

Ike Says . . .

From page 2

to the constant snowmelt from recent storms. There is still a bit of snow in the higher elevations that is slowly feeding area streams and maintaining their levels. I believe that having a snow pack in the higher elevations will also recharge the underground water supplies which we will need this summer.

Has anybody else traveled to the Coast since the snowstorm? I did, several days afterward, going clam digging, and was amazed by the tree damage along Hwy. 26. I had heard on the radio that the highway had been closed off and on during the storm and I saw why. Alder trees littered the sides of the highway, with debris so heavy that you could hardly tell there was snow in spots. I'm glad I was not traveling Hwy. 26 during the snowfall. It was interesting to note that, while alder trees were heavily damaged, the conifers seemed to be intact, although there was probably some top damage.

The clam digging was slow, but we did get our limits. The surf was pounding and, every once in a while, a wave would run in and we would be fighting to stand up in thigh-deep water.

The controversy between sports fishermen and gill-netters continues again this year. In fact it may intensify. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission voted to expand the net harvest this year for Spring Chinook Salmon in the Columbia River, with the commercial fishery getting 40-50 percent of the allowable impact on wild fish in the Spring run. The Spring Chinook fishery is managed not by how many hatchery fish can be harvested, but by how many wild fish can be incidentally caught and killed while catching hatchery fish. Not only is there a rub between sports fishermen and gill-netters over total allocations, but also because the net fishery has almost twice the mortality rate as that of sport-caught fish. By allowing an increase in the commercial impact, fewer fish, overall, will be allowed to be caught before the impact limit on wild fish is met.

According to Liz Hamilton of the Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association the net result of the Commission's decision will be 50,000 fewer sport fishing trips and a loss of around \$5,000,000 for Oregon

and Washington. The sport fishing community is deeply disturbed by this because they were the ones who lobbied to have all salmon marked, and to increase their own license fees to support ODF&W during recent budget problems. Now they are losing a fishing opportunity on the state's largest river, for the state's most prized sport-caught fish. Not only do the sports people lose, this is also an economic loss in a time of need for our state. Recent data indicates that the average sport angler spends \$100 per fishing trip for Spring Chinook. It takes an average of four trips per kept fish, which means a hatchery Spring Chinook has an economic value of \$400 per fish. It was estimated that the sport value for the 2003 fishing season was \$17.6 million dollars, while the impact from the commercial fishery was only \$285,700.

**Izaak Walton League
Nehalem Valley Chapter**
meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Call 503-429-7193 for location of meeting.

WEATHER REPORT

JANUARY 2004

DATE	TEMPERATURE		PRECIP. AMT.
	HI	LO	
1	33	31	.61
2	35	27	.30
3	35	25	.39
4	28	18	--
5	22	17	.36
6	29	17	.72
7	35	29	.48
8	36	32	.23
9	41	33	.25
10	41	30	--
11	43	29	--
12	40	31	T
13	41	33	.02
14	44	36	.04
15	46	37	.01
16	48	29	--
17	48	29	.35
18	44	38	.12
19	47	35	.02
20	49	28	--
21	46	25	--
22	47	25	.24
23	47	36	.39
24	40	32	.74
25	41	34	.08
26	44	37	.06
27	47	37	.21
28	49	44	1.42
29	53	38	.98
30	53	30	.14
31	40	30	.22

Temperature and precipitation amounts are from the official U.S. weather station at the Vernonia water plant. Measurable precipitation in January totalled 8.38 inches.

Action Ads

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Public Meeting

A public hearing is scheduled before the Vernonia Planning Commission on February 19, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia, Oregon, to consider expansion of a conditional use permit to construct a chapel at the LDS Church located at 1350 E. Knott Street on Tax Lot #5434-034-00200. A copy of the application is available for inspection at Vernonia City Hall located at 1001 Bridge Street, and may be copied for a nominal fee.

The Public Hearing is governed by Vernonia Ordinance 711. A staff report will be available to the public at City Hall one week before the hearing, and may be copied for a nominal fee. Failure to raise an issue in a hearing, in person or by letter or failure to provide statements or evidence sufficient to afford the decision-maker an opportunity to respond to the issue precludes appeal to the board based on that issue. Public testimony is welcome, and written statements will also be received before the hearing. For additional information, please call Julie Steffen, Vernonia City Planner at 503-429-5291.

The meeting location is accessible to persons with disabilities. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours prior to public hearing to Kate Conley at 503-429-5291, TTY 1-800-735-2900 or at City Hall, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR. The City of Vernonia is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer. Publish February 5, 2004

CARD OF THANKS

To all our family and friends: Thank you so very much for all your cards and letters in regards to the recent passing of our husband, dad, grandpa and friend, Jim Johnson. Your thoughts and prayers have helped us cope with this sudden loss and we sincerely appreciate each and every one of you.

**Mickey Johnson,
Ann & Bill Lilley and Family,
Chris and Tina Johnson and Family**
P02/05

PUZZLE/TRIVIA ANSWERS

Trivia answers (from page 15):

1. Abert Rim.
2. An event in which contestants sprint to a pigpen, grab a pig, put it in the back of a Model T pickup, drive a lap around the track, and grab another pig, repeated three times.
3. Period photographs by Peter Britt that enabled accurate restoration of more than 90 original brick a wooden buildings dating back to the 1850s.
4. University of Oregon, Eugene.
5. Alberto Salazar.
6. Port Orford.

FREE

Vernonia Cares Emergency Food Bank is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 627 Adams Avenue. 503-429-1414

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED



THE NATION'S LEADING MANUFACTURER OF RAIL CARS AND BARGES IS LOOKING FOR NEW TEAM MEMBERS.

- Welder Trainees
- Fitter/Welders

All applicants are required to successfully complete a pre-employment physical and drug screen and background check. If you are interested and meet these qualifications apply directly to:

Gunderson, Inc.
4350 NW Front Avenue
Portland, Oregon

Job Hotline (503) 972-5901

Gunderson offers a competitive compensation package rewarding performance and commitment. We also offer medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401(K), tuition reimbursement, sick pay, vacation pay and more.

PUZZLE/TRIVIA ANSWERS

Answer to puzzle on page 15:

G	A	D	A	N	A	K	C	O	S	M	
I	H	I	B	U	N	A	O	R	T	S	
B	E	S	A	N	I	M	A	L	F	A	T
E	M	M	A	A	D	O					
	A	C	T	O	N	A	R	C	A	S	
M	E	N	U	I	T	E	M	S	O	G	A
A	G	T	P	I	P	A	L	N	R	A	
D	A	L	E	C	O	L	O	S	S	A	L
E	D	E	M	A	S	T	A	A	T		
		E	C	U			P	R	A	E	
G	R	A	S	S	T	E	M		U	C	A
O	P	H	I	E	Y	A	S	C	D	C	
A	M	A	S	D	E	N	S	T	C	H	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOST YOUR DOG? Call the Columbia County Animal Shelter in St. Helens at 503-397-3935.

HELP WANTED

Need dependable, responsible person to sit with mobile mother. Assist with heating prepared meals and keeping her company two to three days a week. Must have own transportation. For further information, call Janile at 503-429-8761.

B02/05

NOW HIRING: Companies desperately need employees to assemble products at home. No selling, any hours. \$500 weekly potential. Info 1-985-646-1700 DEPT. OR-1661

P01/15-02/05

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recycle your magazines at St. Mary's Church, 2nd & 4th Saturdays. Questions? Call 503-429-8092 or 503-429-8841.