

Subway *continued from front page*

that he and wife Sue never intended to operate the restaurant long term. Their hope was to get the store up and running for the community and then turn it over to someone else.

The new owners are William Balderson and Matt Starr who together own fifty-five Subway stores in Portland, Longview, Utah and



Minnesota. Balderson and Starr will take over operations of the Vernonia store on October 23.

Whiteman was clear that his Subway store had been successful in Vernonia. "This past summer was good, but it wasn't great for anyone in the restaurant trade," says Whiteman. "We really depend on the tourists and our regulars in the summer to carry us through the winter months."

Whiteman said he did foresee that running the business would be stressful and could lead to worries about how to get through the lean winter months.

"We were talking with regional

management about operating a subway franchise in a small community and they asked us if we were interested in selling," said Steve Whiteman. "We said yes and we had an offer within an hour."

According to Whiteman, new owners Balderson and Starr are better situated to deal with the ups and downs of operating a franchise like the store in Vernonia. Whiteman says Balderson and Starr have been in a growth pattern and were very interested in acquiring the Vernonia franchise.

"That's a testament to how things were going here," explains Whiteman. "They liked our numbers and thought this was a good opportunity. Our store has won several awards and was well thought of by the regional management. The fact that we had an offer so quickly was a good sign. They expect to be here for the remaining nineteen years left on the building lease."

Whiteman says Balderson and Starr have asked Vernonia store manager Sarah Burns and the rest of the current staff to remain as employees. "That's good for everyone," says Whiteman.

Whiteman says he has learned a lot during his short time as owner/operator of a restaurant in Vernonia. "I now admire small business owners and how much energy goes into making it work each and every day," says Whiteman. "We could have done it, but it would have involved a lot of worry each year. Now we have freed ourselves up to do other things. I think this worked out good for everyone involved."



Children Car Seat Clinic In Vernonia

In Memory of Lorelai Fields

Saturday November 2, 2013

11am—1 pm

Registrations requested but drive-ins welcome!

Registration Contact	Clinic Location
Kathy Kelly 503-369-7249	Vernonia Fire Department 555 Bridge Street
Email kathydk1@nworheadstart.org	Date: 11/2/2013 Time: 11-1pm

The following seat prices are available:

- Convertible and combination seats \$30.00
- High back booster seats \$15.00
- No back booster seats \$ 5.00

Please bring **cash or money order** made out to: Columbia County Safe Kids.

Supplies are limited so seats are available on a first come, first served basis.

Limited Scholarships will be available on a need only basis

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Vernonia Prevention Coalition
Safe Kids of Columbia County
Lions Club International

Oregon Law

Convertible seats protect children weighing between 5 and 40 pounds. Combination seats protect children over 1 year of age and weighing over 22 pounds. Booster seats protect children weighing over 40 pounds to age 8 or 4'9" in height.

CHILD RESTRAINT LAW: Child passengers must be restrained in approved child safety seats until they weigh forty pounds. Infants must ride rear-facing until they reach both one year of age AND twenty pounds.

BOOSTER SEAT LAW: Children over forty pounds must use a booster seat until they are age 8 OR 4'9" in height.

SAFETY BELT LAW: A child taller than 4'9" OR age 8 or older must be properly secured with the vehicle's safety belt. The child is properly secured if the lap belt is positioned low across the thighs and the shoulder belt is positioned over the collarbone and away from the neck.

BEST PRACTICE: Remember that children under age 13 should ride in the back seat where they are 37% safer. And never transport more children in your car than you have child safety seats and safety belt systems.

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