

Readers Lend Their Voices...

To the Editor,

I just read your article titled "The Gadsden Flag is a Symbol. But Whose?" by Leah Sottile in the June 4, 2020 issue, and have to say I am ashamed of your publication. She starts by talking about the Tri-Met slasher attending an Alt-right rally. That was a Patriot Prayer rally and what she fails to point out is Joey Gibson had him removed by Portland Police. She goes on

to point out the actions of a very few people as a reason we should dismiss anything the Alt-right has to say because of the actions of a few. By her own reasoning we should dismiss BLM because of the actions of a few. This is not news it is propaganda at its worst.

Charles Booth
Banks

Dear Secretary of State Bev Clarno,
June 30, 2020

It is with grave concern, the utmost urgency, and complete frustration that I am respectfully requesting your office initiate a full and complete audit of the Oregon Employment Department and its epic failure to provide timely, regular, and consistent unemployment and COVID-19 insurance payments to Oregonians in the wake of the current pandemic.

As you know Secretary Clarno, unemployment insurance was designed as a safety net for Oregonians needing assistance during difficult times. Sadly, our safety net has failed at a time of unprecedented need and desperation by tens of thousands of Oregonians. In my House District alone there are far too many claimants who are yet to receive payments or who have had their payments halted, only to be told to "go to the back of the line" and file another claim.

After four months without state

assistance far too many of these Oregonians are in desperate straits. It is on their behalf that I am making this request.

As part of this investigation, please consider the following:

- The status of the money the federal government gave to update the computer system;
- The need for an express lane/ priority pass for those who waited, were denied, and told to go to the back of the PUA line;
- The efficacy of job assignments and wasted time of employees waiting for direction from leadership.

Thank you in advance for your prompt response and know that I and my staff stand ready to assist you in this request.

Respectfully,
State Representative Brad Witt
District 31
Columbia and portions of
Multnomah and Washington Counties

Pressure Canner Dial Gauge Testing Service

July 1 - July 29, 2020

Wednesdays from 9 am to 1 pm during the continued Covid-19 extension office closure period.

OSU Extension Office, 505 North Columbia River Highway, St. Helens, OR 97051

FREE

Contact Jenny Rudolph at Jenny.Rudolph@oregonstate.edu or 503-397-3462.

Pressure canners with a dial gauge need to be tested every year for accuracy

before you use them. Canning with a gauge that is off can result in under-processing of home canned foods, which is unsafe. If you have an urgent need and are unable to bring your gauge in to the office during this time you can email Jenny.Rudolph@oregonstate.edu for possible accommodations. Please go to <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/county/columbia/events> to find and follow instructions when you bring in your canner.

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 first and third Monday of each month. Email: scott@vernoniasvoice.com or mail to: Letters, PO Box 55, Vernonia, OR 97064.

4th of July Fireworks

The 2020 4th of July Parade and Great American Bash have been cancelled. The 4th of July Fireworks Display will be set off behind Spencer Park at dark. The City of Vernonia is encouraging citizens to watch from home or view the show drive-in style if the show is not visible from your residence.

If you choose to watch from the Spencer Park grounds please remember to practice physical distancing, and vacate the park immediately following show's end.

Have a safe and happy 4th of July!

The Regular Board Meeting of the
Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District on
July 14, 2020 is moved to 6:00 pm.



The Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD Board of Directors will meet by teleconference for their regular board meeting Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 7:00 pm

Public access is available.

Call Toll Free: 1 (866) 899-4679

Access Code: 826-511-573

The Transfer Station
is scheduled to be
open on the
2nd and 4th Saturday
January - October
July 11 & 25
Currently not accepting
oversized items
(mattresses, couches, etc.)
and limiting the number
of vehicles in the yard
at one time.

Dates are subject to change

Vernonia City Council Meetings and Closures

Please check the City's website
for details on upcoming
City Council Meetings
scheduled for 7:00 pm:
Monday, July 6, 2020
Monday, July 20, 2020
www.vernonia-or.gov

City Closures are scheduled for:
Friday, July 3, 2020
Independence Day Observed

Dates and times subject to change



AA Meetings

Open Meetings

Mondays & Thursdays 6:30-7:30 pm

Vernonia Christian Church

410 North Street

Or find a meeting at: <https://www.oregonaadistrict18.org/>



Columbia Humane Society



Purr-fect Pals



Stefan came to the shelter when he was abandoned in the bushes in a carrier. We think that he is about 10 years old. We had some concerns with him so placed him in our Senior Cat program. It was discovered through this program that he is in the early stages of kidney failure, and he also has some arthritis. His kidney failure requires a special diet and his arthritis requires a daily supplement. This guy is so much fun though. He loves to get pets and lie in your lap. He isn't a great fan of dogs, however he doesn't really mind other cats. This guy needs to be in a home where he can get all the love and attention that he can handle.

If you think that you might be able to give Stefan the home he needs please don't hesitate to call 503-397-4353 or email animalwelfare@columbiahumane.org. Please do not just show up at the shelter as he is currently being housed at a foster home.

Featured Dog



Luna came to the shelter as an owner surrender with her litter of 5 puppies. Her babies have all since been placed and now it's her turn. She is around 3 years old and 45 pounds. She loves running and wrestling with her dog friends, and loves to be snuggled.

We do not have any history of how she is with kids. Her previous owner tells us she really likes cats. She will do best in a home with someone who is able to be with her most of the time. Luna has very sensitive skin and will need a grain-free diet and monthly flea treatment.

If you are interested in meeting Luna please email animalwelfare@columbiahumane.org to receive an application. Once your application has been approved, we will then schedule a time for you to come and meet her. If you just show up at the shelter we will not be able to accommodate you. Luna's adoption fee is \$250 which includes her vaccines, her spay, flea medication, and microchip.