

Welcome to the World...



Claire Hadley Foreman

Claire Hadley Foreman was born on July 5, 2012. Parents are Katie and Justin Foreman of Post Falls, Idaho. Claire arrived weighing 8 lb. 12. oz. and measuring 21 inches long. Grandparents are Polli and Mike Traylor of Vernonia, Debbi Foreman of Thousand Oaks, CA and Gary Foreman of Camarillo, CA. Great-grandfather is Gerald Swendseid of Salem, OR.

Congratulations...

Mr. Chuck Barklow and Ms. Erika Solberg were united in marriage on the twenty-first day of July 2012 in the afternoon at Hawkins Park, Vernonia, OR. The bride is the daughter of Ms. Heather Johansen of Vernonia. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne and



Sandra Wood of Arago, OR. The couple will make their home in Vernonia for the time being with their seven children: Sean, Deandra, Mikila, Charity, Courtney, Cutter and Jack.

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Vernonia Coffee Roasters is Back in Business

continued from front page

fee. They recently sent out an email to customers stating that they "...plan on being back in full operation by the first week of August!...We have been able to borrow some time on a little roaster so we can receive/process orders. We have also picked up some really great new coffee that we are excited to make available plus we have all our regular blends too!"

Davis was also happy to announce that their coffee will be back on the shelves of the Vernonia Sentry Market shortly. They will also be offering two of their "Vernonia" blends--Blend 47 and Bridge Street Blend--at the Made in Vernonia shop very soon.

A variety of crowd funding platforms have emerged over the last few years; Indiegogo was just one of the companies the Davis's researched before deciding to move forward with their campaign.

Davis says he was directed towards a crowd funding option by David Stocker, Executive Director for the Columbia County Economic Team. "He had heard about our situation and he brought up Kickstarter," said Davis.

Kickstarter is one of the largest funding platforms for creative projects. Davis says they did some research and made a proposal twice to Kickstarter. Both times they were rejected. So Davis says they decided to try Indiegogo.

Davis says he liked Indiegogo right from the start. "They have a really good way that they look at what they do—if you have a reason and you have a need, no matter who you are or what you are, then you should have a right to do your project," says Davis.

Indiegogo allows projects to be set up in a variety of ways. Vernonia Coffee Roasters set up their campaign so that they would only collect the funds pledged if they reached their goal. Their project was also set up to include incentive gifts for larger donations. All funds are processed through Paypal.

"Once they approve your project then it's all up to you to push your project and let people know about it," says Davis. Vernonia Coffee Roast-

ers used Facebook and email to inform their customer base and the community about their project.

With only a few days to go, the project was still almost \$900 short of their goal but a big push on July 4th put them over the top, and even further. "We were still receiving donations right up until the end, even though we had already reached our goal," says Davis. "We're excited and really grateful for what people did. People did not have to do this and they did. We are so encouraged by it. It's a huge shot in the arm."

The crowd funding concept obviously worked for Vernonia Coffee Roasters, even though Davis initially had doubts. "Really, when you look at it, I think it's a great thing for a lot of people," says Davis. "There are a lot of great projects and 'fundraisers' that are getting funded, that people want to be a part of. That was what helped me decide to give it a try-- people were asking to get involved and they want to be able to see where the money is going to go."

"I think this is wonderful thing that has come up," says Davis about crowd funding. "In this day and age when everyone is looking for creative ways to do what they are doing—small businesses, fundraisers, people that need medical help—there are now lots of different possibilities."

Davis says once the new semi-commercial roaster arrives they will begin to fully process orders and build inventory. Previously Vernonia Coffee Roasters was working with two very small roasters and could only roast a half pound at a time. The new roaster will be able to roast 2-3 pounds at a time. Davis says he will continue to work from his home, although the longer range plan is to finish the interior of an outbuilding on their property into a workspace for the business. Davis says he is taking several business classes at Portland Community College and is researching grant options through the USDA. He also says he hopes to talk with at least two more area grocery stores about carrying their coffees.

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FOR SALE

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