

## Students must be up-to-date with immunizations

Public health officials at the Oregon Department of Human Services predict that a greater number of children than usual may be sent home on February 19, school exclusion day.

Last year, there was a national shortage of tetanus-diphtheria (Td) and chickenpox vaccines, according to Grant Higginson, M.D., state public health officer in DHS. "Now we expect to issue more exclusion orders than usual, because children who missed getting those immunizations need to get caught up."

All vaccines are widely available, now, he added.

School exclusions have increased in the past few years because of additional requirements for middle school children to receive Hepatitis B, second measles and chickenpox shots.

In 2002, 37,283 exclusion orders were issued to children

### Futures Committee

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There are numerous opportunities for participation in subcommittees needed to address the issues mentioned above, plus researching financial options and visiting other schools to observe operations.

Blum distributed a volunteer survey to begin enlarging the group. The survey concludes with the statement, "The goal of the Futures Committee is to fix what needs fixing, to enhance what is already good and to make COMMUNITY BASED recommendations" to the district's Board of Directors.

who were found to be missing immunizations. Of those, 8,263 children were unable to go to school or day care on exclusion day because they had not yet received the required immunizations, according to Higginson.

This year, school exclusion day will be February 19th. Children whose school or day care records have not been updated, or who do not have a medical or religious exemption, will be sent home. They cannot return until their immunization records have been updated.

Columbia County Public

### Plans started for All Night Grad Party

The first meeting for planning this year's All Night Graduation Party will be held Thursday, February 6, at 7:00 p.m. in the Vernonia High School Library.

The party is funded by donations and organized by parents and community volunteers. This will be the 19th year for the graduation party.

The purpose of the party is

Health Immunization Program has sent out exclusion letters to the parents of 422 students in Columbia County, which includes 67 students in the Vernonia School District. This is up from last year's 288 letters.

Families with insurance can get childhood immunizations from their physician. Uninsured families can call Public Health at 503-397-4651 or 1-800-244-4870 to arrange for immunizations. The records are kept at the school, not Public Health, and updated information needs to go to the school.

for seniors to celebrate their accomplishments in a fun and safe environment without drugs or alcohol, and as a last get-together for the seniors before they go off to college, jobs and new adventures.

Both senior parents and non-senior parents are urged to participate. For more information, call Sue Robertson at 503-429-4901.



Watch out for an attack from the dreaded pink flamingoes. If they show up on your lawn, the only way you'll get rid of them is to pay a sort of reverse ransom to have the Boy Scouts of Troop 201 gather up the flock.

### DEADLINE 2003 DOG LICENSE

Elizabeth E. Huser, Columbia County Clerk, reports that the deadline for licensing dogs in Columbia County is

**MARCH 6, 2003**

You may mail your rabies vaccination certificate (if not on file in our office) along with the appropriate fee to Columbia County Clerk's Office, Courthouse, 230 Strand Street, St. Helens, OR 97051. Commercial and non-commercial kennel licenses are available. Contact Clerk's Office for information.

**To All Columbia County Dog Owners**  
**\$10 Penalty after March 6, 2003**  
**\$25 Penalty after April 5, 2003 (Without Citation)**  
**\$50 PENALTY IF CITATION IS ISSUED**

Dog License Fees are due on **ALL DOGS IN THE COUNTY** with permanent teeth or that are six months of age in 2003.

#### FEES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

On or Before March 6, 2003	
REGULAR, NOT SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....	\$30.00
DOG SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....	\$12.00
SENIOR CITIZEN-DOG NOT SPAYED OR NEUTERED...	\$15.00
SENIOR CITIZEN-DOG SPAYED OR NEUTERED.....	\$5.00
(Senior Citizen is 65 Years or Older - 1 per Household)	
REPLACEMENT TABS.....	\$5.00
ASK ABOUT OUR OPTIONAL THREE-YEAR LICENSE	

#### 2003 APPLICATION FOR DOG LICENSE

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Residential Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

2002 License No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Dog's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Breed: \_\_\_\_\_

Sex (Check one): Male  Female

Neutered:  Spayed:

A VALID (Good through Oct. 31, 2003) Rabies Vaccination Certificate MUST accompany this application or be ON FILE in the Courthouse, along with a spayed/neutered certificate if applicable.  
**WE WILL RETURN YOUR LICENSE AND DOG TAG TO YOU BY RETURN MAIL.**

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