

Group continues assessment of health needs in Columbia County

Contact: Pam Rahn, Coordinator, Health Partnership 503-396-1804

The Columbia County Health Partnership is a group of 23 volunteers from all sectors of life in the county, who are participating in a planning process to improve the health of our citizens. The membership is composed of three people each from Vernonia, Clatskanie and Rainier, as well as others from the other cities. The membership roster is:

Annie Carmack, R.N.,

School Nurse, Clatskanie School District

Randy Larson, Owner, Tech Link, Clatskanie

Charleen Pruett, A.N.P.,

Owner, Clatskanie Clinic

Brian Burright, Co-Chair, Division Director, St Helens Fire Dept., Columbia City

Linda Lagraff, Coordinator, Col-Pacific Economic Development Dist., Columbia Co.

Todd Dugdale, Dir, Dept. of Land Development Services, Columbia Co.

Brandi Bonney, After School

Program Coord, Rainier School Dist., Rainier

Joyce Ervin, Director, Columbia Pacific Head Start, Rainier

Mary Brown, County Administrator, NW Education Service District, Rainier

Bob Short, Administration, Glacier Northwest, Scappoose

Cindy Beeks, Clinical Dir., Col. Commun. Mental Health, Scappoose

Connie Speros, Artist, Retired Art Teacher, Scappoose

Ruth Bowman, R.N., Triage Nurse, Scappoose Family Clinic, OHSU-Scappoose Health Clinic

Sandy Cooper, Branch Mgr, Senior and Disabled Services, DHS, Scappoose

Rick Lugar, Finance & Customer Service Mgr, Col River PUD, St Helens

Steve Losli, M.D., Medical Director, Legacy Clinic, St. Helens

Barbara Fordyce, Manager, Legacy Clinic, St. Helens

Don Courtain, Pastor, First Christian Church, St. Helens

Janet Spain, R.N., Mill Nurse, Boise Cascade, St. Helens

Lori Peterson, Office Mgr, Columbia Co. Public Health, St. Helens

Carolyn Keasey, Chair, Vernonia Health Center, Vernonia

Darcy Bell, M.S.W., Co-Chair, Manager, Providence Family Medicine, Vernonia Health Clinic

Mario Leonetti, Mayor, City of Vernonia

Paul McGinnis, from the Office of Rural Health at OHSU, created the process for organizing the community and assessing health needs, and is the advisor to the partnership. The same project is currently running in three other rural Oregon counties.

After an intensive four-hour training by McGinnis in June, each member chose 10 people to gain information from concerning health issues. Thus 230 people are now directly participating. This activity completed the "Community Organizing" phase of the project. Members will also provide their 10 with feedback about the activities of the Partnership for the duration of the project.

The group has now entered the "Assessment" phase. Assessments currently underway are:

1. Each member is conducting five hour-long interviews with people this month.

2. A mail survey concerning health insurance has been sent to all county employers with 10 or more employees.

3. A mail survey concerning practice patterns has been sent to all health providers, including physicians, nurse practitioners and physician assistants. (If any employers or health providers have been inadvertently overlooked, contact Pam Rahn at 503-396-1804, or email healthpar@hotmail.com)

4. A list of all health resources in the county is being compiled, including the categories of environmental, ambulatory, inpatient, transport and residential.

In September, there will be a county-wide public meeting on "Health Care Vision for Columbia County," to learn more about health concerns. Time and location will be announced at a later date.

The Health Partnership is sponsored by the Columbia Health District, on behalf of the Columbia County community. Funding for this project has been provided by the Office of Rural Health, Northwest Oregon Economic Alliance, and the Port of St. Helens.

Join the team in Race for the Cure

Columbia County Women's Health Awareness Committee (WHAC) invites area residents to Race for the Cure on Sunday, September 16, in the annual Susan G. Komen Foundation event in Portland.

Men and women are invited to race in both the 1K and 5K races in support or memory of their loved ones impacted by the disease. Last year nearly 40,000 people showed their support at this incredible fundraiser to fight breast cancer.

Whether you like to walk, run, skip, or jump, why not join

WHAC? Individuals or groups may join the WHAC team.

"We want to show participation from people throughout our county, and from our group," said Doreen Hocrafter, Breast and Cervical Cancer Coordinator for Columbia County Public Health. "Over 70 men and women joined the WHAC team last year, some as individuals, and some as mini-teams from local businesses."

Racers are invited to participate in the Columbia County group photo, which will be taken. **Please see page 12**

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Church Directory

VERNONIA FOURSQUARE CHURCH

Pastor Paul Pastor
850 Madison Avenue
Vernonia, 503 429-1103

Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.
Evening Service
Youth Ministry
Children's Ministry
Nursery Available

Men's Ministry 7:45 a.m.
3rd Saturday each month

VERNONIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Grant Williams, Pastor
957 State Avenue
Vernonia, 503 429-6790

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Children's Church w/Nursery
Evening Fellowship 6:00 p.m.
Nursery Care
AWANA, Wednesday 3:15 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wed. 7:00 p.m.
Men's Group, Thursday 7:30 p.m.

GRACE REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

D.J. Dickey, Pastor
Grant & North Streets
Vernonia, 503 429-3110

Sunday Services: Adult Prayer & Children's Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Service:
All Family Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Darwin Harvey, Pastor
662 Jefferson
Vernonia, 503 429-4615

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

Thursdays 7:00 p.m.
Family Night

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

John Cahill, Pastor
359 "A" Street
Vernonia, 503 429-1161

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship
Saturday, 6:00 p.m.

NEHALEM VALLEY BIBLE CHURCH

Jerry James, Pastor
500 California Ave
Vernonia, 503 429-5378

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Nursery available
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastoral Associate
Juanita Dennis
960 Missouri Avenue
Vernonia, 503 429-8841

Mass Schedule
1st & 3rd Saturdays 4:30 p.m.
2nd & 4th Sundays 12 Noon

Religious Education
2nd & 4th Sundays 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Lee Knowlton, Branch President
1350 E. Knott Street
Vernonia, 503 429-7151

Sacrament Meeting, Sunday 10 a.m.
Sunday School & Primary 11:20 a.m.

Relief Society, Priesthood and Young Women, Sunday 12:10 p.m.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Kevin Reiner, Pastor, 503-543-2254
2nd Ave. and Nehalem St.
Vernonia, 503 429-1941

Sabbath School 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

ST. AUGUSTINE (CANTERBURY) EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Robert Grafe, Pastor
375 North St. (Vernonia Grange Hall)
Vernonia, 503 429-3700

Sunday Services 10:00 a.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Joel Stith, Pastor
410 North Street
Vernonia, 503 429-6522

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Every Wednesday:
Ladies' Bible Study 9:15 a.m.
Children's Choir 3:00 p.m.
Family Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Women's Fellowship, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m.



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