

# Variety of booths, goods and services at Vernonia Country Market

If you were in town on the third Saturday in May or the first Saturday in June you probably noticed considerable activity around Shay Park (where the train is for those unfamiliar with the name of the park) and Adams Avenue. The activity was created by buyers and sellers at the Vernonia Country Market (VCM) where a dedicated and diverse group of vendors appear despite occasionally disappointing weather.

Operating under the umbrella of the Vernonia Chamber of Commerce, VCM provides both the structure and opportunity for community members and visitors to buy and sell handcrafted items, produce and selected items for re-sale. Musicians and other performance artists, are encouraged to add to the ambiance by displaying their talents. Unlike some of the crowded farmers' markets in the valley, VCM has a very relaxed atmosphere to go along with a wide variety of products for sale. Produce is expected to start showing up soon (it's a little early still) and at least one vendor has promised strawberries!

Currently, five vendors and one non-profit informational agency are committed to being present on market days. The Five Wives sell an eclectic mix of homemade syrup and bread, produce, clothing, patterns, treats and shampoos for our four-legged friends and too many other things to mention,

including produce grown by the young son of one of the wives. Mike's Hardy Plants brings a bunch of nifty plants from his Cornelius nursery, nicely complimenting the cut flowers, annuals and, of course, peonies provided by Penelope's Peonies. Rounding out the market, Just Janie's has window decals, dishcloths, handmade cards and Avon products. Tucked away in a quite corner near the river, New Day Massage & Bodyworks can give you a relaxing massage after you pick up a candle or videotape. VCM also provides a place for Master Gardener Clinics where you can ask plant questions and discuss yard and garden issues with trained volunteers.

Anyone interested is encouraged to come to the market to buy, sell or just hang out. To set up a booth, obtain an application at Etcetera, 715 Bridge Street (in the theater building), prior to market day, or between 7-9:00 a.m. on market days. Booth fees are very reasonable.

The market is open, rain or shine, from 10:00 to 4:00 on the first and third Saturdays from May to October, with the exception of Jamboree weekend. A couple of new vendors should be showing up on the 19th, including a hot-dog booth. Join the crowd at Vernonia Country Market to visit, shop, relax and enjoy!



Some of the regular participants at Vernonia Country Market are, from left, Grace Dickey, Wendy Fife, Steve Loders, Mike Rainey, Garrett, Kelly and Tasha Loders, Penny Costley, Katie Organ, Heidi Rice, Heather Lewis, John Stewart and Schann Nelson.

## Urban Renewal

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tatives of three cities that have urban renewal districts, for a round table discussion about URDs.

Launer will lead the panel discussion about the realities – good and bad – of Urban Renewal Districts.

The public is invited and will be able to participate in a question and answer session. The round table discussion will be on Monday, June 28, at 7:00 p.m. in the Scout Cabin in Hawkins Park.

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