

Vernonia students' dog grooming business receives Meyer grant

Vernonia has a new business in town. Thanks to a \$1,440 grant from the Meyer Memorial Trust, the "Bridges" alternative education class will be able to get its student-run dog-grooming business off the ground.

Wag-In-Tails, under the guidance of teacher Heidi Herb, has served a few clients in recent months, using a \$5.00 pool and a \$3.00 hose.

"We really need equipment, and we would like to sponsor a pet fair in the fall," said Herb, who has worked out the class curriculum over the past two years. She had been an elementary teacher for seven years in Vernonia before her involvement with the alternative program began.

The Bridges program for students in grades seven to ten, currently has twelve students. It is designed to build confidence and self-esteem in students who are at-risk for quitting school.

Herb stresses that these are bright students who need a special kind of guidance at this point in their lives. A student-run business is a great tool for teaching skills and generating positive feedback and accomplishment, she said.

A fee of \$20 is charged for bathing, grooming and nail trimming for clients and, unlike most school programs, the dog grooming business will continue during the summer. A special rate of \$15 applies to senior citizens. Until school is out, customers may call Herb at WGS, 429-7941; during the summer, call her at 992-1168.

Senior class plans final fund raiser

The last fund raiser before the Vernonia High School senior class takes their annual trip will be a combination car wash, yard sale and bake sale to be held Saturday, May 20, from 12:30 to 6:00 p.m. at Vernonia High School.

Anyone who wishes to donate items for the sale is asked to bring pre-marked goods to Storage, Too, 58605 Nehalem Hwy. S., between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. on May 17.

The money raised will go toward students' accounts as spending money.

Sophomores plan bottle, can collection

The Vernonia High School sophomore class will hold a door-to-door pop can drive on Saturday, June 10, from 10 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Anyone who will be gone, but would like to have cans and bottles picked up, may set them outside with a note labeled Sophomore Pop Can Drive. Cans and bottles may also be dropped off behind the high school.



JUDY HILL/THE INDEPENDENT

Mickey, a dog belonging to Washington Grade School employee Carol Senns, is the center of attention at Wag-In-Tails, a student-operated dog grooming business. With Mickey are, from left, teacher Heidi Herb, Kolton Graham, Shannon Flatau, Hank Sohler, Jessie Doane, Brandon Frettim, Melissa Cole and Kaishia Friedrick. Not shown are Janie Curyea, Katie Frettim, Ona Gregg, Kody Watts and Matt Watts.

County "Teachers of the Year" will be recognized at banquet in June

Outstanding teachers from Clatskanie, Rainier, Scappoose, Vernonia and St. Helens will be recognized by Columbia Foundation during its 3rd annual Teacher of the Year ceremony.

This year's program is made

possible through the cooperation of all of the chambers of commerce and school districts in Columbia County. The presentation of the awards will be incorporated with the St. Helens-Scappoose Chamber of Commerce 41st Annual

Awards banquet on May 25.

"It is wonderful to see the community recognize teachers who have made a difference in their lives," said Bonnie Moss, who has led the project for the Columbia Foundation.

Students, parents, teachers,

and other community members submitted nomination forms describing their choice for teacher of the year. "More than 150 nominations were submitted, making the selections very difficult," Moss said. "Teachers play an integral part in shaping our children's lives, to produce adults who contribute to the community we live in."

The award ceremony will be held on May 25 at Time and Again Tea House and Ballroom, 213 S. First Street, St. Helens. Cocktails will begin at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. and is by reservation only, make reservations by May 19th. Advance tickets are \$22.00 per person and may be purchased by calling the Columbia Foundation, 397-1139, or the St. Helens-Scappoose Chamber of Commerce at 397-0685.

ARE YOU BORED? Become a volunteer. There are unlimited opportunities with your public schools, senior citizen centers, community organizations, fire departments, libraries, city and county governments. Be a volunteer - and help yourself while you help others!



Many families savored the Mother's Day breakfast offered by Vernonia Boy Scout Troop 201 on May 14. The scouts added a special touch for the day by providing corsages for mothers who attended breakfast in the Scout Cabin.

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