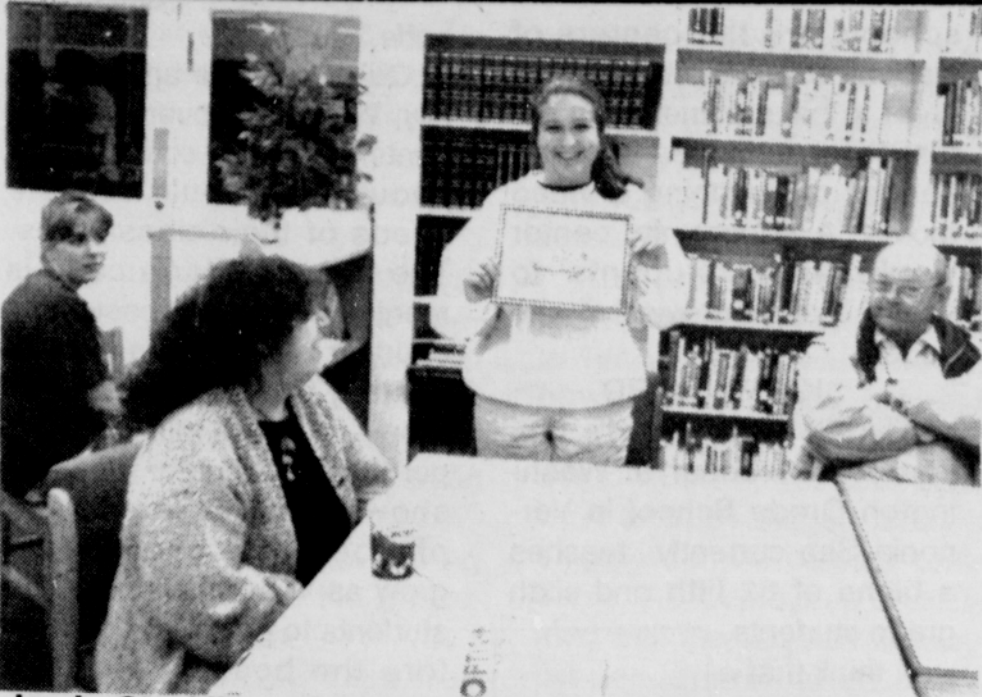




Jamie Stacklie received special recognition from Vernonia Pride for her efforts in the Vernonia Cares food drive.

Fundraiser will aid library refurbishing

Hot dogs, soda pop and homemade pies will be sold Saturday, Jan. 28 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in front of Vernonia Sentry Market, as a special fund raiser sponsored by Vernonia Pride to refurbish the city library.

Plans call for replacing the ceiling tiles, painting walls and shelves, laying new carpet and installing new window coverings.

Vernonia Pride is working in conjunction with the Vernonia Library Board of Directors. They are hoping that the entire job can be accomplished with volunteer labor. Cash donations would be gladly accepted, as well.

Vernonia Sentry, Franz Bakery and Pepsi Bottling Co. have all made donations for the fund raiser. Homemade pies are being donated by many local bakers.

Help is also needed to sew colorful banners that will hang from the antique lampposts in Vernonia's downtown core.

Anyone who can help with the fundraiser or with the work projects is asked to call either Shirlee Daughtry at 429-9002, or Genny Fisher at 429-1204.

Sweetheart Ball

A Sweetheart Ball, semi-formal dinner-dance, will be held Saturday, Feb. 11, at The Cindernook in Vernonia as a fund raiser for the Community Center Project.

Cindernook operator Linda Hartman will close the doors for this private, catered party. Attendees will enjoy a prime rib dinner and dancing to 40s and 50s music.

Tickets will be \$20 per person in advance, or \$25 per person at the door. Several organizations in town will be selling tickets, including the Lions and the Chamber of Commerce. They will also be available at City Hall for those who want to pick them up.

Retreat scheduled for Christian men

A retreat for Christian men in Columbia County is scheduled for Feb. 3-4 at Camp Emerald Forest, near St. Helens. Time for arrival will be between 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. Feb. 3; departure time will be 4:00 p.m. Feb. 4. The cost is \$30.00.

This year's theme is "Brotherly Love". Two guest speakers will be featured: Ron Hall, from the Portland Rescue Mission, and Dick Elkins, who administers to Moslems in the Portland area.

This is the second annual county-wide Christian men's retreat.

Reservations are required. Call any of the following, as soon as possible, to make reservations: Ron Ross at 397-5165.

Remembering . . .

By Charles D. Comstock
Former Vernonia resident

While walking down Bridge Street recently, that iron station by the sidewalk next to the Chevrolet garage (now Meyer's Auto Body) reminded me of fond experiences quite some years ago. I'm sure it has been bent a few more times by the attack of car bumpers, but it still is recognizable as the two prong rack for the air and water hoses at the former gasoline station there some sixty or so years ago. In the mid 1930s, when a quart of milk, a loaf of bread or a gallon of gasoline all cost less than a dime, we lived just across the street at the Vernonia Hotel and that steel fixture was a familiar landmark as I rode my tricycle up and down the sidewalk.

Seeing this double arm piece of steel reminded me that our town had several "two's" in its history — that is during those years I was growing up in Vernonia. Some of these memories come to mind now.

There were two grade schools in town, the new Washington School where I attended grades one through six and the older Lincoln School, at the other end of Bridge Street and up the hill. There were two principal churches, the Evangelical Church where Reverend Scharmann served in the pulpit for many years and, a couple of blocks away, the Christian Church led by the Reverend and Mrs. Livingstone. Some real competition for congregation support existed in the community during those years of the Great Depression.

Caring for the medical needs of the town, there were two doctors, who were very independent of one another though their offices were next door to one another. Dr. R. I. Hall was a mature gentleman, the classic small town practitioner as often portrayed in older movies, whose bedside manner was as conservative as his constant attire in a three piece, dark suit with a plain bow tie. By comparison, Dr. William Ebie was young, tall and athletic in stature. He was the official doctor for the sawmill when it reopened and also had the reputation of being a good baby doctor. Unfortunately, Doc Ebie had a weakness for the bottle and his reliability in times of medical need was often uncertain. In a small town like Vernonia, both doctors were constantly in the spotlight of social conversation.

Moving through the business section of town, there were two drugstores. Armatage Drugs had been there forever, owned and operated by a local resident. Down the street close to the Joy Theater and the Cozy Inn restaurant was Nance's Pharmacy. When this became the Rexall Drugstore, the competition of a brand name had come to town. And if memory of those times is correct, there were two barber shops in Vernonia during the latter years of the depression. Ben Brickie, there next to Thomas' Five and Dime, charged fifty cents for a haircut, any age. Across the street and down toward Abe Lincoln's liquor store, the other barber shop had flexible prices, usually twenty-five cents for kids and thirty-five cents for older fellas. Ben seemed to have more customers; maybe it was the bath house he ran back of the shop or the portrait of President Franklin Roosevelt prominently displayed in his shop. (This picture was still there on the wall by the well-worn barber chair in the mid 1970s when I stopped by for a chat about old times with Ben).

Not everything came in "two's" in our town. There was just one bakery — great cinnamon rolls — one jeweler, one public drinking fountain that flowed constantly (on the corner in front of Miller's Mercantile), one movie theater, one feed and grain store, one fire truck, one letter carrier to deliver the mail and one hardware store. Alas, there were several beer taverns and pool halls, but these are all subject material for other stories.

Ed. note: Mr. Comstock lives in Woodland Hills, Calif. and is retired.

Stacklie-Vogt vows observed

Bob and Pat Stacklie of Vernonia have announced the marriage of their daughter, Julie Ann, to Kenneth William Vogt of Portland. The newlyweds were married in a Jan. 14 ceremony in Newport.

The new bride is a 1984 graduate of Vernonia High School. Both the bride and groom are graduates of the University of Oregon.

The groom, a loan officer for U.S. Bank, is the son of John and Kathy Vogt of Springfield.

The couple is residing in Portland.

Welcome Additions

Samantha N. Wallace

Samantha Noel Wallace was born Jan. 6, 1995, at St. Vincent Hospital in Portland, to Kim and Don Wallace. She weighed 7-1/2 pounds and was 20.5 inches long.

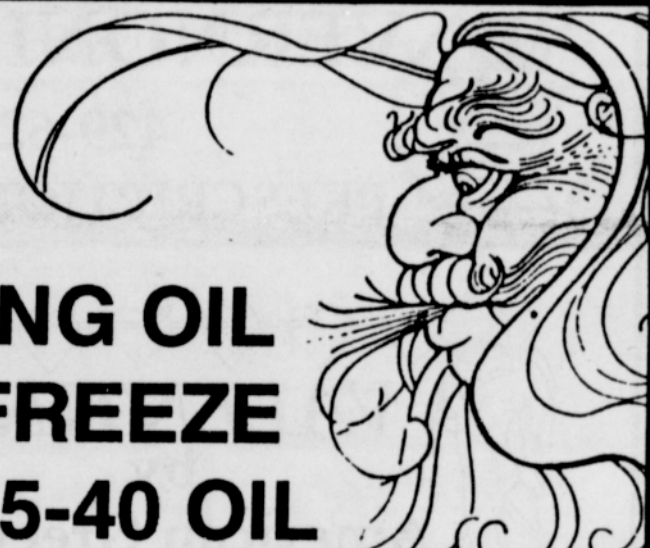
Samantha will join her sister, Natalie, at the family's Vernonia home.

Grandparents are Don and Carol Wallace of Phoenix, Ore., and Don and Gerry Boren of Central Point.

Helen Anderson of Medford is the baby's great-grandmother.

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