

# Critters "R" Us

By Crystal Ann Carreon

Youth, ages 4th grade and up, from the Vernonia community have come together to form a new multi-animal 4-H group this year. A total of eight members including one Cloverbud (a member that is younger than a 4th grader) show a variety of animals including goats, sheep, chickens, rabbits, and pigs.



Kaitlyn Eyrrick and Megan Ely with the rabbit hutch they built for Kaitlyn's 4-H project.

The variety of animals has allowed the members to learn as well as teach the rest of the group about their animals. The 4-H members will be showing their animals at the Columbia County Fair this year during July 14-18.

Six of the youth will be



Bradley Ely shows off his chickens.

auctioning off market animals at the 4-H auction. The members will have sheep, chickens, rabbits, and pigs down at the auction on July 17, 2010, at 3:30 PM if you or your friends would like to attend.

This year is my first year in 4-H. Raising pigs is really fun! I like to watch them blow bubbles in their water. When I first got my pigs, they only weighed 40 pounds. At the last weigh-in, they weighed 110 pounds and 135 pounds and by Fair they have to weigh nearly 300 pounds!

All of the 4-H members are looking forward to showing at Fair. Hope to see you there!

# Vernonia Bear Creek Run/Walk Event Planned

Mark your calendars-- August 14, 2010, is the date for the eighth annual Bear Creek Run/Walk. Beginning and ending at Anderson Park, this event boasts the diversity of a 5K Run/Walk, including a scenic lap around Vernonia Lake, and a 10K Run that heads south along the Banks/Vernonia Linear Trail. Both routes are flat, fast and wind through tree-lined sections of the trail, providing welcome shade for runners and walkers alike.

This event is a fundraiser for the Vernonia Cares Food Bank-- an organization that has supported local families for the past 25 years. Many local businesses have already received letters reaching out for sponsorship and support of this event. The food bank appreciates the financial sponsorship received during the past six years from businesses, both local and outside of Vernonia. This year shows a sponsorship total of \$900 so far. Great start!

How can you help? Become a sponsor, enter the race as an individual or group, come and cheer on those who run or walk or, better yet, volunteer on race day! There are many volunteers needed to make this event a success, so please help out if you can! It is said that charity begins at home-- this is a chance to role model this through all levels of support for this event.

Registration will begin at 7:00 AM on August 14<sup>th</sup> at the

Anderson Park pavilion, in Vernonia, with the events starting at 8:00 AM. Online registration is encouraged. Watch for more local advertising and race registration forms in the days ahead. See the following website for more details: <http://www.signmeup.com/66420>, or contact Kellie Murray, Race Director at (503) 429-3021.



It is the food bank's hope that the 2010 Vernonia Bear Creek Run will be a memorable event benefiting Vernonia residents both young and old alike. It has the potential to bring visitors and consumers to our beautiful town, generating local revenue plus heightened awareness of our lovely forested trails and parks. See you at the starting line!

Thank you for supporting Vernonia Cares Food Bank

# Vernonia's "Squeaky Wheels" Park Officially Opens

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, members of the Lions Club and other community leaders made speeches, Mayor Sally Harrison cut the ribbon, and Vernonia kids finally had their Skate Park.



After a twelve year wait, The Squeaky Wheels Park is now open for kids on skateboards, bikes and scooters. The project, started in 1998 by students, has seen numerous delays due to siting and planning issues. In 2002, the Vernonia Lions Club decided to become a community leader in building the park and were instrumental in the park opening this summer.

The park, situated on the old tennis courts on the Vernonia school grounds, is being considered "temporary," and is about one-third complete. The Lions Club took a ramp design intended to be made from metal and polymer and have built ramps from wood. According to Lions Club member, George Tice, the

park is portable and changeable.

The Lions Club thanked a long list of supporters including Willow Burch from Vernonia Hardware and Supply who was on hand for the opening. Her business has donated or supplied at reduced costs needed supplies, paint and construction materials. The Lions also thanked the Vernonia School District, The Vernonia Fire Department, the City of Vernonia and Mayor Sally Harrison, State Senator Betsy Johnson, Sentry Market, the Vernonia Prevention Coalition, Hands On Art, the Vernonia Area Chamber of Commerce, the Vernonia Police Department, the faith-based community and Mike Snow of Art Attack.

The Lions Club would like to challenge other community groups to build the best ramp. The Lions will provide materials, your group just needs to do the work. The Lions Club is also seeking financial donations for the continued upkeep of the park.



Vernonia Mayor Sally Harrison cuts the ribbon at the new Vernonia Squeaky Wheels Park which opened July 4th.

# It's Time Again For Camp Wilkerson

Camp Wilkerson Day Camp will be held August 2-6th. After a one year hiatus, Camp will once again be held at Camp Wilkerson County Park again this year. Campers in Kindergarten through 6th grade will be in separate groups. 7-8th graders will be aides-in-training with 9-12th graders acting as camp councilors. Registration forms are available at Sentry Market.

Sunday night, August 1st,



volunteers, councilors and aides will begin setting up at 6:00 PM. Camp for everyone else will start Monday morning at 9:30 AM.

Camp Wilkerson is looking for volunteers. There is a great reduced rate for helping and there is day-care available at a baby unit, widgets fidgets and midgets for preschool age campers. They are especially looking for people who would like to run some kind of craft or hobby station.

Donations are always welcome-- please send to: "Camp Wilkerson" 460 Mississippi Ave. Vernonia, Oregon.

Camp organizers are looking forward to another great year of Camp! Hope to see you there!



## Something to Think About

The World Cup Of Oil--Here is how the United States stacks up in terms of motor oil consumption per capita/liters per person. Compared to the teams they competed against in the recent Soccer World Cup Championship, along with the host nation, and this year's four semi finalists in the tournament, the United States is clearly the Champion! Or not.  
\*source World Resources Institute

Ghana	31.2
Algeria	70.3
Uruguay	78.0
South Africa	210.5
Spain	213.3
Netherlands	319.9
Germany	363.9
United Kingdom	396.3
Slovenia	415.1
United States	1,618.6

## Vernonia Fall Soccer Registration

Two registration sessions are being offered at the Vernonia Library;  
7/20 5-7pm 7/22 5-7pm

U6, U8, U10, U12 Teams  
Registration costs are \$75 or \$50 per child  
\$10 off if you register by July 15th - just email Mark Lemay  
mrlemay2@yahoo.com or call (503)-432-7742

Creating Tomorrow's Memories

