

Timing Upgrade for Columbia County 9-1-1

Columbia 9-1-1 has radio sites. completing a critical upgrade to the public safety radio system in Columbia County. On Sunday, October 13th 2013, Day Wireless from Longview, Washington installed and configuring new hardware at most of the District's

This upgrade will automate and improve the system that controls the timing of the radio transmitters at each site. This upgrade is critical to ensure that all radio transmitters at the radio sites activate at precisely the

same time. The current system requires that the system be timed by a manual process and that the timing must be monitored and corrected periodically. The new system will use GPS timing from satellites to ensure precise time management.

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor,

I just read your Opinion piece in the Oct. 3rd edition of the Voice. In fact, I read it twice. On so many points I fully agree with you. Especially your analysis of what the fall out of higher rates will do to Vernonia's ability to attract new residents, keeping the ones we have and, of course, businesses. Businesses will have to pass the additional cost on to the residents. We can kiss the possibility of new businesses goodbye.

Where I take issue with your piece lies mainly with you comparing W.O.E.C. to the city and school when it comes to budgets. The city and school are handed a finite amount of money. They then figure out where it will be spent. If they want or need more money they go to the voters to try to float a bond. If the bond doesn't pass, they learn to live with it by making the hard decisions, even if it includes reducing staff.

Now W.O.E.C. has borrowed until they can borrow no more. They do not ask their members what they want; they just raise the rates to cover their behinds. No one has lost his or her jobs.

No project has been cut back.

As for those who dared to run for the Board... Historically, only incumbents win. Why? No one runs against them! Why would that be? Well, it's an attitude grown from a feeling they can't win, an attitude that is shared by many Co-op members. There are also those who trust. Case in point, W.O.E.C. originally proposed a 12% rate increase, but after 100 plus members came to the Sept. 17th meeting and expressed opposition, they increased rates by 14%.

To anyone who tries to buck the status quo and tries to run for the Board, I say, "Bravo!"

I think you should do some investigating into how things are done, why they're done and who's doing it before you make blanket statements of support. You may still feel the same way or...maybe you won't.

Sally Harrison
Vernonia

To the Editor,

Actions have consequences, or

at least they should have consequences!

With limited resources the law enforcement agencies and criminal justice system in Columbia County have been doing a decent job to make sure that our communities are as safe as possible. In my opinion their hands have been tied because of inadequate funding of the County jail. Some years ago the voters of Columbia County approved a bond levy to build a new jail. Operation funding for the jail was not voted on at the time or since. It's kind of like building a new fire station but not buying any fire apparatus.

There are a lot of good law abiding people in our communities, but there are some people who just don't understand that our laws apply to them. Maybe someday they will but until they do they must know that when they violate the law they will go to jail. No more 'book and release' nonsense. Book them and show them to their cell!

We have a good, modern jail facility that is not being used anywhere near its capacity due to a lack of funds.

Now we have the opportunity to provide proper funding for day-to-day jail

operations.

Please join me in supporting the jail levy. Let's send the message to criminals that if they do the crime in Columbia County, they will spend time in our jail.

George Dunkel
Scappoose, Oregon

To the Editor,

Vernonia lost one of its very special people today with the passing of Carolyn Keasey. Carolyn was a friend to so many and the beloved wife, mom, grandmother and great-grandmother to her extensive family. From raising funds for cancer research and often starring in the melodramas of the 1970s to more recent volunteer work with the Vernonia Health Board, the Vernonia Pioneer Museum, P.E.O. and other local philanthropies, Carolyn cared deeply about the community and its residents. We will all miss you and your cheerful smile so much, Carolyn.

Tobie Finzel
Vernonia

Upper Nehalem Watershed Council Meeting

6:30 pm on Thursday
October 24, 2013

at the UNWC office
1201 Texas Ave. Suite A,
Vernonia

(Entrance is around the back
of the building)

For more information call
(503) 429-0869 or email maggie@nehalem.org



Vernonia Weather September 2013

	HIGH	LOW	PRECIP
1	82	54	0
2	77	54	0
3	75	51	0
4	73	53	.23
5	87	57	1.38
6	89	56	.20
7	78	51	0
8	81	50	0
9	81	51	0
10	80	50	0
11	96	52	0
12	82	55	0
13	74	56	0
14	75	56	0
15	84	56	.01
16	70	48	0
17	66	42	0
18	69	42	0
19	78	42	0
20	70	43	.01
21	65	42	.08
22	59	48	.53
23	59	47	.15
24	58	45	.18
25	58	42	0
26	65	42	T
27	56	42	1.02
28	59	48	1.68
29	54	48	1.46
30	59	43	.52
Ave/Tot	70.3	48.9	7.47

Weather data is collected at the U.S. Weather station at the Vernonia Water Plant

Spirit of Christmas in Historic Downtown Vernonia

Saturday:

**Dec.
7th**



- Chili Feed
- Live Nativity
- Santa & Mrs. Klaus
- Cookie Contest
- Gingerbread Contest
- Story Time
- House Decorating Contest
- Storefront Decorating Contest
- Chocolate Walk
- Music
- Lighted Parade



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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 or mail to: Letters, PO Box 55, Vernonia, OR 97064.

Halloween Parade

Thurs, October 31st
4:30 start at City Hall

