

## Chalk Talk

This month's column is a collaboration by several staff members at Washington Grade School

### Vernonia Schools Reach Out

#### District Web Site

Have you ever wanted basic information pertaining to our schools, but you weren't sure how to get it? Now there is a solution. The Vernonia Elementary Schools web site is online.

Last year this district website was created through the efforts of Marilyn Pederson, Dennis DeWitt, Michelle Eagleson, and Glenda DeLemos. These technologically savvy district employees created a site that was easy to navigate and contained critical information to assist Vernonia patrons or anyone wanting information about our school district. Craig Buckner also helped with this large project. Before the end of last school year we ran out of money and resources, causing the constructed site to be short-lived.

This year Glenda DeLemos and our friends at the Northwest Regional Educational Service District have managed to get our website up and going again.

The web site is <[www.vernonia.k12.or.us](http://www.vernonia.k12.or.us)>.

Here's how it works and what you can expect:

Once you are on the site, you will see our District Office and links to the various schools, including a link to School Closures and Emergency Information. If you connect to a school, you can obtain information about that school including, but not limited to:

School Information	Bell Schedule
Staff Information	Lunch Menu
Staff Projects	Handbook
Sport Schedules	

We hope this site will be used heavily by our parents and patrons in the future. Some day we would like to have even more interactive links that contain lots of digital images of student proj-

ects, field trips, state testing information, parent forms and many other useful or fun happenings that we believe our community would like to see.

#### Earth Day

We know that part of a well-rounded education involves being civic minded. On April 25th during the last period of the day, the Vernonia School District will be kick starting Earth Day (taking place on Saturday, April 26th). Because the event is on a Saturday, our schools haven't been extensively involved in the past during the instructional day. However, this year we are starting Earth Day one day early to get our kids involved. Each class will be given an assignment to accomplish that will improve our community in some way. Our classes will then go out into the community to chip in. Our kids are looking forward to making a difference on this day.

If you can think of a project that you would like help with, please call Donna Webb at 503-429-5201. Remember, it needs to be a project that is safe for our students to accomplish and the time involved in the projects needs to be approximately 50 - 75 minutes in length.

We look forward to hearing from you!

#### The Paper Bag Bandit Rides Again

You don't have to drive to Portland to experience great entertainment. Washington Grade School will become comedy central on Friday, May 30, with the Junior High drama class presentation of a hilarious melodrama that will keep you on the edge of your seat. But before you come to this exciting event, ask yourself:

"Will Clementine marry Buzz Saw?"

"Will Sludge Slyskull wreck the plans by stealing the bride?"

"Will the devious Diamond Dolly Rhinestone foil all of their plans?"

To find out, you need to come to "The Paper Bag Bandit Rides Again." We will see you at 7:00 p.m. on May 30th.

## Time to get ready for annual local, county and state spelling contests

Public, private and home school students in Columbia County are urged to participate in the 27th Annual Spelling Contest for the State of Oregon. The Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Association of Education Service Districts sponsor the contest, and Mary Brown of the Northwest Regional ESD coordinates the Columbia County contest.

The competition is held at the local school district, county and state level. At each level, students are expected to write all spelling words. An oral spelling bee is not part of this program. Local school districts will be responsible for conducting and coordinating their own contest, and should complete their competition no later than April 30. Interested home-schoolers are to make arrangements to participate in their home school district. The contests at both the county and

state level are divided into three divisions: Division I for elementary students through grade 5; Division II for students in grades 6-8; and Division III for students in grades 9-12.

The County Spelling Contest will be conducted at the Clatskanie School District Office May 13, beginning at 9:00 a.m. Visitors are welcome to view the competition at the county level. Students will be competing for the opportunity to go to the state competition held during the Oregon State Fair.

This year's state competition will be on Saturday, August 30. Plaques, certificates of achievement and U.S. Savings Bonds will be presented to the first place winners of each division and certificates of achievement and U.S. Savings Bonds will be presented to second and third place winners of each division.

## Open House tours of renovated 4-H Building at county fairgrounds

The Columbia County Fair Board will hold an Open House at the fairgrounds on April 19, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., to view the renovation of the 4-H Building, made possible by a grant from the NW Oregon Economic Alliance fund.

The project included the replacement of exterior doors and windows, a new heating/cooling system and new floors in the dining room and dorms.

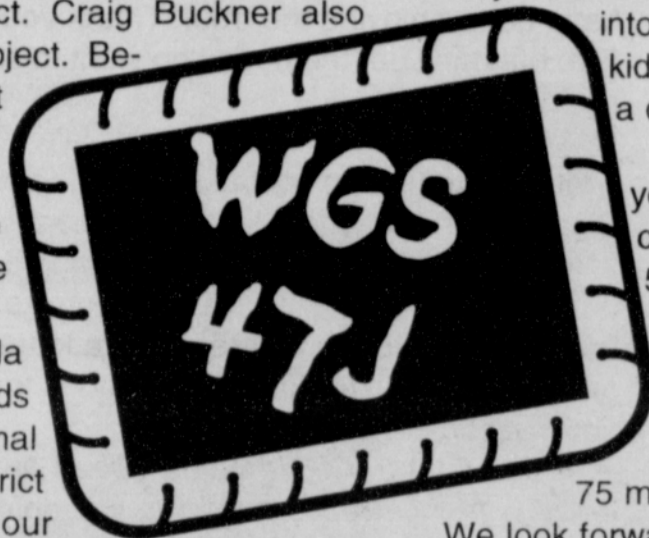
The building is now more de-

sirable for meetings, family reunions and gatherings of 100 people or less.

The Open House will be held during the Columbia County mEGGa Easter Egg Hunt at the fairgrounds, for ages 0 to 13.

The Fair Board will be available to give tours with Friends of the Fair and Warren Grange. Cookies and coffee will be served.

For more information, call 503-397-4231.



### The Columbia County Fair Board

*Cordially invites you to the 4-H Building Open house. Come take a tour of the newly renovated facility while enjoying coffee and cookies served by the Warren Grange*

**Columbia County Fairgrounds**  
**Saturday, April 19, 2003**  
**10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

## Seventh, eighth grade WGS Honor Roll

The following seventh and eighth grade students were recognized for academic achievement with inclusion on the third quarter Honor Roll at Washington Grade School:

Principal's Honors, 4.00 Grade Point Average (perfect) - Brittanie Roberts, Brittney Lindauer, Connor Flynn, Desiree Rule, Elise Blum, Heather Bassett, Kelsey King, Kevin Johnston, Mackenzie Carr, Megan Perry.

High Honors, 3.50-3.99 GPA - Alex Bittinger, Amber Abney, B.J. Linville, Heather Maller, Jeramey Lende, John Fitch, Jolene Botchie, Joreigh Landers.

Lia Sebring, Luke Johnston, Marissa Clement, Melissa Chelby, Miranda Gunter, Nicole

Franz, Phillip Peerson, Stephanie Benes.

Honors, 3.25-3.49 - Ashley Eastlick, Ben Bamburg, Brittany Villareal, Cassandra Gunter, Dalan Lee, Jacob Hales, Jaycee Adams, Nicholas Hammons, Richard Crosbie, Sarah Gleason, Shandee Cota.

Honorable Mention, 3.00-3.25 - Brandi Westlake, Carrie Shaw, Colton DeWitt, Danielle Robb, Jesse Devine, Jessie Long, John Collins, John Dotter.

Lindsay Shaw, Matthew Threet, Nick Mohn, Patrick Peets, Rhiannon Meyer, Sandy Bevans, Sean Grittman, Stella Maller, Stephanie Carr, Tim Taylor, Travis Baker.

Progressive Honors, raised

GPA by .5 or more - Ben Bamburg, Brandi Westlake, Brittany Villareal, Caleb Stevens, Candace Collins, Christina Smith, Christina Sohler, Christy Stagenborg, Heather Maller;

Jacob Hales, Jaycee Adams, Jessee Devine, Jessie Roberts, John Collins, John Dotter, Joshua Tong, Luke Johnston, Matthew Hunt;

Matthew Threet, Melissa Chelby, Miranda Gunter, Nicholas Hammons, Patrick Hieronimus, Patrick Peets, Paul Ogden, Phillip Peerson, Rhiannon Meyer;

Sam Wilson, Sarah Gleason, Shannon LaRose, Shy-Anne Carlile, Stephanie Carr, Sven Norby, Tarrah Johnston, Terry Jacobs, Travis Baker.