

# CCRider announces fare increases and changes to zonal system

CCRider fares increased effective October 1, after approval of new rates by the Columbia County Board of Commissioners, on September 14. The rate increase was deemed necessary after other funding streams decreased this year. In addition to the rate increase, a zone-based fare structure was established.

Dial-A-Ride rates from Vernonia will now be:

- to St. Helens, Clatskanie – \$11.00
- to Scappoose, Rainier – \$11.00
- to Portland – \$13.00
- anywhere within Vernonia – \$2.20.

There is no regular CCRider bus service to the above areas.

Vernonia Dial-a-ride operates on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and can be scheduled by calling 503-366-

0159.

Fixed Routes from Vernonia to Tri-Met's Willow Creek Station (with stops at Stub Stewart State Park, and Staley's Junction) will continue leaving Vernonia at 6:15 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. The fare for Fixed Route rides is \$5.00 for the general public, \$4.00 for seniors, disabled, students and children (SDS&C). In addition, each zone crossed requires an additional \$1.00.

Zone 1 is the North County and includes Clatskanie, Alston Corner and Rainier. Zone 2 is the South County, covering Scappoose, St. Helens and Vernonia. Zone 3 includes downtown Portland, Willow Creek Station, Rock Creek and Longview.

- Monthly passes now cost:
- Zone 1 – \$75.00 (\$60.00 for SDS&C).
  - Zone 2 – \$130.00 (\$110.00

SDS&C)

• or All Zones (excluding Demand Response Service) –

\$150.00 (\$130.00 SDS&C).

For more information call 503-366-0159 or see [www.columbiacountyrider.com](http://www.columbiacountyrider.com).

# Council works on FEMA compliance

Mayor Josette Mitchell declared October 9-15 as Fire Prevention Week, in a proclamation that initiated the October 3 meeting of the Vernonia City Council.

Council discussed handling of six properties that were flooded and substantially damaged, but whose owners have not been cooperating with FEMA requirements that the houses need to be elevated, moved, or bought out and torn down. A letter was reviewed and approved that will be sent to these property owners with a deadline to contact the city about their properties before legal measures are started, if needed.

Council then held an executive session (closed to the public) to discuss issues regarding legal counsel, real property transactions and labor negotiations. When they came out of that session, they unanimously approved the collective bargaining agreement with AF-SCME members of city staff. Additionally, by consensus, council gave City Administrator Bill Haack permission to negotiate with West Oregon Electric Co-op on the purchase of the Soderback property, though no further particulars were made public.

- In other business, council:
- Approved a contract with Triangle GIS LLC for limited

work on the city's GIS mapping system through June 2012;

- approved a contract with KLS Surveying for surveying at the wastewater lagoons as part of the ongoing wastewater treatment improvement project;
- approved a contract with Shannon & Wilson Inc. for geotechnical engineering at the wastewater lagoons.

The next time the council will meet will be at a joint work session with the Public Works Committee at 7:00 p.m. tonight, Oct. 5, at city hall. The next regular council meeting will be October 17 at 7:00 p.m. in city hall.

# Fire season ends with recent rains, backyard burning now open

Fire Season was terminated within the Northwest Oregon Fire Protection district, effective October 3. Now that fire season has ended, forest operators are no longer required to have fire suppression equipment and fire watch services as part of their forest operations. The Columbia County Fire Defense Board has lifted the ban on open burning of yard debris. Burning will be regulated on a day-to-day basis by local fire districts and the Oregon Department of Forestry. Burning of yard debris requires a valid permit from your local fire district. If outside a rural fire district, the Department of Forestry issues this permit.

Always check to see if burn-

ing is allowed before burning. Residents and commercial operators should also be aware of the following Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) prohibitions:

- Open burning that creates a nuisance or a hazard to public safety is prohibited.
- Regulations prohibit burning the following materials anywhere in Oregon: rubber products, tires, plastic, wet garbage, petroleum and petroleum-treated materials, asbestos, wire insulation, automobile parts, animal or vegetable food waste, animal remains, asphalt or industrial waste, or any other material that creates dense smoke or noxious odors.

• Burning materials that have been removed from the property of origin, unless the person has a DEQ permit, is prohibited.

• Construction and demolition debris and commercial burning is prohibited, in most cases. Burning of land clearing material is prohibited within

three miles of Vernonia, St. Helens, Scappoose, Rainier, and Clatskanie.

Longview Timberlands LLC property in Oregon, except for Hood River and Wasco Counties has been re-opened to public-recreational entry due to reduced risk of forest fire danger.

For more information on burning in Vernonia, call the fire district at 503-429-8252. Outside of Vernonia, call the Oregon Department of Forestry at 503-397-2636. For commercial, construction, or demolition burning, call DEQ at 503-229-5545.

## Wauna holds fundraiser for school


All seven branches of Wauna Federal Credit Union will help raise money for construction of the new Vernonia School by selling tickets for a prize drawing of \$500 in cash.

The tickets will be sold for \$1.00 each, at all Wauna branches, through October. The prize drawing will be held November 7, when one lucky winner will win \$500 cash. Ticket buyers must be 18 years or older.

Wauna's 2011 fundraising

goal is to raise \$15,000 towards the Vernonia School project.

A great time to buy your tickets for the \$500 cash drawing would be on October 20, when Wauna will celebrate International Credit Union Day. Credit Unions Build a Better World is the motto for 2011. All members are invited to come in and enjoy cake, and enter their names for prizes on October 20.




**DO IT NOW!**

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SUVs  
Vans  
Boats  
RVs

**Buy New or Used**  
**2.011%\* APR**  
Introductory Rate For 6 Months  
**90-Days No Payments!**

**Move Loan to Wauna FCU**  
**2.011%\* APR**  
Introductory Rate For 6 Months  
**90-Days No Payments**  
**or, 1% Cash Rebate**  
For amount of Loan

**800-773-3236** [waunafcu.org](http://waunafcu.org)



\*APR=Annual Percentage Rate and is subject to change. Rates & financing are offered based on applicant's credit worthiness and term of the loan. Financing offered to Wauna FCU members only. Contact [waunafcu.org](http://waunafcu.org) for membership details. Special Terms: Auto, Truck, SUV, Van, Boat, RV (Purchase new or used) — 2.011% APR is an introductory rate for the first 6-months of the loan term. After the introductory period, the standard rate of the loan term will apply. Borrower also qualifies for no payments during first 90 days of the loan. Auto, Truck, SUV, Van, Boat, RV (refinanced from elsewhere to WFCU) — qualifying loans will receive 2.011% APR introductory rate for the first 6 months of the loan. After the introductory period, the standard rate of the loan term will apply. Borrower may choose to receive either a 1% cash Rebate for the actual amount of the loan refinanced to Wauna FCU (Wauna FCU will pay the title transfer fee up to \$77) or a 90-day no payment period at the beginning of the loan term. Regular rates start at 2.99% APR for auto, truck, SUV, van, with up to 84 months to repay, and 7.50% APR for boats and RVs with up to 180 months to repay. Loan payment example: a loan amount of \$30,000 at 5.99% APR for 84 months would require a monthly payment of \$436 until the loan is paid off. This special financing offer ends December 31, 2011.