

47J needs to hire new high school principal for 06/07

At the Vernonia School District 47J Board meeting of August 10, the board approved hiring Deborah Stahlnecker (Literacy Specialist), George Spaulding (Elementary PE Specialist), and Mark Brown (Custodian/Maintenance). Annual contracts for Gordon Jarman and Cecil Fellas were also approved, as was an extra duty contract to Ronald Ropp as High School Head Volleyball Coach.

The resignation of High School Principal Curt Scholl was accepted, with thanks for the service he provided here. Scholl will be going to West Linn where he has accepted an administrative position.

Renaming the middle school was discussed. Board member Ernie Smith has suggested naming the middle school in honor of former Superintendent Art Parrow. Superintendent Ken Cox suggested putting a

ballot in the newsletter that the district plans to send to each household in the district this year.

Cox suggested formation of a Public Relations Committee to plan and organize some ideas throughout the year. Smith suggested having someone from the PTA on the committee and two staff members. Board members Tammy Jennings and Kim Wallace volunteered, and Cox said he would participate, also.

Superintendent Cox reported the following information:

- The Vernonia Planning Commission has approved the Conditional Use Permit for the middle school;

- A contract has been signed with NW Structural Moving to move the modular from Lincoln to the Bridge St. campus;

- A number of bids have been received for wainscoting and cabinets for the middle

school, all of which are over the amount budgeted, but additional money from the sale of Lincoln Grade School will be used for this project;

- Work has started on the roofing project on the high school and should be completed before school starts;

- There have been 39 applications for middle school principal (Nate Underwood is moving from the middle school to become principal at the high school), which he has reduced to three, and will soon have a recommendation for the board on which candidate to hire;

- TAC Energy Solutions will conduct a free study to determine if energy savings can be found at the high school. Once that study is done, he will seek loans or grants for upgrades to become more energy efficient.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be September 14, at 6:00 p.m. at the District office.

Head Start seeks 2006/07 students

Head Start, a federally funded preschool program, is seeking students for the 2006/2007 school year. Head Start incorporates a total family program that includes nutrition, education, medical, dental services and home visits for the enrolled child.

Prospective students must be three or four years old by September 1, 2006. Children must be from limited income households, have a disability, special need or circumstance

to qualify.

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the State of Oregon prohibit discrimination in all USDA programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability. Head Start serves USDA approved meals twice daily. Limited transportation is available.

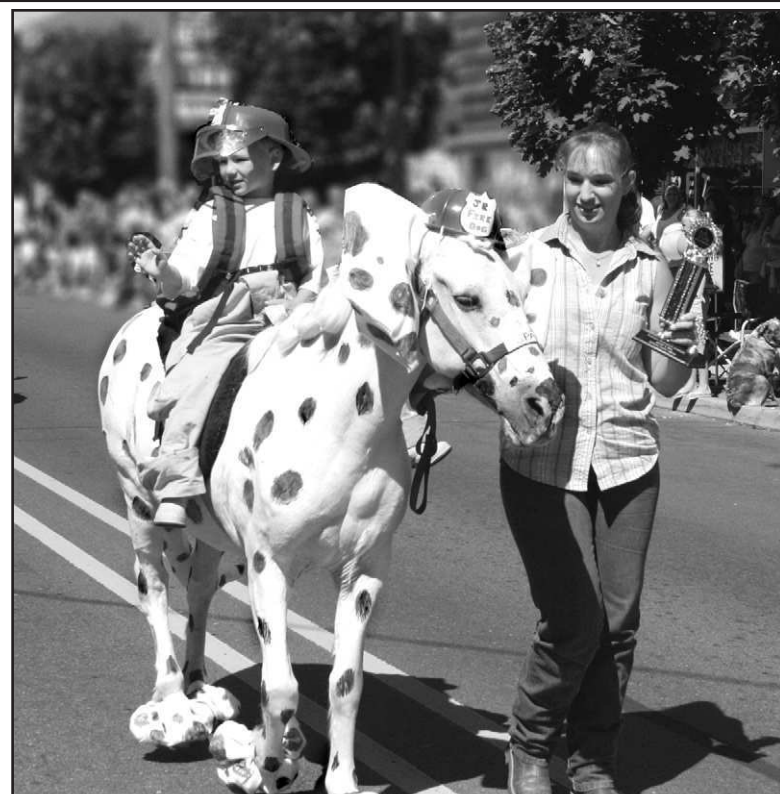
The Vernonia Center is located at 500 California Avenue. For more information call 503-429-9243.

New preschool opens in Vernonia

The Vernonia Community Preschool will hold an open house on Thursday, September 7, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Parents are encouraged to come and visit with their children, explore the preschool and meet the teacher. Parents will also be able to register their children for preschool if they haven't already done so.

The Vernonia Community Preschool is located at 957 State Ave. (the big white church). For more information, contact Amy Cieloha at 503-429-0745.



Dustin Talbott, as a firefighter, on his trusty dalmatian (otherwise known as Chaulk), won the Queens' Court Trophy at the 2006 Vernonia Friendship Jamboree Parade on August 5. For more Jamboree results, see pages 12 and 13.

4-Her's take County Fair awards

Following are partial results from the 4-H competition at the Columbia County Fair. Due to space limitations, only results within *The Independent's* circulation area are included. More results will be published in the September 7 issue.

PRESENTATION, INDIVIDUAL – PUBLIC SPEAKING

Senior: Red Award – Marissa Clement, Vernonia.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Senior B&W Comm Enlarge-ment: Blue Award – Tony Gehring, Scappoose; Katie Greisen, Scappoose; Danielle Miller, Scappoose; Sarah Tatman, Vernonia.

Senior Color Comm Enlarge-ment: Red Award – Robbie Greisen, Scappoose; Sarah Tat-

man, Vernonia.

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES

Expanding, grmt/outfit woven more care hand: Blue Award – Juliana Pelster, Vernonia.

Expanding, costume for holiday/theater: Champion and Blue Award – Juliana Pelster, Vernonia.

FOODS AND NUTRITION

Ph 1-3, Cookies (bar, drop, or no bake): Blue Award – Katie Engstrom and Ashley Olson, Clatskanie; Joshua Bailey and Amber Flatau, Deer Island; Julie Crape, Kristi Crape, Kaylea Knox, and Madison Knox, Rainier; Julia Grabhorn, Grady Groom and Jeanie Pingel, Scappoose; Chelsea Kelly, Kelsey Oliver and Claire Youngberg, St. Helens; Maria Pelster, Vernonia; Claire Bernert, Kelly Carpenter, Teri McGettigan and Alysha Sandstrom, Warren.

Ph 4, Quick bread, biscuit method: Reserve Champion and Blue Award – Juliana Pelster, Vernonia.

Ph 7-9, Yeast Breads: Blue Award – Marissa Clement, Vernonia.

Ph 7-9, Baked Pie Crust: Blue Award – Katie Greisen, Scappoose; Marissa Clement, Vernonia.

Ph 7-9, A Gift Package – Red Award – Marissa Clement, Vernonia.

Ph 7, Favorite Recipe Collection: Blue Award – Marissa Clement, Vernonia.

FOOD PRESERVATION

Please see page 11

Pet of the Month

Columbia Humane Society in St. Helens has a variety of wonderful pets available for adoption. Find the pet that's right for you in the shelter at 2084 Oregon St. Monday through Saturday, 11 am. to 5 pm. 503-397-4353



Harley is a cream and blue seal point Himalayan mix. He is about 2 1/2 years old with beautiful blue eyes. Harley has previously been kept indoors and is housebroken. He is shy, playful, friendly and easy going. He is up to date with routine shots and has been altered.

The Columbia Humane Society is a No-Kill non-profit shelter dedicated to helping friends find each other since 1985.

The Pet of the Month is Sponsored by:

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