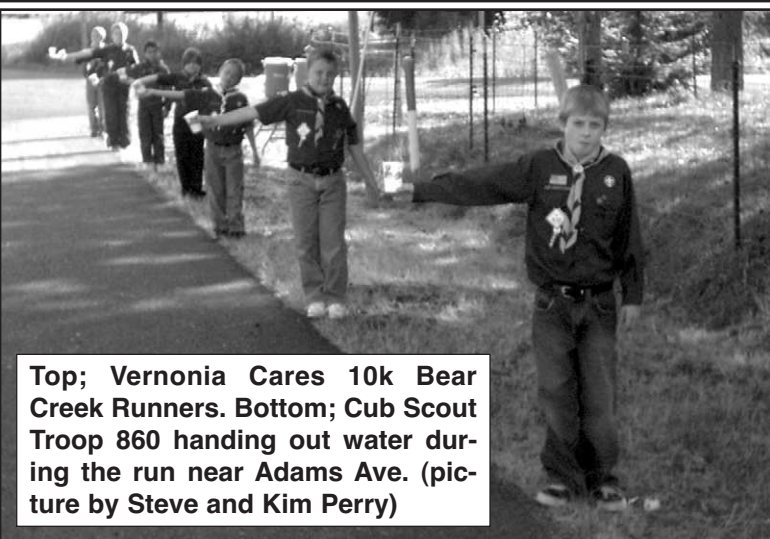




Top; Vernonia Cares 10k Bear Creek Runners. Bottom; Cub Scout Troop 860 handing out water during the run near Adams Ave. (picture by Steve and Kim Perry)

Few run, but 10k deemed success

26 runners participated in this year's Vernonia Cares 10k Bear Creek Run on August 19. The results of the Vernonia Cares 10k Bear Creek Run, beginning with the winner, are as follows: Chuck Coates, 34:46; Tim Roady, 36:50; Ted Alison, 37:26; Erick Studenicka, 42:56; Kevin Filkowski, 45:22; David Delmar, 46:00; Jonathan Farmer, 46:56; David Koufaty, 47:46; James Wetmore 48:05; Jon Van Wagoner, 48:35; Mike Russell, 49:27; Mel Nice, 49:49; Sam Thornton, 50:15; Rich Garcia, 52:32; Chris Barnes, 52:46; Gil Hanson,

Rider offers two new bus routes

Columbia County Rider is now offering transit service from St. Helens to Portland Community College Rock Creek Campus and West Side Light Rail (at Willow Creek Transit Center). Service will run four times per day from St. Helens at 6:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 3:30 p.m.

For a full schedule and rates, call 1-888-462-6526.

52:53; Daniel Cole, 54:19; Jennifer Van Wagoner, 57:06; Vanessa Mull, 57:40; Mitra Akbani, 57:43; Mary Nyman, 58:53; Katia Dillman, 58:54; Lindsay Drew, 59:30; Maria Lemay, 68:26; Melny Moore, 79:40; Loy Moore, 79:40.

Vernonia Cares raised \$1,350 from this 'Dare to Care Challenge,' and will be back with another 10k next year.

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



I am hopeful of a positive outlook soon.

Shadow has found a veritable heaven

at the lake lately. Not only wild ducks, but bunny rabbits that can outrun her to the blackberry bushes. But, a red hen, two black ducks and several white ducks. Myself, I'm a little puzzled as to when Vernonia Lake became a farm yard pond?? My personal opinion if you don't want your tame livestock – Have it for a cookout – don't dump it and expect the citizens to feed it for you. I enjoy "wildlife" at the lake but that is not so slowly becoming extinct. While on the subject of the lake, a gent told me he counted enough unmarked (with Lake ID) cars during Jamboree weekend to more than pay his water bill – so, I took a stroll along auto row one weekday evening and of 10 cars, two of

us had window stickers, one had a park envelope on the dash, the others – who knows.

Now, for someone's five minutes of fame – I will try to be nice. The Vernonia Cares 10k Bear Creek Run was the target of someone's (or more) sick idea of a prank. How? Had it not been for a couple of fellows on bikes making an early run on the course the coordinator of the race would not have known the turn around indicator markers she planted the night before had been completely removed and taken away. Now – think what would happen to me or you – you're running a marked course – you expect to see the turn around – it isn't there – you don't know the course (you're from out of town) – how far should you go – before it hits you – I'm off course – what now? Thankfully, it didn't happen and no one overran their endurance but it could have because of someone's sick idea of fun??? Thankfully, Vernonia Cares run was a success and all enjoyed their day. If we knew your name(s) they would be here and everyone could know of

your kindness.

Another observation – the lake entrance. Before the folks fixing the divider are through, mark it with some visible reflectors or whatever, in and out. When approaching from town you can't really see where you start your turn in, and coming from the bridge (if you're stranger) you can't judge the tight turn, watch traffic, etc. It was a wide open space, now it's a test of skill.

And, by the way, the apple tree at the lake is loaded with ripening fruit so hopefully the deer will be dining some moonlit night (the apples are wormy, of course).

What a nice ride on Bridge Street now. Wider street and sidewalks where walkers and kids will be safe.

Also, note – September 25 is "Family Day." What's that you say? "One habit that prevents another." The more often kids eat meals with the family, the less apt they are to use the three sins; drugs, alcohol and cigarettes (this info from OSU programs on 4-H Community Development).

Hunter's Dinner and Raffle on Sept. 22

A Marlin 17HMR Rifle, a Ruger 300 Magnum, and a Husqvarna Chain Saw are a few of the items that will be raffled by the Vernonia Senior Center at a Hunter's Dinner and Raffle on Friday, September 22, at 7:00 p.m. Raffle tickets are available for \$1 each at Vernonia Hardware, Triple S Service, Sporty's in Clatskanie



and at the Vernonia Senior Center. All proceeds will be applied to the new senior center

building project.

The Hunter's Dinner will start at 6:00 p.m. on September 22, and will include hunters' stew, biscuits, and dessert, for \$6 per person. There will be free door prizes.

For more information, call Bill James at 503-429-2072.



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