

Business Notes

Bike shop opens for business

The first sign of economic development related to the new Banks-Vernonia State Linear Park is the opening of Coast Range Bicycles, by entrepreneur Bob Ragsdale. The shop is presently located at 717 Rose Avenue, Vernonia, in the building adjacent to Ralph Sturdevant's service station.

A long-standing interest in cycling as a physical fitness sport led Ragsdale into racing competition, where he held the Oregon State Veteran's Championship in 1973 and was runner up for the title in 1974.

Because of his interest in racing, he became a skilled

bike mechanic with a stable of first class racing bicycles. He also owned a small wheel-building business, and developed a reputation for building excellent racing wheels.

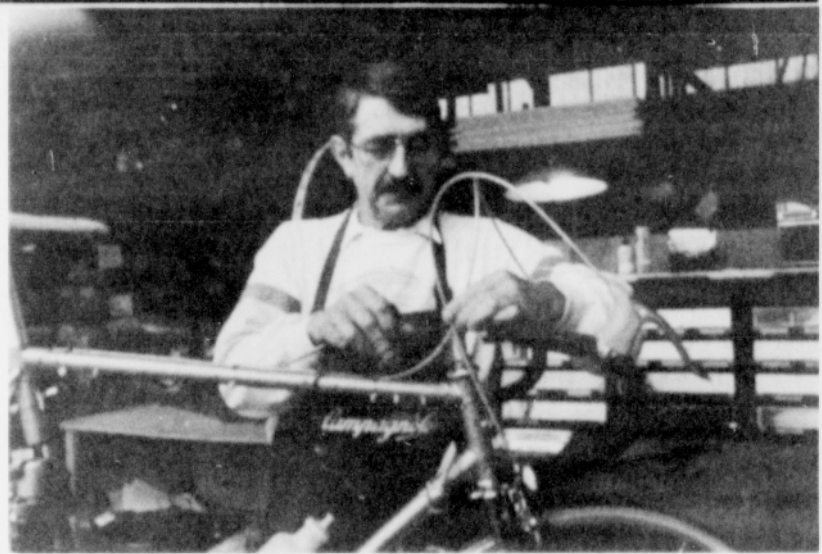
At present, he is attending an advanced class in bicycle mechanics to upgrade his wheel building, frame repair and preparation skills.

Anyone interested in cycling needs to be aware of the different kinds of bicycling and the variety and quality of

bicycles available, Ragsdale says.

Cycling, he says, is classifiable into four categories: recreation, touring, off-road and racing. Price ranges vary with the type of bicycle, he adds, but mostly because of the quality of materials and construction.

Available for the asking is a brochure Ragsdale has prepared to help interested people make intelligent decisions when they buy a bicycle.



Bob Ragsdale adjusts cables on a 12 speed bike.

Chamber committee works on economic development

An economic development committee was selected by the Vernonia Area Chamber of Commerce to begin planning and coordination of several different activities which affect the economic climate of the area.

The committee has named several subcommittees to work on specific areas such as downtown development,

parks, transportation, energy sources, etc.

The group met with the would-be owner of an industry for this area and referred him to a potential funding source.

The subcommittee dealing with parks met recently with representatives of the City of Vernonia and local representatives of the Oregon Tourism

Alliance. The purpose of the meeting was to consider connecting Vernonia Lake and the Banks-Vernonia Linear Park with a city-owned extension of the trail between the two, and to urge the city to complete a master plan for the lake. Owners of the land adjacent to the lake have offered to donate land for the trail extension.

The committee is com-

posed of chairman Gene Winningham, Patricia Ray, Tom Strand, Dirk and Noni Andersen, Boyd Ruby, Sykes Mitchell and Bob Ragsdale.

The next general membership meeting of the chamber will be a breakfast meeting at 7:30 a.m., February 14 at Darcy's Coffee Cup. All members and potential members are invited to attend.

Cedarside Inn lays new concrete floor

Working nearly around the clock for three days, Cedarside Inn's owners, Ray and Rose Foster - with a couple of helpers - removed the old floor and supporting joists in the restaurant section of their business. They then filled the empty space with sand and topped it off with a new concrete floor.

The change, Ray Foster said, was recommended by the county health department, though it wasn't required.

Old Time 5 & 10 ¢ plans expansion

Kelly Hillyer and Laura Newton have announced an expansion of their Old Time 5 & 10 to include a pet department.

The new department is scheduled to open in mid

February - in time to have love birds for Valentine's Day, according to Hillyer.

Their newly installed sign and reader board will soon be announcing exotic birds, fish and reptiles. The opening date will be posted on the reader board and window.

Home & Garden Show scheduled for March

The nurserymen, builders and retailers of Columbia County are busy planning their second annual Home & Garden Show on Friday and Saturday, March 9 and 10, in the Columbia County Fairgrounds pavilion.

Everything from trees to Tupperware will be exhibited, with many new displays added this year. Many exhibitors will be on hand to answer questions you may have about your home or garden, ranging from spring planting to remodeling.

For more information call Toni Nelson at the Fairgrounds, 397-4231.



Old Time 5 & 10's new sign and reader board.



The Cookshack takes over for Mario's Cafe & Deli.

Jeanette's Fantasies Ceramic Shop

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday - Sunday, February 3 & 4
10 am - 4 pm

Greenware • Firing • Ceramichrome Stains

Free Drawing for Greenware
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see our new (almost finished) shop!

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