

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor,

We are pleased to inform our community of a Vernonia High School scholarship we have set up called Sisters' Memorial Scholarship. This is in memory of our sisters, Kari Jo Titus (Berberick) and Sheri Lynne Wilson (Hiveley).

A few years ago while Jana and I were talking about our families we realized how much we had in common. Our connection was strong and we felt a memorial scholarship would be a great way to give to our youth while honoring our sisters. We came up with the following criteria:

- Sisters' Memorial Scholarship was created by two friends who believe good will come to those who treat others with kindness and respect.
- Sheri Wilson and Kari Titus died of cancer. They were women of faith who touched lives beyond comprehension. Their sisters, who are current employees of the Vernonia School District, would like to honor them by providing a scholarship for a graduating senior. Student must have a GPA of 2.5, have a strong community connection, a desire to help others, be genuine by nature and honest.

Seniors will be looking at the above information as they go through the local scholarship packet.

Our goal is to offer a \$500 scholarship for a deserving student. All monies will be handled through the school's bookkeeping for tax purposes.

If you feel you are able to help us reach our goal by contributing any amount please do so by mailing

it to: Vernonia High School c/o Dana Hyde 1000 Missouri Ave, Vernonia OR 97064. Please make checks out to: Sisters' Memorial Scholarship. For tax purposes, please use ID#93-6000336.

We are open to suggestions and appreciate your support with this endeavor.

Sincerely,
Dana Hyde & Jana Titus

To the Editor,

Imagine being a young soldier defending our country and in a split second, your life changes when you are wounded. Imagine having to deal with the pain and having to leave the military and transition back into your community while still recuperating from the wounds. Many of our brave men and women deal with broken families, unemployment, etc., and struggle alone through depression and other issues that can sometimes lead to suicide. Our County resources are limited. Currently, each day in America approximately 22 veterans take their own lives. This is one of the main reasons why Standing 4 Vets was formed.

Standing 4 Vets was recently formed to honor and empower our veterans and assist them with the transition back into the community, while assisting them in creating a support network so that no veteran should feel alone, and to assist all veterans in time of need. To do this, we need the help of the community.

We are hosting a 'Veteran Stand Down' in Columbia County on September 15 and 16 at the Columbia County Fairgrounds Pavilion in St. Helens, Oregon from 9am-5pm. We were recently notified that our supplies for our homeless that come from the Dept. of Defense, were lost in a fire when their storage facility in New Jersey burned to the ground on February 12. This means there will be no materials for our homeless and their families such as sleeping bags,

boots, clothes, personal care items or food. We are asking that our community support us with either materials or funds to purchase materials for our homeless veterans. Since we are a 501(c)(3) organization registered with the Charities division of the State of Oregon and IRS, we could offer a tax certificate if needed.

Attached is a list of items that we will need for our homeless and near homeless veteran families. Any assistance is greatly appreciated. ALL donations and funds stay in Columbia County to assist veterans in time of emergency and our books are open for inspection to our donors if requested.

Things needed for our homeless veterans in Columbia County - Please, new or near new only: good warm boots, jeans, warm sweaters, sweatshirts, warm coats, thermal underwear, socks, warm gloves, underwear - NEW only in packs 32, 34, 36 and 38 for men, new underwear only for women - size 5, 6, 7 and 8 in packs, water bottles, sleeping bags, sleeping mats, blankets, tents, certificates for children's clothes, canned ready to eat food (chili, cup of noodles, oatmeal, etc.), canned and packaged nutritious food (peanut butter, tuna, spaghetti sauces, etc.), shaving cream, sanitary items for women, hair soap, body soap, deodorant, disposable razors.

Anyone wishing to volunteer to help with the Stand Down is welcome. Simply sign up by calling 503-366-7163. I thank you for your time and any assistance that you may give.

Lorene Nowling,
CEO, Standing 4 Vets
Standing4vets@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

Harlem Crowns Basketball - Saturday, April 9, 6:00 pm at the VHS gym. \$10 at the door. Fundraiser for VHS Girls Basketball program.

Writing to Create Ourselves - Sunday, April 10 at the Vernonia Library. Workshop and reading with Oregon Poet Laureate Emerita Paulann Petersen. Workshop 12:30-4:30 pm. Reading 6:00-7:30 pm.

Spring Fair and Plant Sale - May 7, 9:00 am-3:00 pm at the Vernonia Schools. Vendor booths and 800+ certified organic tomato plants. Presented by the Vernonia Community Garden.

Second annual Spring Tea Party - Saturday, May 14, 1:00 pm at the Cabin in Vernonia, 901 Park Dr. Watch for details.

Pet Fair - Saturday, May 21, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm at Creatures Pet Shop parking lot, 998 Bridge St. This is a fundraiser for Bailey's Pantry. More information to follow.

To the Editor,

I normally don't/won't write any kind of support letter/article to the editor about any political candidates running for public office. However, I am making a HUGE exception on this, because I would like the voters in Columbia County to know about a special person running for Columbia County Commissioner. His name is Alex Tardif, and I have been lucky enough to know this young man personally for many, many years, and basically watched him grow up. It's HIGH time that the voters of Columbia County had someone on the Board of Commissioners that is for the PEOPLE of Columbia County. It's time to get the "good old boys" out, get some fresh, intelligent ideas, and see Columbia County prosper and become an even better place for us to reside.

Alex is a man that not only is great with the public and their concerns, but works hard daily taking care of his family, and young daughter. He is a hard, hard worker, a go getter, and again, has some 'fresh/new' ideas for the voters of Columbia County.

If you are like I am, it's time for some changes here in our county, and I for one will be MORE than happy to mark the box next to Alex's name!!!

No matter if you agree with me or not, please remember to vote in this election. It does make a difference, and all voices in Columbia County should and need to be heard.

Karen Fessler
Saint Helens, Oregon

Vernonia Weather February 2016

| DATE | HIGH | LOW | PRECIP |
|------|------|-----|--------|
| 1 | 42 | 30 | T |
| 2 | 45 | 40 | T |
| 3 | 43 | 39 | .80 |
| 4 | 51 | 36 | .55 |
| 5 | 45 | 38 | .15 |
| 6 | 48 | 37 | 0 |
| 7 | 61 | 32 | 0 |
| 8 | 69 | 30 | 0 |
| 9 | 65 | 30 | 0 |
| 10 | 60 | 45 | T |
| 11 | 52 | 48 | .20 |
| 12 | 57 | 33 | .11 |
| 13 | 46 | 33 | .70 |
| 14 | 54 | 43 | .19 |
| 15 | 57 | 42 | .70 |
| 16 | 52 | 44 | T |
| 17 | 57 | 41 | .40 |
| 18 | 46 | 44 | .55 |
| 19 | 47 | 34 | .40 |
| 20 | 49 | 30 | 0 |
| 21 | 48 | 34 | .45 |
| 22 | 52 | 29 | 0 |
| 23 | 58 | 28 | T |
| 24 | - | - | T |
| 25 | 66 | 34 | 0 |
| 26 | 54 | 46 | .40 |
| 27 | 57 | 41 | .03 |
| 28 | 52 | 36 | 1.25 |
| 29 | 49 | 36 | .34 |

Ave/Tot 52.9 36.9 7.22

Weather data is collected at the U.S. Weather station at the Vernonia Water Plant

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



Scrooge came to the shelter via Animal Control. His personality will make you laugh out loud. When he first came to the shelter he was a little uncomfortable with being handled. The longer he has been with us, the funnier he has become. He isn't a huge fan of other cats or dogs, however if you are looking for a kitty that will talk to you on a daily basis this is your guy. He very much appreciates wet food and loves to have attention. Scrooge is about 2 years old. He recently had to be shaved due to the fact that he was so badly matted when he came into the shelter. His adoption fee is \$110.00.

Phone: 503-397-4353
Email: animalwelfare@columbiahumane.org
Web: www.columbiahumane.org
2084 Oregon Street
St. Helens, OR 97051

AUCTION NOTICE

at Storage, Too
58605 Nehalem Hwy S
Vernonia
503-429-7867

G9-10x20 M. Clough
E9-5x10 B. Seidel

Auction will be held
Wednesday
April 27
12 noon

Cash or certified check only