

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor,

Who pays the most amount of money for WOEC electricity? At first, any one of us might think, those folks who have the most to heat; like members with large houses, businesses and workshops. They do pay more, in total amounts, than most folks. But here is the catch: members who have low incomes, and there are a lot of people in that category, more often than not, are on skimpy retirement. This includes social security; and those who are struggling to buy food, pay for water, sewer, medicine and taxes, let alone make repairs to, and keeping up, their houses, trailers or cabins. The point? They cannot just ante up several thousand dollars, or more, in cash to install insulation, upgrade windows, roofing, wiring, appliances or buy expensive hi-tec heating. They have to run cheaper electric heaters and baseboards. Their monthly winter bills? \$200, \$400, \$600 !! The first casualty is

medicine; food is next, and so on, down the line until it is the person themselves. Where does that put them in the monthly electric bill lineup? At the very top! Yes, they can call WOEC and an independent weatherization contractor will come out and tell what they already know: "Your house leaks heat like a sieve and it will cost you a bundle (which you do not have) to fix it." This latest rate hike: what was to be 12%, but voted by the board, to 14%; turned out in the checkbooks of most folks at 20% or more! It is a backbreaker. The Board, with their new found money, took out another \$2,000,000 loan (line-of-credit), bought new equipment, are increasing tree trimming, are increasing loan payments and hope to build an emergency reserve, in case they get in financial difficulty! The increase in income from the rate rise? It's gone. So is the manager. It is time to change the by-laws, some directors and get more of you directly involved in meetings, policy making, financial decisions and making WOEC a functioning, responsive cooperative. Power of One

Vernonia is online at www.powerofonevernonia.site88.net. Email is WOEC.unitedmembers@yahoo.com. Our message phone is 503-429-8089.

Jack Phillips
Vernonia, OR

The Facts of Life

I've observed on reaching 80
That in every single way
A person just grows better
with every passing day.

With a step that's ever stronger
with a stance so straight and true
the younger folks are jealous
for they want to be like you

You can run a fair bit faster
you can lift three times your weight
your memory never fails you
near perfection is your fate

Fame comes oh so easily
and wealth accompanies it
and you become a paragon
of piety and wit

Rising early, working late
you never seem to tire
soon you're known to everyone
as a might ball of fire

No more of mundane problems
these you simply rise above
for your mind is filled with brilliant thoughts
and your life with joy and love

The intellect shoots skyward
the libido multiplies
we have more of everything
we also tell more lies

Dee Stevens
Vernonia

Vernonia Weather November 2013

	HIGH	LOW	PRECIP
1	59	47	.47
2	53	34	.39
3	49	35	.17
4	47	41	.18
5	54	47	T
6	52	45	.59
7	53	42	.41
8	49	40	.01
9	47	39	T
10	58	37	0
11	58	36	.22
12	54	43	0
13	54	42	0
14	49	36	T
15	47	36	.36
16	47	40	.15
17	50	40	.05
18	50	47	.65
19	48	25	0
20	41	19	0
21	45	17	0
22	50	17	0
23	52	20	0
24	52	21	0
25	53	21	0
26	43	25	T
27	56	25	0
28	54	25	0
29	42	27	.02
30	50	40	.65

Ave/Tot 50.5 33.7 4.33

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

Valley Vet to Close Vernonia Office

In 1974, Dr. Jule Plummer opened her office in Vernonia in order to provide the community with affordable, quality veterinary care for their pets and livestock. Since then, things have changed.

Another veterinary clinic are now providing needed veterinary care in Vernonia. Dr. Jule retired in 2012, and Valley Veterinary Clinic Vernonia's last patient care day will be December 26, 2013.

We will still be in our Rainier office to serve you.

We have a veterinarian on call nights and weekends if you have an emergency and large animal services will still be provided to the area. If you request, we can provide mail service for products.

Your animals' records will be maintained at the clinic in Rainier. Please call us if you need the records transferred.

Thank you for 39 great years! We've been happy to be your veterinarians!

Christmas Dinner In Vernonia



Join us in celebrating the
Spirit of Giving this Christmas Season
at the 7th Annual Christmas Dinner

**Serving from 1 pm to 4 pm
On Wednesday, December 25th
at the Vernonia Senior Center**

*Dinner is free to families and friends in Vernonia.
No gratuities or donations required*

Dinner will include turkey & dressing, ham, cranberries,
mashed potatoes & gravy, vegetable, bread, choice of dessert
and beverage. Dinners To Go & limited deliveries available!
For more information contact Bill James at 503-359-2310.

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.

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Happy Holidays from Meyer's Auto Body

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