

Vernonia City News...

At the July 17, 2017 City Council meeting:

Council Moves Forward with Smoking Restrictions in Parks – Based on a recommendation from the Parks Committee, Council approved a compromise that restricts smoking in most city parks, while not banning smoking altogether. After the Council had previously rejected a complete ban on smoking in the city parks, the Parks Committee returned with a proposal that would restrict smoking within 50 feet of play structures and sports fields, and designate smoking areas at some parks. The recommendation also called for a complete ban of smoking at Ora Bolmeier and Shay Parks, while placing no restrictions at Vernonia Lake and Airport Park. City Administrator Josette Mitchell raised several ques-

tions about the feasibility of implementing specific parts of the recommendation and Council asked her to work with the Parks Committee to clarify and simplify the proposal before bringing it back for adoption.

Council Schedules City Administrator Review – Council scheduled an Executive Session for Monday, August 14 to conduct the annual review of City Administrator Josette Mitchell. Council will review notes from other City employees about the City Administrator, and also compare their own opinions about the City Administrator's performance. The Council will then meet with Mitchell to discuss their review at a later date.

Council Discusses Parking Ordinance in Workshop – In a workshop following their regular meeting, Council dis-

cussed creating an ordinance that would regulate parking on City streets and in public parking lots. Council considered creating pay-to-park lots around Spencer Park that would be free to citizens that pay a City utility bill and display a parking sticker on their vehicle. They also talked about prohibiting parking on City property on Rose Avenue in preparation for the Senior Center/Food Bank

complex construction. Parking at the former site of the West Oregon Electric Co-op office at Adams Avenue and Maple Street would remain free. Parking a vehicle on a City lot and displaying it for sale or selling items from a City lot without authorization, would not be legal. City staff will finalize the ordinance and bring it back to Council for adoption at a later date.

Commissioners to Hear Comment on Port Westward

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its reasons for expanding the site.

The Port modified its proposal to include, among other items, allowing only those industrial uses that require access to a deep-water port, and a more thorough examination of the unused lands already zoned for industrial use in the area.

The new proposal was submitted to the county in April, after which the county notified all individuals who previously commented on the proposal, as well as neighbors within 500 feet of the proposed rezoned lands. The county has been accepting public comment from that group to submit for commissioners'

review.

Those who wish to comment should limit remarks to items specifically noted in the remand. In addition to speaking at the August 2 hearing, comments can be submitted to the County Board of Commissioners before the hearing by mailing them to the Board at the County Courthouse, 230 Strand St. St. Helens, OR 97051.

The Board of Commissioners may vote on the Port's application on August 2, extend the hearing if needed, or set a date to deliberate at additional meetings before voting.

City Opens New Food Court



Eric Urban has opened his Dog Park food cart at the new Vernonia Food Court, located at the corner of Bridge Street and Grant Avenue. Eric will be at the location several days a week between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm selling his famous hot dogs. "I'm really pleased the City went to the effort to create this space for small businesses to operate food carts," said Urban.

The Vernonia Transfer Station is open on the 2nd and 4th Saturday from 8am-2pm

**July 22
August 12 & 26**

Dates and times are subject to change due to weather

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

City Council Meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm:
Monday, August 7, 2017
Monday, August 21, 2017

City Closures are scheduled for:
Noon on Friday, August 4, 2017
Vernonia Friendship Jamboree

Dates and times subject to change

On the Shelves

By Shannon Romtvedt

For this year's Summer Reading Program, Build a Better World, we have a record number of participants with 149 kids signed up! Last year, we had 104 in the program. Reminder to Summer Readers: bring in your reading time logs sometime between July 25 and August 12 to enter prize drawings and earn a free ticket to the Oregon Zoo. Thank you to all our Summer Reading sponsors and volunteers for making it such a great program this year.

The Friends of the Library Jamboree Book Sale is coming up and the Friends are looking for book donations and volunteers. All gently used books are accepted for the sale. Please no magazines, VHS tapes, or text books. If interested in helping with the book sale, contact the Library (503) 429-1818.

Please help us in welcoming our new part-time Library Aide, Jamie Adams. Jamie will be helping primarily with children's programs and will be filling in at the check-out desk. Jamie is in the process of moving to Vernonia. She is originally from Batavia, Ohio, from a family of 12. Jamie moved to Oregon to be with her husband, Jess Adams,

in October 2015. She is currently working at the Hillsboro First Baptist Church as the Children's Coordinator. In the fall, Jamie will be taking online classes through PCC, planning to transfer credits into a Psychology program. Her hobbies include reading and currently, fixing up her house in Vernonia. We are excited to have Jamie with us.

Upcoming Events

Jamboree Parade

Contact the Library if you and your kids would be interested in riding with the Library in the Jamboree Parade on Saturday, August 5. Please do so ASAP so we know how many will be joining us. We also need parent help to prep for the parade!

Friends of the Library Jamboree Book Sale

Friday, August 4, Noon - 7:00 pm, Saturday, August 5, 9:00 - 11:00 am AND Noon - 5:00 pm
Make sure to come to the Book Sale this Jamboree weekend. \$2 for Hardbacks, \$1 for Paperbacks. All proceeds benefit programs and services for the Library. Look for free book coupons handed out during the parade and available at the Jamboree Information Booth.

Family Movie Night

Thursday, July 27, 6 - 7:30 pm
Featuring: *Smurfs: The Lost Village* (PG, 90 min.)
Relax and enjoy a new movie and free popcorn at the Library!

Summer Reading Party

Thursday, August 10, 6 - 7 pm
Celebrate completing the Summer Reading Program. Join us for ice cream, crafts, and activities. Thanks for Reading!

Ongoing Programs

Knitting Group

Saturday, August 19, 10 am
For new, intermediate, and experienced knitters. Come to the Library, and knit! Adults, teens, and older children welcome. An experienced knitter will be on hand to teach beginners. Materials for beginners provided.

Book Discussion Group

Last Monday of every month, 5:30 pm. Selection for July 31:
The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah

Writer's Group

Thursday, July 20, 6-7:30 pm
Third Thursday of the month. For all levels of writing experience. New members always welcome.

Baby and Toddler Time

Mondays, 10:30 - 11:15 am
Songs, short stories, toys, and bubbles for 0 - 3.

Preschool Storytime

Fridays, 10:30 - 11:15 am
Stories and a craft/activity for up to age 5. Older siblings welcome!

Did You Know? Eclipse Viewers

Planning to look to the sky for the Total Solar Eclipse on August 21, 2017? The Library still has free Eclipse viewers to give away, provided by Star_Net (Science and Technology Activities and Resources for Libraries). Ask at the Library if you would like some for your family.

Library Closures

The Library will be closed Saturday, August 5 for Jamboree. We will be open for the Friends of the Library Book Sale only that day.

Hours & Contact Info

Mon, Wed, Fri 10 am - 5 pm
Tues & Thurs 1 pm - 7pm
Sat 10 am - 4 pm
Closed Sundays

Phone: (503) 429-1818

E-mail: library@vernonia-or.gov