

## Deer populations of concern to local hunters

To the Editor:

We are concerned about the deer population (or lack of it) in this particular territory, and we hope that before the new hunting program for 1982 is formulated there will be an investigation into the decline and reason for these animals becoming almost extinct.

We believe we can be helpful in this by suggesting a closer check on spotlighting and other illegal hunting which goes on almost the year around, and we ask that those that are apprehended in this practice be prosecuted and not let off with just a warning. Also that no hunting of any kind be allowed for a period of two years, and after that a program of either sex and bow hunting be carefully evaluated. It is our belief these last two practices are about as responsible for the decline in numbers as the illegal hunter and the bow hunting is tied in closely with this practice.

Some of us have lived here for more than thirty-five years and have never seen conditions as they are now. We have seen fawns killed in their beds almost at our doorstep by some one with a *doe permit*. Out of a small herd of seven last spring there is one lone fawn left.

This is the territory west of Vernonia which we are positive of and the surrounding area is suspect.

This is a copy of a letter sent to the Game Commission in January 1981 by eight concerned citizens. So far there has not been an answer, and the new regulations and conditions are the same as then. Why?

W.N. Noakes  
Vernonia

## Haunted House needs your help

A group of people volunteering their time to put together this year's Haunted House need your help. Working every night from 7-10 pm building sets and designing props at the American Legion Hall, they say they could sure use any help anyone

might offer.

According to Dolly Keenon, one of the event's organizers, anyone who can pound a nail or paint a set is welcome to come down and join them. Whether for just one evening or to help out each night, each person's contribution will be appreciated, she says.

Scheduled to be open from Thursday, October 29 through Saturday, October 31, organizers also say they need people to man various displays, "For an hour or for an evening, it all helps," Keenon says. The Haunted House, a favorite with local children of all ages, will be open from 7-10 pm on October 29 and from 7:30 -11:30 pm on Friday and Saturday.

To date, donations to the community effort have included rough-cut cedar from Ellson Cedar Products, use of the hall to hold the event in from the local American Legion and the valuable time and effort of 30 volunteers.

### Seniors need papers

The Senior Center needs your old newspapers.

You can drop them off, preferably bundled, on the Center's front porch anytime.

## More co-op member involvement positive

Although last Saturday's vote changing the West Oregon Co-op's operating procedures are, as manager George Smith says, not likely to have any real effect on the way the co-op does business on a day-to-day basis, we are pleased to see that the membership cares enough about what is going on to want to have more input.

It is important for ordinary citizens to have something to say about the way decisions affecting their lives are made. Any time people care enough to get involved a positive step has been taken, for there are far too many times in our lives when those people most affected by events have absolutely no say whatsoever in the circumstances that touch their lives.

It still remains to be seen whether Saturday's vote will actually create increased awareness and input from the co-op's members. In the meantime though, we feel this vote reflects a very positive attitude on both the part of the membership and the co-op. We also feel that over the long run it will help create a feeling of increased responsibility on the part of the membership towards the co-op and, conversely, on the part of the co-op towards its members. It is all too often true that those we elect to represent us, whether politicians or co-op board members, lose sight of what may be best for those they are supposed to represent. With luck these changes in the bylaws will act as a large step towards guaranteeing this does not happen within our Co-op.

### Vernonia Ambulance crews

## Medics faulted for holiday run

To the Editor:

In as much as we are members of the community, and the City Council does represent the City of Vernonia as a whole, we feel certain questions pertaining to the community and it's safety need to be asked.

What do the citizens of Vernonia pay to have our ambulance service operational at all times? Who does the maintenance on said vehicle, and why during a life and death situation is said vehicle exposed to a busted radiator hose, heart monitor devices which are *not* anchored down to the point of almost falling on helpless infants and when was the last time the driver of said vehicle was asked to take a course in defensive driving. We ask this last question emphatically and undeniably under the act of self-preservation.

Secondly, when did Vernonia put on

our ambulance service, it's own diagnosis? Case in point; I took a ride with the ambulance on Labor Day, September 7, 1981, (after the tedious task of explaining to certain EMT, I was *definitely going* with child) and was in that ambulance when a certain EMT diagnosed bronchitis on a bacterial meningitis case. Not only was this indignity suffered, but upon returning to Vernonia approximately five hours later, the better part of the city had already been told of what was *assumed* at one particular hospital.

Since when did someone's medical history become public knowledge, and as the only ambulance service in town, when is the confidentiality of a patient determined by an EMT's mood of the day?

Another EMT on the ambulance service went so far as to call the mother of the critically ill child (verification of this is readily available) at the hospital during this time to ask that she put in the paper, the Vernonia Freedom, a statement thanking the EMT's and the ambulance service.

And for what I might ask you? Perhaps the inconsiderate, insufferable mass of total destructive hysteria such idiotic incompetence has caused?

Even we, a small portion of the community could not condone such a generous act in the face of sheer ignorance.

Holly Johnson  
Newton Gray  
Janice Gray  
Vernonia

## obituary...

Chester A. Anderson

Chester A. Anderson, Tillamook, formerly of Vernonia; husband of Dorris; father of Ronald, Phyllis Crouch; brother of William Anderson, Samuel Anderson, Helen Christensen, Dorena Ridling; nine grandchildren. Funeral services 1:30 pm Friday, October 9, Waud's Funeral Home. Vault interment Sunset Heights Memorial Gardens. Those who wish may contribute to American Heart Association.

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Would anyone who has borrowed or been loaned crutches or canes please return them to the Vernonia Health Center. They are needed for other patients.

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Columbia County Historical Society will meet Wednesday, October 28, at the museum in the old Pioneer Courthouse at 1 pm. Lunch will be served at the new St. Helens Senior Center on 12th St. at noon. Manager Gwen wants us to be prompt and get there on time by 12:00 pm sharp.

The senior van will leave the Vernonia Center at 11 am.

## Happy Birthday, Cori

To our dearest, darling Cori;

Last Sunday you celebrated your first birthday, and already after just one year, we cannot remember what our lives were like before you came along. The change you've effected in our lives has been complete, with each day bringing a new joy, some new reason for us to love you. To paraphrase a currently popular song: "You light up our lives."

It is hard to tell you, especially since as yet the English language is not your favored means of communication, just how much we love you. The joy and excitement you bring to every little thing we do is complete. Each day, as we watch in wonder as you grow and change, becoming more and more your own person, we marvel at your exquisite perfection.

We know that all parents must feel as we do, yet that does not detract in any way from what we feel for you. Nor will the passage of time dim our love for you. If anything, it will only make the bond stronger as each year we love you more and more.

To us, regardless of what the years may have in store, you shall always remain our dearest, darling Cori.

## Vernonia Freedom

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