

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor,

I want to sincerely thank all of the wonderful people of this community and elsewhere for their magnanimous help and good tidings in making my medical journey through chemotherapy, in these trying times, more fulfilling and less stressful. God bless you all and thank you, thank you, thank you!

Terrence Schaumburg
Vernonia, OR

To the Editor,

When you see or hear about the FREEWHEELERS Club what do you think of? Jacked up, muddy pick-ups? That was my first impression, too. But then I found out about them and all they do around the community.

They recently took on the project of maintaining the Pioneer Cemetery. They also pick up trash along the road entering Vernonia from each end. If someone is in need of help they're usually the first in line to offer their help.

I recently attended one of their meetings and was impressed to find out the strict rules they abide by. If you see the FREEWHEELERS decal on their truck, ask them about it. They were very cordial and interested in what I was asking for - help with the Pioneer Cemetery. I asked them to talk and think about it for awhile, but by the time I got home I had a message saying they would be honored to have it as one of their projects.

When you see them around, please take a minute to stop and say thank you for all they do. They're not looking for honors, but I'm sure they would appreciate a thank you!

The Cemetery Committee would also like to thank Ray Pelster for the many years he mowed the Pioneer Cemetery and the work he does around town.

Carol Davis
Vernonia Cemetery Committee

To the Editor,

A few years ago, actually many, I was seated in a sociology class at OSU and we were discussing criminal justice and some of the variables related to unlawful behaviors. In essence, we learned that there are really only two interventions which are effective in changing criminal behavior.

The first is aging. Older people

do not commit nearly as many crimes as younger individuals. Of course, we do not have much control over this factor.

The second is rapid and suitable consequences or punishment by the justice system. This we can impact.

Forget about the numbers being tossed at us and the tired history lessons regarding the construction of the Columbia County facility. Without a jail to house these convicted criminals, we place ourselves, our friends, and our neighbors in jeopardy every day of the week and year. Without a jail, we will bear the consequences and they do not look good, regardless of the alternatives being suggested. Without a jail, we make our sheriff's deputies work much more difficult.

My wife and I fully support the Jail Levy. We urge you to mark "yes" and support the jail in our county.

Paul and Judy Nys
Rainier, OR

To the Editor,

Vernonia's 4th of July fireworks are just around the corner! Which makes this the time of year where I start asking for donations to fund this year's awesome fireworks show! This will be the fourth year that I have had the fun job of lighting up the sky for our town's 4th of July show. Every year we have pulled together enough funds to put on a show with \$5000 worth of fireworks... let's keep up the tradition and keep the party going! Now I need help from everyone to bring together the funds to keep the party going! I will be putting up collections jars around town for

donations, so help me out by pitching in... and get your friends to pitch in as well! You can also donate by writing a check made out to 'Vernonia Fireworks' and mailing it to:

Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District
c/o LT. Loren Loomis
555 E. Bridge St.
Vernonia, OR 97064

If there are any questions at all about the fireworks show that we put on each year, feel free to contact me by phone (503-396-8433) or email (loren.loomis@intel.com).

Let's have an awesome 4th!

Loren Loomis
Vernonia

To the Editor,

As a Vet, the right to vote is one of things we have fought for in this country. Voting is one of our most important civil liberties.

It is interesting that Ms. Martwick's political signs all have the word VOTE on them, because she herself cannot be bothered to vote.

Since 1999, Oregon voters have been given 38 opportunities to vote. Ms. Martwick only voted 8 times in the last 15 years and not at all since 2008. That means that in the last 15 years, 38 ballots were sent to her and she could not be bothered to mail in her ballot. Voters in other states have challenging voter ID laws, bad weather and hours upon hours standing in line in order to cast their vote. Ms. Martwick simply has to, vote, stamp, and mail, it's that easy and yet this is too much for her.

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reflecting the spirit of our community
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Potluck & Movie Night at the Grange



Friday, May 16th

Potluck 6 pm (bring a dish to share)

Movie 7 pm

The Blues Brothers

starring Jim Belushi and Dan Ackroyd

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Vernonia Grange Hall - 375 North Street
Next Showing will be on June 21st~ "A Mid Summer's Night Dream"

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