

New Clothing Consignment Store Opens *continued from front page*

care families. It is a separate registered business called Vernonia Foster Closet, and will only be accessible to foster parents who have new children coming into their care who might need items such as diapers, baby food, clothing, blankets, and shoes. That business is completely nonprofit and by donation only, says Farrens. She says she is working to develop some fundraising and donation opportunities. "I would like it to be really community involved," she says.

A foster parent herself, Farrens knows the difficulty families can face, especially when a new child arrives on short notice. She says she hopes foster families all around the Vernonia region, including St. Helens and the rest of Columbia County all the way to Banks, will use and support the business. "They can call me 24 hours a day if they have an emergency situation, and I will even arrange to get the items they need to them if they can't pick them up themselves."

"I have a real passion for foster kids," says Farrens. "The foster parents play a huge role in those kids' lives and really put themselves out to give the kids the security and love and whatever else they need."

"This could be a good outlet for families around town and maybe a good motivator for someone who has been thinking about becoming a foster par-



ent," says Farrens about her business being a community resource. "I would be happy to have people come and pick my brain about my experiences and about how it works and maybe give them some extra assistance and help."

Farrens likes to see herself as a resource for not just foster families, but for others as well. She has years of experience in homeschooling and hopes to expand the area in her store already devoted to curriculum. She is considering creating some type of dress exchange for homecoming, prom and other formal events, as well as help with hair and makeup the day of the event. She



talked about a "new toy" drive at Christmas time for foster children. She has already put together a gift basket and held a raffle to help raise money for the Dewey Pool Project. She has created Facebook pages for both her businesses to help spread news and information about, not just her businesses, but other community events and activities.

"It takes a whole village to raise a child, and I know people say that a lot," says Farrens. "But I know it from experience."

"I just want to be part of the community and there was a real need for this here," says Farrens. "Hopefully this can help bring some people together and form some new relationships within the community."

You can find both Vernonia Resale Children's Consignment and Vernonia Foster Closet on Facebook or go to www.vernoniaresale.com.

**The Vernonia Volunteer Firefighter's
&
The Vernonia Ambulance Association's
9th Annual Pancake Breakfast**

Saturday, May 21st, 7am-Noon

Payment By Donations Only

**Vernonia Volunteer Ambulance Association's
Garage Sale, May 21 & 22**

All Proceeds to Benefit 4th of July Fireworks

Vernonia Lions Spam Fundraiser

The Lions Club of Vernonia held their annual "Spam & Eggs" fundraiser for the benefit of the Vernonia Cares Food Bank. This year the Club did a Spam BBQ demo and several Lions Club members made dishes such as fried rice, jambalaya and several salads using Spam. It was pretty FUN! The Lions were able to raise \$250 in cash and canned protein items. The Lions would like to thank R&S Market and their employees for all the help they gave, and most of all the wonderful and generous citizens of Vernonia for their support.

*George Tice
of the Lions
Club presents
donations to
Randal Harvey
from the
Vernonia Cares
Food Bank.*

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