

# VHS Renaissance program in high gear for year's first assembly

The first quarter Renaissance Assembly at Vernonia High School featured some great entertainment and the largest group of honorees, ever, with 95 students recognized for academics and attendance. To be a Renaissance scholar, students must either achieve a grade point average of 3.6, out of a possible four points, or increase their GPA by .5 points over the prior grading period.

A touching, original musical composition, "Oh, Babes, Goodnight," was performed by guitarist/vocalist Jake Brock and cellist Myriam Gendron. Brock and Gendron wrote the song as a tribute to leukemia patients. Brock also performed "Daylight Again," a song about the sacrifices of veterans to secure the right to vote.

Other entertainment included a performance by the VHS Dancers and an a cappella rendition of "Leaving on a Jet Plane," by Melissa Grebenc.

The following students each received a Renaissance T-shirt designed by VHS graphic arts students Jack Murphy and Jessica Dillon:

Freshman – Megan Baker, Stephanie Bobbitt, Taryn Braseth, Andrew Brookins, Benjamin Brookins, Lindsey Cameron, Carrick Flynn, Melissa Grebenc;

Alyssa Hauser, Sheana Hawes, Curtis Jundt, Maryl



Some of the 95 VHS students honored at the first quarter Renaissance Assembly.

Kunkel, Alex Moeller, Kendell Nelson and Katherine Traylor.

Sophomores – Rachael Bentsen, Jesse Borst, Jacob Brock, Shane Cutright, Katherine Golson, William Hales, Katrina Hall, Stephanie Hein;

Shawn Hillyer, Aaron Hunt, Audrey Issacson, Michael Jenkins, Sarah Johnston, Jaki King, Jennifer Kinney, Marcus Kintz;

Eric Lee, Rachel Lee, Trisha Lee, Kimberly Normand, Paul Orlando, Nathan Riley, Lacey

Schilling, Chelsea Sears;

Brandy Snow, Shilo Stevens, Emilee Suess, Adam Tanner, John Walters, Josh Ward and Eric Weller.

Juniors – Richard Avilla, Jennifer Bernardi, Daniel Borquez, Krystyn Brucken, Karmen Colby, Kyle Cota, Jessica Dillon;



Melissa Grebenc



Myriam Gendron and Jake Brock

Troy Hargrave, Jerimie Harms, Alexandria Hayes, Alisha Jundt, Jalyynn M. Krush, William Leach, Jacob Lee;

Lori Lee, David J. McMurtrey, Jennifer L. Meglen, Aaron Milstien, Jack Murphy, Corey Parker, Megan Pattison;

Matt Peters, Nicole Potter, Katie Prpich, Brass Sears, Chris Serafin, Emily Sohler, Sarah Sook and Melissa Templin.

Seniors – Erik Bataglia, Liz Brookins, Melissa Devlaem-inck, Phil Elliott, Shauna Flynn, Myriam Gendron, Jennifer Grady, Wayland Graham, Beth Green, Kayla Hennessey;

April Iman, Hitomi Kimura, Eric Patterson, Colin Plews, Abrah Pond, Marilyn Schmidlin, Tiffany Sexton, Blaine Vandehay, Mike Webb and Sam Wynn.

## It's time for final fall yard cleanup

By the end of November, most gardens have been hit by frost, wind and early rain or sleet. It is time to do some fall clean up, before winter lets loose its full force.

- Cut back late flowering perennials like asters and chrysanthemums to a few inches. Peonies can be cut back all the way to the ground. Mulch the crowns with compost.

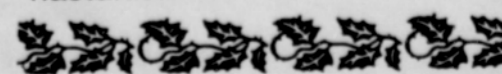
- Mulch your empty garden beds if they don't have a cover crop on them yet. Mulch will protect from erosion. Even flat beds experience soil erosion from rainwater. Mulching will add organic matter to the soil. It will encourage earthworm activity. It will also keep weed germination down.

- Prune late summer and fall flowering shrubs like butterfly bush (Buddleia) abelia, clethra and hydrangea several weeks before icy winter weather or hold off until mid-February to do your pruning. Trim back roses to knee height so winter winds won't cause damage.

- Control the weeds that germinated with the fall rains. It is a much easier job now than in the spring. A hoe or hand pulling will do it. This is not a good time of year to use herbicides.

- Keep your perennial gardens free of windblown plant refuse. Continue to rake your lawn, as more leaves fly. Add the leaves to your compost pile to turn them into humus.

- Lawns benefit from a late fall application of slow-release nitrogen fertilizer. Don't use quick-release fertilizer, as it will just leach away.



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