

City held meeting on safety issues

Vernonia City Administrator Robyn Bassett, called a special city council meeting January 23 on How to Handle Disgruntled Citizens. Chief of Police Mat Workman gave a powerpoint presentation on Dealing with Disruptive Individuals in Meetings. The presentation included specific tactics for handling upset citizens, such as letting

them have their say, then repeating back what was heard.

Vernonia Justice Court Judge Rod McLean, who has recently been asked to be on a courtroom safety committee with judges in St. Helens, offered to bring back ideas or suggestions he picks up once the courtroom safety committee meets.

OSP welcomes new recruit trooper



Oregon State Police Patrol Division has a new recruit

trooper, Dan Meyer. Recruit Meyer had his first day 'on-patrol' with his Coach, Senior Trooper Jeff Dickerson, on Sunday, January 22 at the St. Helens worksite. Meyer will spend three to four months getting additional required training with Trooper Dickerson.

Meyer is 29 years old and grew up in Florida. He spent five years in the U.S. Marine Corps and then worked for Simplex Grinnell in the Portland area. He is married with two children.

Whale watching volunteer training soon

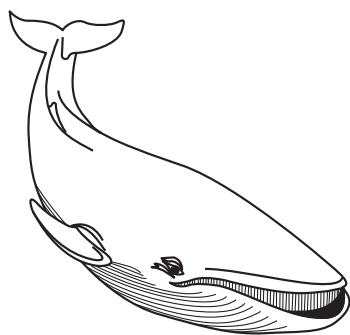
Training for "Whale Watching Spoken Here" volunteers will be offered Feb. 11-12 at the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology in Charleston and Feb. 25-26 at the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center in Ilwaco, Wash.

The training will focus on preparing for spring whale watch week, March 25-April 1. Volunteers are trained to provide information on Gray whales and help visitors see them at 28 "Whale Watching Spoken Here" sites. A summer whale watch week is also scheduled Aug. 28-Sept. 4.

Presentations by marine biology professors Carrie Newell of Lane Community College and Debbie Duffield of Portland State University will highlight Saturday workshops. A field trip to a coastal overlook will conclude each training session.

Participants will receive a

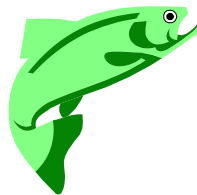
whale watching training manual along with waterproof field guides. A participant can also obtain a whale watching t-shirt in return for a minimum \$20 do-



nation. Registrants will be offered free camping sites at Oregon and Washington state parks near the training locations.

Application forms and a Call

Vernonia Lake gets steelhead



Been wondering what people are fishing for at Vernonia Lake the last couple of weeks? The answer is steelhead. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife stocked Vernonia Lake the week of February 16 with 169 steelhead.

This is an extra stocking, in addition to their regular trout schedule which calls for stocking the lake starting in March.

VRFP Meeting date changes

The Vernonia Rural Fire Protection Board's regular board meeting will be held on February 23, 2006. This is a change in meeting dates.

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



O.K., I haven't seen it all – but just about. I'm not complaining nor grouching. Just telling you what I saw while bagging my pet's droppings, 3 p.m. in broad daylight. The sun was out – a car pulled into the lake parking lot by the lawn. Passenger car door opens, pet steps out, releases water, steps back into car, door shuts, car swings around back onto the road and is gone. O.K., so you say so what? The pet was a young boy. The bathroom is just across the gravel. What are people teaching their kids today??

Anyhow – here's an alphabet to live by.

Always Be Cheerful.
Don't Ever Falter
Give Helpful Instruction
Just Keep Loving
Many New Options
Present Quick Results.

Stop Trying, Understand Visions Work. eXcept Your Zone (your space).

Think on this last bit of information – the pup could have been run over and no one would have been the wiser.

Here's a thing to ponder.

An acquaintance picked up a pup on the Scappoose – Vernonia Highway. Reported it in St. Helens to the proper authority – said she'd keep it if owner wasn't found. Monday, Animal Control came to get pup – no, they hadn't found the owner but if she wanted to keep pup she would have to pay for pup, then buy license and get shots, etc. I beg your pardon – I found it on the highway running from log trucks, "why pay for a good deed?" It's the law – noticing her house pets he said license or pay a fine. Officer told her he was going to house check for unlicensed pets in Vernonia. I agree if you have pets, you should license and keep up shots, etc., but there is an attitude here that smells.

Are you ready for the Ides of March? They are fast approaching.



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