

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor,

I would like to thank everyone in Vernonia who aided my brother Mike Featherston during his illness.

Thank you Mike, his chess buddy and transportation when needed. Also, Kevin Delemos for checking on him, the young lady from the market that would take him groceries when he called, all of the Tolonens, his SDA church family, John Cahill for being his friend, the Banks Pharmacist, Steve Whiteman who lived across the street from him, Ernie Smith, the Vernonia Police officer that called me, and Scott Laird for taking him the newspaper. I know I am missing some, but please know he loved all of you.

Mike loved Vernonia. We talked on the phone many times each day – he would call me or I would call him, so I would like to thank everyone for helping me when he didn't answer his phone.

He died on our Aunt Barbara's birthday, so it was very hard on her also; she is 84.

Thank you again.

Judy Featherston Bates
Madras, OR

Hunter Education Classes Offered in Banks

An upcoming hunter education class is being offered in Banks. The class is at Fire District #13 from 6:30-8:30 pm on the following dates: January 31, February 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21 and 23. A second class will begin February 28.

You can sign up for these classes on ODFW's license sales site or at any license sales agent.

ODFW offers two types of hunter education classes: a traditional classroom experience over several days where most material is reviewed in the classroom, or independent study, which kids can do from home via workbook or online course. Independent study students also need to attend a field day to receive their hunter education certificate.

For a list of current classes and field days open in Oregon, visit the ODFW's license sales site and click View All Classes-Workshops / Hunter Ed Class or Hunter Ed Field Day tab. New classes are added regularly so check back if you don't see a date, time or location that works for you. Registering for a class or field day costs \$10.

Adults are also welcome to attend any hunter education classes and may take the adult online course, which doesn't require a field day for certification.

Hunter education is required for all hunters under the age of 18 and encouraged for adults, too. The classes cover important issues including hunter ethics and respect for private landowners; wildlife management and identification; firearms handling and safety; hunt preparation and techniques; survival; and introductory bow hunting.

All classes and field days are taught by certified volunteers dedicated to passing on the tradition of hunting to future generations. These volunteer instructors teach and certify about 6,500 students statewide each year in hunter education.

For more information about hunter education, visit <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/education/hunter/>.

Upcoming Events

UNWC Guest Speaker - Thursday, February 16, 7:00 pm at the Vernonia Grange. OSU Asst. Professor of Forest Regeneration Carlos A. Gonzalez-Benecke will speak on herbicide use in forestry.

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.

Father and Daughter Country Ball - Tuesday, March 14, 6:00-8:00 pm in the Grace Family Fellowship gymnasium. Dads and daughters of all ages welcome. FREE

Oregon Hunters Assoc. Columbia County to Host 12th Annual Banquet

Proceeds Fund Local Wildlife Conservation and Youth Education Projects

The Columbia County Chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association invites local hunters to its annual banquet and auction on Saturday, February 25 at the Columbia County Fairgrounds in St. Helens.

Doors open at 5:00 pm and tickets for singles and couples range from \$35 to \$200 and include packages and a variety of raffle tickets.

Banquet tickets for youths are available for \$15. One OHA membership is required per couple or group. A one-year membership is \$35 for individuals and \$45 for families and includes a subscription to Oregon Hunter magazine and the Oregon Hunter's Calendar.

In addition to dinner, a variety of outdoor gear, artwork, gifts and other items will be auctioned and raffled with the proceeds used to fund local wildlife habitat projects and youth education events.

For more information, call Frank Hupp at (503) 201-7495 or Francis Brownell at (503) 369-5426.

OHA is the state's largest Oregon-based pro-hunting organization, with 10,000 members and 26 chapters statewide. Its mission is "protecting Oregon's wildlife, habitat and hunting heritage."

Auction Notice

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

CC14 - 5 X 10 - R. Clough

Auction will be held February 8 at Noon

Please call prior to confirm the auction

Vernonia's Voice is published on the 1st and 3rd Thursday. Look for our next issue out February 16.

The Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD Board of Directors is accepting applications for Board Director position #3, previously held by William DeJager who retired effective January 17, 2017. This term will run from February 21, 2017 to June 30th, 2017. Any interested, qualified person wishing to serve the remainder of the term must submit a letter of intent and a Board application that can be found at www.mistbirkenfeldrfd.org (Board Members page) by 4pm, February 16, 2017. Please address the letter to: Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD. Attention: Board Secretary Barbara Smith, 12525 HWY 202, Mist, OR 97016.



Notice is now given that a special meeting/workshop of the Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD Board of Directors will be held on Friday, February 10 at 6:30 p.m. Location of meeting is 12525 Hwy. 202, Mist, OR 97016. The meeting is being held to put together a letter to our fire district members regarding volunteerism and the state of our volunteer personnel.

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



Cody is a Lab mix who is approximately 5 years old and full of fun. He has lots of energy and loves to go running. He is very smart and does get along with dogs his size, but has too much energy for small dogs. He loves people of all sizes and will need an active family.

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

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



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10-5 Tue-Sat
12-4 Sun