

Dance at Vernonia Grange April 23

The Travellin' Grangers will be performing at the Vernonia Grange Spring Dance on Saturday, April 23 from 7 to 10 p.m. Admission will be \$3 per adult or \$5 per couple, \$1 for

children 12 to 18, and children under 12 will be admitted free. Soup and other refreshments will be available. The Vernonia Grange is located at 457 North Street.



Hart's Reptiles brought snakes and lizards and turtles, oh my, to the Vernonia Library on April 11. A corn snake is being shown in the picture above. A Desert Tortoise that was brought along was known to be at least 129 years old.

Col. Co. Spring Fair and Plant Sale

The ninth annual Spring Fair and Plant Sale hosted by the OSU Columbia County Master Gardeners will be held on Saturday, April 30, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at St. Helens High School Commons, 2375 Gable

Road, St. Helens.

The Master Gardeners will be selling tomato plants for \$1.00 each, with 30 standard and 30 heirloom varieties available. The tomatoes are being

See page 22

Welcome Additions

Kortnie Lynn Adams

Kortnie Lynn Adams was born March 25, 2005, to Lawrence and Stacy Adams of Vernonia. She weighed 8 pounds and was 20 inches long.

She has joined her sister, Makayla, and brother, Tristan, at the family home.

Grandparents are Lanny and Judy McDonald of Vernonia and Larry and Deanna Adams of Warren.

Great-grandparents are

Warren Aldrich of Longview, Washington, Ruby McDonald of Vernonia and Genevieve Taylor of Portland.

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



I believe the state has figured a way to get some of us older folk off the highways leading into at least Portland. Holy Cow – my first trip in this year. I thought it was a chore last fall but from Murray Road in now it's a mess – roads shifted over rough patches and still allowing 55 mph – you have to guess if you're still in the lane you should be in and it's really "EEEEK" after the Ross Island hook off. They are changing something in the 6-way intersection with lights and flaggers – Oh, Well – I made it both ways.

Latest flash from outer space – schools are thinking of bringing back actual P.E. and removing fast food (junk) machines from schools so kids can start watching their food intake. I think I hit that subject in August of '03. And, now you can have video exercise games in some schools.

I'd also like to comment on the intended new school to be built in Vernonia but I'd better

keep my mouth shut, because I was one of those that said "Build Washington and the High School from the ground up because..." – and you turned us down flat so – now you fix the problems, such as the sewer under the grade school.

On a brighter note – the Road Rally is coming back to Vernonia on Sunday, April 24, headquarters at the school grounds again. It's open to the public to see, smell and taste the excitement of those fast cars and drivers. Vernonia Cares will be manning the food booth – hot dogs, chili and Krispy Kremes – it's open to one and all – we'll look for you, rain or shine.

I hadn't been to the lake for about four days and what a pleasant surprise – the lamp posts are just plumb beautiful. The shape takes you back to a more leisurely time. They fit in.

I see the lily pads are consuming more of the open water, also.

Ah, Spring rain, snow and hail, can Spring weeds be far behind?

Quilters Guild will meet May 4

Attention Quilters: You are invited to join the free Quilters Guild in Vernonia. Guild members share ideas, patterns, tips, quilts and refreshments.

Everyone is welcome, beginners to experienced quilters. Those who attended the first meeting, held April 6, had a wonderful time and hope others will join them.

The next meeting will be May 4 at 7:00 p.m. at 741 E. Bridge St., Vernonia. For more information, call Jeanette at 503-429-3965.

Oregon Trail Rally April 22-24, 2005



Proud supporters of the Vernonia Food Bank and School District Spectator guides available at The Independent newspaper office
Event Information: Call 503-638-7373, or on the web at www.OregonTrailRally.com

Leonetti's Pizza & Grill



**Due to Popular Demand
Mini Pizzas are Here.
Come and try one today**

721 Madison Ave., Vernonia • 503-429-5018

THE JUNCTION

IN BEAUTIFUL DOWNTOWN
BIRKENFELD

A Month of Sunday Brunches!
Every Sunday 9-2

May 1 South of the Border Specialties

May 8 Mother's Day Crepe Buffet

May 15 Seafood Delicacies

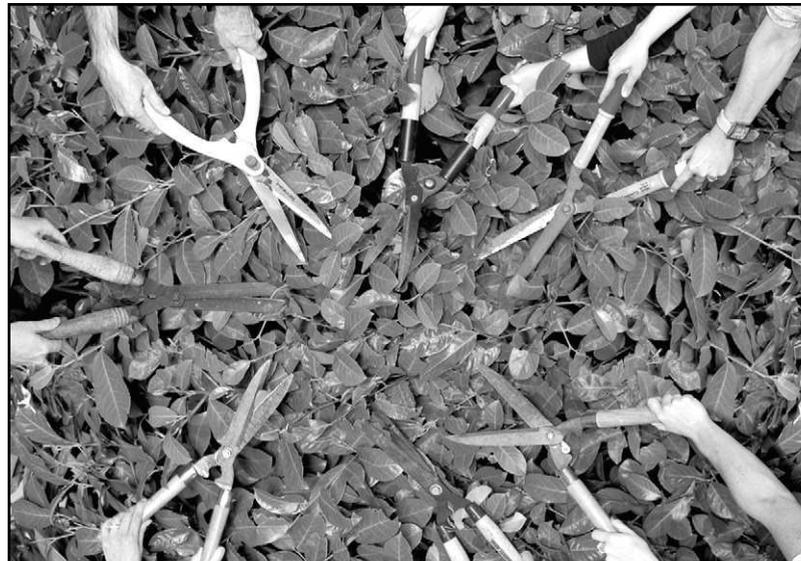
May 22 Grecian Goodies

May 29 & 30 Memorialbe All-American BBQ

503-755-0900

11126 Hwy 202

Birkenfeld, OR 97016



**WHEN PEOPLE
GET TOGETHER
THINGS GET DONE.**

TOGETHER WE CAN PRESERVE ALL
THAT'S GREAT ABOUT OREGON.
VISIT SOLV.ORG

