

VHS announces 3rd quarter honor role for 2011-12

The following students were named to the Vernonia High School academic Honor Roll for the 2011-12 3rd 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, Kelsey Brandt, Nicolo Casale, Lucy Cheramy, Yaroslava Denysenko, Emilee Easlon, Julia Fletcher, Samantha Lindauer, Alyssa Loggins, Jackson Miller, Ana Scerbati, Sicily Scott, Summer Snow, Meghan Sullivan, Ellyssa Szlavich, Tynystan Talantov, Dylan Taylor, Stina Voss, Natalie Wallace, Samantha Wallace, and Zhuldyz Zhunussova.

High Honors, 3.50-3.99 – Ashlee Archer, Austin Best-Cutright, Matthew Bringman, Savannah Brown, Joshua Butcher, Zi Xian Chen, Rowan Cheney, Janae Easlon, Katie Ellington, Nicole Glass, Jeffrey Goodman, Timothy Jennings, Pavel Jiranek, Quin Johansen, Brandon Krause, Alex Lembke, Alisa Levenseller, Andrea Lezama, Lea Mari, Nathanael McCroskey-Izzett, Samantha Morgan, Kaitlin Paleck, Janek Palovsky, Tasia Pond, Laura Rice, Leah Rice, Makayla Roach, Deziree Roberts, Daniel Shaw, Jessica Smith, Kelly Smith, Taylor Titus, Shyla Tungwenuk, Iryna Verhogliad, Jacob Vifquain, Sarah Wagner, Lean Wilson, Brittany Young, and Damian Young.

Honors, 3.25-3.49 – Kayla

Aronhalt, Skylar Binford, Marley Bower, Riplee Burch, Stephanie Castro, Andrew Cheney, Tanieka Credit, Christopher Dass, Jesse Edgar, Jacob Eyrrick, Jessica Gardner, Amirkhon Habibuloev, Cierra Henson, Finn Hoeck, Andrew Jennings, Lilliann Lindsley, Nathan Mc Millen, Daniel Rice, Rowan Scott, Winter Snow, Sean Solberg, Lane Sullivan, Ryan Taylor, and Leon Wiegand.

Honorable Mention, 3.00-3.24 – Kimberly Allen, Kelsey Brown, Melissa Charbonneau, Kristen Christie, Brenna Gilbert, Mandi Hartford, Ethan Johnston, Kendrick Leaverton, Jacob Levenseller, Ashley Martin, Sara McMahon, Jerrian Pond, Austin Rumbolz, and Nicole Thompson.

An Evening With Oscar features VHS band

An Evening With Oscar will be presented, by the Vernonia High School Band, on Saturday, May 5, at the high school gymnasium. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the event begins at 7:00 p.m. Join them on the red carpet.

Admission: \$3.00 Adults, \$1.50 seniors and students for ticket holders, or price increases at door. Dessert will be provided during intermission.

Board gets check from VHS Leadership Class

The Vernonia High School Leadership Class presented a check to the Vernonia School Board at their April 12 meeting. The check to the Vernonia Education Foundation in the amount of \$1619.10, represented the proceeds from the students Donate a \$1, Build a School, Save a Community fundraiser.

Superintendent Dr. Ken Cox told the board that the district has accepted a bid of \$45,150 from LaGrande School District

for the modular classroom that the district recently named as surplus. The modular will be moved after school ends.

Business items at the meeting included the board giving approval:

- to a new Tobacco Free Environment policy (see related article on this page),

- for the band to travel out of state to Battleground, Washington,

- for the Class Grant Design Team and a middle school ap-

pointee (to be designated later) to be the members of a new Achievement Compact Committee,

- for an adjustment to the Transportation Contract to extend the length of the contract with the agreement from Curl Transport to freeze the CPI increase to the current amount for the life of the contract.

The next board meeting will be held May 10, starting at 6:00 p.m. in the district office.

Enroll now for Parenting Now!

Parenting Now! classes will be held each Tuesday from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., starting April 24, at the Vernonia Community Church, 957 State St., Vernonia. Learn:

- to manage stress in healthy ways,
- to develop realistic expectations of parenting,
- the latest about your child's development, temperament and personality,

- tools for positive discipline and how to set your children up for success, and

- how to enjoy your children and strengthen your family life.

The program is sponsored by Northwest Parenting Education with support from Community Action Team, Inc.

Register now, as space is limited. Sliding scale fee and child care available. Call 503-

It is Kindergarten Round-up time

Washington Grade School's (WGS) Kindergarten Round-up 2012 will be held Friday, May 18. Please call the WGS office at 503-429-7941 to set up an appointment.

Immunization records and birth certificates will be required for pre-registration. Children must be five-years-old on or before September 1, 2012.

School board lauded for tobacco policy

On April 12, the Vernonia School Board passed a new model tobacco policy for the Vernonia School District that deepens a focus on creating healthy learning environments for all students. This is important because the rates of tobacco use among youth in Columbia County are significantly higher than the state averages: 11 percent of eighth graders and 20 percent of eleventh graders smoke; 9 percent of eighth graders and 14 percent of eleventh graders use chew tobacco.

Tobacco use can be particularly harmful in youth. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 80 percent of adult smokers started smoking before the age of 18. Younger people are more likely to become addicted. That's why the updated policy now includes tobacco products that are most enticing to students such as tobacco strips, orbs and nicotine and other nicotine delivery devices. The policy also prohibits any tobacco advertising on school grounds and at school functions. It has been developed to follow state statute and, therefore, applies

for all campus activities, even when school is not in session or children are not present.

"Nicotine is highly addictive and tobacco carries a mix of toxins and carcinogens. That's why it is imperative to take a proactive approach to keep youth from initiating tobacco use. This means reducing their exposure on school grounds," said DeAnna Pearl of the Vernonia Prevention Coalition. "Data show that even cigarette 'lookalikes' are harmful because it gives kids an unrealistic perception of the risks associated. For that reason, e-cigarettes are also banned from the campus."

The policy was developed collaboratively with student groups, the Vernonia School Wellness Team, and the Tobacco Prevention program staff from the Public Health Foundation of Columbia County. It was informed by American Lung Association's guidelines and a property assessment by students.

"Policy is an important part of creating a culture of change and helps create healthy places to live, work, learn and play," added Sherrie Ford, from

Public Health. "The fact that the policy was developed by a true representation of the school shows how important health is to this community and how much tobacco is recognized as a threat to our youth."

If you are interested or are ready to quit tobacco, call 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669) or go to www.quitnow.net/oregon/.

OSU Honor Roll includes locals

Names of students who made the Scholastic Honor Roll Winter term have been announced by Oregon State University. A total of 752 students earned straight-A (4.0) grades. Another 3,338 earned a B-plus (3.5), or better, to make the listing. To be on the Honor Roll, students must carry at least 12 graded hours of course work. Students on the Honor Roll included:

- 3.5 or Better: Christopher W. Bamberg, Sophomore, Pre-Business; and Brandon M. Gilbertson, Sophomore, Athletic Training, both from Vernonia.

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