

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor,

We were greatly blessed by the Freewheelers Club this year. They surprised us with an indoor trampoline to help with Johnny's therapy, plus a magnet set for his fingers. They also blessed Sara and I with great goodies.

We will NEVER forget this Christmas 2017, our special holiday!

Gail, Sarah, and Johnny Law
Vernonia

To the Editor,

For years *The Wall Street Journal* sent a hypothetical taxpayer circumstance to 10 different CPA firms. Year after year they would receive back 10 different tax liabilities.

Taxpayer's unease with the IRS continues to grow as once again the agency is shown to create its own laws, priorities, and rules. ("The IRS Evades Accountability and Its Excuse is Ridiculous" 10Jan2018, *The Wall Street Journal*)

Compounding the worry is the five years it took to prove the IRS guilty of slow-walking Tea Party-Patriot groups on ap-

plications for exempt status in the runup to the 2012 election, 26Oct2017. The \$3.5 million fine paid out of taxpayer funds was another slap in the face of attentive Americans.

Add that former IRS chief Lois Lerner who, after successfully covering up agency wrongdoing before Congress for two years, was allowed to retire with full benefits, and you're leading taxpayers to conclude the IRS rules the Congress, not the other way around.

The only way to de-weaponize the IRS, which obviously intimidates lawmakers, is to go to a national sales tax. This would simplify rules, stop the threat of nefarious audits, and end the IRS as a tool against enemies of the bureaucratic state. In addition, it would take the governor off the engines of personal motivation in each of us.

The uniquely American ideal regarding the "pursuit of happiness" never included the muscular arm of your authoritative government tattooed with the letters "IRS."

Wayne Mayo
Scappoose

Upcoming Events

Jugglemania! with Rhys Thomas - Saturday, February 10, 1:00 pm at the Vernonia Public Library. Comedy and juggling by an international performer. Sponsored by the Vernonia Lions Club.

Jamboree Crab Feed Fundraiser - Saturday, February 17, 5:00 pm at

Cedar Ridge Retreat and Conference Center.

TOPS Group (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meet Fridays at the Mist-Birkenfeld Fire Dept. 8:30 am weigh in, 9:00 am meeting. Men and women invited to join. (503) 429-7505

Report Hunt Results by January 31

Avoid the \$25 penalty for not reporting on deer and elk tags with a chance to win special deer, elk, or pronghorn tag

Every hunter who purchased 2017 big game or turkey tags needs to report their hunt results by the deadline, which is January 31, 2018 for most tags.

Hunters are required to report on each deer, elk, cougar, bear, pronghorn, and turkey tag purchased — even if they were not successful or did not hunt. Sports Pac license holders need to report on each big game or turkey tag issued.

Hunters have two ways to report:

- Online via www.myodfw.com or reportmyhunt.com either at home or by visiting an ODFW office with a computer available for Hunter Reporting (ODFW field or regional offices in Adair Village/Corvallis, Bend, Clackamas, La Grande, Sauvie Island, Roseburg, Salem Headquarters, Springfield, Tillamook).
- By telephone: Call 1-866-947-6339 to talk to a customer service representative. Hours: 6:00 am to 10:00 pm, seven days a week.

Reporting deadlines are:

- January 31, 2018 for all 2017 hunts that ended by December 31, 2017
- April 15, 2018 for all 2017 hunts that end between January 1- March 31, 2018

Hunters need the following pieces of

information to report, which takes just a couple of minutes:

- Hunter/Angler ID number (located on ODFW licenses, tags and applications; this is a permanent number that stays the same from year-to-year)
- The two digit Wildlife Management Unit (WMU) number of the Unit you hunted in most and the Unit you harvested an animal in if successful
- The total number of days hunted (including mentoring youth), the number of days hunted in the WMU hunted most, and the number of days hunted in the WMU you harvested an animal in if successful

\$25 penalty for not reporting deer and elk tags

Hunters who fail to report 2017 deer or elk tags by the deadline will be penalized \$25 when they purchase a 2019 hunting license. This penalty is assessed once, regardless of the number of unreported tags.

As of January 10, about 56 percent of buck deer tags and 57 percent of elk tags have been reported. ODFW saw an uptick in reporting after mailing reminder postcards to hunters who hadn't reported on their deer and elk tags yet earlier this month.

"The information hunters provide is used when setting controlled hunt tag numbers

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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.

Vernonia Weather December 2017

DATE	HIGH	LOW	PRECIP
1	46	37	.23
2	43	35	.49
3	45	32	T
4	43	29	T
5	46	25	0
6	53	23	0
7	50	23	0
8	46	21	0
9	44	23	0
10	47	22	0
11	44	21	0
12	47	25	0
13	49	23	0
14	44	30	0
15	38	30	.03
16	42	31	0
17	42	42	.15
18	48	42	.49
19	48	31	.95
20	42	25	.04
21	38	25	0
22	36	33	.43
23	37	29	0
24	31	29	.45
25	34	29	T
26	33	28	0
27	38	31	.02
28	47	31	.83
29	52	38	.60
30	48	30	T
31	43	29	0
Ave/Tot	43.4	29.1	4.71

Weather data is collected at the U.S. Weather station at the Vernonia Water Plant

Online Licensing Available for Dog Owners in Columbia County

For the convenience of county dog owners, you may now license your dog(s) online. The Sheriff's Office web page for dog licensing is located at www.co.columbia.or.us/sheriff. The link to the Dog Licensing page is in large font among the links under the Sheriff's Greetings on the home page.

The online dog licensing form automatically calculates licensing fees. You will need your rabies information to be submitted along with the online form, and licensing is dependent on our ability to confirm that each dog to be licensed has been inoculated against rabies. There is a small fee charged by the card processor that is added to the total cost.



AA Meetings

Open Meetings
Mondays & Thursdays
6:30-7:30 pm
Vernonia Christian Church
410 North Street

Women's Meeting
Tuesdays 6:30-7:30 pm
Vernonia Christian Church
410 North Street

SOS DONATION Support our Seniors

Vernonia Senior Citizens

939 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064
Office Telephone 503-429-3912
501 (c) (3) TID: #23-7422295

Donor's Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Enclosed is my \$60 donation towards the Senior Meal Program (Sponsors one monthly meal pack containing 10 meal certificates)

Enclosed is my donation towards two meal packs (\$120)

Here is my donation for another amount \$ _____
\$15/year annual senior citizen membership for those 60 years old and over

You have my permission to list me as a Champion of the SOS program (amount will not be posted)

My check will serve as my receipt OR

I would like a tax deductible receipt mailed to me at the above address

THANK YOU FOR BECOMING AN SOS CHAMPION!