

## WFCU expands Mortgage Loan Department at all branches

Wauna Federal Credit Union has announced the expansion of their Mortgage Loan Department headed by Kellie Elliott, Mortgage Loan Director.

The following employees have been promoted to Mortgage Loan Officer: Brian Franck at the Vernonia branch; Debra Workman, Astoria and Warrenton branches; Marvene Lane, Clatskanie branch; and Monica Samaras at the St Helens branch and for Scappoose members.

Mortgage Loan Officers specialize in offering Mortgage

Purchase Loans, First Mortgage Equity Refinance Loans, Home Equity Loans, Home Equity Lines of Credit (HELOC), Manufactured Home Loans, and Bare Land Loans.

Wauna Federal Credit Union is headquartered in Clatskanie and has branches in Astoria, Clatskanie, St Helens, Vernonia and Warrenton. Everyone in Clatsop and Columbia counties is eligible for membership. For more information, call toll free 800-773-3236, or visit our website at waunafcu.org.

In the photo at right, from left to right, back row, are Marvene Lane, Brian Franck, and Kellie Elliott. In the front row are Debra Workman and Monica Samaras



## Council meeting draws a crowd

An overflow crowd attended the January 19 Vernonia City Council meeting. All seats were filled and the double doors on both sides were opened to allow for the standing-room-only crowd.

About half the crowd was on hand for the dedication of a portrait of Judge Rod McLean. McLean, a Vernonia resident and former logger, served six terms as Justice of the Peace in the local Justice Court before his death. Three other judges, Columbia County Sheriff Jeff Dickerson, two Sheriff's Deputies, and many of McLean's family and friends were on hand for the unveiling of his portrait, which will hang in the chamber that used by both the court and the city council. Judge Wally Thompson (current Vernonia Justice of the Peace) and Columbia County Circuit Court Judge Ted Grove spoke before McLean's wife, Sandra, unwrapped the portrait.

The crowd remaining after the dedication was composed primarily of Vernonia business owners who came to object, during a public hearing held during the evening, to the new sign ordinance. Concerns ranged from discontent with the theme chosen (Early 1900s Historic Mill Town), to the \$10 fee for temporary signs, to this being a bad time to make changes that affect businesses. In general, the citizens felt that the ordinance was developed without community col-

laboration, and they asked council to send the ordinance back to the Planning Commission for a re-work rather than voting on it at this meeting.

No one spoke in favor of the ordinance and, after hearing approximately two hours of testimony from those opposed to the ordinance, council agreed to hold the public hearing open while interested community and business people work with the Planning Commission to come up with an ordinance that will have community support.

Police Chief Frank Grace told council that the calls for police service remained steady in December. Without offering any explanation for his statements, Grace said, "Our officers are doing a great job," and followed that with, "It's an insult to have people follow the officers around town." City Administrator Bob Young followed that up saying, "The police department is doing a terrific job, I'm proud of our guys. They are exceptional. They are respected around the county and the state."

In other business, council:

- gave consensus for Mayor Sally Harrison to appoint Jennifer Moloney to the Library Board;
- unanimously approved the Unmet Needs Committee selection of Ticor Title to handle the flood buyout properties.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 1, starting at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

## ODFW seeks two members for Fish Passage panel

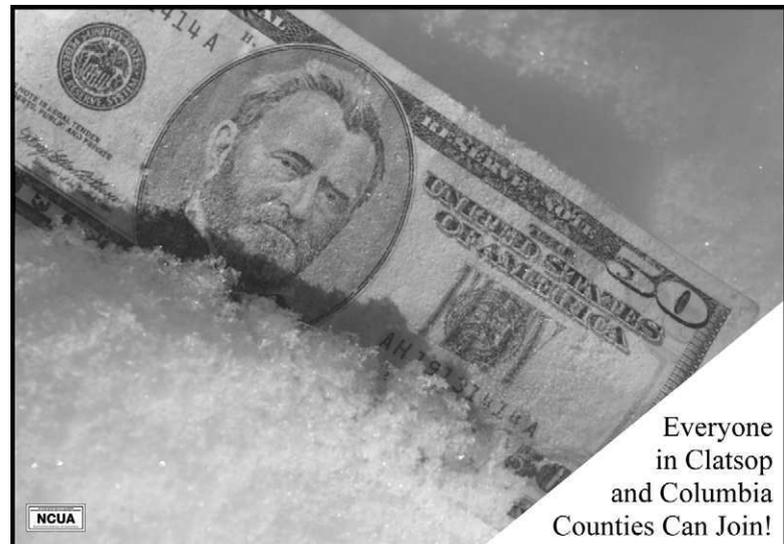
The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is seeking two members to serve on the state's Fish Passage Task Force. One member on this ODFW advisory body will represent water users and the other will represent fishing and conservation groups.

The ODFW Fish Passage Program administers the rules and statutes related to the passage of native migratory fish in Oregon's rivers and streams. The Task Force advises the ODFW Director and the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission on matters related to program development and implementation, fish passage waivers and exemptions, funding, monitoring, reporting to joint legislative committee, and project prioritization. Task Force members are eligible to serve two-four year terms.

"The task force is instrumental in the implementation of Oregon's fish passage statutes," said Greg Apke, ODFW Fish Passage Program Coordinator. "Their role in bringing myriad perspectives into the fish passage arena creates a program that is responsive to both fish passage and societal needs."

The nine members of the Fish Passage Task Force are appointed by the ODFW Director. Task Force members rep-

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