

# Wauna Credit Union to Build New St. Helens Branch

Robert Blumberg, Wauna Credit Union CEO and President, has announced the next phase of a branch enhancement strategy which has already included the construction of three new local branches since July 2010.

"We are pleased to inform the membership, local residents, and businesses we have purchased property along Highway 30 in St. Helens and intend to build a branch at the location," reports Blumberg.

According to Debi Smiley, Executive Vice President / Chief Operations Officer, and project manager, the new branch will replace the current St Helens Branch, which has served local members at its Columbia Commons Business Campus location since April 2, 2005. "Our members will appreciate the larger and user-friendly building which will offer two drive-up lanes including a 24/7 ATM, and easier access to Highway 30." The official address of the new branch will be 275 S Columbia River Highway.

Rickenbach Construction, Inc. (RCI) of Astoria has been selected to serve as general contractor for construction of the St Helens Branch. "We have a long relationship with RCI, extending back to 1988 and most recently with the completion of our new Warrenton Branch," reports Smiley. "They are a good partner for the Credit Union due to their expertise constructing financial institution facilities and their practice of hiring local. Plus, they have extensive knowledge with energy-efficient building codes, which are very important to our organizational Green Initiatives Program."

Jared Rickenbach of RCI added, "We are grateful and excited for this opportunity to continue our partnership with such a recognized organization as Wauna Credit Union".

Doug Circosta of Partin & Hill Architects, LLC, has been retained for his services. A groundbreaking ceremony will be scheduled for early this summer.

Construction of the new

St Helens Branch is projected for completion later this year or early 2014. "Our local members and our staff should anticipate a seamless and exciting transition since we will start preparing them well in advance of the relocation of the current branch to the new property," stated Joe Burks, who manages both the St Helens and Scappoose Branches. Renderings of the new branch will soon be available for view at the St Helens Branch and on the Credit Union web site.

The new St Helens Branch will be the fourth new branch constructed by the Credit Union since July 2010, including the Astoria Safeway in-store Branch (July 2010), the Scappoose Branch (November 2011), the first LEED-Certified building in Columbia County and the first credit union LEED-Certified building constructed in Oregon, and the recently opened Warrenton Branch.

"The new St Helens Branch is another important step in our

endeavor to provide our members more convenience while saving them money by owning rather than leasing office space," adds Blumberg. "Our goal is to provide every household and business in our three-county service region the opportunity and experience to benefit from membership with Wauna Credit Union!"

Wauna Credit Union is headquartered in Clatskanie, Oregon, has total assets approaching \$160 million and serves nearly 17,000 members. Branches are located in Astoria, Clatskanie, St Helens, Scappoose, Vernonia, and Warrenton. Anyone that resides, is employed, attends school, worships, or is a business or qualifying organization in Clatsop or Columbia Counties, Oregon, or Pacific County, Washington, or is related to a current member, is eligible for membership with Wauna Credit Union.

For more information please call toll-free 800-773-3236 or visit their Web site at waunafcu.com.

## Local Dog Training Classes Available This Summer

People often feel frustrated when their dog repeatedly does not pay attention to or listen to their owner's commands. A simple solution to such behavior is dog obedience training.

Eileen Williams, dog trainer and Vernonian, has been training service dogs for others for over 20 years. Seeing the need in her own community, Eileen knew that she would be able to help others solve their dog problem by offering her experience to the public as a dog trainer. By getting more involved with the community, Eileen hopes that through dog training courses, not only will the dogs' behavior improve, but that more Vernonians will be able to have great relationships with their dogs. Eileen's dog training methods are unique, and focus on positive reinforcement instead of forcing the dog into obeying. She will be teaching skills that she has learned from Dr. Ian Dunbar, John Rogerson, Karen Pryer, and Linda Tellington-Jones (specifically Tellington

Touch), along with her own methods.

According to Williams, "Besides having your dog listen to your commands, there are many other benefits that come from training your dog." Eileen lists 10 benefits of having a well-trained dog:

1. The bond between the owner and the dog grows substantially.
2. You can travel more places with your dog, for example: dining al fresco with your dog.
3. Hotels and landlords may waive pet fees.
4. You can save money at the groomer.
5. You can save money at the Veterinarian (the dog is less likely to have to be sedated on simple procedures).
6. You may be able to visit family and friends at retirement homes.
7. Well-trained, non-service dogs are allowed inside banks, home repair and appliance stores, Macy's, and any store besides restaurant or food stores by law. (Of course, some store owners or managers may

not allow pets inside the store).

8. It is easier to find a pet sitter.

9. Your dog is less stressed during chaotic situations, because your dog can rely on your safety and support through knowing commands.

10. It is easier to have company over with a dog that has good house manners.

Currently, the dog training course in Vernonia will focus on dog obedience and house manners. It will be taught from 7:00-8:00 PM on Tuesday nights at the Vernonia Community Learning Center from June 4<sup>th</sup> to July 30<sup>th</sup>. The cost for the 8-class course is \$100 and can be paid by contacting Eileen at 503-429-0269.

Eileen has established her own personal training style (using unique methods and tools to accomplish training goals), and is passionate about what she does. As an avid animal lover, Eileen has skills in many areas, some of which include breeding dogs, training dogs, and animal communication.

## Oregon Parenting Education Week a Good Reminder

Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber recently signed and returned a Proclamation declaring May 19<sup>th</sup> – May 25<sup>th</sup> as Oregon Parenting Education Week, reminding all citizens of the importance of being a good parent.

Being a parent is the most important and rewarding job you will ever have, yet it comes with many challenges. Parenting can be made easier by knowing the developmental stages of your child and seeking support from parenting programs within your community. Positive parenting includes nurturing, protecting, and guiding your child through all stages and challenges. Parenting education also promotes early learning from prenatal to kindergarten as the most important step towards school success.

A parenting class will be offered in Vernonia this summer or fall based on interest and need. Watch this newspaper for more details coming soon.

The National Parenting Education Network (NPE) describes the goal of parent

education as "strengthening families by providing relevant, effective development, parent education can be instrumental in supporting children's developmental outcomes, parents' well-being" by decreasing stress and an opportunity to promote school readiness. If children start school with a strong set of attitudes and skills that help them 'learn how to learn', they'll be better able to take advantage of their educational opportunities. Some learning skills come naturally, but others can be developed with your help. As your child's first teacher we can promote school readiness through parenting education.

Effective parent education programs have been linked with decreased rates of child abuse and neglect, better physical, cognitive and emotional development in children, increased parental knowledge of child development and parenting skills, improved parent-child communication, reduced youth substance abuse, and more effective parental monitoring and

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**Happy Hour Mon-Fri 4-7**  
**Lady's Night Wed 5-12**

*"STILL BIKER FRIENDLY"*

**LIVE MUSIC**  
June 8  
Play It Again Karaoke  
June 15  
Probable Cause  
June 29  
Thunder Road

*Now Beer & Kegs to go*

- Specialty hamburgers
- Draft beer & mixed drinks
- Pool tables & satellite TV
- Special live music events
- Free Wi-fi

Sun - Thurs 11 AM - Midnight • Fri - Sat 11 AM - 2:30 AM  
733 Bridge St, Vernonia • 503-429-9999

## Cedar Side Inn

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**Taco Tuesday**  
from opening until 9 PM  
3 hardshell or 1 softshell \$4.25

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**Prime Rib**  
every second Saturday  
5-9 PM

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**Karaoke**  
every Friday  
9 PM-close

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*Check our Facebook page for daily specials and upcoming events*  
756 Bridge Street, Vernonia 503-429-5841