

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To The Editor,

Once again I am impressed by the considerate, kindhearted and generous spirits expressed in our small community. Particularly the kindnesses shown by the young ladies of Vernonia Christian Church Youth Group led by Kim Pultz Friday, December 16th. They appeared on my front porch to present me with a Merry Christmas Wish, warm meal of chili, corn bread, cookies and a card. The meal was delicious, so I wanted to be sure to thank them once again. Wonderfully enough, Kim is leading by example!

Also, a wholehearted "Thank You" to the person who shoveled the snow off my sidewalk sometime on Thursday, December 15th. I was so concerned with events inside my home that I did not notice who did this fine, kind deed. I am sorry you will remain anonymous.

It is exciting to continue being a part of such a giving and considerate community. So, I am recognizing the people involved in events that have comforted and supported me recently.

Janelle Thomas Cedergreen
Vernonia

To the Editor,

This letter concerns Wayne Mayo's recent letter published in the paper. The actual "jobs saved" count is said to be 730 workers, and another 70 salaried positions. Not 1,110 union jobs, 730. The President elect somehow included 350 Research and Development positions that were never slated to be shipped out to Mexico. Another Carrier plant in Indiana will still be closed completely... its 700+ jobs moved to Mexico. The 553 people working on the Fan coil assembly line at the factory visited by Trump will still lose their jobs. And Carrier still plans on closing that factory in the future.

Ken Murphy
Vernonia

To The Editor,

On behalf of Beit Shalom Torah Fellowship, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who helped make our Hanukkah celebration a very special day. Nearly seventy people passed through the doors of the Grange Hall during the six-hour event. There was much song, laughter, food and fellowship. We highly recommend the Vernonia Grange as a great venue for a large gathering!

One question that came up often during the day was, "What are a bunch of Christians doing celebrating Hanukkah? Isn't that a 'Jewish' thing?" The answer is, "Yes, Hanukkah is a traditional Jewish holiday. It is not one of the seven Biblical commanded feast days, or celebrations." The word Hanukkah means "dedication." After the sound defeat of the whole Seleucid (Greek) army back in 165 BCE by the greatly outnumbered Judean army, the Jews took back Jerusalem and began the task of cleaning out the temple, which had been used by the Greeks to worship their god, Zeus. Pigs had even been sacrificed on the holy altar. Once the temple had been cleaned out and the old altar torn down and rebuilt, the re-dedication process took eight days; hence, the eight-day commemoration today. It just seems fitting, especially in these chaotic world times, to celebrate those who were willing to fight and sacrifice all, for their right to rule themselves, and worship as they chose. It's kind of like our county's Independence Day celebration on the fourth of July.

Hanukkah is always celebrated on the twenty-fifth day of the Jewish month, Kislev, which roughly corresponds to the Julian calendar, November-December time frame. The altar was desecrated on that day, the winter solstice, and it was that date that was chosen to re-dedicate the altar and temple to YHWH, God of Israel, and all those who believe in His Messiah.

One other question asked was,

"Why aren't you celebrating Christmas, like other believers?" We do celebrate the birth of the Messiah, Yeshua (Jesus), but during the celebration of Sukkoth, in the fall. Prophetically, contextually and historically, this is the likely time of Yeshua's birth. Emperor Constantine and his crew, back in 325 CE, were the ones who decided to include the Messiah's birth in the pagan celebration to Zeus, called Saturnalia, held on the winter solstice, December 25th.

If anyone has any other questions they would like to ask, please feel free to contact me at (503) 429-0954. Or better yet, come join us for Bible study and potluck on Friday evenings as we usher in the Sabbath.

Shalom and blessings to all.

Susan Spicer Pond
Beit Shalom Torah Fellowship

To the Editor,

2016 has been such an exciting year!

Since our launch in June, The Miller Scholarship Foundation (TMSF) has been quite busy. At our Sunday Session TMSF BBQ in July, we raised \$1,500 in scholarship funds! Our sponsors at Chinook Book gave us 400 Chinook books to give to attendees and our houseless neighbors at this event. If you missed this freebie, join us again this summer for another opportunity!

Our Regardless of Roofs event in September, held at the Lagunitas Community Room, allowed us to create a gallery of artworks for housed and houseless artists. We had wonderful speakers

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Upcoming Events

Vernonia Ballet presents Peter and the Wolf - Friday, January 13, 7:00 pm at the Vernonia Grange. No admission, donations accepted.

Willy Vlautin, author of *Lean on Pete* and *The Free* will be coming to the Vernonia Public Library Tuesday, February 21, 6:30 pm. Vlautin lives in Scappoose, Oregon and founded the band Richmond Fontaine.

We would love to have the friends of our mom, **Eleanor Thompson**, join us for a birthday celebration for her **100th birthday!**

It is being held on **Saturday, January 28, 2017**, in the fellowship hall of Grace Family Fellowship Church, 957 State Ave., Vernonia, Oregon, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. A luncheon will be served as well as cake, coffee, and punch. No presents please.

DeDe Webb, Joyce Weller, and Jan Bernardi



The Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD Board of Directors will meet Tuesday, January 17, 2017 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.

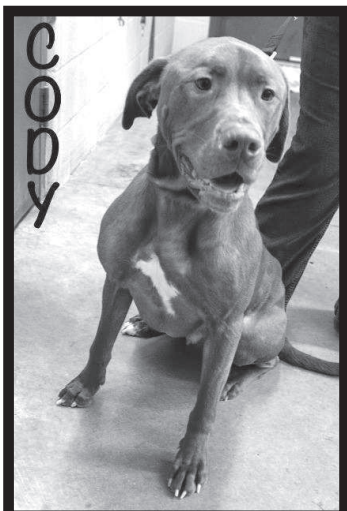
William DeJager
-Board President

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.

Where do you read the Voice? Show us where you have traveled. Submit your photo by email to: scott@vernoniasvoice.com

Columbia Humane Society Featured Pet



Cody came to the shelter as a stray. He is a neutered male Chocolate Lab mix, and weighs about 72 lbs. He is microchipped and ready to go to his new forever home. He has a ton of energy and likes other dogs. He plays kinda rough so he will need a strong leader.

Web: www.columbiahumane.org
2084 Oregon Street
St. Helens, OR 97051

Phone: 503-397-4353
Email: animalwelfare@columbiahumane.org

Auction Notice

Storage Too
58645 Nehalem Hwy. S.
Vernonia, Oregon 97064
503-429-7867

CC13 - 5 X 10 - Ryan Anderson
CC14 - 5 X 10 - R. Clough

Auction will be held February 8 at Noon

Please call prior
to confirm the auction

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