

The INDEPENDENT

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Opinion

Election's over, now it's time to get busy

A lot of activity is going on in Vernonia that will have considerable impact on the future. One very important element in that activity is education.

A new superintendent of schools will be selected to replace Ellis Mason and, for the first time in recent memory, the community is being asked what characteristics they feel are important in the chief administrator for the school district.

To make your feelings known, be sure to attend the public meeting Nov. 14, 5-6 p.m. in the Vernonia High School library. As a plus, you'll also have an opportunity to see the bright new look at the high school.

Another education-related opportunity would be to volunteer your services on the Site Council for either the high school or the elementary schools. It is not necessary to have children enrolled in school in order to be eligible.

Site Councils are legal entities under Oregon law and are, in fact, a requirement of state law. Their purpose is to facilitate and coordinate improvement efforts in order to better serve all students.

The move toward site-based decision making was made by the Legislative Assembly, based on the belief that those most closely affected by decisions ought to play a major role in making those decisions. Site councils are comprised of teachers, classified employees, administrators, parents and others.

There are several components of an effective site council. They may incorporate team building, problem solving and conflict resolution as part of staff development, or explore the roles of school boards, administrators, teachers, classified personnel and parents in order to achieve the goal of improved educational opportunities for all students.

For more information and meeting dates, call Washington Grade School, 429-7941, or Vernonia High School, 429-3521. Community members are needed and this may be just the right opportunity to get involved.

Early election returns are neither complete nor final

The early election returns on page five were received at 4:30 a.m. this morning, Nov. 6th, after Columbia County elections workers spent the night counting votes. Nevertheless, the returns aren't complete because there are still approximately 6,800 absentee ballots remaining to be counted for county-wide races.

Ballot counting resumed this morning at about 10 a.m. and will continue through Friday, or until the job is completed. Oregon's liberal regulations regarding absentee ballots are wonderful for the voters, but they can certainly make the work of elections officials a lot more complicated.

DID YOU VOTE?
IT'S THE AMERICAN WAY!!
YOUR VOICE FOR THE FUTURE...
ARE YOU SATISFIED, EITHER WAY?

AND THINK THE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS SPENT, WASTED ON ALL OF THE CAMPAIGNING ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND SENT FROM OVER SEAS. IF ALL OF THAT MONEY WAS USED TO FEED AND HOUSE THOSE IN NEED OR FIX THE NATIONAL DEBT. WOULD THAT BE MONEY BETTER SPENT!?



WHY BACK IN THE 1940s

I JOINED AND FOUGHT FOR

FREEDOM, THE RIGHT AND JUST, AND THE FUTURE.

IF I WAS STILL ABLE AND ALL OF MY FELLOW

COMRADES FROM THAT TIME WERE

UP TO IT TODAY, WE'D ALL JOIN UP AGAIN AND FIGHT TO STOP THE

POLITICAL BICKERING, LIES, SCANDALS, IMMORAL BEHAVIOR, CHEATING AND UNJUST WAYS!

**REMEMBER, NEW LAWS...
CAN BE FREEDOMS LOST!!**

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Nov 6, 1996

Ike Says

By David Michael Jones, member
Izaak Walton League, Nehalem Valley Chapter

The take was violent and the fish made three runs all the way into my backing before I was able to bring her to hand. It was appropriate that the first fish of the trip was taken on Macks Canyon, since that was where Uncle Dick and I were staying while we fished the Deschutes summer run steelhead. The fly that was very firmly lodged in the corner of the little hatchery hen's mouth was a dubbed bodied fly with a squirreltail wing using Macks Canyon colors, that was given to me by a neighbor in camp the night before. After trying to get the fly out with forceps, I decided to let the hen keep it when I released her. I quickly snipped the leader with scissors that I keep on a pull-chain on my vest. Gently cradling the rainbow colored fish, I let the current wash the cool, life-giving, oxygenated water over her gills until she exhibited good strength, then released the hand that held her at the wrist of the tail, and the other under her belly. She quickly swam out of sight. One of the trip's highlights was the way my uncle's face lit up when I told him of the fish later that evening, as we were down lower on the drift.

We got up early the next morning to assure being the first ones on the drift my uncle wanted us to fish. We had tried for this run one evening earlier in the trip, but some drift boat fishermen had already claimed it. The way this works is, a fisherman claims a run by starting to fish at the upper end of it, and you never fish the water below another fisher. It is a cast and step type of fishing until the whole run is systematically covered with the classic downstream quartering cast. We were fortunate to get the run we wanted and my Uncle Dick again gave me the best water and let me fish through the run in front of him. I used Dicks Hans "Ol Purp" (red tail, purple chenille body with a few wraps of silver mylar and a white calf tail wing on a #4 Jim Teeny hook) and was fortunate to hook three fish on that fly until the third took off downstream and my reel

drag failed so I was frantically palming the spool as the pole surged in my hand. Then everything felt funny. There was tension on the line but no "fishy" feel to it. I hit the butt of the pole to try to activate the fish and gave some side pulls, when my line finally came in without the tippet section and no fly. There is certainly a lesson to be learned there about retying tippets and flies. The fourth fish in that run came to a fly created by Gordon Nash of Kaufmann's and it was another purple fly with Flashabou for a wing, which Gordon tells me is the secret to its success.

This is a good opportunity to thank my Uncle Dick for one of my more memorable and enjoyable fishing trips and for sharing his memories and experiences on one of Oregon's great rivers, the Deschutes. Passing information down through the generations and sharing knowledge is one of the greatest gifts that one person can give to another. Thank you very much!

Another good point about this trip was that my favorite fishing rod held up very well after being repaired by Ole Damons in Portland. I was fishing for summer steelhead down on the Nestucca earlier in the year and had broken the top foot off of my rod by reaching up and yanking down some slack. Ole Damons repaired it by putting a graphite dowel inside the hollow sections and sealing the whole splint. It was good enough to fight and land a number of fish and that is good enough for me.

My brother, Keith, and I went down to fish the North Fork of the Nehalem near the hatchery the other day and I would like to pass on the fishing information number for the hatchery. The number to call for fishing information on the North Fork of the Nehalem is (503) 368-5670. The information is updated every day at 8:15 a.m.

Izaak Walton League meetings are on the third Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at the Vernonia Public Library. The public is welcome.