

Welcome to Vernonia

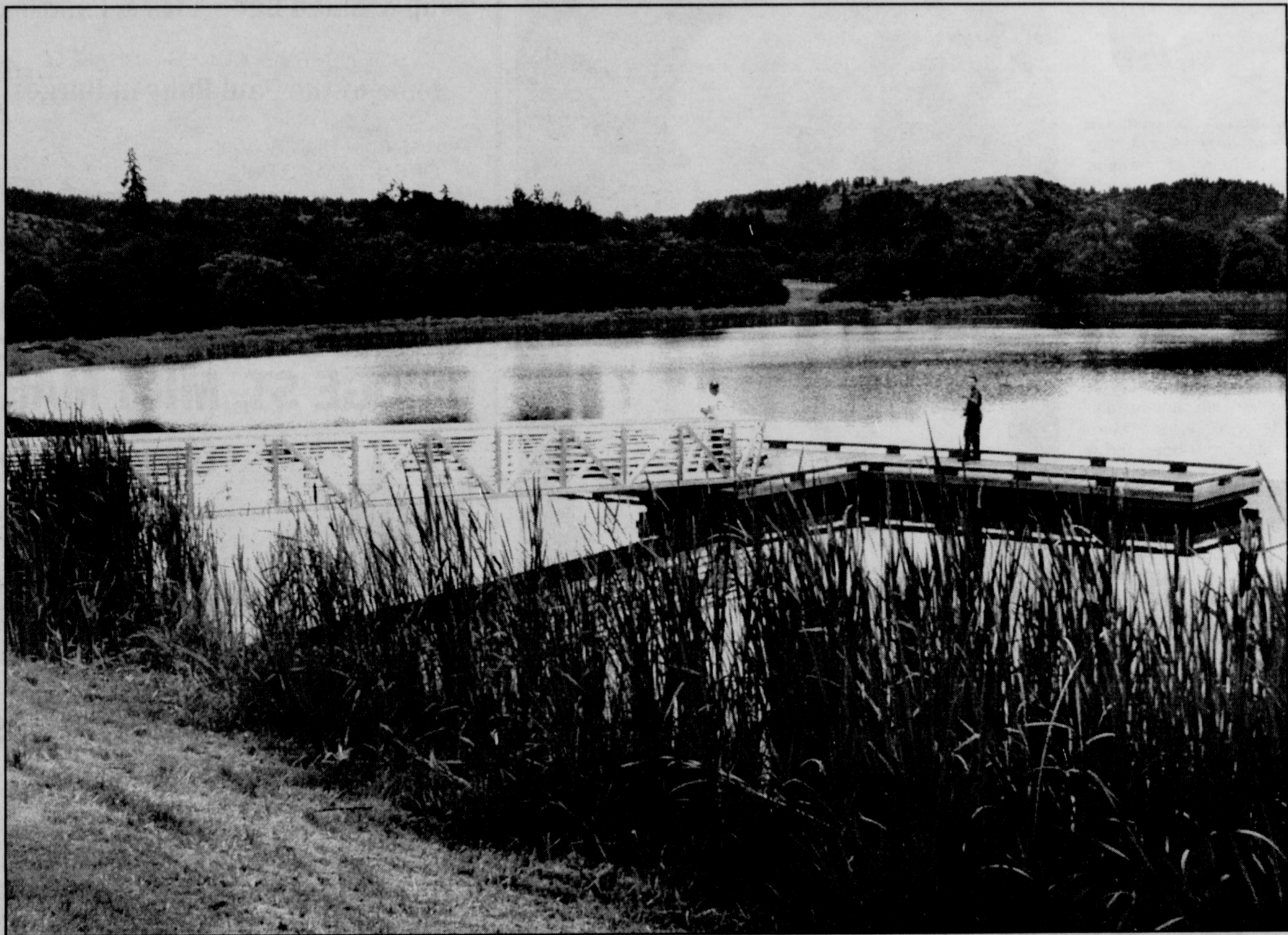


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Jamboree Committee:
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"Friendships Forever," an accurate theme

"Friendships Forever," the theme of the 45th annual Vernonia Friendship Jamboree is obviously appropriate when you are aware of the many, many adults here who retain the friendships started in Vernonia as children. The Friendship Jamboree, itself, started primarily as a reunion for everyone who was forced by economics to leave the area when the Oregon-American Lumber Co. started closing down in 1956. Though the final closure was later, many families left as the old growth trees dwindled and it became obvious that the mill would not survive.

Some stayed in the timber industry by seeking work in other areas, others rode out the difficult times by seeking work farther away, but without moving. Like an old friend, timber was, and still is, a contributing element in this community's life.

The theme is also appropriate, however, for the friendly warmth offered to newcomers and for the friendly "Welcome!" extended to all of you who are visiting Vernonia for the first time.

We invite you to park your car and walk to all of the Jamboree events; that's still easy to do in Vernonia and walking between activities will provide you with the opportunity to relax instead of rushing. So, just take an easy stroll, look around, say hello to people you don't know, enjoy all of the events and, above all, smile, you're in Vernonia.

This year's Jamboree has all of the anticipated events. Starting with a fishing derby for children on Friday evening, and finishing late Sunday afternoon when the water events in Rock Creek cool off the logging show competitors.

In between, there are such diverse activities and

events as a parade, horse gaming, a cruise-in, men's and women's softball, lots and lots of food from both non-profit and commercial vendors, other concessions, a fast draw competition, slug race, used book sale, tae-kwondo demonstration, a mutt show and a watermelon toss. Vernonia Grange will be celebrating its centennial year, too, with a variety of activities including an old-time music jam session.

There will be lots and lots of other music throughout the weekend. The Alternative Stage offers rock, country, folk and blues, from Friday evening through Sunday. A Christian music concert will present rock, funk, jazz and more on Saturday afternoon and evening. Johnny Limbo and the Lugnuts will perform Saturday night and, of course, there will be music at a couple of the local establishments that offer adult libations.

The John Limbo performance and a demonstration of synchronized swimming will both be a couple of miles out of town. Also a couple miles out of town is the Black Powder Rendezvous, but the events are all very much a part of the Vernonia Jamboree.

Details for all activities may be found inside. So pick out your favorites, or just wander around and see what happens. You'll have fun either way.

Welcome to the Vernonia Friendship Jamboree