

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor,

Recently I became a regional steering committee member for the Oregon Community Foundation's new initiative, Giving Opportunities to Kids, or "GO Kids." Focused on arts and education projects, GO Kids aims to overcome the opportunity gap faced by low-income, rural, and minority children.

The Oregon Community Foun-

ation (OCF) wants the GO Kids initiative to trigger ideas for community-driven solutions, motivate and catalyze action to reduce the opportunity gap for Oregon children. To that end between 2019 and 2022, OCF intends to invest \$3 million in the initiative.

This spring/summer 2019, my task is to interview and listen to local community members who deal with children's issues first hand. Later I will share what I learn with the Committee and work to identify grant opportunities for arts and education projects in Columbia County and the North Coast region.

For the last few weeks I have talked with many people from school superintendents to young mothers. But with my time constraints, I have not

ventured very far from where I live and work in St. Helens. I would truly appreciate it if you reach out to me to tell me your ideas, suggestions, or what you see as the most pressing issues in arts and education in Columbia County Communities. Please email me at kpetersen@akaandesign.com or call (503) 366-3050. More information about the GO Kids initiative is available on OCF's website at www.oregoncf.org/go-kids.

All children in Oregon deserve the opportunity to succeed regardless of their economic status, race, geographic location or other circumstances of their birth. OCF is committed to making Oregon a place where all people can fully realize their aspirations.

spend more time with my family, as the expression goes. While in this capacity I've been in the company of dedicated public servants honestly applied in the spirit of community service. However, our rates are still twice those of the average Oregon electric cooperative, and we are still in the bad habit of raising our rates every time we need more money, rather than trying to economize or find it from existing funds. So, the job I'd set out to do is not done.

The good news is we'll be having a real choice this year among those running for the directorships from both the second and fifth districts. Some with new original thinking, offering completely new approaches to our lingering problems, coupled with strong consensus building skills which are indispensable. It's one thing to be right, and quite another to be effective! And these new candidates are exciting!

Once we know who all the candidates are, we'll have until August 17 to decide. So don't send in your ballot right away. Instead, do please study the issues and read the campaign messages from the candidates in the various local media resources. The issues are very important and worthy of our time to study. If WOEC rates were as low as the average Oregon co-op's, our members would save an average of \$85 each month.

I wish to thank all of you who volunteer in the spirit of public service, representing the Members' interests on this Board. Thank you. And to those who have supported me in this quixotic odyssey, thanks for giving me a chance to make a difference. I hope I did in some small measure.

Ever grateful,
Nick Galaday,
Director District 5,
WOEC, 2016 - 2019

Kannikar Petersen
St. Helens
OCF North Coast Leadership Council
GO Kids Steering Committee
Architect/owner of AKAAN Architecture + Design LLC

To the Editor,

Never try to teach your cats to sing... They'll never get very good at it. And it just irritates the hell out of them!

I wish to express my profound gratitude for the honor and pleasure of serving as the WOEC Board Director from District 5 for the past three years, and to inform you I'll be relinquishing my seat on the Board in order to

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

D17 - 10 x 10 - Sheea Emmerson
CC27 - 10 x 20 - Aandon Fullenwider

Auction will be held
Noon, Tuesday
July 9, 2019
Please call prior to auction
Cash or certified check only

Vernonia's Voice is published twice each month on the 1st and 3rd Thursday. Look for our next issue on July 4.

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.

Upcoming Events

Summer Reading Sign-ups now thru July 20 at the Vernonia Public Library for ages 0-14

JuggleMania! with Rhys Thomas - Friday, June 21, 6:30 pm at the Vernonia Library. FREE Comedy & Juggling for the whole family

Summer Meals Program - June 24 - August 30, Mon-Fri, 11:30-1:00, FREE lunch for kids 1-18 at Grace Family Fellowship, 957 State Avenue

Vacation Bible School - June 24-28, 9:00 am - 12:15 pm, grades K-6, FREE at Vernonia Christian Church, 410 North Street (503) 429-6522

City-Wide Bash - Thursday, July 4 at Greenman Field, parade at 5:00 pm followed by music, games, and fireworks at dark

Food Preservation Talk & Pressure Gauge Testing - Tuesday, July 9, 6:30 pm, at the Vernonia Library, FREE and open to the public

Vernonia Friendship Jamboree & Logging Show - Friday, August 2 - Sunday, August 4

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 Weather
May 2019

DATE	HIGH	LOW	PRECIP
1	64	27	0
2	62	35	0
3	66	40	0
4	71	36	0
5	71	35	0
6	79	36	0
7	79	36	0
8	75	38	0
9	75	38	0
10	87	41	0
11	82	45	0
12	73	39	0
13	70	41	.70
14	61	42	.30
15	62	43	.17
16	58	48	.11
17	60	48	T
18	68	47	.54
19	59	48	0
20	60	44	.42
21	61	40	T
22	70	51	0
23	77	50	0
24	59	47	.02
25	55	46	.25
26	73	48	T
27	72	53	0
28	71	52	0
29	74	48	0
30	77	50	0
31	80	49	0

Ave/Tot 69.4 43.3 2.51

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

Columbia Humane Society



Purr-fect Pals

Ebony is about a year old and is a very pretty girl. She is very friendly and sweet. Having just been returned to the shelter after taking care of her last litter of kittens for the last 8 weeks she is ready to go to a new forever home. She loves attention from people, but might not necessarily want to be friends with another cat. She has had no exposure to dogs so we have

no idea what that will be like for her. If you are interested in meeting Ebony please don't hesitate to call (503) 397-4353 or email animalwelfare@columbiahumane.org

Featured Dog

Jack is about 2 years old and weighs around 25 lbs. This guy is very sweet, however he is a little nervous when he is meeting new people. He was in a home previously with other dogs and cats and he apparently did well with both. He is not recommended for a home with kids under the age of 12, as he needs kids to understand that he does not enjoy people messing with his face.

If you are interested in meeting Jack we ask that you either email animalwelfare@columbiahumane.org or call (503) 397-4353. Please do not just show up at the shelter as all our dog meet-and-greets are done by appointment after we have an approved application on file. We like to make sure that both our adopters and our dogs are a good match. We will be very upfront with you if we feel we don't have a match for you at this time.

