

Business Notes

Local photographer takes her dream off hold, opens photo studio

After many professional twists and turns, Barbara Werner,



Barbara "Missy" Werner relaxes in her Rock Creek Studio.

Small woodland owners should order Douglas fir seedlings early

Owners of forestland in northwest Oregon, who are in need of planting or reforestation, are advised to place orders for seedlings soon. To meet the requirements of the Oregon Forest Practices Act, family forestland owners need to restock with a minimum of 200 seedlings per acre within two years of harvest, otherwise the forestland property tax deferral may be withdrawn.

Often, Douglas fir seedlings are difficult to acquire in the early spring when planting is normally scheduled and completed. Also, the improved bare-root Douglas fir seedlings are generally not available to small woodland owners.

As a service to the general public and its members, the Columbia County Small Woodlands Association has reserved a limited supply of improved Douglas fir seedlings for Zone 5, which includes most of Columbia County and NW Oregon. The seedling stock is selected on the basis of excellent growth characteristics and form. These quality 1-1 seedlings are expected to be packaged 120 per bag and available in mid-February at locations in St. Helens and Rainier.

For more information, call Paul Nys, CCSWA Seedling Chairperson at 503-556-8800 or Rod Nastrom, CCSWA President at 503-397-5997.

er, a local woman who has been a professional photographer for many years, has finally opened a studio in Vernonia.

Better known in this area as "Missy," Barbara grew up in Aloha and moved to Vernonia in the '70s with her parents, Cookie and Tony Polos. While attending Pacific University as a theater arts major, she also worked in the university media department, where she started taking photographs for various publications.

She continued to hone her photography skills while performing in various venues ("Lots of commercials"). Starting with weddings and expanding into portrait, landscape and art photography, Werner's work has been recognized by inclusion in national exhibits and, this year, she was the only photographer in Columbia County whose work was accepted for the highly competitive Salon of Photography at the Oregon State Fair.

Over the years, in addition to working in the performing arts, the Vernonia resident was curator at the Vernonia Historical Museum for four years, sold antique jewelry and became a licensed massage therapist.

"I've wanted my own studio

here for seven years," Werner said, and, though she still works as a masseuse at Hawthorne Farms Athletic Club, she has now opened Rock Creek Studio in the Bridge Street Mall. Open only part time, initially, she will be scheduling more regular hours in Vernonia.

Whether you need a photographer for a special occasion, a business function, family portrait or whatever, give Werner a call at 504-429-4961. You may

also find Rock Creek Studio in *The INDEPENDENT* Service Directory.



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