

Community... A Continued Series

Time to turn your old treasures into cash!

By Jill Hult

In our series on community events that bring fun to not only ourselves but to people who come to visit we turn our attention to the very popular Vernonia Community Sale organized by Helen Bateman.

In a recent interview with Helen, she told me that Ken Bateman, Gayle Box-Richman, and Robin help her by taking information from people who call in to sign up. She says that even though the event is separate from Vernonia Realty, it is helpful to have the use of the office, equipment and resources, as well as a nice downtown site for ease in facilitating the event.

I asked Helen what funding was needed to organize the event and she said it really doesn't take much. The Bateman's pay for the advertising themselves which includes putting ads in Vernonia, Astoria, St. Helens, and Forest Grove newspapers along with an ad on craigslist the week before the event. She also added that Vernonia's Voice is great

about putting a notice in the paper in the first part of July and running it until the event.

Currently, Helen does not have official volunteers helping organize the event but she said it would be helpful if people would pass along the information to people where they work or where they play or worship as well as any other organizations they may belong to. Basically if you can help spread the word, you are helping make this event a success.

Helen says that getting the word out to the whole community is the biggest challenge. She added she feels bad when she hears someone say they didn't hear about it until it was over.

I shared with Helen that I received a call from a woman inquiring about the Community Sale while at work at the Hillsboro Chamber of Commerce just a few weeks ago. I think this is a good example that people do pay attention to the advertising

and that they are interested in visiting Vernonia.

Other than helping spread the word, Helen would not change anything about the event. The first Community Sale was in 1999 and it is still going strong. Helen shared that at a sale one year she was talking to a woman who told her she came to the event one year, fell in love with Vernonia and bought a home here! Another woman told Helen she comes every year and goes to every sale! How wonderful is that!

Helen concluded; "The major reason for starting this was to help promote our lovely community. I wanted people to come here and see how friendly people are and how beautiful it is."

If you want to be included in the Community Sale Listing, please call Helen at 503-429-6203. There is no charge. Simply provide your address, phone number, name, and a brief description of what you will have at your sale location.

Veteran Service Provides Outreach

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explains Clark. "I'm here to support the entire county, including housebound vets." Clark says he is also able to visit and help veterans living in nursing homes who may need additional assistance.

Clark entered the Army at the age of twenty-five and served twenty-one years of active duty. He served as a company and battalion commander in both joint operations and special operations. After retiring from the service he worked for several years as a regional manager for an internet company before joining the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs as a Veteran Service Officer. From there he moved to the Veterans Benefits Administration, working for the federal government, where he adjudicated veterans claims. Most recently he

was offered this opportunity to work in his home town in Columbia County-he lives in St. Helens-and work directly with veterans.

Clark says the majority of veterans he sees are baby boomers who served during the Vietnam War. He says he rarely sees Korean War vets and that World War II vets are dying at a rate of five to six thousand per day. He says that he wants to get the word out to those veterans who are returning from Afghanistan and Iraq that services and assistance are available. "Let's not wait ten years from now, let's get them into the system now."

Clark is also interested in working with the various local service organizations including the American Legion and the VFW. "They are very important and do great things in our communities," says Clark. "I enjoy working with those groups and I'm available to help them as well."

You can reach Russ Clark at 503-397-6580 or 503-397-3511 ext 275. Office hours in St. Helens are Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

Police Blotter August 1-11

ARRESTS/CRIMINAL CITATIONS:

- August 02, 2013 – Report of an assault in the 700 Block of Bridge St.
- August 02, 2013 – Arrest on an outstanding warrant.
- August 02, 2013 – Report of a Dog Bite in the 900 Block of 2nd Ave. Citation issued for Dog as a Public Nuisance, report forwarded to animal control.
- August 02, 2013 – Report taken for "Minor in possession of Alcohol. Citation Issued.
- August 04, 2013 – Arrest for DUI on Hwy 47 near Mile Post 64.
- August 04, 2013 – Report of a Motor Vehicle Accident at Anderson Park.
- August 04, 2013 – Report taken on an outside agency assist for DUI.
- August 06, 2013 – Report of a Motor

Vehicle Accident on Mist Dr. near Cherry St. Cited for Driving Uninsured.

- August 12, 2013 – Joshua Landers was arrested on an outstanding Warrant.

OTHER CITATIONS:

- August 04, 2013 – Citation for Driving While Suspended and Failing to Carry Proof of Insurance and Registration.
- August 04, 2013 – Citation for Driving While Suspended and Failing to Carry Proof of Insurance.
- August 10, 2013 – Citation for Dog as a Public Nuisance.

For the complete Police Blotter go to <http://vpd.vernonia-or-gov/>

Columbia County Commissioners Will Seek Jail Operations Levy

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once they are housed in the county jail. Caring for inmates is not limited just to provision of food, shelter and clothing either. For example, when inmates come into the jail, the county must provide medical care and pay for it, regardless of whether the inmate has insurance or not. "If someone comes in and they need dialysis or chemo, we have to pay for that," he said.

Every day, jail personnel must videotape every interaction with inmates and must record a visual check on each inmate every single hour. "If someone is missing from a visual check, the jail is fined," Heimuller said.

Community members touched on the desire to require bicyclists have some sort of licensing or registration and commissioners revealed that they will entertain offers for FEMA trailers that have been in Vernonia, in light of an upcoming auction for those trailers.

The Columbia County Board of Commissioners meets every Wednesday morning at 10:00 AM in room 308.

For more Columbia County news coverage see the Columbia County Buzz Examiner page at www.examiner.com/buzz-in-portland/april-bamburg.

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7 PM:

Monday, August 19
Tuesday, September 3
Monday, September 16

City Closures are scheduled for:

Labor Day
Monday, September 2

Dates and times subject to change due to conflicts of schedules

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."

NEED BODY WORK?

TIME TO CALL MEYER'S AUTO BODY

Meyer's Auto Body 493 Bridge Street, Vernonia. 503-429-0248

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Custom Garment Printing

- © Silkscreen printing
- © Printing while you wait for small orders
- © Vinyl lettering and heat transfers
- © Teams, groups, special events
- © Hoodies, dress shirts, aprons & more
- © No order too large or too small
- © No set-up fees

728 Madison Avenue, Vernonia
(503) 822-0110
kavila@kaptanskraft.com