

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor,

I am a former client of Cathleen Callahan and I want to let the voters of Columbia County know that she is the best choice for judge. I met Cathleen in July 2010 when I hired her to represent me in a divorce. I knew the process would be difficult as I knew my ex-husband very well. Our children had an attorney appointed to them, there were several pre-trial conferences, a first trial and settlement conference that took two days, a restraining order trial, an order of psychological testing, he was in jail for two weeks in jail for contempt against the Court, he refused to physically appear at numerous court proceedings, including the trial he requested and then too many status conferences and follow up to court before the divorce was finalized. He argued over every word. He filed numerous documents and did not provide copies to Cathleen. Many of his documents were nonsensical and were clearly a product of him venting and his anger. He hired and fired or was fired by at least four attorneys. Cathleen was with me the entire time. Not only as an experienced and dedicated advocate for me and the law but as my educator and guide to the legal process. She was always calm when speaking with my ex-husband and no matter what he did or said, she never gave up. My ex has even begrudgingly admitted respect for her. This is the type of judge Columbia County needs.

Tina Blixt
Yelm, WA

To the Editor,

Cathleen Callahan has lived, worked and contributed her time and energy to Columbia County for many years. She is well known in the community for her volunteer work and her commitment to the justice system. She has been proven to be a strong advocate for the average person in the county dealing with everything from business

management, to dealing with difficult family situations. She is compassionate and understanding in every situation. My case began in Columbia County but quickly spread outside the county, and involved the custody of my granddaughter after her parents were found to be deeply into drugs. I did not know which way to turn to help her, but Cathleen did. She handled everything discreetly and quickly so there was as little turmoil as possible for my then 8 year old granddaughter.

I'm voting for Cathleen Callahan for Circuit Judge because mine is not the only story. She has helped many citizens of this community through some rough times, always with the most competence, compassion and respect. The example above was Cathleen wearing her "attorney" hat. I can't wait to see her bring her many years of experience as an attorney, and City Prosecutor to the bench.

Jo Boge
Rainier, OR

To the Editor,

It seems strange to me that while Mr. Mayo provides us with his ideas for how our democratic system should work, he doesn't seem to have any idea about how county government really works. What I see is that he is throwing out a bunch of "hot button" issues that he thinks will stick in order to get elected. If he is successful with this strategy, what will happen if he does get elected? Anything? Or will we face the same mess we continually hear about everywhere else in this country? No action, road blocks, confusion and no direction that anyone can figure out.

At least I know where I stand with Henry Heimuller. He is continually trying to do his best to inform me when I ask questions.

Over the last months I have tried to talk with Mr. Mayo regarding his position on public transit and other important issues for Columbia County

residents. He has continually avoided the issue and will not even talk about how seniors and others who need public transit will fare if he is elected in November. Why doesn't he support those who have no way of even getting to the grocery store or those needing to get to doctor appointments? If the only vulnerable spot he sees in his opponent is his stance on the oil trains, what does that do for the rest of the many important issues facing our quality of life in Columbia County?

I am tired of politicians avoiding discussions that don't seem to fit in with their own ideas of what is good for our county. How can I place my faith in Mr. Mayo if he doesn't ask what types of services are needed or have any discussion about all of the issues? The officials we elect must represent all of us and be willing to talk to all of us.

Even though I support and will vote for Heimuller in November, I feel even he could benefit from a wider perspective. I would hope when I show my support for Heimuller that everyone understands that I think Heimuller is the best candidate that is running and that he is not beholden to me.

Thelma Bonar
Warren, OR

continued on page 13

Upcoming Events

Salmon Festival - Saturday, October 4, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM at Hawkins Park.

Car Seat Clinic - Saturday, October 25, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM at the Vernonia Fire Station, 555 E. Bridge St. For more information call 503-556-3736.

Nob Hill Nature Park Volunteer Work Party - Saturday, November 1, 1:00-4:00 PM at Nob Hill Nature Park in St. Helens. Preregistration is requested, call 503-397-7904.

Timberbound Concert & Swing Dance, Saturday, November 15, 8:00-11:00 PM at the Vernonia Grange, 375 North St. Historic Keasey slide show by Cory Colburn 7-8 PM. Tickets \$10 at the door or call 503-396-2046

Spirit of Christmas in Vernonia - Saturday, December 6, 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Events at L.L. Stub Stewart State Park

Friday, October 3, 11:00 AM

Nature Journaling on the Timberbeast Trail

Join us for a journey of mind and body down our freshly cleared Timberbeast Trail. You'll take in the natural sights, sounds, and smells then log the splendor in a journal to reminisce about for years to come. Delight in your time at Stub Stewart State Park and capture the experience to share. Meet at the Welcome Center.

Saturday, October 4, 11:00 AM

Birding Basics

Come learn how to go Birding like a pro. We provide the binoculars and field guides and basic tools to spot our feathered friends. The course includes a hike down to the Beaver Pond to discover various nests and signs of birds. Bring water for the



*Nature
HISTORY
Discovery*

hike and of course sturdy foot wear. All ages welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Meet at Dairy Creek Amphitheater.

Saturday, October 4, 6:00 PM

Vernonia:

Growth, Prosperity, Obscurity

This is a story about the upper Nehalem Valley and the small town that was home to the largest lumber mill. Hear about the little railroad that served the valley and the creepy crawly tunnel that was a problem right from the start. Meet at the West Meeting Hall.

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.

Columbia Humane Society Featured Pet



They say with age comes wisdom. Don't overlook me at my age. I have a lot of great years left in my life. I like other dogs, however I find large male dogs to be a challenge. I recently moved to CHS and I would like to find a permanent home. If your interested in me, please ask.

My adoption fee is \$165, and I come neutered, microchipped and current on my vaccines. Please come see me at the shelter Tues, Wed, Thurs & Sat from 10- 7 and Sundays from 12- 7.

2084 Oregon Street
St. Helens, OR 97051
Web: www.columbiahumane.org

Email: animalwelfare@columbiahumane.org
Phone: 503-397-4353

**VERNONIA
RURAL
FIRE DIST.**



**CAN YOU FILL
THESE BOOTS?**

**VOLUNTEERS
WANTED**

**Call Dean Smith
for more information
on free training
(503)429-8252**