

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor,

"My, my, my" is a favorite response of one of TV's favorite characters in Homicide Detective. My, my, it is incredible that the editor takes the time and effort to discredit or challenge this writer's rebuttals in response to a host of misleading statements by Mr. Gonzales. Not impugning or questioning any of those statements made by Mr. Gonzales whose intentions are to limit or even destroy the very fabric of the forestry businesses is certainly scary! Furthermore, in the editor's introductory response, the reader is advised to form his/her own perceptions, that is, "not to tell readers what to think," seems contradictory to your subsequent analysis of this writer's remarks. Some would label this as a classic "Trumpism." Stating

one thing, and later, doing the opposite.

My, my it's such a relief to have the editor parrot back a statement by Mr. Gonzales that "...he is not advocating the end of all logging." This writer will certainly sleep better knowing that. My, my, the editor states incorrectly that this writer "apparently believes the cost of regulation is not worth the protective benefits." Huh! This writer does know that "takings" (or stealings) by governmental regulations and restrictions had been so pervasive, excessive, and abusive to many private landowners that Measure 37 was approved by the Oregon voters. This required the county to compensate land owners for economic losses. My, my, my, this gives this writer some hope when the stream buffers were increased from 50 to 100 feet on

small non-fish bearing streams eliminating any economic recovery on private land which is fully taxed by the county. There is no substantial direct data to suggest this regulation is warranted.

My, my, did the readers note of the editor's incredibly simplistic sentence that, "Stricter regulations could benefit all residents of Oregon, unlike current rules which mostly benefit those who profit from logging"? Yes, often stricter restrictions and regulations typically affect someone else at their inconvenience, cost, burden, and/or disruption at little or no cost to the instigators except to private forestland owners. Such moves should be SCIENTIFICALLY PROVEN, supported by data from a number of sources, and justified. My, my, the editor even infers that profits are a questionable benefit. The implications would be that generations of families across the state should feel guilty if they are fortunate enough to make a profit once in 50 years or more.

My, my, and finally, this writer takes exception to the editor's remark, "...I found there is circumstantial evidence that chemicals are found in drinking water." First, this writer asked for "one iota" of data supporting the claim that forest applied herbicides are entering potable water sources, not circumstantial claims. The editor then

announces a well known fact that chemicals are found in drinking water. This is exactly the kind of reporting we know which carelessly perpetuates distortions.

Frankly, the editor seems to prefer throwing bricks at the forest industry with no accountability except from advertisers. This could change. This writer wonders where the editor will obtain newspaper print for the future editions?

Respectfully,
Paul Nys
Rainier

Editor's Response: Like many complex issues we face as a society today, there are many differing points of view on how we choose to regulate logging and the timber industry in Oregon. While there are many people who might agree with Mr. Nys' views, there are also many people who believe we can do a better job of balancing stewardship of our environment while encouraging a range of economic interests. *Vernonia's Voice* always welcomes feedback on the articles we publish, and encourages discourse on diverse and sometimes controversial topics, even if we respectfully disagree with the views expressed. I do find it disappointing that Mr. Nys has chosen to express his opinions in such a condescending manner.

Vernonia Weather April 2019			
DATE	HIGH	LOW	PRECIP
1	68	37	.07
2			
3	57	37	0
4	56	37	.22
5	57	47	.62
6	58	38	.82
7	58	44	.10
8	59	43	.18
9	61	43	.05
10	53	42	.43
11	52	44	.22
12	58	41	.03
13	57	38	.22
14	50	34	.02
15	48	31	.10
16	53	37	.10
17	59	45	0
18	72	42	0
19	54	44	.38
20	62	37	0
21	60	35	0
22	59	35	T
23	60	48	0
24	60	33	0
25	68	30	0
26	71	37	.20
27	54	27	T
28	55	28	0
29	65	27	0
30	66	25	0
Ave/Tot	59.0	37.4	3.76

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

Upcoming Events

Archie Dass Dog Park Grand Opening - Saturday, May 18, 12:00 - 4:00 pm, corner of Ivy Street and Mist Dr. Door prizes and free hot dogs.

Jr. Salmon Auction - Thursday, May 23, 5:15 - 6:20 pm Dinner served, 6:30 pm Auction in the Schools Commons

Memorial Day Service - Monday, May 27, 11:00 am at the Vernonia Memorial Cemetery, 2080 Bridge St.

Summer Reading Sign-ups! - Start Monday, June 17 at the Vernonia Public Library for ages 0-14.

Vernonia High School Graduation - Saturday, June 1, 1:00 pm in the High School Gym

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) 429-7503

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

Vernonia's Voice is published twice each month on the 1st and 3rd Thursday. Look for our next issue on June 6.

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.



The Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD Board of Directors will meet Tuesday, May 21, 2019 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.

Upper Nehalem Watershed Council May Board Meeting

5:30 pm on Thursday, May 30, 2019
at the UNWC office, 1201 Texas Avenue

For more info call (503) 396-2046
or email maggie@nehalem.org



Columbia Humane Society



Purr-fect Pals

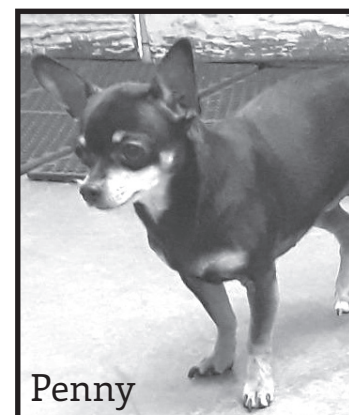


Princess

Princess came to the shelter after being abandoned in her apartment by her family. She is a sweet, fun-loving girl that is about a year old. She is very friendly, but does not seem to be a huge fan of other cats. She seems to really like to play with little kids. If you are looking to add a sweet friend to your family you can stop looking because this is your girl.

Featured Dog

Penny came to the CHS via Columbia County Animal Control because her family could no longer care for her. When she arrived at the shelter this girl took some time to settle in. She was afraid of new people. Once she is familiar with you she is very friendly and would love to spend time sitting on your lap having all the attention. She does ok with other small male dogs, however we don't think she will do well in a home with a female. Penny is about 6 years old and weighs about 8 lbs. When she first came to us she had substantial skin irritation that, with a proper diet, we were able to get cleared right up. She is on a grain-free, sensitive skin diet and is thriving. Penny's fee is \$250 which includes all her vaccinations, spay, microchip, and treatment for fleas and worms. As with all CHS adoptions we want to be sure that we are making a good match between you and the pet you are interested in. Our kennels, for the health and welfare of the dogs, are not open for public walk through, however they are open for our volunteers to socialize and work with the dogs on a daily basis. If you are interested in meeting a pet please email animalwelfare@columbiahumane.org or call 503-397-4353 to talk more about a potential meet and greet.



Penny