Take part in the second year of this national event which is one of 550 hikes across the nation.

The Hike

An easy 1.5 mile Ranger-led trek for hikers. Great for all ages with opportunities to add miles for participants interested in a longer hike. This natural surface trail winds through Douglas-fir forests with wonderful views of the Oregon Coast Range. Be prepared with hiking boots, weather appropriate clothing, a water bottle, and a trail snack. Rain or shine.

When & Where

January 1st, 2013 9 AM at Stub Stewart State Park's Hilltop Day-use Area. Day-use fee is waived for all participants.

Directions

From downtown Portland, drive West on Highway 26 for 28.7 miles to Highway 47. Turn right (North) on Highway 47 toward Vernonia. Follow Highway 47 for 4.1 miles to the entrance to Stub Stewart State Park. Follow guide signs to Hilltop Day-use Area.

Stub Stewart State Park

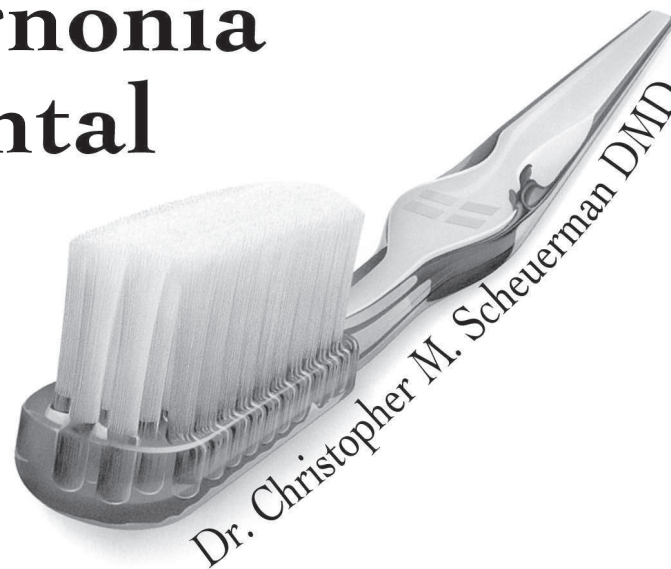
30380 NW Hwy 47 Buxton OR 97109
For more information contact Ranger Steve Kruger at 503-724-8429 or steve.kruger@state.or.us



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