

Wheels park organizers hear from top skateboard park designer

The Vernonia Scout Cabin was the scene Saturday for a Youth in Action event which featured a presentation by skate park designer Tony Gembeck.

He has worked with youth all over the country and is the author of the manual *A Complete Step-by-Step Guide for Concrete Skate Park Construction*.

The morning was devoted to talks by advisors Michelle Blum and Michele Kunkel and four

only audience, which included community leaders, was also treated to a talk and video presentation by Gembeck who emphasized the importance of making skate park construction a quality endeavor.

months to raise \$150,000 to construct the park. City Councilor Gayle Shriver will help with this phase but more volunteers are needed, said Blum.

ANNUAL MEETING TIME

**Election of Officers • Door Prizes
February 23, 2000 – 7:30 p.m.**

Senior Citizens Center, 446 Bridge Street, Vernonia
Please use side entrance.

429-8031



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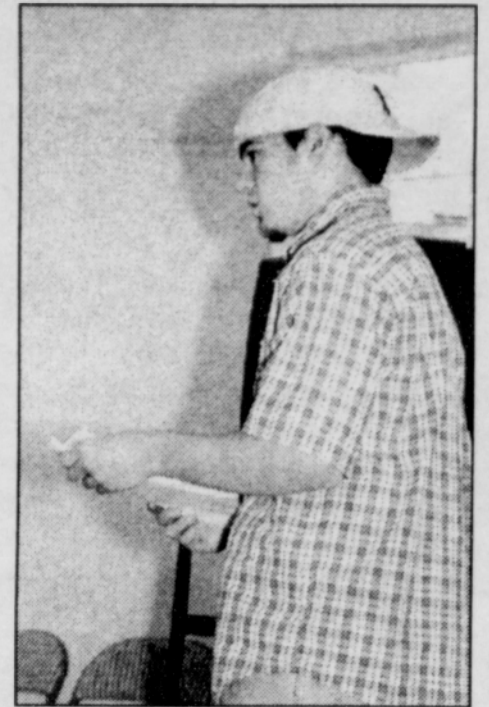
Tony Gembeck

youth speakers. Tegan Jones spoke about liability and related issues; Denny Peters explained why Vernonia needs a skate park; Lynn Becker talked about skateboarding today; and David McMurtry gave a history of skateboarding. The invitation-

"If the park isn't done right, the kids won't use it, which can lead to all kinds of bad feelings on the part of everyone," said Gembeck.

After a pizza lunch, the design committee proceeded across the river to the skate park site where the youth staked out the four corners of the park.

"This is our first official event since the land was dedicated by the city," said Blum. The previous 18 months have been spent teaching the youth how to deal with the adult world. The next four weeks will be devoted to design, with the help of Jeff and Linda Patterson of Vernonia. The group will also need to do fundraising for about six



Denny Peters

Story and photos by Judy Hill of The INDEPENDENT.



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Michele Kunkel's presentation gets a laugh out of Tegan Jones and Lynn Becker.

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Community Calendar

FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4	1	1 2 3 4 5 6
6 7 8 9 10 11 12	5 6 7 8 9 10 11	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
13 14 15 16 17 18 19	12 13 14 15 16 17 18	9 10 11 12 13 14 15	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
20 21 22 23 24 25 26	19 20 21 22 23 24 25	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
27 28 29	26 27 28 29 30 31	23 24 25 26 27 28 29	28 29 30 31
		30	

VERNONIA

Al-Anon	Mondays	6:30 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Alcoholics Anonymous	Mondays	6:30 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Alcoholics Anonymous	Saturdays	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Boosters	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., VHS Library
Boy Scout Troop 201	Tuesdays	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Boy Scout Troop 860	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., LDS Church
Cemetery Beautification Comm.	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Chamber of Commerce	2nd Wed.	Noon, Lew's Place
Doll Club	4th Tuesday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center
Friends of the Scout Cabin	4th Monday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Girl Scouts	Thursdays	6:30-8 p.m., Christian Church
Izaak Walton League	3rd Thursday	For location call 429-7193
Lions Club	1st & 3rd Tuesdays	6:30 p.m., Lew's Place
Nehalem Valley Car Club		For Info Call 429-4074
Preschool Story Hour	Wednesdays	10:30 a.m., City Library
Senior Center Directors	1st Friday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center
TOPS	Thursdays	6:30 p.m., 1st Baptist Church
Upr Nehalem Watershed Council	4th Thursday	For location call 429-2401
Vernonia Airport Committee	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Vernonia Cares Directors	1st Thursday	For location call 429-1414
Vernonia City Council	1st & 3rd Mondays	6:30 p.m., City Library
Vernonia Comm. Dev. Corp.	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
Vernonia Grange	2nd Friday	7:00 p.m., Grange Hall
Vernonia Health Center	2nd Wednesday	6:00 p.m., 854 Grant Ave.
Vernonia Planning Comm.	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Library
Vernonia Pride		For Info Call, 429-1204
Vernonia Ridge Riders	Last Thursday	7:00 p.m., VHS, Rm. 6
Vernonia RFPD Board	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
Vernonia School Board	2nd Thursday	8:00 p.m., District Office
Vernonia Volunteer Firefighters	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station
WOEC Directors	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., WOEC

MIST-BIRKENFELD

M-BRFPD Board	2nd & 4th Tuesday	7:30 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Ambulance Assoc.	1st & 2nd Thurs.	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Firefighters Assoc.	1st & 2nd Wed.	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Rescue	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
M-B Helping Circle	2nd Wednesday	10:00 am, 755-2346 for info.
Natal Grange	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., Grange Hall

BANKS

Alcoholics Anonymous	Fridays	8:00 p.m., Methodist Church
Banks City Council	2nd Tuesday	7:30 p.m., City Hall
Banks Planning Commission	Last Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Hall
Banks School Board	2nd Monday	7:30 p.m., Jr. High Library
Banks Youth Group	Sundays, Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., UMC Youth Bldg.
Chamber of Commerce	1st Thursday	12:30 p.m., Brown Derby
Citizen Participation Org.	3rd Monday, odd months	7:15 p.m., City Hall
Friends of the Library	1st Saturday	10:00 a.m., City Library
Lions Club	1st & 3rd Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., Methodist Church
Sunset Park Assoc.	3rd Wednesday	8:00 p.m., Gun Club
TOPS	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., Jr. High Library
Tri-City RFPD Board	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Station 13

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

Board of Commissioners	Wednesdays	10 a.m., Courthouse
Citizens for Senior Justice	2nd Tuesday	7:00 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
County Fair Board	2nd & 4th Mondays	7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds
County Parks Commission	3rd Thursday	6:00 p.m., 1054 Oregon St.
Emergency Comm. Dist. (9-1-1)	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Courthouse
Historical Society	4th Wednesday	Noon, location call 429-3713
Traffic Safety Commission	1st Wednesday	7:00 a.m., Village Inn

Organizations and meeting dates not listed may be included by calling 429-9410 or by mail to The INDEPENDENT, 725 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064.