

Public Works Receives 50 Year Award for Weather Station

The Vernonia Public Works Department has received recognition from the National Weather Service for maintaining their weather station for fifty years.

Public Works foreman Jeff Burch accepted the award for the department on March 11 from Tyree Wilde and Gerald Macke, both from



Tyree Wilde (l) and Gerald Macke (r) of the National Weather Service presented Jeff Burch and the Vernonia Public Works Dept. with an award for fifty years of collecting weather data.

the National Weather Service office in Portland. Wilde is a Warning Coordination Meteorologist and Macke is the Observation Program Leader for the Portland Region.

The weather station in Vernonia records temperature and precipitation every fifteen minutes and is part of the Cooperative Observer Program that collects data that is used to observe and predict weather patterns and changes. Collected data is used regionally in agriculture, recreation and other fields and is being used in research about global climate change.

Data collected through the program is archived on the National Weather Service website, which allows any user access to historical information about local weather. To see interesting and useful information about Vernonia weather go to: www.weather.gov. On the map on the home page, click on Northwest Oregon, which should take you to the Portland office page. In the side bar on the left, under Climate, click "local," then click the "NOWData" tab on the far right. In the drop down menu, scroll all the way to the bottom and click Vernonia, which will provide a choice of information you can view - and have fun!

Here is just one bit of useful information we found on the site: This year everyone has been worried that we are having a dry winter. According to data collected since 1965, Vernonia receives an average of 48.29 inches of rainfall each year. Monthly averages and 2014/15 actual rainfall amounts are as follows:

Nov:	7.47	5.20
Dec:	8.11	7.62
Jan:	7.18	3.75
Feb:	5.46	5.36

Thanks and congratulations to all the Vernonia Publics Works and city staff who have diligently gathered and reported this data over the last fifty years, making it available for all of us!

Local Owns Two World Champion Show Horses

For an area mostly known for logging, the Vernonia area has developed quite a reputation for its horse culture. The area features a long time trail riding group, regular seasonal arena play days, a competitive school-based equestrian team and an active 4-H program - even a national Miss Rodeo title

Berg shows her horses in Halter Competitions where the horses are led, not ridden, and are judged on their conformation and suitability as breeding stock. Berg says it's sort of like body building for horses. "They're really big and muscular, but they also have to be really pretty," says Berg. "And conformationally they have to be correct - they have to have nice straight legs, they have to have a slender neck. They are judged on how they are put together."



Owner Marianne Berg of Birkenfeld (r) with her Reserve Grand National Champion Clark and trainer Matt Henderson.

holder. It's obvious that people in this region love their horses.

Marianne Berg also loves her horses and owns a couple of World Champions.

Berg, who lives in Birkenfeld, owns show horses and has been successful in breeding, raising, training and showing two real winners.

Berg purchased "No Chance of Reign," who she calls "Clark," shortly after he was named World Champion in his class as a young pony. In 2013 Berg, working with a new horse trainer, and Clark took 4th place at the American Paint Horse Association (APHA) World Show in Fort Worth, Texas. "Our new trainer didn't have enough time to get him as prepared as he needed to be," explained Berg.

This year Clark and trainer Matt Henderson of Turner-Henderson Show Horses based in Albany, Oregon traveled once again in November to Fort Worth, where Clark won the Reserve

World Champion

World Champion

World Champion

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