

# Vernonia School Bond Explained: A Conversation with Former School Board Chair Jim Krahn *continued from page 3*

donate to a building that is completed and was already being used. Donations from government agencies had simply been exhausted; we received all we were going to get.

**Are property owners presently paying the full tax amount they agreed to in 2009?**

No. The bond was passed for \$1.90 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The amount paid by taxpayers per assessed value has been closer to \$1.70 per \$1,000 of assessed value. When the bond was passed and terms of the bond were negotiated the results were very favorable to the school district taxpayers. The other factor that affects the amount of tax paid is the total amount of tax collected within the school district boundaries. In other words, the more total dollars collected, the less tax paid per \$1,000 of assessed value per taxpayer.

**What will the taxes look like if the bond passes?**

If you have property assessed at \$100,000 your estimated increased tax will be \$24 per year

If you have property assessed at \$200,000 your estimated increased tax will be \$48 per year

If you have property assessed at \$300,000 your estimated increased tax will be \$72 per year

If you have property assessed at \$400,000 your estimated increased tax will be \$96 per year

**Why won't the bond directly help get more teachers or extend the school year calendar?**

The simple answer is money. This bond is for construction and can't be used for staff. It costs approximately \$20,000 per day to keep the school open. The passage of this bond will free up about \$450,000 of general fund dollars that are presently being used to pay debt; these dollars can then be used as the School Board and administration feel appropriate.

**How does the School District choose companies for new construction or repairs?**

A request for proposals is sent out. For larger projects a committee can review the proposals. With smaller projects it is the responsibility of the Superintendent to make the decision. There will be requirements that the applying company must meet; these are listed in the request for proposal. These requirements are based on the size of the project and there are some additional requirements due to the school being a public building. The company chosen must meet these minimum requirements. There is a possibility that if there are several companies that meet the requirements there could be interviews by a construction committee established by the School Board. After the interviews, a recommendation would be brought to the School Board for approval.

**How/why did the state choose Vernonia for the OSCIM grant?**

The OSCIM grant is based on a lottery; you are eligible if you meet the basic

criteria. A School District must be in the process of passing a bond. If you qualify and are chosen you will receive the grant if the bond passes. The amount you receive is based on a formula established by the state. All Oregon school districts

that meet the requirements are put into a lottery. Twenty school districts in the state will receive the amount they qualify for; Vernonia has qualify for \$2.7 million. If the bond passes we will receive the funding.



## Veteran Stand Down

**Columbia County Fairgrounds Pavilion  
58892 Salser Rd., St Helens, OR  
September 16, 2016 9-2pm**

**If you are a Veteran with questions that you need answers to, come talk with service providers. (Both VA and non-VA) They can assist with:**  
**Homelessness Mental Health Job Placement  
Compensation Education**

**There will also be Veteran groups that work with and do events for Veterans and Veteran organizations to get involved in. Representatives from programs that provide activities for children and youth of active military and veterans will also be present All Veterans will receive a computerized eye exam courtesy of the St. Helens Lions Club**

**Come meet other Veterans, have a good meal, find out what is new and available for you in our veteran community**

## Bridge Street Bits

**By Karen Miller**

OUR ANNUAL SENIOR PICNIC crew would like to shout out a BIG thank you to LARRY SNETHEN who brought his BBQ cart down to Anderson Park and showed off his cooking talents. We really appreciated it.

THANK YOU again to all who patronize our thrift store, Bargains on Bridge Street, our main source of income. And thank you to those who donate your quality items. A

reminder, we do have to spend what little monies we have to haul off the big items that we cannot use. We hope the community will respect that and please call the office with any questions (503) 429-3912.

LOOKING TO OFFER A COMMUNITY SERVICE? Volunteers are needed at the thrift store for sorting and display talents, as well as volunteers for delivering Meals on Wheels. Thanks for any consideration on this. Come on in, let's talk!

LASTLY, Vernonia Chiropractic Clinic's Dr. Joseph Dombek will be with us at the end of the month potluck on Wednesday, September 28, 11:30 am at the Food Bank Bldg. Bring a dish and learn about some info you might take advantage of! Potluck, PLUS some of your health questions answered. See you there!

Call me for any questions: (503) 429-0273

Senior Center Office: (503) 429-3912

See ya' around town.

**Vernonia Senior Center • 939 Bridge Street • 503-429-3912**

## Church Directory

**Assembly of God**

Sunday School: 9:45 am  
Morning Worship: 11:00 am  
Sunday Evening Prayer: 6:00 pm  
Wayne Marr, Pastor  
662 Jefferson Avenue  
503-429-0373

**Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**

Sunday Schedule:  
Sacrament Meeting: 10:00 am  
Sunday School & Primary: 11:20 am  
Relief Society, Priesthood and Young Women: 12:10 pm  
Roger Cook, Branch President  
1350 E. Knott Street  
503-429-7151

**The Crossing**

**Southern Baptist Church of Vernonia**  
Wednesday, 7:00 PM  
Troy Pound, Pastor  
Cabin in Vernonia  
901 Park Drive  
503-819-892

**Grace Family Fellowship**

Sunday School: 9:00 am  
Worship Service: 10:30 am  
Thursday Prayer: 6:00 pm  
Greg "Mac" McCallum, Pastor  
957 State Avenue  
503-429-6790

**Nehalem Valley Bible Church**

Sunday School: 9:45 am  
Worship Service: 10:45 am  
Tues. Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 am  
Wednesday Service: 7:00 pm

Sat. Men's Prayer Meeting: 6:30 am

Gary Taylor, Pastor  
Grant & North Streets  
503-429-5378

**Open Door Gathering Place**

Service: Sunday 6:00 pm  
Grant Williams, Pastor  
375 North Street  
503-702-3553

**St. Mary's Catholic Church**

Wednesday Religious Education:  
3:15-4:30 pm  
Sunday Mass: 12:00 pm  
Rev. Luan Tran, Administrator  
960 Missouri Avenue  
503-429-8841

**Vernonia Christian Church**

Sunday School: 9:45 am  
Worship Service in Youth &

Family Center: 11:00 AM  
www.VernoniaChristianChurch.org  
Sam Hough, Pastor  
410 North Street  
503-429-6522

**Vernonia Foursquare Church**

Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 am  
Children's Sunday School  
Carl Pense, Pastor  
850 Madison Avenue  
503-429-1103

**Vernonia Seventh-day Adventist Church**

Sabbath (Saturday) Services  
Sabbath School: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 11:00 am  
www.VernoniaSDAC.org  
Larry Gibson, Pastor  
2nd Ave. and Nehalem St.  
503-429-8301