

Community

Gerry and Etta Russell celebrate 60 years

Gerald and Etta Russell celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary February 16 at the Vernonia Community Church. There were 70 people in attendance, including their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

The Russells came to Vernonia in January of 1948. The

next day, Gerald acquired two jobs, as night watchman at the mill and part time letter carrier. He worked at the mill until it closed and carried mail for 27 years, then worked with Norman Hilsbery for three years.

They raised three children, all of whom graduated from Vernonia High School. They

have 11 grandchildren and four great grandsons.

Both Gerald and Etta were dedicated volunteers at the Vernonia Senior Center and filled various positions for 12 years. Gerald was also a Lion's Club member for 36 years.

They belonged to the Nazarene Church until recently, when it became a hardship to drive to Forest Grove. They now attend the Vernonia Community Church.

Sons of the San Joaquin entertain much like Sons of the Pioneers

The Sons of the San Joaquin will perform at Columbia Theatre for the Performing Arts on Sunday, March 10, at 3:00 p.m. From the heart of California's San Joaquin Valley, the sweet three-part harmony of this remarkable singing trio, consisting of Jack, Joe and Lon Hannah, pays a melodious tribute to all aspects of Western life and history. From a simple cowboy song to the Spanish songs of the vaquero and the power of old time Gospel music, the Sons of the San Joaquin have taken their life's love of singing to the international stage. Their distinctive sound has carried the family from local church and community gatherings to locales such as Japan, Switzerland and the Arab peninsula.

"The Sons of the San Joaquin are the only singing group alive I feel sound like the original Sons of the Pioneers," Roy Rogers once said.

Opening for the Sons will be professional cowboy performer Leapin' Louie Lichtenstein, "the most explosive Lithuanian Jewish cowboy juggling comedian to ever come out of Oregon." Leapin' Louie performs a high-energy comedy show featuring cowboy tricks, juggling, acrobatics and music.

Corporate sponsor for this Family Series Event is Fred Meyer of Longview. Tickets are \$10, \$15 and \$20. Group rates are available. Call CTPA's ticket office at 360-575-TIXX (8499) or toll free 888-423-8499 or visit the website: www.columbiatheatre.com

Award-winning dance troupe at CTPA

Bodyvox, an award winning dance theatre company, will perform Saturday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. at the Columbia Theatre for the Performing Arts in longview. BodyVox was formed in 1997 by choreographers Jamey Hampton and Ashley Roland, who have performed worldwide with their cutting edge contemporary style for over two decades. Their work is characterized by a bold athleticism, reminiscent of Momix and Pilobolus, with a little Cirque du Soleil. Based in Portland, BodyVox Theater is constructed of movement, color, shape and sound. Their dance is fueled by emotional content, yet they revel in the simple beauty of dynamic movement. BodyVox projects include choreographing *Carmina Burana* for the Portland Opera in 1997, the 1998 Academy Awards, creating works for many dance companies and music videos for Sting and U2, among others,

plus fashion spectacles for designers.

The Big Room shows Hampton and Roland's unfettered imagination in full force, with "an infinite number of elegant movement metaphors and a good many belly laughs" according to *The Oregonian*.

"A finely crafted, frequently funny, impeccably danced

Seem too good to be true? Probably is!

Con artists are experts at manipulating people to invest money in their fraudulent schemes. Seniors are particularly at risk of being targeted because they usually have an accumulation of assets, may live alone, may be interested in expanding their limited fixed income, and are more easily reached by phone at home.

Six warning signs of a con artist's rip off:

- 1) An offer of something for nothing.
- 2) A contract with vague, unclear or tricky wording.
- 3) Pressure to sign immediately.
- 4) Offers of a kick-back that depends on a future event, such as a purchase by a friend whom you have referred.
- 5) Insistence on cash payment in full before the services are rendered.
- 6) Last chance offerings. If

evening-length work" said Dance Magazine.

Tickets are \$18, \$23 and \$28. Call CTPA's ticket office at 360-575-TIXX (8499) or toll free 888-423-8499 or on line, visit: www.columbiatheatre.com

"Country" theme is wanted for 2002 Vernonia Jamboree contest

The Vernonia Friendship Jamboree Committee has decided this year to have a Country Theme. If you would like to enter the Jamboree Theme Contest, mail your suggestion to, Vernonia Friendship Jamboree, P.O. Box 244, Vernonia, OR 97064. April 10 is the deadline for all entries. The winning entry will receive a \$50.00 savings bond from U.S. Bank. The theme will be announced in the April 17 issue of

The Independent.

After the theme is selected, there will be a contest to design the 2002 Jamboree T-Shirt. Details will be included with the theme announcement.

This year's Vernonia Friendship Jamboree will be held August 2, 3 and 4. The next meeting of the Vernonia Friendship Jamboree Committee will be March 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the Washington Grade School Library.

State Fair seeking artists for "Art in the Garden"

The Oregon State Fair will feature a new area called "Art in the Garden" on Labor Day weekend during the 2002 fair. Art in the Garden will be located in the northwest corner of the fair's Garden District and will accommodate up to ten juried booths. It will also feature entertainment during selected intervals.

An artist prospectus is available to those interested in par-

icipating. Artists must complete an entry form and submit slides for the jurying process. The deadline for entries is March 14, 2002.

If you are ripped off, report the crime. Stop fraud from happening to you, your friends and your family.

The 2002 Oregon State Fair will be held from August 22 through September 2.

For more information, call the Oregon State Fair office at 503-947-3247 or see the website at www.oregonstatefair.org



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