

## Banks Pharmacy Delivery Service Helps Local Residents

Since Philip Darrah closed his Vernonia Pharmacy location several years ago, some local residents have had difficulty getting their needed prescriptions. Now a new service is helping those who have trouble traveling to Banks get their medications more conveniently.

Holly and Wayne Vaughn have been working with Darrah through his Banks Pharmacy location and are picking up and delivering prescriptions, as well as other needed medical supplies, in the Vernonia area.

ways had a good relationship and, often when I was in there, he would ask me if I would mind taking back a prescription for one person or another here in Vernonia," says Holly. "This had been happening ever since he closed up the pharmacy here. As a joke I said, 'Why don't you just hire me to do your deliveries.' And he paused for a moment and said, 'Sleep on it and talk to me tomorrow.' And that's how it started."

The service operates three days a week - Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Wayne Vaughn works



It's the kind of specialized and personal service you are not surprised to find in a place like Vernonia, a place known for neighbors looking out for each other.

For the Vaughns delivering those needed medications really is a labor of love.

"You get attached to certain people," says Holly. "We care about the people and we're much more than just a delivery service. I love it and so does Wayne. We love seeing the people, visiting a little, and making sure they are OK."

Holly says the idea for the service started back in June when she had stopped by the Banks Pharmacy for her own personal needs. "Phil and I al-

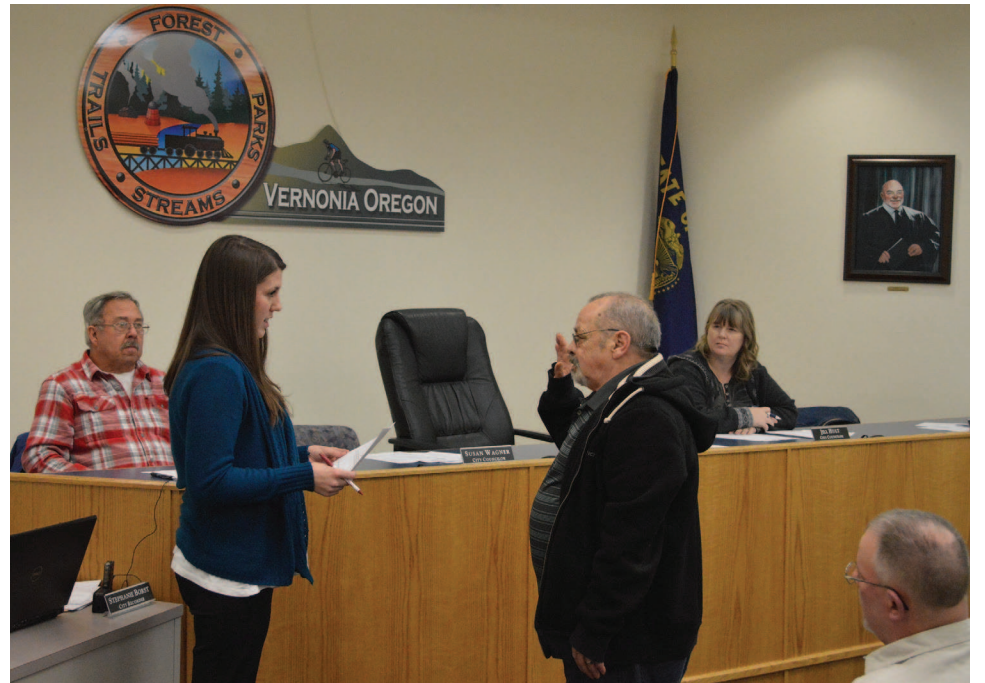
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## Vernonia Has a New Mayor



City Recorder Stephanie Borst administers the Oath of Office to new Mayor Mario Leonetti at the January 3, 2017 City Council meeting, as Councilors Mike Seager and Jill Hult look on. Newly elected City Councilors Bruce McNair (seated, bottom right) and Susan Wagner were also sworn in.

## Vernonia Chamber Receives Funding for July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration

The Great American Bash is ON!

The Columbia County Cultural Coalition, supported by the Oregon Cultural Trust, has recently awarded a grant to the Vernonia Area Chamber of Commerce (VACC) to re-establish the Great American Bash (GAB) on July 4, 2017.

Mark Brown, Grace Family Fellowship Board Chair, was instrumental in the restart of the GAB. Brown volunteered for the Vernonia Prevention Coalition when it previously held the Bash and wanted to see the family oriented event continue. He approached the VACC and volunteered to help promote and produce the event. Additional sponsors include Vernonia Hands on Art and the City of Vernonia. Additional support will be provided by the Vernonia School District.

"We wanted to provide something for our community to be able to share at least one day a year together and celebrate and be reminded of how far we have come and the hope that is before us," said Brown.

Nicole Larke, VACC President, commented that the Great American Bash will include the annual parade through town, food vendors at Spencer Park and entertainment prior to fireworks at Greenman Field. So far the Vernonia High School class of 2018 senior trip students have agreed to have a booth selling root beer floats and orangeades. Tickets for the concerts will be moderately priced.

Interested vendors and musical groups should contact the VACC at [vernoniachamberofcommerce@gmail.com](mailto:vernoniachamberofcommerce@gmail.com).

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