

The INDEPENDENT

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"Voice of the Upper Nehalem River Valley"

August 3, 2006

Over the Line



This crash occurred July 21 on Timber Road, when a pickup truck driven by Aaron Headley, Vernonia, crossed the line and hit a small SUV driven by Debbie Makepeace, Vernonia. The pickup rolled and landed in a ditch. Neither party was seriously injured. Headley was cited for Failure to Drive on the Right. A similar crash, August 1 on Hwy. 47, resulted in injuries to a local woman. See page 8 for related article.

What was Vernonia like during the 1st Jamboree?

Since the 2006 Vernonia Friendship Jamboree is the 50th, here is a look back at Vernonia and Jamboree of 1956.

"Vernonia and the Nehalem Valley, Oregon – A Community Survey" gave this information about the businesses in Vernonia in 1956:

- 2 – Dairies
- 4 – Doctors and Dentists
- 5 – Gas Stations
- 3 – Bulk Oil Plants
- 8 – Clothing, General and Variety Stores
- 7 – Grocery Stores
- 9 – Cafes and Taverns
- 5 – Auto Agencies, Garages and Repair Shops
- 5 – Banks, Real Estate and Insurance Offices
- 1 – Jewelry and Notions
- 1 – Motion Picture Theater
- 3 – Hotels and Motels

Lumbering and sawmill operations accounted for more than half of the industrial activity in the city and employed approximately 70 percent of Ver-

Vernonia's 50th Friendship Jamboree
Aug. 4 – 6, 2006
See special pullout section for Schedule of Events
 Additional Jamboree information may be found on pages 12-13

nonia's population. Farms totaled approximately 7 percent of the land; the average farm was seventy acres. The major agricultural products in 1956 were berries, cattle, dairy, grass seed, poultry and mink pelts. Vernonia's typical worker was thirty-five years old.

Stories in the *Vernonia Eagle*
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Ground breaking held for major ethanol biorefinery

Berggruen Holdings broke ground July 20 on its corn-based dry-mill biorefinery in Clatskanie. Berggruen's Cascade Grain facility will be one of the country's largest and highest-tech bio-energy plants, providing clean-burning, renewable fuel for West Coast motorists. It will produce 113.4 million gallons per year of fuel-ethanol as well as high-protein distillers' grain for livestock feed and carbon dioxide (CO₂) for carbonated beverages.

The high-octane ethanol will be blended with gasoline and sold mainly through service stations in Oregon, Washing-

ton, and California. The mixture helps engines burn cleaner, reduces harmful tailpipe emissions, and improves air quality.

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Time to file for City councils and mayor

Citizens who are interested in running for a position as mayor or city council member in Vernonia or Banks can now pick up filing papers at the appropriate City Hall.

In Vernonia, there will be three positions on the ballot, the mayor and two council seats. The mayoral term is two years; each of the council positions is one year.

Please see page 4

ODOT open house to review Hwy. 47/Hwy. 26 interchange

The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) has set an Open House on August 8 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Buxton Community Hall, 22770 NW Fisher Rd., Buxton.

ODOT is in the planning phase for a new interchange at Staley's Junction. Turns from

southbound Hwy 47 onto eastbound Hwy 26 have been identified as a significant safety concern. Plans are being developed to build a new interchange in 2009. Potential designs will be presented at this open house.

For more information go to

<www.oregon.gov/DOT/HWY/REGION1/staleys/>.

Blood Drive Aug. 11

There will be a Red Cross Blood Drive at the Vernonia Community Church, at State Ave. and North St., on Friday, August 11, from 2:00-7:00 p.m.