

## Readers Lend Their Voices... *continued from page 4*

graduation. I find myself assuming that a large number of those young people would like to go to college. But when I make that assumption, I assume, "okay," they will "figure out" how to do that. I thought our community had a vision and a plan to give a hand-up to every one of those young people for a better future through higher education. I assumed that by now, we would be building a community college here in Columbia County, because the county has been collecting taxes for PCC for many, many years. For example, last year alone, PCC received \$1.9 million from Columbia County tax payers.

I don't know who is willing and able to account for how much money has been collected, but I know we still lack a definitive plan for our community

college and its scholastic program. So this year's graduating class shares the same fate as the previous generation.

I look forward to this year's county elections when we have an opportunity to elect a young man who can relate to these same concerns of our neighbors and graduates. Alex Tardif is a candidate for the Board of Commissioners who will be a supporter of a stronger educational presence here, in Columbia County.

Paulette Lichatowich  
Columbia City

To the Editor,

There was an article in a recent issue of *The Chronicle* about Tony Hyde's involvement in boards and

committees, apparently in regard to his supposed accomplishments as a County Commissioner for almost twenty years.

I take exception to someone who flaunts their name in conjunction with committees, appointments, offices and boards to impress. There is no indication in the article of any of Mr. Hyde's accomplishments, if there are any. It is one thing to have founded the Columbia County Economic Team and another thing to create sustainable jobs. Every work day 30,000 residents of Columbia County leave to work in Portland and other locales. We are strangled with a debt of at least \$50 million as a result of Tony Hyde throwing money at failed projects at Portland Westward.

After almost twenty years, he "would like to focus on economic

development and job creation." Wow! Really? This is the best he can do? As Alex Tardif, who is running against Mr. Hyde stated: "If you cannot get it done in 8 years, you are not going to get it done. My opponent has had 20 years to accomplish more for us and that clearly has not happened."

Mr. Hyde also stated "A lot of the stuff we get done won't come to fruition until we're long gone." That says it all.

Time for a change? No kidding. Check out Alex Tardif. Out with the old and in with the new.

Cathy Pitkin  
Warren, OR

### Vernonia Police Blotter February 16-29, 2016

#### REPORTS TAKEN

- February 16, 2016 Report of a Disturbance on California Ave.
- February 22, 2016 Report of Burglary/Theft on Columbia St.
- February 25, 2016 Report of Criminal Mischief on Riverside Dr.

#### CITATIONS/OTHER VIOLATIONS

- February 25, 2016 Citation for Driving While Suspended and Failure to Carry Proof of Insurance on Bridge St.

**Vernonia Police Department responds to calls that do not always end in Arrest, Report, or Citation. 02/15/2016 through 02/29/2016 VPD had 65 calls for service**

### The Vernonia Transfer Station is open on the 2nd and 4th Saturday

March 12 & 26  
April 9 & 23

May 14 & 28  
June 11 & 25

*Dates are subject to change due to weather*

## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

**City Council Meeting Monday, March 07, 2016 - 7:00 PM**  
City Hall Council Chambers, 1001 Bridge St., Vernonia, OR

The Vernonia City Council will be holding a public hearing to receive comments from citizens in regard to the proposed Sewer Rate Change.

The City of Vernonia is in the process of updating the sewer rate model to develop rates that will take effect April 1, 2016. This public forum is to discuss the proposed rate and rate model structure.

Public testimony is welcome and written statements will be received before the hearing if you cannot attend.

#### \*\*\*AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE\*\*\*

Please contact the City Recorder, Vernonia City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064 (Phone No. 503-429-5291) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time if you need an accommodation. TCC users please call Oregon Telecommunications Relay Service at 1-800-735-2900.

This meeting is open to the public

## What's Happening at the Vernonia Library

### Upcoming Events

#### Friends of the Library Spring Booksale

Friday, March 11, 4 – 7 pm and  
Saturday, March 12, 10 am – 4 pm  
\$1 paperback, \$2 hardback. Shop the booksale and support library programs and services.

#### Using Soil Amendments and Fertilizers to Improve Your Garden

Tuesday, March 15, 7 – 8:30 pm  
Presentation by Chip Bubl, OSU Extension Faculty and Master Gardener™.

#### St. Patty's Day Craft

Thursday, March 17, 4 – 5 pm  
Come by the library before the parade and make something green to wear! For kids and families.

#### Spring Break Board Game Fun

Tuesday, March 22, 1:30 – 2:30 pm  
Choose from a selection of board games and learn/play with others. Recommended for 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

#### Family Movie Night

Thursday, March 24, 6 pm  
Relax and enjoy a new movie and free popcorn. Call or visit the library for movie title.

### Ongoing Programs

#### Stamp Club

March 3  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of every month,  
4:30 pm

Come by for some stamp collecting, learning, and trading. Open to all ages.

#### Writer's Group

Next meeting on April 21  
(no meeting March 17)  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month,  
6 – 7:30 pm  
Opportunity for writers with all levels of experience to get together, write, and get feedback.

#### Book Discussion Group

March 28  
Last Monday of every month,  
5:30 pm  
Selection for March: *The Memoir of Jake Weedsong* by Timothy Schell

#### Storytimes

**Baby and Toddler Time**  
Mondays, 10:30 – 11:15 am  
Songs, rhymes, books, toys, and bubbles! For ages 0 – 3. Older siblings welcome.

#### Preschool Storytime

Fridays, 10:30 – 11:15 am  
Stories and a craft/activity for children up to age 5.

**Library Hours & Contact**  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10 – 5  
Tuesday, Thursday: 1 – 7  
Saturday: 10 – 4  
Closed Sundays

Phone: (503) 429-1818  
E-mail: [library@vernonia-or.gov](mailto:library@vernonia-or.gov)

### Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

#### City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm:

Monday, March 7, 2016  
March 14, 2016 - Worksession  
Monday, March 21, 2016

#### City Closures are scheduled for:

Monday, May 30, 2016  
*Memorial Day*

*Dates and times subject to change  
due to conflicts of schedules*



The Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD Board of Directors will meet Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Main Station, 12525 HWY 202, Mist, OR. Agenda items include but are not limited to usual order of business, citizen input, Fire Chief's report, financial reports and any other business needing to be discussed.

William DeJager  
-Board President