

# Letters

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the Old Sawmill Eatery. Larry Snethen then got out life jackets for both of us (it is great that they are provided in the cost of the boat rental) and "shoved" us off.

Now I am a person that is scared to death of water but thought what the heck? Well, let me tell you what a blast it all was. We pedaled for awhile, rested and let the current drift us and then pedaled some more!!! It was not strenuous at all. We were out there for an hour and went all around the lake. The hour went by very quickly. A person gets an entirely different view from out in the middle of the lake.

We just wanted to pass this along to anyone who hasn't experienced the fun of a paddle boat. What a great way to spend a very restful hour with a grandchild. Then we fed the ducks right out of the boat. They came so close that you could almost touch them - thought a couple of times that we might even have one jump up with us!!

So if you are looking for an extra fun thing to do with a friend or family please think about giving this a try.

Sincerely,  
**Janie Wasmann and  
Bridger Steward  
Vernonia**

## Many helped provide additional benches

To the Editor:

New benches that have been given to the city for downtown, are the latest project of Vernonia Pride.

A lot of people and businesses were involved in making these benches and we wish to thank the following for their help:

Don Webb, who donated a Douglas fir log and helped build and finish benches; Dennis Weller for transporting and sawing the log; the City of Vernonia, Shaw Supply and True Value for materials and labor; Mike Pihl for a cedar log; Skip Goodman for a maple bench and labor; Dale and Donna Webb, Claude, Paul and Marc LeRiche for volunteer labor; and Wolfgang Forge.

The cost to Vernonia Pride for these 17 benches was \$1,250.

Vernonia Pride has also purchased bike racks for the downtown area. Please re-

member to use these racks, a nice feature to our downtown and for visitors to our trail system.

Another project is the bench built in Memory of Emily Sohler. Money was donated for this project. This bench, which has an elk on the back, will be donated to Vernonia High School.

**Deloris Webb  
Vernonia Pride**

## Vernonia CERT says thanks for the help

To the Editor:

The members of Vernonia Community Emergency Response Team (Vernonia CERT) wish to express their appreciation to the people and agencies that helped get us off the ground. Thanks to Chief Paul Epler, VRFPD and Terri Nelson, of Safety Without Compromise, and to Chief Matt Workman and Officer Mike Kay of the VPD.

Thanks to Vernonia Rural Fire District Volunteers and MetroWest Vernonia Volunteers for encouraging words. You know who you are!

Chief Epler and Teri Nelson wrote and received the original

grant monies that funded the first CERT class. Ms. Nelson executed the training program with the assistance of members of the Fire Department. Because of their efforts, our class received training and some basic gear to use in responding to emergencies.

Chief Workman and Officer Kay have provided on-going advice and support. Chief Workman acquired additional grant funds for our operations. Officer Kay has given hours of personal time for supplemental training. They have also offered advice concerning potential training opportunities. Vernonia CERT members were called out to aid the Vernonia Police

Department in three local lost child incidents, as well as one on Deer Island. We were able to respond due to the Search and Rescue training provided by Officers Kay and Krueger.

We look forward to continuing our education and to working with not only Police Department, but the Fire District and EMS Volunteers as well.

Without the initiative, support and encouragement of many people, Vernonia CERT would still be a dream. While we are ready to assist if the need arises, we hope disaster does not come to Vernonia.

Sincerely,  
**Cindy Ball, Chair  
Vernonia CERT**



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# Obituary

## JUDY MARIE BENTSEN



Judy Marie Bentsen, 62, Vernonia, died August 26, 2005. A celebration of life service was held August 31, at the Vernonia Christian Church with Pastor Sam J. Hough officiating.

Mrs. Bentsen was born August 17, 1943, in Chehalis, Washington, to William H. and Lillian E. (Steele) Anderson. She was raised in Rochester, Wash., and graduated from Rochester High School in 1961.

In 1961, she married Phillip Daniel Mohr. They made their home in Toledo, and later divorced. In 1983, she married Phillip "Roger" Bentsen. They made their home in Toledo until moving to Vernonia in 1999. She worked at West-

ern Auto Hardware in Toledo for several years and at Co-Op Television and Repair in Newport for ten years. For the past five years, she worked in customer service in the video department at Vernonia Sentry Market.

Survivors include her husband; a son, Scott Mohr of Vernonia; three daughters, Natalie M. Mohr of Tualatin, Deb Delfs of Forest Grove, and Rachael D. Bentsen of Vernonia; a brother, Ken Anderson of Olympia, Wash.; two sisters, Carol Gifford of Olympia, Wash., and Lois DeVaney of Kennewick, Wash.; four grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Remembrances are suggested to the American Heart Association, Oregon Affiliate Inc., 1200 NW Naito Parkway #220, Portland OR 97209-2831 or to the Vernonia Christian Church, 410 North Street, Vernonia OR 97064.

Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Home in Vernonia was in charge of arrangements.

## BRENDA LARAE DENHAM

Brenda Larae Denham, 47, Portland, died August 9, 2005. Funeral services were held August 12, at Fir Lawn Mortuary in Hillsboro, followed by interment at Fir Lawn Memorial Park.

Mrs. Denham was born September 8, 1957, in Portland, to Houston L. and Flonnie P. Windom Dugan. She was raised in Portland.

She married Tony Almond and they later divorced. In 2000, she married

Rick Denham. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband; two sons, Chad and Kyle Almond, both of Portland; two daughters, Tamie Wilcox of Gresham and Tanya Rhorer of Cornelius; a brother, Jerry Dugan of Grand Ronde; four sisters, Betty Reynolds of N. Dakota, Rhonda Lunsford of Portland, Sue Wilson of Vernonia, and Deana Eckman of Pendleton; six grandchildren; nieces and nephews.

Fir Lawn Mortuary of Hillsboro was in charge of arrangements.

## DARCY JUSTINE HOWLETT

Darcy Justine Howlett, 22, Clatskanie, died August 3, 2005. A celebration of life will be announced at a later date. Cremation has taken place.

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Ms. Howlett was born October 12, 1982, in Longview, to Jeffrey Robert and April Julie (Plummer) Howlett. She graduated from Rainier High School in 2000 and majored in psychology and history at Eastern Oregon University. She was employed at Columbia County Mental Health and Cornerstone Home in St. Helens.

Survivors include her fiance, Roy Nelson; her mother and stepfather, A.J. Plummer-Porter and David Porter; her father and stepmother, Jeffrey and Penny Howlett; her grandmother, June Plummer; two brothers, Travis and Olin

Howlett; a stepbrother, Travis Porter; two stepsisters, Shelly Porter-Norton and Cosette Porter- Hessler; nieces and nephews.

Remembrances are suggested to the Darcy Howlett Scholarship Fund, Weyerhaeuser Employees Credit Union, 1418 15th Ave., Longview, WA, 98632.

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