

Spiralz Salon - Helping Vernonia Look and Feel Better

By Scott Laird



The women who work at Spiralz Salon do a great job helping the people of Vernonia look their best. Karin Kent, Kim Bernardi and Becky Clapshaw, the young ladies who man the chairs at Spiralz enjoy their work and even have fun while doing it. The salon has undergone a recent make-

over as well, as a result of the flooding this past December. to keep our own money!" added Kim Bernardi. Bernardi, who got her cosmetology license in 2006, said she enjoys working in Vernonia because she gets to cut hair for people she knows and went to school with at Vernonia High School. Clapshaw, who has four young children and was licensed in

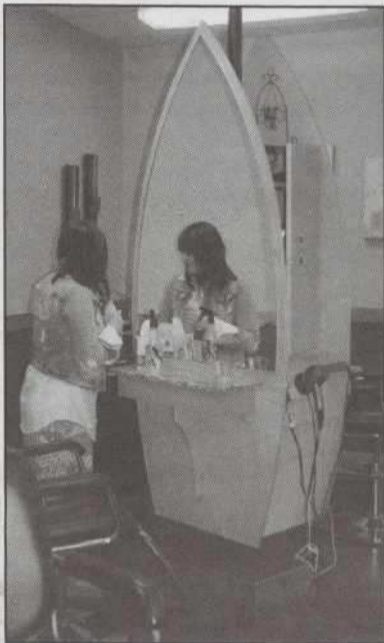


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Spiralz offers a number of services including haircuts for men and women, coloring, perms, waxing, and even nostril hair removal. There is a single tanning bed available, which the ladies say stays very busy, especially in winter and early spring.

2000, works evenings and is the waxing specialist.

Spiralz Salon is located about a block from Rock Creek which overflowed its banks in December, rising to about two feet inside the Salon. "Monday is normally our day off, so we weren't there when it started flooding. Someone called and said we better get down there," remembered Kent. "We moved out supplies and furniture and whatever else we could, but there really wasn't a lot we could do."



Karin (pronounced Ka-rin) Kent took over ownership of the Salon from Gina Fabor in 2004. Kent moved to Vernonia in 1995 with her young family and leased a chair from Fabor, doing hair styling and nails and basically running her own business. When she took over the shop, she continued the same set up, leasing chairs to stylists who are their own business owners.



"We get to be our own boss and make our own schedule," said Becky Clapshaw about the arrangement the stylists have at Spiralz. "And we get

"My boys helped a lot with the initial clean up," said Kent. "They worked really hard." Kent was able to actually open for a while after the flood, giving needed hair cuts in a dismantled building. "People were so supportive," said Kent. "It was cold in the building and unsightly, but they didn't mind."

Spiralz was shut down for a total of five weeks while remodeling. "The insurance adjuster was very impressed with the clean up job we did," said Kent. Kent, Bernardi and Clapshaw took the opportunity to make some changes and redecorate, and the new look is great! "We got new sinks and shampoo chairs,"

said Kent. "We removed the old window seat, moved the tanning bed to a better spot, put in a new polished concrete floor, and replaced the front door. And of course we painted and added new trim." The new look is warm, comfortable and very attractive.

Kent's grandfather helped with the remodel. "He really saved the day," said Kent. "My mom and my sons and Kim really helped out too."

"People were so glad when we finally reopened," said Clapshaw. "They were really glad to see us."

Spiralz received its makeover, maybe now it's your turn? Spiralz Salon is located at 712 Bridge Street, Vernonia.

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