

# Get a clean dog and help VHS Jr. class

The Vernonia High School Junior class is planning a series of fund raisers in the coming months to raise money for Homecoming, Prom and to get their class out of a financial hole before next year. Creatures, 736 Bridge St. is having "Saturdays in September" for dog washing. Every Saturday is available; spots filling up so call

now to schedule, 503-429-7387! All proceeds go to the Junior class.

Please sign up today if your pooch needs a good flea bath or just a cleanup before the winter months. Appointments are being taken from 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. for this coming Saturday, September 4. Nails can be clipped by the

groomer for \$7.50 and those proceeds also go to Junior class. Baths are \$20 suggested donation.

There is also a car wash planned for August 18 in the District office parking lot, along with a can drive! If you have cans you would like to have picked up, call 503-429-7387 to make arrangements.

# How to smooth the return to school

Back to school time is often a time of change for many families. First day of school, new schools, and new teachers are only a few of the many changes children and families encounter at the beginning of a new school year.

Making a smooth transition between the summer break and the beginning of school can help children feel good about themselves, and help everyone in the family create and maintain a positive outlook

about the coming school year.

Parents play an important role in helping make this transition smooth. Here are some tips to make the transition more relaxed and enjoyable for everyone.

- Establish a routine. Bed times, rise and shine times, where do I put my backpack and important notes when I get home – whatever your routine/schedule will be, begin following it a week or so before school actually begins.

- Take a school tour. This is especially important if your child is new to the school system or building. Knowing where to go on the first day can relieve a lot of stress.

- Meet with your child's teacher(s). Introduce yourselves. Discuss what will be happening in the classroom, any special needs or situations your child may have. Is there any way you can help out in the classroom?

**See Help on page 22**

# ODFW to hold bird hunt for youngsters

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and its partners will be sponsoring 14 pre-season upland bird hunts in September for young hunters under age 17. Registration for these hunts begins today.

According to James Reed, ODFW hunter education coordinator, these pre-season pheasant and upland bird hunts allow young and possibly inexperienced hunters to hunt before the season opens and other hunters are in the field.

"These early hunts offer young hunters a good chance at bagging a bird," Reed said.

In conjunction with many of the youth hunts, ODFW will be holding free shotgun skills clinics where participants will learn basic shotgun skills and shoot some sporting clays.

Pre-registration is required for youth hunts. No registration for the shotgun skills clinics is required; participants can arrive anytime between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Refer to pages 22-23 of the 2010 Oregon Game Bird Regulations for complete information about the hunts and clinics.

Season dates for youth upland bird hunts nearby:

September 11-12 at Sauvie Island, call 503-621-3488 to register. Shotgun skills clinic both days.

September 18-19 at E.E. Wilson (Monmouth near Corvallis), and September 25-26 at E.E. Wilson (Monmouth), call 541-745-5334 to register. Shotgun skills clinic each day.

Hunters 17 years and younger may participate in the pheasant hunts; they must be accompanied by one adult who does not hunt. Each hunter must have in possession a hunter education certificate, HIP validation and a permit for

the area hunted. Hunters 14 years or older must also have a valid juvenile hunting license with an upland game bird validation.

All hunters, and accompanying adults, must wear a blaze orange hat, shooting glasses and vest. In most cases, hunters also must provide their own shotguns and shells.

Shotgun skills clinics are open to youth 17 and younger. No hunter education, license or validation is required to participate. ODFW will provide instruction, shotguns, shells, clays, and ear and eye protection.

## Chalk Talk

Chalk Talk is a column of information about Vernonia schools. This column was provided by Washington Grade School Principal Aaron Miller.



Another summer is coming to a close, and we are nearing the beginning of another school year. I hope you and your children have had a relaxing and enjoyable summer, and are looking forward to the school year as much as the Vernonia School District staff.

While we look forward to your students' arrival, there are a couple of reminders about procedures that will make our school year run smoothly:

- Attendance: Please be sure your student is at school, and on time each day. Regular attendance is an essential key to a student's academic growth and development.

- When you drop off and pick up your children by car, please park in a designated parking or drop off space. This avoids traffic being backed up on Bridge Street. Please have your children USE THE CROSSWALK when crossing the road or parking lot.

- If you are waiting for your child in the play shed area, please wait for them to come to you. This enables teachers to keep track of their students more easily, and ensure that each student gets to where they are supposed to be, quickly and safely.

- Please sign in at the office and pick up a visitor's pass each and every time you visit or volunteer at school. This helps us track volunteer hours, and ensure the safety of our students.

- Please send notes with your children ANY time their after school routine is changed, and ANY time they are absent or tardy. If you communicate with us in advance, we can ensure your students get to their designated destination after school.

The Vernonia School District staff truly appreciates all the work you do as parents, and would love to have you work as volunteers at school. If you are interested, please contact your child's teacher, or school, about volunteer opportunities they have in their classrooms.

Thank you so much for your cooperation and communication throughout the upcoming school year. We look forward to working with you in the education of your children, and appreciate your partnership in our efforts. The more involved you are, the more successful your child will be. Together...we can truly make a difference!

## 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 Street. Phone 503-397-4353  
Open Mon - Fri 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 11 am. to 5 pm.



Carissa was a pregnant stray. Almost all of her kittens have been adopted and now it is Carissa's turn. Carissa is very sweet and loving. Can you give this deserving cat the second chance she's hoping for? Carissa is up-to-date with routine shots and house trained

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

This Pet of the Month is Sponsored by:

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