




The decorations on Vernonia's community Christmas tree were made by local children.

Tree lighting starts the festivities

A happy throng gathered December 4 to celebrate the start of the Christmas season in Vernonia. Following the lighting of the community tree on the City Hall lawn, the crowd sang Christmas carols and enjoyed candy canes and hot apple cider while they waited for the start of the lighted truck parade.

Thank you for your patronage in 2004
Wishing you a New Year of Peace and Joy
Vernonia True Value
 834 Bridge Street, Vernonia • 503-429-6364
Arnie, Mary, Craig, Bill, Mike

Candy Canes and Christmas

Stick candy has been eaten for centuries, but it wasn't until around 1900 that it was decorated with red stripes and bent into the shape of a cane. They were sometimes handed out during church services to keep the children quiet. One story – untrue but often told – about the origin of the candy cane is as follows:

In the late 1800s a candy maker wanted to express the meaning of Christmas through a symbol made of candy. He came up with the idea of bending one of his white candy sticks into the shape of a cane and incorporated symbols of Christ's love and sacrifice through the Candy Cane. First, he used a plain white peppermint stick. The color white to symbolize the purity and sinless nature of Jesus. Next, he added three small stripes to symbolize the pain inflicted upon Jesus before His death on the cross. There are three of them to represent the Holy Trinity. When looked at with the crook on top, it looks like a shepherd's staff. If you turn it upside down, it becomes the letter J, the first letter in Jesus' name. The candy canes were made for Christmas, so everyone would remember what Christmas is all about.



Wishing You a Cheery Holiday Season and a Happy Year ahead

Randall E. Holce, C.P.A.
 854 Grant Ave. • P.O. Box 127
 Vernonia, OR 97064
 503-429-6783

May the spirit of Christmas bring you joy throughout the coming year.



Skidmore & Son Trucking
 16871 Keasey Road, Vernonia • 503-429-7855



BUCKHORN RESTAURANT & Pub

Wishing you Happiness and Joy During the Holiday Season

Join Us to Ring in the **New Year**

We will be closed December 22-28 • Closed New Year's Day
 Banquet Room • Catering
 934 Bridge Street, Vernonia • 503 429-3751

We wish you a Merry Christmas



and a Very Happy New Year

Bretthauer Vernonia Service
 791 Bridge Street, Vernonia • 503-429-3462