

It's Time to "Kick the Butt"

Almost half a million people die each year from cigarette smoking or exposure to second hand smoke. Thousands more die from smokeless tobacco, and safety concerns about e-cigarettes are now on the rise. The Public Health Foundation of Columbia County teamed up with Vernonia School District – OSSOM (Operation Student Safety On the Move) Student Group to conduct a Billions of Butts Day as a part of the Kick Butts.



Kick Butts is sponsored by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. The day of activism is about empowering youth to stand out and speak up against big tobacco. On March 29th the OSSOM Students gathered to discuss why reducing tobacco initiation was important to them. Reasons included family members being affected by

tobacco, keeping the environment clean, personal health, and more. The group also talked about how the industry uses tactics such as candy flavors and bright packaging to entice youth. In Fact 90% of adult cigarette smokers started before the age of 18. Tobacco use continues to be the number one cause of preventable death in the United States.

12 OSSOM students accompanied by Vernonia School District staff and Public Health Foundation employees set out to Hawkins Park and the Play Shed to collect cigarette butts and tobacco litter. Cigarette butts are the number one cause of litter in the world. Students noted that while the parks looked clean of cigarette butts at first, upon closer inspection there were quite a lot – especially for March. Students concurred that they see a large increase in cigarette butt litter in the parks as the weather gets warm each year. Students were also surprised about other things they found, including alcohol containers, broken glass, children's pacifiers, and a few syringes. Following the event, students discussed how the results could be presented to Vernonia School Board and the City of Vernonia.

VHS Equestrian Results

The following are the top 10 results from the VHS Equestrian Team's March meet:

Reining -

Lauren Glass, 7th

Barrels -

Kassidy Fetch, 2nd

Working Rancher -

Sheyanne Pedersen, 3rd

Breakaway -

Jordan Brickley, 2nd

Sheyanne Pedersen, 3rd

Pearl Cook, 4th

Steer Daubing -

Sheyanne Pedersen, 3rd

Kassidy Fetch, 7th

Team Penning -

Kassidy Fetch, Lauren Glass,

Sheyanne Pedersen, 1st

Jordan Brickley, Liz Kreuter,

Pearl Cook, 5th



Sheyanne Pedersen, Kassidy Fetch and Lauren Glass took 1st in Team Penning



Kassidy Fetch took 2nd in Barrels

MEET MARGARET MAGRUDER

CANDIDATE FOR
COLUMBIA COUNTY COMMISSIONER
POSITION #1

Saturday, April 23

10:00 am

Black Iron Grill, Vernonia

Hosted by Tobie Finzel and
Leonard & Betty Schmidlin



Paid for by
the campaign to elect
Margaret Magruder



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