

Brick orders still taken for Shay Park walkway

The final order for engraved bricks to be placed around the Shay steam engine has been placed for this year. Anyone wishing to observe the engraving being done will have the opportunity on Saturday, Sept. 21 at Shay Park.

New orders may continue to be placed with Vernonia Pride, but the bricks will not be engraved until next spring/summer. Call 503-429-5201 to place an order, or for more information.

Church Bulletin Bloopers

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new tithing campaign slogan last Sunday: "I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours."

Can You Dig It?

By Schann Nelson



The bulb catalogues are here! I LOVE planting bulbs. Planting a dry, brown, ugly, small thing in the fall, with the (almost certain) knowledge that you will be rewarded in the spring with color and beauty, is a great act of affirmation. In the Pacific Northwest, many, many bulbs are easy to grow. Cool days and frequent rains are ideal for planting many perennials and, of course, the only good time to plant spring and summer bulbs such as daffodils, tulips, iris, lilies, hyacinths, and the many small bulbs. Vernonia Hardware has a nice line of bulbs, planting tools and organic bulb fertilizers. Even a small space, or barrel, planted with bulbs will bring you a welcome dose of color in the spring.

Crocuses are a special case, as there are some varieties that bloom in the spring and others that bloom in the fall. Early crocuses bloom in the spring and include species crocus, often heirloom varieties, that are usually very hardy, and hybrids that have been developed by plant breeders for their color or size. Given good drainage, the species crocus can be naturalized in a lawn since their foliage looks much like grass and they will come up and bloom before the grass starts to overtake them.

Fall blooming crocus are blooming now and I have seen several well-established plantings that are a solid expanse of beautiful pale lavender flowers, nice to have right now when everything

else is turning brown. You have a longer wait for these blooms since they have to be planted in late August or September and won't do much the first year. The colchicum varieties have much larger foliage than traditional crocus and are not suitable for naturalization. In the spring, they will send up their leaves and gain strength for a fall display, when only the flowers burst up from the dry ground. The bulbs are much larger than crocus corms (and correspondingly much more expensive). They need water over the summer when the leaves are growing and may need some shade. There are also varieties of traditional crocus that bloom in the fall, notably c. Sativus that is the source of the cooking herb saffron.

A final note about bulbs: I don't plant tulips anymore unless they are in a barrel, preferably on the porch. I see lots of them around town in the spring and I think they are gorgeous, but I got totally discouraged one year. After much deliberation with catalogues, I had ordered bulbs, planted them carefully, watched them come up and was anxiously awaiting the opening of the blooms. Then, I went out one morning and the bulbs had been completely eaten out from under the flowers! That was enough for me.

The Oregon State University Extension Service publishes a newsletter every month and will send it to you FREE. I have been using bits from the newsletter but I certainly can't get all of their very valuable information in this article. Each county produces its own newsletter so the information is appropriate for our area. You can request the newsletter, "Country Living," by calling the extension service in St. Helens at 503-397-3462. Gleanings from this month's letter include the following:

- It's time to lime. Lime frees up soil nutrients that are locked into the acid soil in this area. It's cheap, lasts for about three years, and it's easy.

- Feed your strawberries a balanced fertilizer.
- Plant a new lawn. (A whole page of information from Tom Cook of OSU, the "lawn guru," in the newsletter.)

- Apply parasitic nematodes to soil beneath rhododendrons and azaleas. If you see half-moon shaped holes eaten off the edge of the leaves, you have root weevils and this is how you get rid of them.

- Harvest winter squash when the "ground spot" changes to a white to cream or gold color.

Every couple of years we plant parts of the vegetable garden in a winter cover crop. Cover crops protect the soil from erosion and protect the surface from constant battering by heavy rains. Our favorite cover crops are Austrian Winter peas and crimson clover. The peas do very well in heavy soil and produce a thick crop of vines in early spring. Crimson clover does better if provided with good drainage, as in the established beds of the garden. In theory, you would till the foliage back into the garden in the spring to provide organic matter and recapture nutrients. Since we don't till, and chopping this stuff in with a hoe is WAY too much work, our cover crops grow until I get ready to plant. Then I pull them out and lay the foliage down. Instant Mulch! We also get to enjoy the sight of a bed full of bright red clover of our very own. Protect your soil with cover crops, or mulch, and you will reap the benefits in the spring.

P.S. Thank you, George, for the gift certificate. Come see my crocuses in the spring!

Church Directory

VERNONIA FOURSQUARE CHURCH

Pastor Paul Pastor
850 Madison Avenue
Vernonia, 503 429-1103

Sunday Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.
Children's Sunday School

Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.
Evening Service
Youth Ministry
Children's Ministry
Nursery Available

Men's Ministry 7:45 a.m.
3rd Saturday each month

VERNONIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Grant Williams, Pastor
957 State Avenue
Vernonia, 503 429-6790

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Children's Church w/Nursery
Sunday Youth Group
Junior High 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
Senior High 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wed. 7:00 p.m.
Women's Bible Study, Thurs. 7:00 p.m.

GRACE REFORMED BAPTIST CHURCH

D.J. Dickey, Pastor
Grant & North Streets
Vernonia, 503 429-1919

Sunday Services: Adult Prayer & Children's Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:15 a.m.
Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Service:
All Family Bible Study, 7:00 p.m.

ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Darwin Harvey, Pastor
662 Jefferson
Vernonia, 503 429-4615

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship 6:00 p.m.

Bible Study, Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Youth & Kids, Thursday 7:00 p.m.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

John Cahill, Pastor
359 "A" Street
Vernonia, 503 429-1161

Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Evening Worship
Saturday, 6:00 p.m.

NEHALEM VALLEY BIBLE CHURCH

500 California Ave
Vernonia, 503 429-5378

Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Nursery available
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Pastoral Associate
Juanita Dennis
960 Missouri Avenue
Vernonia, 503 429-8841

Mass Schedule
Sunday 12:00 Noon
Religious Education
Sunday 10:30 a.m.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Lee Knowlton, Branch President
1350 E. Knott Street
Vernonia, 503 429-7151

Sacrament Meeting, Sunday 10 a.m.
Sunday School & Primary 11:20 a.m.

Relief Society, Priesthood and Young Women, Sunday 12:10 p.m.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Kevin Reiner, Pastor, 543-2254
2nd Ave. and Nehalem St.
Vernonia, 503 429-8301

Sabbath School 9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship, 11:00 a.m.
Prayer Meeting, Wed. 7:00 p.m.

ST. AUGUSTINE (CANTERBURY) EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Rev. Robert Grafe, Pastor
375 North St. (Vernonia Grange Hall)
Vernonia, 503 429-3700

Sunday Services 10:00 a.m.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Joel Stith, Pastor
410 North Street
Vernonia, 503 429-6522

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.

Every Wednesday:
Ladies' Bible Study 9:15 a.m.
Children's Choir 3:00 p.m.
Family Bible Study 6:30 p.m.

Women's Fellowship, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 1:30 p.m.



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