

Museum projects are well underway

Work is going well on reproduction of old photos in the Vernonia Pioneer Museum and there will soon be some available for purchase. The book, *Oregon American Lumber Company Ain't No More*, is available now, along with some collector calendars of past years from Mist-Birkenfeld.

The stability of the trees around the museum grounds is causing concern. One has been removed and there are several others in question.

The Friends of the Museum are in the process of adding a printer, copier and scanner to the computer system as part the program being developed to catalogue all items in the museum.

The museum is open between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. The next business meeting will be October 8 at 7:00 p.m., at the museum.

Can You Dig It?

By Schann Nelson



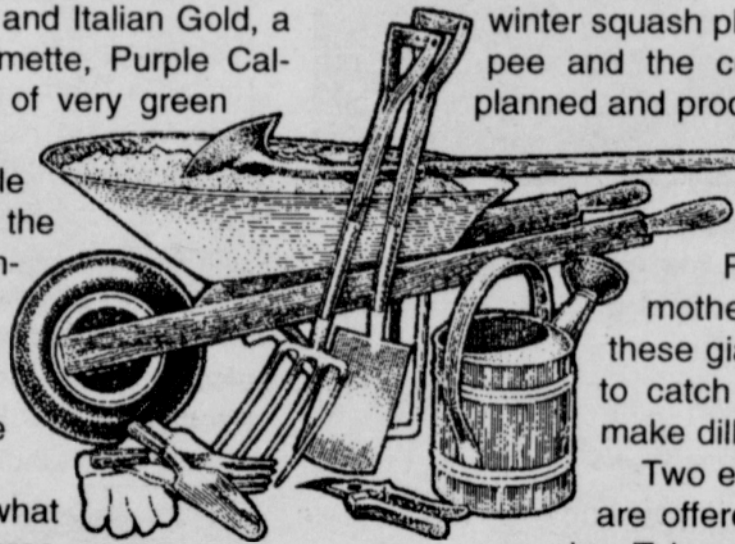
Now that everything and everybody has had a nice long drink of cool water, don't we all look splendid? I finally got a bowl of ripe tomatoes the week after Labor Day, certainly the latest date I remember getting tomatoes. Of course, due to a pervasive and debilitating laziness, I still have not covered them up. I did cut all the excess flowering growth off in mid-August, I just never finished the job and covered. Winners in the "actually-yielding-a-ripe-tomato" contest, so far this year, are the ever-dependable and yummy Sun Gold, Tiger-Like, Taxi (tried for the first time this year – tasty And ripe) and Matina. Close behind and nearly ripe are Jolly Elf (ripe, but not as tasty as I'd like a cherry tomato to be) and Italian Gold, a roma type. The remainder (First Lady, Willamette, Purple Calabash, and Bell Star) are covered with lots of very green tomatoes.

It's worthy of note that I was able to try Purple Calabash at a tomato tasting and it was, by far, the best tasting tomato that was there, which included several other varieties I grow or have grown. The dark, heavily lobed fruits are kind of weird looking, but if you have a very warm place to grow them they are worth the taste treat.

I thought that I had written that I was somewhat disappointed in the side-shoot capacity of my broc-

coli. I'm glad I can't find where I committed that to paper because that thought was premature. Not only does this broc send up a big initial head, it then follows this performance with very nice side-shoots, sometimes even a fairly large head. I probably have ten pounds or more of blanched and frozen broccoli in the freezer, all from one small (roughly 4' x 8') bed. In addition, this bed has a few beets that are underneath the broccoli now and I thought might have disappeared, but they seem to be surviving nicely and will make a nice fall crop. In this instance, filling in the holes that seem so large when setting out plants, worked.

It didn't work as well with the zucchini I stuck in with the tomatoes or the other zucchini on the end of the cucumber bed. Both take up too much space. My tomatoes don't need any additional shade. The one at the end of the cucumbers is just taking over the path, hard to walk around but tolerable. On the other hand, the winter squash planted in a corner between the bean teepee and the cukes has spread along the path as planned and produced several nice yellow squash.



Cucumbers are simple amazing. I swear mine grow overnight from much too tiny to use at all, to giants.

Fortunately, I have recovered my grandmother's sweet pickle recipe, which uses these giants, from Trudy Magoff. I keep hoping to catch enough medium-sized cucumbers to make dills though.

Two events worth a possible trip over the hill are offered by the county OSU Extension Service. Take your noxious weeds to Fern Hill Grange (on Fern Hill Road outside of Rainier) for identification September 20, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and bring along a soil sample for free testing. Columbia County Master Gardeners are sponsoring a Tomato Taste-off, September 25, at the Extension office in St. Helens, at 6:30 p.m.

Stuff to do:

- Continue to water recently planted trees and shrubs. They haven't yet had a chance to establish a good root system. Blueberries also need adequate water to develop.
- Harvest winter squash when ground spot turns from white to cream or gold. Store in a warm place for one or two weeks to develop a hard shell, then move to cooler storage.
- Plant spring bulbs when soil can be worked.
- Check houseplants for bugs, re-pot if needed and bring back inside before frost. Vacations over!
- BAIT FOR SLUGS !!! After a season of eating, giant mollusks are producing huge numbers of eggs in your garden.
- Plant cover crops, or sheet-compost bare soil as it becomes available.
- Lawn can be planted until mid-October.

Vacation may be over, but a gardener's work is never done. Neither is the joy we find in our yards or the pleasure of fresh vegetables in winter, finite.

Church Directory

VERNONIA COMMUNITY CHURCH

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

Sunday
Breakfast 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Junior Church w/Nursery 11:00 a.m.
Youth Group 6-8:00 p.m.
(Jr. & Sr. High)
Wednesday
Prayer Meeting 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.
Evening Service will change to 3:00 p.m. on Sept. 7, 2003

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

Jeff Cheney, 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

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.

VERNONIA FOURSQUARE CHURCH

850 Madison Avenue
Vernonia, 503 429-1103

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

Clint Vandehey Carpet & Upholstery

Your One Stop Decorating Shop

- Mohawk • Wilsonart
- Shaw • Pergo
- Congoleum • Hunter-Douglas

**FREE Estimates
FREE Loaner Samples**

1216 Baseline • Cornelius
503-357-4424
Mon. - Fri., 9am - 5pm
Sat. 10am - Noon

We're **CHEAPER**
THAN HOME
DEPOT!
Check us out!

