

# Schools Update: Happy Holidays!

By Aaron Miller

Winter vacation is a time for students to be with family, take a break from school and just be kids. While it is a time to rejuvenate, parents can continue to keep their students thinking. Everyday life, and holiday travels, are full of opportunities for students of all ages to use and maintain their essential academic skills. Here are a few ideas to try with your kids.

Cook a meal together. Cooking involves technical reading skills, organization and the use of measurement and fractions. It is also a great time for children to learn responsibility while spending quality time with their family. Real world activities such as these help tie together academic learning with practical use.

Take a trip. While driving to grandma's house, or anywhere else, play a game that uses the words and numbers on cars and signs. Use mileage signs to work

on math skills. How far have you traveled? What is the distance between towns? How long will it take to get there at your current rate of speed? Which direction are you headed? Go old school and use a map. Get there and have fun doing it.

Watch the weather. Will it snow? Will it affect our travel? What kind of clothes should we take based on the weather? What will be the best weather days for our vacation plans?

Read. Curl up with a good book. Read a favorite magazine. Go to the library. Read and write letters and thank you letters. Help your child develop an interest they want to learn about and find reading materials to support their curiosity. Read, read, read!

Write. Write lists. Write letters to family. Have children help with cards. Write thank you notes. Write a story of your choice. Write.

While you are spending time with loved ones this holiday season, please take advantage of that time to first and foremost enjoy your family, and along the way, when those opportunities arise, remember to work in a little reading, writing and arithmetic.

*Happy Holidays!*

## Vernonia School District Volunteer of the Month November 2014

**Nayan Fleenor**



Nayan Fleenor is Vernonia School District's Volunteer of the Month for November. Nayan is a retired teacher from the Vernonia School District, where she taught for over 30 years. She commutes to Vernonia from Portland, several times a week to volunteer her time with our students. Nayan is a great example of what a volunteer is; caring, compassionate, generous, helpful, involved, kind, reliable and valuable. She is involved in so many areas of the school that range from reading with students, to field trips and helping with the Run for the Arts. If you see Nayan around, please take the time to thank her for all that she does to help. We are very fortunate to have such an amazing volunteer, and both staff/students benefit greatly from having Nayan's presence at Vernonia School District.

## Art Show and Silent Auction

Saturday January 3, 2015

5-7 PM

Cabin in Vernonia

*to benefit Vernonia Cares Food Bank  
entertainment and light refreshments provided*

Hosted by Vernonia High School Senior  
Lilliann Lindsley

— A Trusted Name in Funeral Service —

**Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt  
Funeral Home & Crematory**



Jeff & Kathryn Hoyt

2308 Pacific Ave.,  
Forest Grove  
503-357-2161

741 Madison Ave.,  
Vernonia  
503-429-6611

*Family Owned & Operated*

— Formerly Prickett's Mortuary —

**Forest Grove Memorial Chapel**  
503-357-3126

To sign the online guest book or to send a  
condolence to the family go to  
[www.fuitenrosehoyt.com](http://www.fuitenrosehoyt.com)

**BEHIND EVERY PROJECT IS A**

**True Value®**



**GET PREPARED FOR WINTER**

- chains • antifreeze • winter tires mounted & balanced
- wipers • generators • kerosene • flashlights • boots
- batteries • lamp oil • gas cans • candles • propane



*Family owned & operated  
for over 40 years*

834 Bridge St., Vernonia  
(503) 429-6364



**Angel  
Memorials  
Headstones**

Granite Markers & Monuments

**971-344-3110**

Locally owned in Vernonia  
Serving NW Oregon  
All Cemeteries Accepted  
Order drawing at no charge online

[www.angelmemorialshadstones.com](http://www.angelmemorialshadstones.com)

the old house of music

**The Birk**  
"it's not that far"

**Reserve now for your holiday party**

[www.thebirk.com](http://www.thebirk.com)

**TOO BUSY?**  
Call your LOCAL bookkeeper



**Edi Sheldon 503-429-1819**  
[edisheldon@gmail.com](mailto:edisheldon@gmail.com)

Licensed tax consultant • Full service payroll  
Personal & small business bookkeeping • QuickBooks assistance  
CORPS, S-CORPS, LLC, Partnerships • Personal one-on-one service

LTC #29629 - Oregon licensed tax consultant  
RTRP #P00448199 - designated as a registered tax return preparer by the Internal Revenue Service  
The IRS does not endorse any particular individual tax return preparer. For more information  
on tax return preparers, go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov).