

Business Notes

Change of owners at Vernonia MiniMart

January 1st, Gilbert and Diana Hudson, new owners of the Vernonia Mini-Mart took over operations of the convenience store and gas station on Bridge Street.

Though the Hudsons may be new owners, they aren't new faces at the Mini-Mart. They have managed the store for the last year-and-a-half.

Before taking on the job and moving to Vernonia, the Hudsons lived in Clatskanie with their son, Brian. Diana worked at the mini-mart there and Gilbert worked for Olympic Forest Products in Mist.

When the family packed up and moved to Vernonia, it was with full intention of eventually becoming owners of the Mini-Mart. They have spent the last year-and-a-half reaching that goal.

The Hudsons say they en-

joy the small town atmosphere of Vernonia and have gotten to know many people since they started at the store.

They have especially gotten to know the high school students who deluge the store each noon and after school functions.

One example of small town hospitality that Gilbert cited happened during hunting season. He had gone to the store early (around 3 a.m.) to do his books, so he could go hunting later that day.

When he arrived he turned on the gas pump lights for any hunter who may have forgotten to fuel up. Soon after the lights came on, there were sixteen vehicles lined up for fuel.

Gilbert explained to the drivers that he was alone and he would first be gas atten-

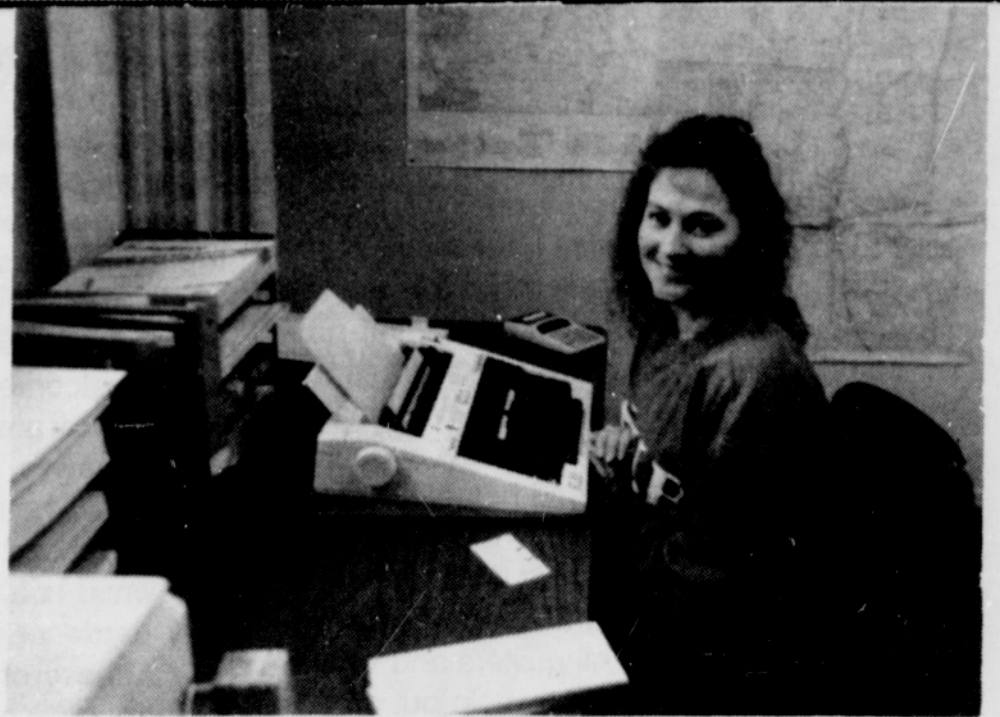
dant, then store cashier. The customers cooperated and everyone was happy. Try that in a major city!

In order for the Hudsons to successfully complete the transition from managers to owners, they began applying for licenses four months prior to taking possession.

By mid-December all systems were go. The papers were signed Dec. 31st and on Jan. 1st the Hudsons opened the store as owners.

Though he opened up at 3 a.m. one time, Gilbert says that won't be the norm. Things will run the same as they have, with gas, grocery and deli service available 7 days a week from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

The only real change is that the owners of this Vernonia business now live in the community.



Julie Pihl

Mike Pihl Logging moves office

After 10 years of doing their bookwork at home, Mike and Julie Pihl have moved the office operations of Mike Pihl Logging to 610 Bridge Street, in the Credit Union building.

"It's nice to be able to leave work," Julie says, "It can really be stressful having to work in your home." With 12 year-around employees, there is plenty of work to keep both Julie and her helper, Mellisa Hunt, busy.

"They are an important asset to the business," Mike says, "taking care of things I can't, especially since the crew and I are working so far away from home base these days."

The Pihls moved the office in September and Mellisa joined Julie in October. They do all the book work for Pihl Logging and at this time are especially busy since taxes will soon be due.

Julie started four years ago by taking care of the business' cutting and trucking records. Then two years ago she took on the "whole shebang."

You'll find Julie and Melissa at the office at different times, as they juggle work with the needs of their families. At least now they can leave the work at the office, though the phone still rings at the Pihl residence.

Governor appoints Simantel to job panel

Washington County farmer Marcus Simantel has been appointed by Gov. Barbara Roberts to the new Jobs Plus Program.

The three-year pilot program was created by the 1993 legislature to provide employment in lieu of public assistance and unemployment insurance, in an effort to move people out of the welfare system into the workplace. Initially, the program will be applied in six Oregon counties, including Washington County.

Simantel, who is a candidate for the 1995 legislature, will join representatives from the other counties on the advisory panel.



Diana and Gilbert Hudson

Community Calendar

JANUARY 1994	FEBRUARY 1994	MARCH 1994
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

VERNONIA

Adult Volleyball
Aerobics
AFS
Alcoholics Anonymous
American Cancer Society
AWANA Clubs
Boosters
Boy Scouts
CC Citizens for Human Dignity
Chamber of Commerce
Cub Scouts
Girl Scouts
Home Extension Club
Izaak Walton League
Jamboree Committee
Jaycees
Ladies Golf Club
Lions Club
Men's Golf Club
Nehalem Valley Car Club
Parent-Teacher Club
Preschool Story Hour
Ridge Riders
Senior Center Directors
Society of Arts & Crafts
TOPS
Vernonia Cares Directors
Vernonia City Council
Vernonia Doll Club

Tuesdays
Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays
1st Wednesday
Fridays
2nd Wednesday
Wednesdays
2nd Wednesday
Wednesdays
1st Thursday
2nd Wednesday
Tuesdays
1st Monday
3rd Thursday
3rd Thursday
2nd Monday
Tuesdays
1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Wednesdays
1st Tuesday
3rd Thursday
Wednesdays
Last Tuesday
1st Friday
1st Monday
Tuesdays
2nd Thursday*
1st & 3rd Mondays
4th Wednesday

7-9 p.m., WGS Gym
7 p.m., WGS Gym
7:30 p.m., VHS Library
8 p.m., 1st Baptist Church
12:30 p.m., Golf Course
6:30-8 p.m., Evangelical Bible Church
7:30 p.m., VHS Library
7:00 p.m., LDS Church
7:00 p.m., VHS Commons
7:30 a.m., Crazy Charlie's
7:00 p.m., WGS Gym
7 p.m., WGS Library
For location call 429-5533
For location call 429-7193
7 p.m., Vernonia Country Kitchen
7 p.m., WGS Library
5 p.m., Golf Course
6:30 p.m., Vernonia Cafe
5 p.m., Golf Course
7 p.m., Crazy Charlie's
7 p.m., WGS Library
10:30 a.m., City Library
7:30 p.m., City Library
1 p.m., Senior Center
7 p.m., WGS Library
6:30 p.m., 627 Adams (Preschool)
7:30 p.m., 627 Adams
7:30 p.m., City Library
1 p.m. Senior Citizens Center

Vernonia Grange
Vernonia Health Center
Vernonia Planning Commission
Vernonia Preschool Directors
Vernonia Rural Fire District
Vernonia School District
Vernonia Volunteer Firefighters
WOEC Directors

2nd Saturday
2nd Thursday
3rd Thursday
1st Tuesday
2nd Tuesday
2nd Thursday
2nd Monday
2nd Tuesday

7:30 p.m., Grange Hall
7:30 p.m., Health Center*
7:00 p.m., City Library
7 p.m., 627 Adams
7:30 p.m., Fire Station
8 p.m., School District Office
7 p.m., Fire Station
7 p.m., WOEC

MIST-BIRKENFELD

Mist-Birkenfeld Fire Bd. of Direct.
M-B Firefighters Assoc.
M-B Ambulance Assoc.
Natal Grange

2nd Tuesday
1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesdays
1st, 2nd & 3rd Thursdays
2nd Wednesday

7:30 p.m., Main Fire Station
7 p.m., Main Fire Station
7 p.m., Main Fire Station
7:30 p.m., Grange Hall

COLUMBIA COUNTY (All meet in St. Helens unless otherwise noted.)

Board of Commissioners
Citizens for Senior Justice
COLCO Transportation Committee
County Council of Seniors
Columbia Educ. Service Dist.
County Fair Board
County Parks Commission
Emergency Communications Dist.
Historical Society
Traffic Safety Commission

Wednesdays
2nd Tuesday
2nd Friday
2nd Friday
3rd Wednesday
2nd Tuesday
2nd Wednesday
3rd Tuesday
4th Wednesday
1st Wednesday

10 a.m., Courthouse
7 p.m., Sunset Park Comm. Church
10:30 a.m., Courthouse
1:00 p.m., Courthouse
7:30 p.m., 800 Port Ave.
7:30 p.m., 4-H Bldg., Fairgrounds
6 p.m., 1054 Oregon St.
7 p.m., Courthouse
Noon, For location call 429-3713
7 a.m., Village Inn

*January, April, July & October only

Organizations and meeting dates not listed may be included by calling 429-9410, or by mail to The INDEPENDENT, 1206 State Avenue, Vernonia, OR 97064.