

2016 Primary Election Results

Vernonians Approve Fire Levy, Hyde loses re-election bid, run-off in other Commissioner race



The following are unofficial election results from the May 17, 2016 primary election:

- Vernonia voters approved Measure 5-253, a five year tax levy to fund emergency services training and operations for the Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District. The tax funds will be used to hire a training officer for the District. 51% voted yes.
- Alex Tardiff defeated long time Columbia County Commissioner Tony Hyde for Position 3. Tardiff received over 51% of the vote while Hyde earned over 48%.
- The race between five candidates for County Commissioner Position 1 will go to a run-off in the November election between Margaret Magruder and Wayne Mayo after no candidate received over 50% of the vote.

Magruder led the voting with 28%, while Mayo was close behind with 27%. They were trailed in the voting by Joel Yarbor with 19%, Susan Conn with 12% and Brady Preheim with 11%.

• Columbia County voters rejected Measure 5-251 which would have formed the Columbia County Rider Transportation District, a special district to provide public transportation for Columbia County. Voters voted 63% against the tax measure.

For final county election results go to: www.co.columbia.or.us/departments/elections-department/elections-home. For statewide election results go to: www.sos.oregon.gov/voting-elections/pages/default.aspx.

Memorial Day Service May 30th

The 19th annual Memorial Day Service will be held at the Vernonia Memorial Cemetery, 2080 Bridge Street, on Monday, May 30, 2016 at 11:00 am. The service is provided by the Aloha American Legion Post #104 and sponsored by the City of Vernonia. The public is invited to attend.

Pastor Grant Williams of Open Door Gathering Place will be the Master of Ceremonies. Guest speaker will be former Vernonia Mayor Sally Harrison. Music will be provided by the Vernonia High School Choir.

The Honor Guard, Rifle Salute, and

Taps will be presented by Aloha American Legion Post #104, assisted by Vernonia American Legion Post #119. Bugler is Bill Shields.

Coffee, punch and cookies will be served following the service.

Also assisting in the preparation and presentation of the service are the Vernonia Lions Club, Cemetery Caretaker Michael Bright, sound system by Tommy Disco, Vernonia Free Wheelers Club, Boy Scout Troop #119, and Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home.

Lions' Dewey Pool Project Progresses

The Vernonia Lions Club's project to renovate the Dewey Pool swimming pool is progressing well, with the new liner for the children's wading pool already installed.

The Lions raised the money needed in less than two months to replace the liner. The installation was completed in early May.

Club and the City of Vernonia both made funding contributions and the balance of the money has come from donations by past and current members of the community. The Lions are continuing to raise funds to further their renovation project with a GoFundMe account: "Dewey Pool Fund," as well as an account at



Next on the agenda for the Lions is some much needed patch work and repairs to the concrete steps and seating area. They also hope to install several benches around the pool area.

The total cost of the project is over \$20,000. The Vernonia Lions

US Bank where anyone can make a deposit.

The Dewey Pool was originally constructed in 1938 and is a source of enjoyment for the entire community during the summer months.

Police Officer Brady No Longer With VPD



Vernonia City Administrator Josette Mitchell has confirmed that Vernonia Police officer Matt Brady is no longer working for the Department.

"Mr. Brady is no longer employed with the City of Vernonia," said Mitchell in a written statement. "We cannot comment on the circumstances regarding the change in employment status."

Brady has not been seen on duty for several months. At the end of March Mitchell

declined to comment when asked about rumors that Brady was on Administrative Leave, stating that she could not openly discuss employee matters.

Brady joined the VPD in November of 2011. He attended the Police Academy from January through April of 2012. Previously Brady worked as a reserve officer in North Plains for over five years.

At their May 2, 2016 City Council meeting, the Council entered into Executive

Session under ORS 192.660(2)(d) *To consider information or records that are exempt by law from public inspection.* Council took no further action upon returning to open session.

At the most recent City Council meeting on May 16, Police Chief Mike Connor told the Council that there is an opening on the Department and received permission to begin the search process for a new officer.

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Bailey's Pantry Helps Families with Pet Food Needs

Pet Fair on May 21 will raise funds for pet food pantry

Bailey's Pantry, the pet food pantry at the Vernonia Cares Food Bank, has been helping families with their pet food needs since just after the 2007 flood in Vernonia.

A Pet Fair fundraiser to help Bailey's Pantry is planned for May 21 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Creatures Pet Store in Vernonia.

The Pet Fair, organized by Holly Vaughn, will include a raffle, a pet item resale booth, dog wash, pet photography, rescue animals, spay and neuter information, Reiki pet massage, food and much more.

"Bailey's Pantry is very successful in assisting people with pet food," says Vernonia Cares Director

Sandy Welch, "Just as we try to give three days of people food to the food bank clients, we offer three days of pet food, as supplies allow. Our client's eyes light up with appreciation when they are offered pet food. Their pets are very important to them."

Carol Davis remembers how the idea of a pet food pantry started after the flood in December 2007 when all the food and clothing donations starting arriving to help those in need. "So many animals were going hungry," explains Davis. "I went to



Bailey's Pantry is named in honor of Carol Davis's lab/retriever "Bailey."

Coastal Farm and asked them if they could help us and they saved all of their bags of food that were broken open. Usually they tape them up and sell them, but instead they donated them to us. That's where it got started and I had Bailey with me that day."

Bailey was Davis's lab/golden retriever mix that she adopted from the Columbia County Humane Society in St. Helens when he was less than six weeks old. "Everybody knew Bailey," says Davis. "He was such a cool dog and was just so special."

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