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Mayor Gives Back to the Community

Gift of bench and shelter is a great addition to Spencer Park

Vernonia Mayor Rick Hobart just keeps finding ways to contribute to his community.

Hobart is running unopposed for his second, two-year term as Mayor this November. He's also been active in community clean-up and beautification projects during the last several years.

His latest project was the construction of a covered kiosk area at Spencer Park, with a beautiful, handmade bench. The shelter sits near Bridge Street between the covered play area and the ball diamond, and covers the Washington Grade School historical monument installed by the Vernonia School District after the school was demolished.

Hobart purchased some salvaged floor joists from the old school

building, and built the unique, A-framed, two-sided bench, with design and metal work assistance from Spencer and Angela Grimes at Steve's Machinery in Roy, Oregon. The kiosk was constructed by Hobart with help from Tony Krieger, Paul, and Maverick from Hulk Homes. Concrete work was done by Chuck Coon, and Donnie Normand helped with the base on the historical marker. The kiosk is not quite complete – the posts will be wrapped with cedar, cut by Cory Colburn at Fall Creek Woodworking.

The final touch is the carving of the Washington Grade School on the face of the bench. Hobart found Tracy Partridge Johnson in Forest Grove, who used a technique called pyrography and original blueprints and old photos to capture the image of the school.

"This is my gift back to Vernonia," says Hobart. "When I moved here 47 years ago from the first week I was here people treated me very kindly. So, this is my way of giving back."



Brad Witt: Standing up for working families

- ★ As Chair of the House Natural Resources Committee, **Brad is a fierce defender of our natural resources and Oregon's agricultural economy.**
- ★ Because he knows that education is so important, **Brad secured the final \$4.5 million to complete Vernonia Schools, expanded apprenticeship programs and brought back shop classes.**
- ★ He **protected the health care of over 1 million Oregonians** when their coverage was threatened. Brad also **worked to lower the cost of prescription drugs.**
- ★ **Brad took on the Oregon Employment Department** for bungling its most important job during the pandemic: getting Oregonians the unemployment benefits they deserve and so desperately need.

You work hard. It's good to know you have a State Representative who works hard for you.

Brad Witt
Our State Representative