

Community

Lignell-Ferguson vows celebrated

A wall of maple and wild plum trees served as a natural backdrop for the wedding of Sharon Lignell and Alan Ferguson on Aug. 26 in an outdoor ceremony at the home of the bride's parents, Dirk and Noni Andersen of Vernonia.

Sheldon Ferguson, the groom's brother, flew in from California to serve as Best

the groom, provided vocal selections. The bride's brother, Clark McGaugh, served as usher.

Following the ceremony, guests attended a reception in the banquet room of The Sidetrack Restaurant.

In addition to other guests, more than forty family members from three states joined in the celebration, including



Man. Jo Kelly of Hillsboro was the Matron of Honor.

Additional attendants included the bride's children, Robert Lignell as ring bearer and Melody Lignell as flower girl.

The double ring ceremony was performed by the father of the groom, Merle Ferguson.

Tamara and David Turner, sister and brother-in-law of

the groom's parents, Merle and Caroline Ferguson and Shirley and Dennis Cahill, all of Kingsburg, Calif.

The new Mrs. Ferguson is employed by the Oregon Department of Human Resources, St. Helens office. The groom's employer is Eric Lusier Construction, with headquarters in Vancouver, Wash.

Program set to help smokers quit

The public is invited to an eight session Breathe-Free Stop-Smoking Clinic to be held on the following dates: Tuesday 9/19, Thursday 9/21, Sunday through Thursday 9/24-9/28 and Tuesday 10/3. The classes will start at 7:00 p.m. and will be held at the Vernonia Senior Citizen Cen-

ter, 446 Bridge Street.

The stop-smoking clinic is a nationally successful program developed over 40 years ago. It is sponsored by the Vernonia Seventh-Day Adventist Church.

For transportation or for more information call 429-4873, 429-6161 or 429-1941.

Senior News

Two busloads of seniors from Vernonia Senior Center will attend the Barnum & Bailey Circus in Portland on Thursday.

On September 22, there will be an excursion to Beaverton Mall and on the 26th the local center will entertain seniors from Columbia County's other senior centers, at lunch.

The Doll Club will convene for their first meeting of the

winter season on the 27th and on the last Wed. of the month thereafter.

Currently the center is administering a survey of members for suggestions concerning the center's food program. Results of the survey will be published in the next issue of *The INDEPENDENT*.

Seniors are invited to spend Thursday afternoons at the center as Game Day resumes for the season.

Museum Piece

By Robb Wilson, Curator
Columbia County Historical Society Museum

Have you ever been up in the woods trying to find an old logging or homestead, only to find nothing or, at best, a few scattered boards or some concrete? The places may be on old maps, but often the only proof of their existence is a few scraps or the stories of old timers. What were once thriving places are now obscure.

Some summer State Forestry workers visited the museum recently, seeking tangible evidence for many sites that have been overgrown with trees and brush. Some that were as large as Camp McGregor have little to prove they were once there. Sometimes, the remains of an old trestle that crossed a small canyon is the only proof that a railroad passed through a particular location, but nothing was written down to document the route.

In past articles, I have discussed old buildings, some sites and their history. The problem is when those who remember are gone, unless their recollections are written down, the history is gone, also.

Now let's take a look at some northwest Washington County areas.

I recently received an old photograph showing a tall tree that had been made into a flag pole in front of the Timber grade school. I've been to Timber many times, but do not know where the old school was. In the late 1920s, when the photograph was taken, Timber was a thriving community, primarily due to the railroad. It produced a rich history but most of it has been forgotten and there are very few people left to share it.

There must be someone out there with a book in them about Timber, Strassel, Hayward, Buxton, Manning, Sherman Mills, Snoo-seville Corners or Scofield.

Scofield once had a very large wood products mill called and operated by, I think, Standard Box. They produced a variety of products and employed many men. Descendants of many of those families still live in the area but seem to know little about the operations of that period. The only evidence of the mill's existence are some concrete blocks still standing where they were poured in the late 1920s.

Buxton was also a thriving area. Even I remember when there was a store there! Up Mendenhall Creek, there was a big family-owned sawmill with a dammed up creek making a mill pond. There were also many homes and other buildings. The family may have been the Elwoods, but it's all gone now.

The other communities mentioned are the same way—very little has been written down and saved. *Oregon Geographic Names* provides some insight, but not a complete history.

I would also like to gather information and photos of some of the eateries that once thrived on the Sunset Highway in the 1940s, 50s and 60s. Who remembers eating the best chicken dinner at Gaddy's? Or sitting down to a good breakfast in the "streetcar diner" by the old Rocket Gas Station? I don't even know the name of the place. Remember getting off the bus at Staley's, then having a piece of pie? Remember the "neon" at Dingheiser's? What about the Runnel Cafe and the one at Timber/Vernonia junction?

If you have any information, photographs or history to share on any of the things I've touched on, give me a call or stop in soon, before your personal knowledge is lost.

Winter Hours (October through May):
Friday and Saturday noon to 4:00 p.m.
Sundays, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. or by appointment. Phone 429-3713.

Bishop Levada says mass at St. Mary's

The pews at St. Mary's Catholic Church were full as Bishop Levada said mass on Aug. 20. His visit was two-fold, to make a pastoral visit and to acknowledge the fifteen-plus years of service Joan Dotter had given to the parish, ten of those years as Pastoral Administrator.

Dotter's accomplishment was especially noteworthy, as she was the first lay person in Oregon, and among very few in the nation, to be appointed to this position.

In the years Dotter served without a resident priest, the parish functioned fully, with all administrative pastoral needs fulfilled.

Parishioners grieved the loss when she left to take a management position in a dy-

namic young company.

Bishop Levada appointed Lani Vandehey as Pastoral Administrator and also announced the assignment of a

priest for Sunday Masses.

Fr. Ron Millican will say his first mass at St. Mary's on Sept. 17 at 10 a.m. Religious education classes for youth will be held at 9:00 a.m.

25th St. Mary's Quilt Fair scheduled

The 25th Quilt Fair of St. Mary's Catholic Church will be held Sept. 21-24, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, at 960 Missouri Avenue, Vernonia.

Some 250 quilts will be displayed at the "Church built of scraps," many of them for sale, others on display for exhibit only.

There will also be custom-built wood articles, both utilitarian and decorative, apparel and gift items for sale.

Lunch will be available, with two homemade soups each day, plus salads, freshly baked rolls and pies.

The public is invited to attend this exciting annual event.

Welcome Additions

Samuel J. Goodman

Samuel James Goodman was born August 15, 1995, at Tuality Hospital in Hillsboro. He weighed 8lbs. 15oz. and was 21 1/2 inches long.

His parents are Ben and Tami Goodman of Vernonia, they have one other child, Sara.

Grandparents are Elmer Goodman of Vernonia, Carole Franklin of Walla Walla, Wash., and Jack and Pat Agee of Athena.

Pregnant?


Worried about the cost?

Tuality Healthy Start:

- Appointments available at the Vernonia Health Center
 - Personal visits with a certified nurse-midwife
- Prenatal care, hospital delivery and follow-up care
 - No one turned away because of inability to pay

Call 359-9523

Accepting private-pay clients, most major traditional insurance carriers, many managed-care plan members, and certain Oregon Health Plan participants.


Vernonia Health Center
854 Grant Avenue