

Business Notes

New resale shop will emphasize children's clothing, accessories

Western Washington County will soon have a new shopping option. SmartyPants, a consignment clothing and children's furniture shop will open its doors in Banks in early August. The shop will carry infant through teen clothing, maternity wear and children's accessories such as car seats, strollers and bedding. SmartyPants is also planning to carry videos, parenting books and other miscellaneous child and family related products.

The store will also host a free children's book exchange, allowing people to bring in up to five children's books, in good condition, and trade for the same.

"I want my store to be a unique and fun place to shop, as well as a terrific asset to the community," said owner Lindsay Norling. The store will also

Be smart, avoid computer virus

With big conventions for both the hackers and the security trackers, the number of computer viruses floating on the net grew dramatically this past week, LV Schoonover, owner of Cyberian Links, reported.

"I had at least three new ones and an old one in one day alone," he said.

He offers the following safety advice:

- If you don't know the person sending you e-mail, don't open any attachments.
- If it is someone you know, but it has no personalization or message don't open it.
- If it has a file attachment with .exe, .bat, .com, .scr, .vbs, or any other type of executable attachment DON'T open it!
- Be very suspicious of any attachment for at least the next three weeks.

As with any human disease, computer viruses can be expensive and time consuming. Isn't it really worth missing a joke or two to miss a virus?

E-M RFPD will get FEMA funds

The Elsie-Vinemaple Rural Fire Protection District will receive \$14,802 in federal funds to improve training for its 13 member volunteer force, Congressman David Wu announced. The funds will come from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Assistance to Firefighters Program.

"This grant will make us better trained and knowledgeable fire fighters with more up-to-date information so we can do a better job at protecting our community," said Elsie-Vinemaple RFPD assistant fire chief Hans Mulder.

The new funding will be used to buy electronic training equipment for the force. The Elsie-Vinemaple RFPD will match ten percent of the funds granted.

have a well-equipped play area for children to occupy themselves while parents browse.

Norling is hoping the Banks location will be convenient for residents in the surrounding communities. It will be nice to have a shopping option in Western Washington County rather than having to drive into one of the higher traffic areas. The store is located on Main Street in the new Banks Business Center, next to The Brown Derby restaurant.

"Resale and consignment shopping is very smart," said Norling. In choosing the name "SmartyPants" for her shop, Norling said, she wanted a name that conveyed the wisdom in resale shopping.

Forums scheduled on proposed expansion of Oregon Health Plan

A community forum seeking public opinion about changes to help finance expansion of the Oregon Health Plan will be held Wednesday, August 8, at Tuality Hospital, 335 SE Eighth in Hillsboro. The forum is open to the public and will run from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

State legislation approved earlier this month will add up to 50,000 Oregonians to the Oregon Health Plan and reduce coverage for many already on the plan to help pay for the expansion.

As a result of the legislation, House Bill 2519, the state Health Services Commission has scheduled a series of nine "community forums" across the state to learn how people would prefer benefits to change.

"We will ask people how they rank various benefits such as physician services, dental care and prescription drugs," said John Santa, M.D., administrator of the state Office for Oregon Health Plan Policy and Research, which staffs the state commission. "We also

Parade starting time returned to 11 am

The Vernonia Jamboree Committee has announced that the Parade starting time will be 11:00 a.m. instead of 10:00 a.m.

SmartyPants is a consignment shop that collects items from the public, sells them, and splits the profit with the owner. Consignment guidelines and further information may be obtained by calling SmartyPants at 503-324-7218. Store hours are Tuesday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Fridays from Noon to 8:00 p.m. and Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The store will be closed Sundays and Mondays.

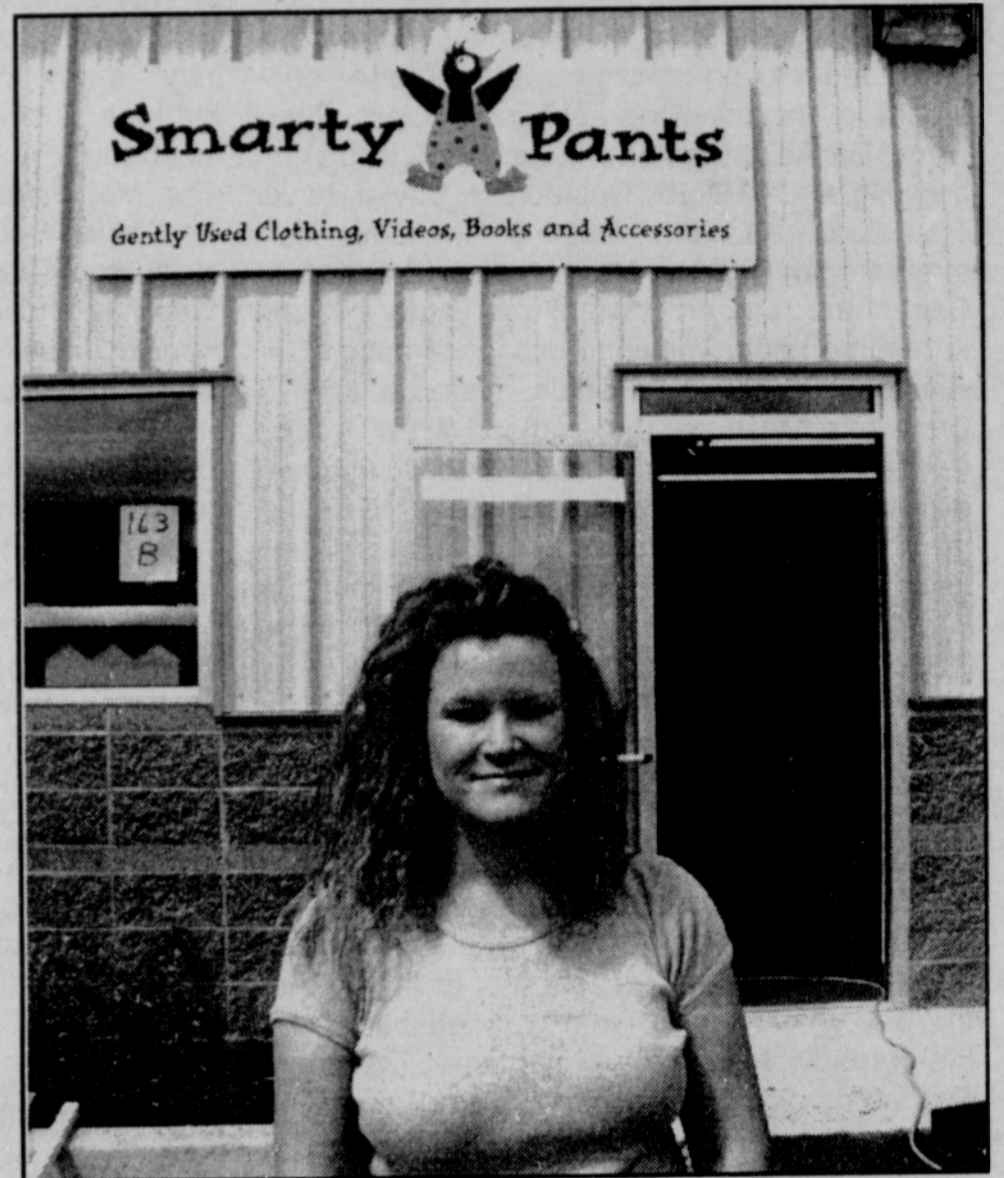
Norling promises some great promotional giveaways during the Grand Opening on Saturday, August 4, between 10 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. plus balloons and drawings. She also has additional promotional events in the planning stage.

want to hear opinions about costs such as higher premiums, deductibles and co-pays."

Santa said that commission members, who will be represented at the meeting, will consider results during public meetings in late August and in September.

The Oregon Health Plan provides coverage for people on public assistance. It also provides coverage for about 93,000 people who are not in a traditional Medicaid category or who earn too much for assistance, but whose household incomes are still below the federal poverty level (\$1,179 a month for a family of three). That expanded coverage, now in its eighth year, would grow to cover Oregonians with household income up to 185 percent of the federal poverty level (\$2,181 a month for a family of three).

Expanding the number of people covered, expected by late 2002, will be financed by a combination of reducing the benefit package and seeking federal matching funds for the state Family Health Insurance Assistance Program, which uses only state money to subsidize health-insurance premiums for low-income families. Both the federal matching funds and changes in the health plans benefit package will require federal approval.



Lindsay Norling and SmartyPants

Wyden bid for Columbia 9-1-1 funding approved by committee

U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) has secured \$600,000 to help Columbia County's 9-1-1 Communications District upgrade their radio communication system. Wyden requested the funding as part of the Commerce, Justice, State appropriations bill.

"The funding for this radio system upgrade will enable the regions emergency services to communicate faster and more effectively," Wyden said. "I am very pleased to have helped make Columbia County safer in this way."

Jamboree table space sales

Vernonia Hardware has offered their parking lot for local residents to have card table size areas for garage sale type items during the Jamboree. The fee will be \$5.00 per table.

For more information, inquire at Vernonia Hardware, or call Bill at 503-429-5651.

Annual town yard sale nears

The third annual Vernonia Community-Wide Yard and Sidewalk Sale is scheduled for Saturday, September 22, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For more information, call Vernonia Realty and Insurance at 503-429-6203.

Columbia County unified all emergency dispatching into the 9-1-1 communications district, but is still limited by the many separate radio systems that the emergency agencies use. These funds will help establish a unified and modernized radio system for better communication between all emergency agencies and guarantee that nobody will ever be outside of radio coverage.

The full senate is expected to approve the CJS appropriations bill before the August recess.

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