

## Donations to school at start of January 23 Vernonia council meeting

The Vernonia City Council meeting on January 23 started with presentations from the business community to the Vernonia Schools project.

Pam Weller, manager of the Vernonia and Clatskanie Branches of Wauna Federal Credit Union, presented Vernonia School Superintendent Dr. Ken Cox with a check for \$6,000. Wauna's leadership team decided in 2011 to make the new Vernonia school their fundraising effort. Through payroll donations, \$5 jean days,

and customer donations, they wanted to raise \$4,000 – and surpassed their goal.

Gordon Smith of Vernonia Sentry then told the city council that Vernonia businesses had met his \$10,000 challenge grant, resulting in raising \$20,000 for the school project. Smith said, "I appreciate everyone's help."

City employee Ginger Westlake was presented with a certificate of appreciation by Mayor Josette Mitchell, on behalf of the city, for bringing down the

outstanding balances of water customers.

Vernonia citizen George Guyett applied for and was appointed to the city's Budget Committee. One more member is needed for this committee. Interested persons should go to the city's website or get an application from city hall.

Wondering what's been going on across E. Bridge St. by Lakeview? That's where the new school has an easement to put their utilities under Bridge St. and hook up to

pump station #3 by the lake.

City Administrator Bill Haack's report to council included information that the city must reimburse the State of Oregon with \$3,187.50 for funds from a grant that was to be used for work on wastewater lagoons and the pumping station. Apparently, in 2008, the interim city administrator allowed the funds to be used to build a fence around the transfer station, instead. On the flip side, Haack found \$11,000 in other grant funds that can, and

will be used to cover the fence cost, with some left over for pump station work.

Council then went into an executive session (closed to the public) for the purpose of hearing from legal counsel. When they returned to open session, no action was announced or taken, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

The next council meeting will be held February 6, at 7:00 p.m., at city hall.



At the January 23 Vernonia council meeting, Wauna Federal Credit Union Branch Manager Pam Weller presented a check to Vernonia school Superintendent Ken Cox for the new schools. The money was raised by efforts in all the Wauna branches from employees and customers. Photo provided by John Donovan of Metropolitan Group.

### Ike Says . . .

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will suffer even more. While the wolf population is not very high at the moment, they are starting to spread across our state and will find their niches. then expand in population. Many of us knew, up-front, that the pro-wolf supporters would not play by the adopted wolf plan that they had a hand in writing and have now tied up appropriate wolf management in court. Will the state legislature have the sense to correct this injustice as congress finally had to do on the national level? I have my doubts. In a time when people need jobs we will be wiping them out in

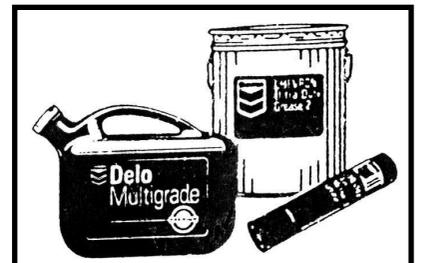
Eastern Oregon due to losses in the ranching and hunting communities. Many people simply don't realize the economics that hunting seasons have on those tiny communities over East; they will find out when many little waysides simply dry up and blow away. Better plan your gas station stops carefully folks.

Izaak Walton League,  
Nehalem Valley Chapter  
meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Call 503-429-7193 for location.

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