

Col. Co. Democrats send three delegates to national convention



Left to right, Vice-Chair Mary Lou Osburn, Chair Cris Land, and Elections Chair Donna Nyberg will all be heading for the Democratic National Convention in September.

For the first time in history, the Columbia County Democratic Central Committee (CCD-CC) will send three delegates to the Democratic National Convention in September. The elected delegates are Cris Land, Chair, Mary Lou Osburn, Vice-Chair, and Donna Nyberg, Elections Chair.

The three local delegates will join the Oregon contingent in Charlotte, N.C. to nominate Barack Obama to a second term as President of the United States. This group of 84 delegates is the largest and most diverse group ever to represent Oregon.

According to Mr. Land, this is the first time in memory that Columbia County has been able to bring such a strong representation of elected delegates to a Democratic National

Convention.

"I think it says a lot about our party that three candidates from a small rural county were elected to represent Oregon's 1st Congressional District," said Nyberg.

Mary Lou Osburn intends to bring fans printed with her message of "One heart One Vote, and Mine is not for sale" to ward off the warm temperatures of Charlotte in September.

"Democrats care about the issues that are important to us in smaller counties, like fair wage jobs, environmental and land use protections, and access to health care for all. I am honored to be part of such a strong contingent of people to represent us from our county, our district, and our state in Charlotte," said Land.

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



Gee whiz, what do I write about this week? I am somewhere between being fluffy and/or grinding my teeth on a subject that I've had in my bonnet since my children were in the school system.

In reading the article in the last paper about the torment of bullying, and then seeing the news on Channel 8 Tuesday night of the Clackamas child that was roughed up, tied hand and foot with shoe laces, then dumped down the embankment by two other boys – my ire has been lit. Too long parents, teachers and folks in charge of teaching children the lessons of proper (for lack of a better word) civil etiquette to children, maybe that should be a subject taught in a classroom for all people. Looking back over my child rearing years it seems I spent too much time at school explaining my child's need for the right to come to school for an education in the basic reading,

writing, and fun. Not in how to learn to defend their right to be kind, thoughtful and friendly to their other classmates, teachers, and all the other people they meet in life.

O.K., school's out for the summer, time to enjoy the sun, moon, stars, wind, rain, bees, bugs and to remember that kids are home all day. Now you have to stock the frig. with extra tidbits of grab and run food, soda pop and all the junk food they sell on T.V. Oh, joy!!

It seems I've spent a lot of time the last two weeks moving my flower pot garden into the sun and out of the rain. Growing flowers in a complex is a chore.

Here is a question for you folks over the age of, say, 70. Are you beginning to miss seeing or hearing from friends and others you run into occasionally, and think nothing of it? Every time I get *The Independent*, I see the faces of folks I've known for the past 16 years and it hurts me to know I won't be able to run into them again whenever I'm in Vernonia. To those folks that know I knew your loved ones, my prayers are with you.

Till next time. Love, JBR.

Letter Carriers collected over 6 tons of food in 2012

In mid-May the National Association of Letter Carriers held their annual food drive, the largest one-day food drive in the nation. Columbia Pacific Food Bank reports that thanks to the generosity of the residents in our area, Columbia County had the highest percentage increase in the entire state for pounds of food collected compared to last year. The County Post Offices collected a grand total of 12,630 pounds of food. All food donated for this food drive stays in the local community in which it was collected.

The Columbia Pacific Food

Bank, which supports local food pantries and other partner agencies throughout Columbia County, continues to see a rise

in the number of families and individuals seeking assistance, making food drives like this one more important than ever.

Dr. Jule surrendered her license

Dr. Jule Plummer, founder of Valley Veterinary Clinic in Rainier and Vernonia, surrendered her veterinary license on June 1.

The Oregon Veterinary Medical Examining Board does not release information about the reasons for the surrender. Plummer waived her rights to a contested case hearing and judicial review and agreed not to reapply for a license. She does

still have a license to practice in Washington, but is being investigated there, with two open cases before the Washington Veterinary Board of Governors.

Plummer opened the clinic in 1975 and currently has four other veterinarians working for her. The practice has been for sale for some time, and Plummer had been planning to retire in the near future.

24 Years Ago This Month

The June 30, 1988, issue of *The Independent* included the following news story on page 24 under the headline, "Break appears in local murder":

Investigation is continuing in the death of Richard Nels "Rick" Jensen, 54955 Timber Road, Vernonia, who was found shot to death on May 31.

A late model Buick owned by the victim was involved in police pursuit near Clackamas Town Center within hours of the slaying, Columbia County District Attorney Martin A. Sells said.

Clackamas County Sheriff's deputies, unaware of the homicide, started following the auto

after observing erratic behavior by the driver. After driving at speeds up to 70 mph on Sunnyside Road the driver braked suddenly, leapt out of the car and disappeared through the backyards of nearby resi-

dences. The deputies were unable to follow, Sells said.

Though there are no suspects, leads are now being followed in an effort to develop a composite drawing of the car's driver, he added.

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