

Chalk Talk

Chalk Talk is a column of information about Vernonia schools. This column was provided by Superintendent Dr. Ken Cox.

As you might guess, children learn better when they are healthy, and I would like to share with you two projects that have and can benefit your children's health.

I recently visited with Phil Darrah from Vernonia Pharmacy. He shared with me information about their free vitamins for kids program. The district has chosen to endorse this program because of the positive benefits it could have for our children. Please check out the details in the advertisement in the February 1 issue of The Independent!

The following report is from Washington Grade School Principal Aaron Miller:

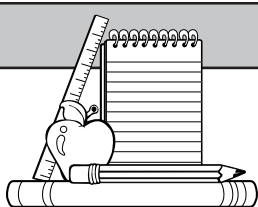
Over 500 Vernonia School District students in grades Kindergarten-12th grade were screened for basic dental health care on Thursday, February 9. This was made possible because approximately 10 students from Pacific University's School of Dentistry teamed up with two of their professors, plus Vernonia dentist Dr. Christopher Scheuerman and his two assistants, to

provide these services free of charge. All students left the check up with information for needed follow-up care, and resources that are available for accessing health insurance, including the Oregon Healthy Kids Program.

The opportunity was made possible by a grant written by Heather Lewis, with the Vernonia Prevention Coalition. Based on the results of the screening, it will be determined if a second grant will be applied for to provide more extensive services, including sealants. These services are much needed, and appreciated, especially given our area's current economic state.

If you have any questions regarding the dental screenings, or accessing the Oregon Healthy Kids Program, please call the Washington Grade School office at 503-429-7941.

This program was so successful here in Vernonia that Pacific University is interested in expanding the program next year to include all schools in Columbia County. Once again, Vernonia is leading the way to a better future for Oregon!



47J School Board told that \$30.8 million now raised for new schools

The Vernonia School Board saw the district's financial audit at their February 9 meeting. The auditors found no problems with the district's monetary policies or practices, and noted that the few items identified in the prior year had been corrected.

John Donovan from the Metropolitan Group told the board that, "2011 was a year of tremendous progress on the Vernonia schools project," having raised \$30.8 million by the end of 2011, up \$11.8 million over the amount that had been raised by the end of 2010. Donovan went on to say that only the final 25 percent, just under \$10 million, is still needed to complete the fundraising effort.

Possibilities for the 2012-13 instructional calendar got a first

viewing, but the board was told that a final version will not be presented for adoption until March.

The board approved a policy on Admission of Nonresident Students, set a cap on the number of non-resident student transfers the district will accept, and gave final approval for February 10 to be a student contact day, before adjourning the meeting.

Superintendent Dr. Ken Cox told the board that items to be discussed at the next meeting will include plans for moving to the new school, information on the new Spencer Park, and a new district tobacco policy.

The next meeting of the school board will be at 6:00 p.m. on March 8, at the district office.

Apply now for 2012 Ag. scholarships

The Oregon Agricultural Education Foundation (OAEF) has announced that applications are available for two scholarship programs for the upcoming 2012-2013 academic year.

Oregon Farm Bureau Memorial Scholarships (OFBMS) with 10-12 awards annually are open to any Oregon high school graduate preparing for an agriculture or forestry-related career. Students attending institutions outside of Oregon are also eligible. The goal of the OFB Memorial Scholarship program is to "Support stu-

dents that will have a positive impact on production agriculture and other agriculture-related fields." The deadline for applications is March 15.

The Oregon Farm Bureau Associate Member Scholarship, funded by COUNTRY Financial, of \$1000 is open to any Oregon High School graduate/resident with an associate membership (non-farming/non-voting), (or a dependent child of an associate member), in Oregon Farm Bureau preparing to continue his/her education through a junior college, or a four year college or universi-

ty with intent to seek a bachelor's degree. Students attending institutions outside of Oregon are also eligible. Employees of Oregon Farm Bureau and COUNTRY Financial and their immediate families are not eligible for this scholarship. The goal of the scholarship is to "Help future community and business leaders obtain a baccalaureate education with the aim of strengthening understanding, cooperation, and mutual respect among rural, urban, and suburban Oregonians."

Scholarship procedures and applications, plus additional information are available on the Oregon Farm Bureau website. <http://www.oregonfb.org/programs/ofb-scholarships/>.

VHS honor roll announced

The following students were named to the Vernonia High School academic Honor Roll for the 2011-12 second quarter. Grade Point Averages (GPA) are on a scale of 1-4, with 4 equaling a perfect score.

Principal's Honors, 4.00 – Makayla Adams, Yaroslava Denysenko, Katie Ellington, Nicole Glass, Jeffrey Goodman, Nathanael Izzett, Pavel Jiraneck, Andrew Jennings, Alisa Levenseller, Samantha Lindauer, Alyssa Loggins, Laura Rice, Leah Rice, Deziree Roberts, Ana Scerbati, Sicily Scott, Summer Snow, Tynstan Talantov, Shyla Tungwenuk, Natalie Wallace, Samantha Wallace, Brittany Young, and Zhuldyz Zhunussova.

High Honors, 3.50-3.99 –

Kimberly Allen, Kayla Aronhalt, Austin Best-Cutright, Marley Bower, Joshua Butcher, Nicolo Casale, Zi_Xian Chen, Andrew Cheney, Rowan Cheney, Lucrece Cheramy, Christopher Dass, Emilee Easlon, Janae Easlon, Jacob Eyrrick, Julia Fletcher, Jessica Gardner, Timothy Jennings, Quin Johansen, Jerrid Johnston, Brandon Krause, Kendrick Leaverton, Alex Lembke, Andrea Lezama, Lea Mari, Jackson Miller, Kaitlin Paleck, Janek Palovsky, Tasia Pond, Daniel Shaw, Kelly Smith, Winter Snow, Sean Solberg, Meghan Sullivan, Dylan Taylor, Ryan Taylor, Iryna Verhogliad, Jacob Vifquain, Stina Voss, and Damian Young.

Honors, 3.25-3.49 – Ashlee Archer, Skylar Binford, Savannah Brown, Robin Elliott, Amirkhon Habibuloev, Adonis Hopkins, Jacob Levenseller, Liliann Lindsley, Nathen Mc Millen, Daniel Rice, Sven Sandstrom, Rowan Scott, Jessica Smith, Lane Sullivan, Sarah Wagner, and Kristian Wredstroem.

Honorable Mention, 3.00-3.24 – Crystal-Ann Carreon, Stephanie Castro, Melissa Charbonneau, Dillon Dethlefs, Shylo Dooley, Mandi Hartford, Cierra Henson, Finn Hoeck, Sara McMahan, Felica Schirmeister, Robert Stringfield, Nicole Thompson, Logan Titus, and Leon Wiegand.

Vernonia Veterinary Clinic

Formerly Midway Veterinary Clinic

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