

Chalk Talk

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

Well spring has finally arrived. At least it did in Utah, where I was able to spend some time with family over spring break. I hope that some of you, too, were able to spend some quality time with your children and loved ones. We, as adults, need to remember that we are creating childhood memories every day.

With time's inevitable march, those of us who are getting older know that summer will be here before we know it, and I am very much aware of how quickly it is approaching, with all that is being planned and must be done to move into our new schools this fall. In order to try to keep things straight I have prepared an online calendar that will help keep everyone informed and (hopefully) avoid too many conflicts. You can find the calendar by clicking on the VSD Summer Schedule on the district home page on our website.

Here are some highlights of events that are being scheduled:

- Last Chance Reunion – June 23 – an opportunity to say goodbye to our existing buildings and to reminisce about the good times that were had there. The Vernonia Education Foundation has formed a committee to coordinate this event

Apply now for 4-H scholarships

The 4-H Aplet Family Scholarship is awarded each year to one Columbia County student to pursue a degree at Oregon State University. Students may attend the OSU Corvallis Campus, Cascades Campus, or local community college through the OSU Dual Degree Program.

Scholarship applicants must have participated in the Columbia County 4-H Youth Development program. Preference will be given to applicants who will

be majoring in business, finance, or a closely related field. This is a multi-year scholarship of \$1,250 per year for up to 4 years (\$5,000 total award).

Completed application packets are due by May 1.

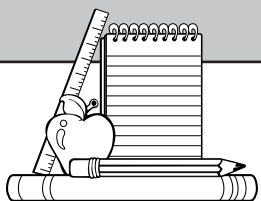
For more information and a copy of the application, please call or visit the OSU Extension Service office at 505 N. Columbia River Highway, St. Helens. Prospective applicants may also go to: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/columbia>.

with other community organizations.

- Grand Opening Celebration – August 21 – we are currently looking at a ribbon cutting ceremony in the morning and a community open house and dessert in the evening.

The actual move to the new school will take place in multiple phases beginning in mid-June through July 13. The deconstruction and demolition will begin in earnest the following week. We are going to be working with the contractor to make the salvage of some mementos from the buildings available. If you have a request, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can compile a list and make sure that we are in compliance with all the FEMA regulations (since they paid for the buildings to be removed).

We will be looking for some volunteer help during the move and with some of the landscaping at the new school. If you are interested please contact Barb Carr at the district office. Please feel free to send me an email (ken.cox@vernonia.k12.or.us) to ask questions and share concerns about the move or the removal of the buildings. I will answer your email even if it takes me a couple of days.



Head Start now recruiting

Head Start, a federally funded pre-school program, is seeking students for the 2012-2013 school year. Applications are being taken from all three and four year olds in Columbia County for fall enrollment. Enrollment will be completed in August. If parents are interested in enrollment information they are urged to phone immediately.

Prospective students must be three or four years old by September 1, 2012. Children must be from limited income households, or have a disability and/or special needs to qualify.

Head Start incorporates a total family program that includes nutrition, education, medical and dental services for the enrolled child and home visitations. USDA approved meals are served. Training on various subjects and on-the-job training is offered to all enrolled families. Limited transportation may be available.

The U. S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) and the State of

Oregon prohibit discrimination in all USDA programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability.

The Vernonia Center is located in the Blue Heron Hollow Apartment complex. Families who live in the Mist, Birkenfeld and Vernonia areas may phone 503-429-9243 for more information.

The Clatskanie Center is located behind the high school in Clatskanie. Families in the Clatskanie, Quincy, Westport and Knappa areas may phone 503-728-2940 for more information.

The Rainier Center is located in the Riverside Church building. Families in the Rainier and Goble area may phone 503-556-2807 for more information.

Students in the St. Helens area attend class at the center on Columbia Blvd. next to Mc Bride School. Families may contact 503-397-4114 for more information.



The ball was on the way to the basket when this picture was taken during the Donkey Basketball games, held in Vernonia, on March 24. This game was Juniors against the Seniors and the Juniors won. The other teams were Vernonia Sentry and Vernonia Fire Volunteers.

Pet of the Month

Find the pet that's right for you at the Columbia Humane Society
2084 Oregon Street, St. Helens. Phone 503-397-4353
Open Mon - Fri 1 pm to 5 pm & Saturday, 11 am to 5 pm



My name is Abby. I am a mixed breed, larger size dog and am around 2-3 years old. I am a good girl, who has done some obedience work and listens well. I am going to need a large fenced yard and a family who will be very active with me. I like dogs, kids, and cats are ok. I'm a really nice dog looking for a really nice home. If you are looking for that one special companion then look no further. Come down and visit me and all my shelter friends today!

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

This Month's Pet is Sponsored by:

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