

Local business assistance program gets underway, more planned

The first meeting sponsored by the Vernonia Business Assistance Team exceeded expectations, with more than 20 local business owners and would-be business owners in attendance. Those who attended filled out questionnaires that will be utilized to set up classes in areas requested, particularly in computerized bookkeeping. Team members will also help in developing a business plan, financial resources for start-up or expansion, instruction in computerized accounting, employee training and



In addition to coffee and cookies, there was obviously food for thought at the first meeting of the Vernonia Business Assistance Team, Oct. 26.

Over coffee and cookies at the Scout Cabin, BAT members outlined their role in providing support services to local business owners, primarily by serving as a conduit to whatever resources they may need — help in developing a business plan, financial resources for start-up or expansion, instruction in computerized accounting, employee training and

find the resources needed for individual businesses. Some consultations have already been organized.

Nearly all of the services will be provided free. BAT has also applied for a grant, through the City of Vernonia, to help with costs incurred bringing consultants to Vernonia.

p.m., also in the Scout Cabin. BAT members will be contacting more businesses, but contact isn't needed. Anyone in the Vernonia area who is in business or who thinks they may want to be in business, is welcome to attend.

A second meeting is scheduled for November 9 at 7:00

Wu bill will provide seniors with counseling on pension plans

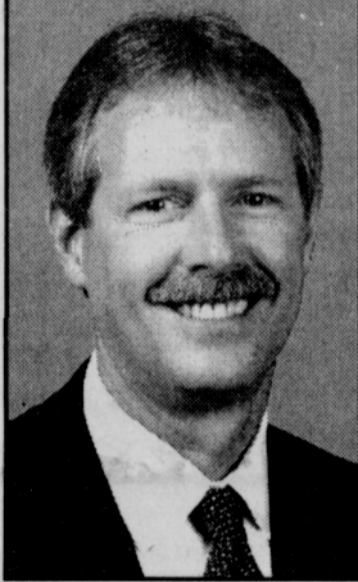
The recent passage of HR 782, a bill to reauthorize the Older Americans Act, includes an amendment sponsored by Congressman David Wu that will help seniors navigate the complexities of pension plans. The Wu Pension Assistance and Counseling Act of 1999 will make it possible for successful pension counseling projects to be expanded throughout the country.

“With the complexities of pension plans today, we have a responsibility to help seniors maneuver through their pension plans.” HR 782 passed the House 405-2.

The Older Americans Act provides \$1.6 billion in vital services, such as meals, transportation and legal assistance, to American seniors. It has not been re-authorized since 1995.

“The Pension Assistance and Counseling Act is an essential part of the Older Americans Act,” said Congressman

Senator Chuck Grassley (Iowa) introduced companion pension assistance legislation in the Senate.



RE-ELECT

TONY HYDE

COLUMBIA COUNTY COMMISSIONER ★ POSITION 3

Tony Hyde has worked successfully to improve the economic vitality of the entire county. His skills and knowledge are vital for continued progress.

—Art Parrow, Vernonia

Tony Hyde: Working for a healthy community!

Authorized by Committee to Re-elect Tony Hyde, 382 "A" Street, Vernonia, OR 97064

OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER							JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH													
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7							
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VERNONIA			MIST-BIRKENFELD		
Al-Anon	Mondays	6:30 p.m., Head Start Bldg.	M-BRFPD Board	2nd & 4th Tuesday	7:30 p.m., Main Fire Station
Alcoholics Anonymous	Mondays	6:30 p.m., Head Start Bldg.	M-B Ambulance Assoc.	1st & 2nd Thurs.	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Alcoholics Anonymous	Saturdays	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.	M-B Firefighters Assoc.	1st & 2nd Wed.	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Arts & Crafts Society	2nd Thursday	2:00 p.m., City Library	M-B Rescue	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Boosters	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., VHS Library	M-B Helping Circle	2nd Wednesday	10:00 am, 755-2346 for info.
Boy Scout Troop 201	Tuesdays	7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.	Natal Grange	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., Grange Hall
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 Wednesday	Noon, Lew's Place			
Doll Club	4th Tuesday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center			
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			
Narcotics Anonymous	Thursdays	6:30 p.m., Head Start Bldg.			
Nehalem Valley Car Club		For Info Call 429-4074			
Preschool Story Hour	Mondays	10:30 a.m., City Library			
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 Hall			
Vernonia Comm. Dev. Corp.	2nd Tuesday	Noon, City Hall			
Vernonia Grange	2nd Friday	7:00 p.m., Grange Hall			
Vernonia Health Center	2nd Thursday	6:00 p.m., 510 Bridge St.			
Vernonia Planning Comm.	1st Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Hall			
Vernonia Pride		For Info Call, 429-1204			
Vernonia Ridge Riders	Last Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Library			
Vernonia RFPD Board	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station			
Vernonia School Board	2nd Thursday	8:00 p.m., District Office			
Vernonia Sr. Center Board	1st Friday	1:00 p.m., Senior Center			
Vernonia Volunteer Firefighters	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Fire Station			
WOEC Directors	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., WOEC			

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