

Letters

New repeater brings more radio options

To the Editor:

Our new CERT/Vernonia Repeater is up and running! It is an "OPEN" repeater so all Amateurs are invited to see it. The Transmit frequency is 145.250 minus with an PL tone of 114.8. Bob Paleck, KK7YE, has set up a CERT net for 7:30 each Thursday afternoon and again is an open net, which encourages visitors.

This is a great help in case of an emergency or incident, that requires a large turnout, which we didn't have in the past. None of this would be possible without the large and kind donations of various businesses and private individuals.

Those who responded are: Vernonia CERT group, Sentry Market (Marlea Foods), Vernonia Volunteer Fire Assoc., Arnold and Mary Tolonen, West Oregon Electric Cooperative, City of Vernonia, Mrs. Sally

Jones, Columbia Amateur Radio Assoc., Bob and Erica Paleck, and some members of the Vernonia Emergency Radio Assoc. The bulk of the labor was by Kevin Robertson and myself with valuable input from Bob Paleck. The repeater is active at the Vernonia Fire Hall.

If a major flood happens, Vernonia is positioned much better with a Packet Node on Corey Hill for digital communications and the new CERT/Vernonia repeater for voice communications.

A very heartfelt "thank you" to those who listened to my whining and responded with funding.

**Norm Roberts, Ass't
Emergency Coordinator for
Vernonia and suburbs**

July 4th fun includes parade and fireworks

To the Editor:

Vernonia Pride extends an invitation to the community to come out and enjoy this year's

4th of July.

We will start with a parade at 7:30 p.m., which will form at Weed Avenue and finish at the Grade School.

The Boosters will be serving up their delicious burgers once again and the Cub Scouts will be selling popcorn, sno-cones and bottled water.

We are so fortunate to have our very own pyrotechnician, Tom Ramsey. He along with a few volunteer firemen will be lighting up the skys.

For a small town we provide quite a spectacular show. For those of you that haven't already contributed, I hope you will after the show. We will be standing with our cans in hand as you leave the grounds, saying "Mister Can You Spare a Dime," although a dollar or two would be much appreciated.

So come out for the parade, grab some refreshments and spend the evening visiting with friends while waiting for the fireworks.

Don't forget the Spaghetti

Feed June 22nd from 5 to 8 p.m. provided by the Buckhorn, as a fund raiser for the Fireworks.

**DeLoris Webb
Vernonia Pride**

Many contributed to successful Fun Run

To the Editor:

Vernonia Cares Food Bank would like to thank all those who made the Fun Run a success. I would like to thank The Independent for giving us a break on our ad prices and doing a great job on our ads. Bren Bar Printing for the great ribbons they printed for our awards. Thank you to Sentry for donating the water for our thirsty racers. AA sports for the loan of the "START" banner and Road ID for the runner numbers and the gift certificates. Creatures donated a much-appreciated \$50 towards food. True Value donated a great fishing pole for a door prize. Vernonia Inn gave a cute Sand Critter Bunny that now belongs to one happy little girl. US Bank graciously donated goodie bags with trinkets and fun stuff. Air Gas donated a tank of helium for all the beautiful balloons that created the starting arch at the beginning of the race. Marquis Care and Vintage Suites Assisted Living donated the printing of our flyers and registration papers. West Oregon Electric donated shirts, a great fishing tackle box and some goodies to the cause. A special thanks to the businesses that donated time on their message boards. The food bank would like to thank all those who donated food and so much of their time on race day also. Thank you to all of the businesses that put flyers up in their windows. This town is so gracious in giving to the community, THANK YOU.

Now for the participants:

- Runners –
- 1st, Gary Taylor
- 2nd, Diana Taylor
- 3rd, Delefan Hotchkiss.
- Walkers –
- 1st, Megan Farmer
- 2nd, Jessica McMahon
- 3rd, John Williams
- Race/Walkers –
- 1st, Sidni Hopkins
- 2nd, Liz White.

**Julie Farmer
Fun Run Coordinator
Vernonia Cares**

Fireworks are great, just not at the Lake

To the Editor:

I wanted to comment on the location of our fireworks display. I would like to assume that Vernonia citizens are aware that the display has always been at the high school, until last year when it was held at Vernonia Lake, but maybe I shouldn't. As a resident, and therefore a supporter of local treasures, it seems to be fair to the residents and users of the lake, that you should include a comparison between holding the display in various areas.

Typically the wild and tame residents at Vernonia Lake are singing sweet songs, feeding their young, nesting, swooping down to catch fish, listening to the wind in the trees and creating a peace that we all appreciate. This was all changed when the lake exploded with a blast that produced colorful sparks falling from the sky. A large number of proud American people, that are thankful for what we have here, converged on this haven of biodiversity. Makes one think twice about appreciating our freedom to have a fireworks display in this sensitive area. I just think we should be given more opinions [so we can] make better informed decisions.

**Jeanette Doherty
Vernonia**

Between the Bookends

By Nancy Burch, Librarian
Vernonia Public Library



Summer Reading will begin Wednesday, June 21st, with Steve Taylor's Wacky World of Animals. Taylor will use magic and ventriloquism to entertain and to encourage youngsters to READ MORE BOOKS! This presentation will be at 7:00 p.m.

and will be co-sponsored by The Friends of the Library and The City of Vernonia. Steve has been here before and his programs appeal to all ages. Be sure to attend.

Other Summer Reading programs will be on Wednesdays, beginning June 28th and ending August 2nd. These will all be at 11 a.m., with children ages 3-5 meeting at the library and ages 6-12 meeting in the covered picnic area at Anderson Park. These programs are all free, with each including some stories and craft/activity. Sign-up sheets and goal setting sheets are available in the library. There will be incentive prizes as youngsters reach 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% of their reading goals. To supplement this summer's theme (**Paws, Claws, Scales & Tales**), the following movies will also be shown: Air Bud; Homeward Bound; and Because of Winn Dixie. Dates for these movies will be Friday June 16, Friday July 14 and Friday August 11. Time for each of these movies will be 2:00 p.m. The summer program will conclude with an entry in the Jamboree Parade.

Wednesday, June 28th, will be the last of the Chautauqua programs until fall. In this program,

The Haunting War: An American tragedy Revisited, William and Carla Coleman will be telling the stories of men and women in the civil war era, in a series of vignettes with costumes, props and music. This should be a very informative, entertaining presentation, free to the public and sponsored by The Oregon Council for the Humanities and The Friends of the Library.

Recent acquisitions include *Twelve Sharp* by Janet Evanovich, *The Rapture* by Jenkins & LaHaye, *Cold Moon* by Jeffery Deaver, *The Hard Way* by Lee Child, *The Husband* by Dean Koontz, *At Risk* by Patricia Cornwell, *Blue Shoes and Happiness* by Alexander McCall Smith, *Killer Dreams* by Iris Johansen, and *Dead Watch* by John Sandford.

To date, no movies have been planned for evenings during the summer, but suggestions are always welcome. An evening could be set aside for some classics such as *To Kill a Mockingbird* or *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, or musicals such as *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Calamity Jane*, or *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*. I really like the fact that movies can be shown at the library and am willing to try to arrange as many as people would like to see, but your input is needed. A movie shown on a large screen in an air-conditioned building on a hot summer evening can't be beat.

Vernonia Public Library: 701 Weed Ave.
Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.;
Tues., Thur. 2 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Sat. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Preschool Story Time: Mondays, 10:30 a.m., when school is in session.
Phone: (503) 429-1818

Policy on Letters

The INDEPENDENT is happy to accept letters for publication. To be sure your letter is published, please follow the guidelines listed below.

- All letters must be signed and have a verifiable address and phone number.
- Short letters (150-200 words) will receive priority.
- Letters about public officials must refer to their public functions; personal attacks will not be published.

Submit letters in person, by mail, fax or email to the addresses/numbers listed in the masthead box on Page 2.