

Your Vernonia American Legion

By Charles Kibben D.M.

On November 11th the United States once again celebrated Veterans Day honoring men and women who honorably served the military during times of both war and peace. In Vernonia, flags honoring Veterans and the Nation were proudly displayed along Bridge Street; a tradition that includes other holidays of national prominence. A question one may ponder is "Who put the flags out for the community to enjoy?"

Many who are unaware may suspect the city but in reality, it is your Vernonia American Legion Post 119 who takes the time and effort to ensure that the



Charles Kibben, Ray Pelster and Ralph Sturdevant from the Vernonia American Legion made a \$500 donation to Vernonia Cares Food Bank. Rosie McCoy and Sandy Welch accepted the donation.

flags are placed for all to enjoy. The American Legion is a national organization founded in 1919 by veterans returning from Europe after World War I and currently has approximately 3 million members in over 14,000 Posts. The Vernonia American Legion Post 119 traces its roots in the community back to 1925 when it was first chartered. Today the Vernonia American Legion shares space with Vernonia Cares and has an active membership of 23 former United States Military Veterans.

In addition to organizing commemorative events and volunteer veteran support activities, the American Legion actively supports programs focused on the betterment of communities. This year, the Legion is donating \$500 to support the Vernonia Cares Holiday Food Program. The American Legion also offers bi-monthly Bingo nights that are open to the community on the first and third Saturday of the month from 6:30-9:30 PM at the Legion Facility. Proceeds from the Bingo help maintain the Legion facility and support other needs within the community.

Like other organizations, the success of the American Legion is dependent on active membership. If you are an honorably discharged veteran and would like to continue serving the community through the American Legion or just have questions about the organization and membership, please join us for our monthly member meeting held the second Thursday of the month from 7:00-9:00 PM at the Legion Hall or contact Charles Kibben at 503-429-2019.

Route 26 Diner *continued from front page*



a nice dinner," says Harris.

The breakfast menu has the usual fare including chicken fried steak, ham steak and eggs, veggie scramble and homemade corned beef and hash. The lunch menu is made up mostly of sandwiches and burgers. Harris says she uses high quality ground beef which they grind themselves and is also serving locally produced bison burgers. Harris says a goal is to really incorporate local produce and products into the menu. She says she can't wait for spring

and summer so she can start working with local and fresh berries, peaches and vegetables. She has already used local chanterelle mushrooms this fall. She says she has a lot of ideas she is excited to try.

Harris says she has enjoyed meeting all the locals that have stopped by and that she, "...really appreciates all their support."

"It's important to me that people are able to come in and afford to have a really nice, good meal and enjoy themselves," says Harris.

Route 26 Diner is located at 47700 NW Sunset Hwy. Their phone number is 503-324-0985. For more information go to their Facebook page.

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