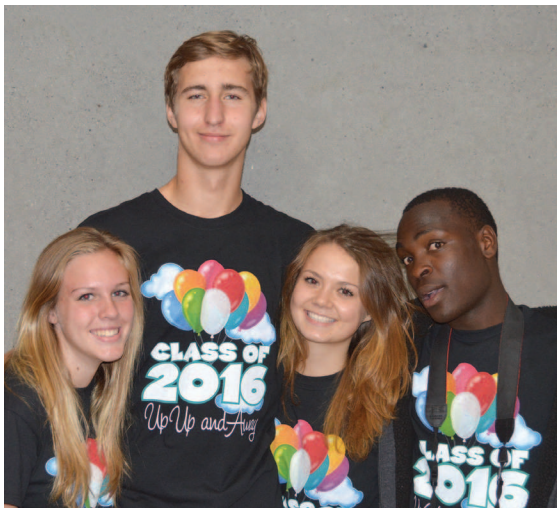


Meet the Exchange Students

Chloe Huot is from Quebec, Canada and is living with the Lindauer family. She is running cross country this fall, will play basketball in the winter and run track in the spring. Chloe has traveled to Cuba and this is her first time in the United States. She says she likes that people in Vernonia are friendly towards her and she also enjoys all the sports activities. Chloe says she hopes to pursue a career in physical education. A senior, Chloe is the second member of her family to be an exchange student in Vernonia; her brother Sam was here several years ago.



Chloe Huot, Pavel Michalec, Klarka Sehnoutkova, and James Ombati

Pavel (Paul) Michalec is spending the year with the Sullivan family. He is from the city of Prague in the Czech Republic. His brother Vasek (Bob) is also a former exchange student at VHS. A senior, Paul is running cross country this fall and at 6' 7" hopes to be a welcome addition to the VHS basketball program this winter. Paul has traveled around Europe on holiday and to Egypt, but this is his first trip to the United States. Paul says his favorite thing about Vernonia is his host family, the Sullivans. "I love my family," says Paul. "We have a small farm and I like to help my dad. This is the best part." Paul says he also enjoys all the activities around school life including participating in sports, attending sporting events, being with friends, and eating hamburgers.

Klarka Sehnoutkova is also from the Czech Republic; she lives in a small village called Bedrichov. She is living this year with Shelley Hennessy. A senior,

she has been a valuable part of the VHS volleyball team, and says she would like to try basketball and track. Klarka has traveled with her family around Europe and to Egypt, but this is her first time in the U.S. She says people in Vernonia are friendlier than in her home country and she likes doing group activities. She says her dream is to study medicine.

James Ombati is from a village in Kenya called Kisii. He is living this year with Joann Beamish. James is a senior and is running cross country and is hoping to play soccer for Banks High School this fall. He hopes to practice with the basketball team this winter and run track in the spring. "Being born from a humble background, I have never traveled before outside Kenya," says James. In fact his trip here has included his first rides on an airplane and an electric train. James says he has been a bit surprised how welcoming Americans have been towards him.



Elisabeth Kreuter, Joud Khaled, and Anastasiya Panchenko

"Everyone is friendly and wants to talk with me, tell stories with me, wants to be friends with me, and invite me to their homes," says James. He says he really likes the

big trees around Vernonia; he says he has studied in Kenya about Douglas Fir trees but he likes being able to see them in person. James says his dream would be to study medicine in the United States and become the first doctor from his village in Kenya. He says he wants to help the people there and maybe build a hospital because the people have to travel very far to receive any medical care.

Elisabeth Kreuter is from Neuss, Germany and is staying with the Steward family. Her brother Mathius was an exchange student in Vernonia who also lived with the Stewards. She is a junior who is on the cheerleading squad and will also be part of the equestrian team. Elisabeth has had a chance to travel with her host family and has really enjoyed the changing landscape, from the flatlands in Idaho to the big mountains of Montana to the forests of Oregon and

said she loves all the small towns. She really likes small town Vernonia where she is close to all her friends and everyone knows everyone. Elisabeth has traveled around Europe, including Italy and London and she has previously visited New York City. She is looking forward to visiting Disneyland with the seniors this spring.

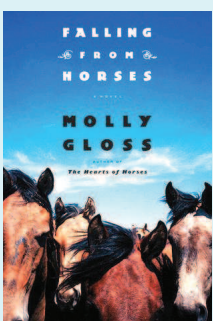
Joud Khaled is a sophomore from Nablus, Palestine who is living with Jim and Kim Tierney. She is currently running cross country and hopes to try basketball and track. She says she is enjoying the nature around Vernonia and especially the fall colors. Joud has traveled to Dubai, Turkey and Egypt and this is her first trip to the United States. She says she is looking forward to visiting Disneyland in the spring.

Anastasiya Panchenko is from the city of Baltava in Ukraine and is living with the McGuire family. A sophomore, she is on the cheer squad and would like to try playing softball in the spring. She says she likes Vernonia because it is very different from her home city. "It's small and cute," says Anastasiya. She also says she likes the nature of Oregon. This is her first trip outside her country and she is excited to visit Disneyland while she is here.

Meet Author Molly Gloss

Monday, October 26
5:30 - 7:00 pm

Molly Gloss will be at the Vernonia Public Library to discuss her novel, *Falling From Horses*, as well as her writing in general.



Molly will also be our guest for a bite to eat following the discussion. Anyone who wishes to join us at a local restaurant - Dutch treat - needs to let the library staff know ahead of time.

Molly Gloss is a fourth-generation Oregonian who lives in Portland. She is the bestselling author of *The Jump-Off Creek*, *The Dazzle of Day*, *Wild Life*, *The Hearts of Horses* and *Falling From Horses*. Her work has earned numerous awards, including an Oregon Book Award, a Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award, the PEN West Fiction Prize, the James Tiptree Jr. Award, and a Whiting Writers Award.

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