

Kidney transplant is a gift of love

Valentine's Day had a special significance this year for two-year-old Zachary Walker and his parents, Lee and Jackie Walker of Astoria. On that special day Zachary received a love gift from his grandfather, Gary Phelan who, in a concurrent surgical procedure between grandfather and grandson exchanged one of his healthy and compatible kidneys for Zachary's two non-functioning kidneys.

Some time before June 11, 1994, Zachary became ill with flu-like symptoms that were going around the community at the time: diarrhea, fatigue and dehydration. Subsequent diagnosis by a doctor indicated flu and, two days later, that diagnosis was verified by another doctor. A couple of days after that, a third doctor ran blood tests and discovered E-coli bacteria.

Zachary was immediately taken to Doernbecher Children's Hospital, where it was discovered that his kidneys had suffered irreparable damage and were not functioning.

Though the surgery was remarkably successful, Zachary

will need daily medication to prevent rejection of his new kidney, and will be monitored continuously for signs of rejection.

Transplanted kidneys have a limited life expectancy, so it is anticipated that the youngster will need to have several kidney replacements throughout his life.

Medical expenses may exceed the \$1 million cap on Lee Walker's insurance, not to mention the many other expenses involved in Zachary's care and treatment. Many Northwest Oregonians have pitched in to help with fund raisers and donations,



Zachary Walker

including members and friends of the Natal Grange. The efforts are continuing in many communities.

Direct contributions may be made to the Zachary Walker Kidney Fund at any U.S. Bank branch.

Federal pension refund possible

Oregon's method of taxing federal pension income has been challenged and at least one of the challenges is pending before the Oregon Supreme Court. If the court agrees with the plaintiffs in these cases, it may order the Oregon Department of Revenue to issue refunds of all or a portion of the tax previously collected on the income.

The Oregon Department of

Revenue has provided a form for filing protective refund claims which will preserve your rights to receive any refund the court may determine to be due.

Claims involving the 1991 tax year must be postmarked by April 17, 1995, in order to be considered a valid claim. If you have any questions, call 1-800-356-4222.

Council support wanted for levy

Columbia County Commissioner Bill McDonald discussed the Law Enforcement levy on the May ballot with Vernonia City Councilors last week, urging them to talk with the sheriff about what kind and quality of law enforcement is needed in the area. "The only way the levy will pass," McDonald emphasized, is if both city and county residents believe that more law enforcement is needed."

Jim Gibson, a Columbia County corrections officer who is a rural resident in the Rainier area, also spoke to the council, urging support of the levy because of the presently underfunded situation for the sheriff's office.

Gibson repeated the feelings of McDonald, saying the

levy must have the support of the cities and the county working together for adequate law enforcement. Several other attendees also expressed support for the levy.

In other business, the Council:

- Heard again from Weed Avenue residents about inadequate storm water drainage and green, foul smelling water in a ditch along the street;

- Received an update on sidewalk repairs along Bridge Street;

- Accepted attorney Tom Kohl's advice to turn over all medical claims stemming from the sewer spill on Riverside Drive to the city's insurance carrier.

Taxpayer group meeting scheduled

Columbia County Taxpayers United (CCTU) has scheduled a 7:00 p.m. meeting April 20th at Clatskanie City Hall for ordinary citizens to learn what they can do to improve government in Columbia County.

Guest speaker will be Paul R. Farago, a Senior Advisor of Cascade Policy Institute, a think tank. His topic will discuss Oregon term limits

and how Columbia County can organize to effect positive political change.

CCTU is a non-profit, non-partisan group of concerned citizens organized to ensure that the will of the people is enforced in the areas of economical, cost-effective, responsible and representative government in the county. The public is invited to attend.

TIRED OF BEING IN PAIN?

Do you suffer from...

1. Headaches? 2. Pain between shoulders?
3. Neck pain, tight muscles, spasms?
4. Shoulder pain, pain down arms, numbness in arms or hands?
5. Lower back pain, hip pain, pain or numbness down legs?

If so, call Dr. Burton:

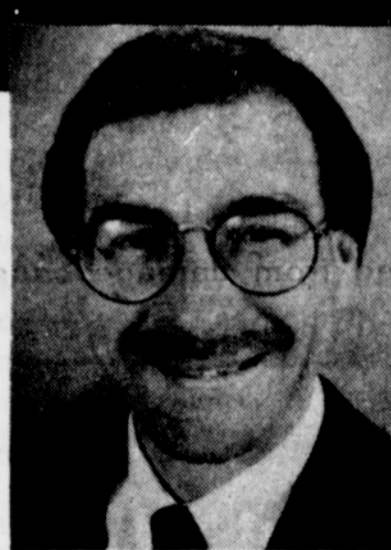
BURTON CHIROPRACTIC HEALTH CENTERS

VERNONIA

FOREST GROVE

622 Bridge Street
429-0512

2735 20th Place
359-5471



Dr. Whitney J. Burton

"The Doctor who listens and cares."
11 years experience
and 400 post-graduate
educational hours.

Furse sets schedule for phone-ins

Do you have an issue on your mind you'd like to talk about with Rep. Elizabeth Furse? Then pick up the phone and call her during one of the three phone-ins she's holding during the April recess.

"These phone-ins make it easy for constituents to talk over issues without having to leave their home or office,"

Furse said. "In turn, it allows even more people to be involved in the decision-making process."

Constituents can call Rep. Furse at (503) 326-2901 from the Portland area; or at 1-800-422-4003 throughout the District. Call April 19 from 1:30 - 3 p.m.; April 24, 9 - 11 a.m.; or April 26, 4 - 6 p.m.



Community Calendar

APR

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MAY

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JUNE

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VERNONIA

Adult & Family Services	2nd Thursday	1-2:00 p.m., School District Ofc.
AFS	1st Wednesday	7:30 p.m., VHS Library
Alcoholics Anonymous	Fridays	8 p.m., 1st Baptist Church
American Cancer Society	2nd Wednesday	12:30 p.m., Golf Course
AWANA Clubs	Wednesdays	7-8:30 p.m., Evangelical Church
Boosters	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., VHS Library
Boy Scouts	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., LDS Church
Boy Scout Parents	4th Thursday	8-9:00 p.m. WGS Cafeteria
Chamber of Commerce	2nd Wednesday	7:30 a.m., Country Kitchen
Cub Scouts	Tuesdays	7:00 p.m., WGS Gym
Girl Scouts	Thursdays	6:30-8 p.m., Christian Church
Izaak Walton League	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Jamboree Committee	1st Wednesday	7 p.m., VHS library
Lions Club	1st & 3rd Tuesdays	6:30 p.m., Lew's Place
MTC Training & Placement	2nd Thursday	1-2:00 p.m., School District Ofc.
Nehalem Valley Car Club	1st Tuesday	7 p.m., Crazy Charlie's
Oregon State Employ. Dept.	2nd Thursday	1-2:00 p.m., School District Ofc.
Preschool Story Hour	Wednesdays	10:30 a.m., City Library
Ridge Riders Saddle Club	Last Thursday	7:30 p.m., City Library
Senior Center Directors	1st Friday	1 p.m., Senior Center
Senior & Disabled Services	2nd Thursday	1-2:00 p.m., School District Ofc.
TOPS	Tuesdays	6:30 p.m., 627 Adams
Vernonia Cares Directors	2nd Thursday*	7:30 p.m., 627 Adams
Vernonia City Council	1st & 3rd Mondays	7:30 p.m., City Library
Vernonia Grange	2nd Saturday	10:00 a.m., Grange Hall

Vernonia Planning Comm.	1st & 3rd Thursdays
Vernonia Preschool Directors	1st Tuesday
Vernonia Rural Fire District	2nd Tuesday
Vernonia School District	2nd Thursday
Vernonia Volunteer Firefighters	2nd Monday
WOEC Directors	3rd Tuesday

7:00 p.m., City Library
7 p.m., 627 Adams
7:30 p.m., Fire Station
8 p.m., School District Office
7 p.m., Fire Station
7 p.m., WOEC

MIST-BIRKENFELD

Mist-Birkenfeld Fire Bd.	2nd Tuesday	7:30 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Firefighters Assoc.	1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesdays	7 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Ambulance Assoc.	1st, 2nd & 3rd Thursdays	7 p.m., Main Fire Station
Natal Grange	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., Grange Hall

COLUMBIA COUNTY (All meet in St. Helens unless otherwise noted.)

Board of Commissioners	Wednesdays	10 a.m., Courthouse
Citizens for Senior Justice	2nd Tuesday	7 p.m., Sunset Park Church
COLCO Transportation	2nd Friday	10:30 a.m., Courthouse
County Council of Seniors	2nd Friday	1:00 p.m., Courthouse
Columbia ESD	3rd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., 800 Port Ave.
County Fair Board	2nd & 4th Tuesday	7 p.m., 4-H Bldg., Fairgrounds
County Parks Commission	2nd Wednesday	7 p.m., 1054 Oregon St.
Emergency Comm. Dist.	3rd Tuesday	7 p.m., Courthouse
Historical Society	4th Wednesday	Noon, location call 429-3713
Traffic Safety Commission	1st Wednesday	7 a.m., Village Inn

*January, April, July & October only

Organizations and meeting dates not listed may be included by calling 429-9410, or by mail to The INDEPENDENT, 1206 State Avenue, Vernonia, OR 97064.