

Letters

Toy & Joy efforts aid many local families

To the Editor:

To the Community: I am writing this to thank you for your generous contributions to the Vernonia RFPD Toy and Joy. Because of your donations last year we were able to help 135 children and 45 families. We purchased care packages containing basic personal care products for the adults and children. Through your donations we were able to bring some joy to these families' holidays. I would like to thank you again for your selfless donations that help support our Toy and Joy program.

It is that time of year again and we would like to let you know the locations of the toy drop barrels that we have place in town. There are four barrels altogether this year. They are located at Bridge Street Mini Mart, Sentry, City Hall, and Wauna Federal Credit Union. All donated toys must be new and un-wrapped. With your help our Toy and Joy program will continue to be a success.

If you are a family in need of assistance, applications can be picked up at Vernonia Cares, Vernonia Headstart, and the Vernonia Fire Station. The deadline for application drop-offs is December 15.

Sincerely,

**Daniel Owens
Volunteer Fire Fighter
Toy and Joy President**

Old quilt pattern used for Sr. Center benefit

To the Editor:

We, the four quilters of the Vernonia Senior Center would like to thank everyone for the help and encouragement for our successful Quilt Raffle. We made our goal of \$1,016 and went over. All money, \$1,085, went to the Senior Center. All materials were donated.

About the quilt: In September 2005, hand-pieced medallions were received from the George Smith family (waiting for someone to finish). Research was done by Susan Goodhope (our reliable historian) for the period and pattern title. The pattern for the quilt is "Rising Sun" from a book by Barbara Brackman, who is an authentic source of old quilts. Searched for fabrics to put together to match as close as possible. Appliqued medallions with blanket stitching. Was put into frame and ready to quilt March 2006. Nine months to quilt. Out of frame and bound. Put on display January 2007. Made our tickets and ready to sell. Drawing was November 14, 2007, at Vernonia Senior

Center's Thanksgiving dinner. Won by: Anne Cameron of Mc-Cleary, Washington.

Don't let the art of quilting and fine quilts go astray. Quilting is much like the old quilting bees. Time to enjoy friendships and pleasures while we work. We invite interested persons to come. Tuesday's 10:00 - 2:00. Enjoy lunch. We try to also help with questions about quilts. Maybe one can be salvaged. Heirlooms. Show us what you have. We love to see and talk about them.

See you!

**Susan Goodhope
Louise Hamnett
Faith Reynolds
Fran Hendrix
Vernonia**

Family is thankful for concern and help

To the Editor:

On Tuesday, November 13, our family's home burnt down due to our refrigerator. Fortunately, we were all safe and we were insured. We wanted to make sure we thanked everyone for their kindness and prayers.

There are many people to thank from beginning to end, so I will do my best to remember everyone. Thanks to Lisa Orth, Susan Murphy, and others of the Red Cross for being there when we needed you to be;

Nathan Riley for saving all our surrounding property and removing the propane tanks, your quick action and response did not go unnoticed. The VRFPD, for doing all they could and to Dean Smith and Wayne Vaughn for taking us through the house and looking out for our safety. Paul Epler for his continued work and involvement in helping us to get things going and meeting with our insurance. The Vernonia Inn for making our stay comfortable and Anne Kingsley and WGS for getting our boys needed supplies and backpacks. Janet Conger, for all her help and care of our pets and property while we're not around. Other neighbors of ours for their help and support, the people of Washington County who helped and supported my sister, Leisa Rosas in Forest Grove, while caring for my children while we go through this transition. We also wish to thank the Vernonia Police Department for their extra patrols and assistance in safeguarding our property.

A special thanks to Farmer's Insurance of Oregon, Mike Hundley's office in Forest Grove, their adjustor Scott Van-ice who has been great in the handling of our claim and helping us move past this, and to Alliance Restoration for all your help in restoring my grandfather's things, and to Jeff Graves and Brian Prisel - Thank you, thank you. And, above all, thanks to *The Independent* for their photos and helping me to get this letter published.

We would also like to thank the people who set up a donation fund for us at Wauna. However, we are in the process of turning those funds over to the VRFPD to assist future fire victims. We encourage all to contribute to that if you wish to help.

Again, thanks to everyone and to my friends and family who have never deserted me when I need them most. Thank you.

**Darryl and Theresa
Norton and Family**

More letters on page 4

Policy on Letters

The INDEPENDENT will not publish letters that include personal attacks on private citizens. Because of space limitations, preference will be given to brief letters, 300 words or less.

All letters must be signed and include a verifiable address or phone number; all letters are subject to editing for clarity or length.

Ike Says

From page 2

side of the road from where the rancher said the buck was last seen, and there he was, standing there. Dad made two good shots and soon the buck, a nice 3pt. was headed back to camp. You just never know where those bucks will pop up! The season was starting to wind down for us and Michael was starting to get that sinking feeling of getting skunked. He had taken a shot at a forked horn and missed. Then the wind picked up for a day-and-a-half and he couldn't hunt where he wanted to, due to falling snags. Finally, on the last day before we were heading home he took off up the hill into our favorite hunt area. The rest of us took a drive, checking out what few camps were left in our area. When we got back towards camp we caught the faint sounds of Mike's voice on the

radio. It seems he had a little buck down. With us breaking camp in the morning, I made the quick decision to grab the pack boards and head up the hill. It was going to be close to dark when I got to Mike, but I made it in time, so we didn't have to use lights to cut the buck up for the pack. Coming out in the dark was another story, but being really familiar with the ground, we navigated back to camp just in time to finish what was left of dinner. It was a good year for us, but many camps did not fair so well, I guess it just pays to be lucky.

Merry Christmas to all and happy New Year.

**Izaak Walton League,
Nehalem Valley Chapter**
meets monthly on the 3rd
Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Call
503-428-7193 for location.

Thank You . . .

Thank you to Robert Ray and Josh Schultz for taking their own boats and equipment out and rescuing people.

Dean Smith

Thank you to R&R Automotive for allowing Dean Smith so much time off.

Paul Epler
Vernonia Fire Chief

Thank you Sabrena, Jerry,

Grace and John from Vancouver who moved furniture, plus the crew of volunteers who came Saturday to help pull carpet, and the crew that showed up this Wednesday to pull insulation and clean cupboards (whose names I didn't get).

Noni Andersen

Special thanks to Robert Williams and Jay Silas for helping muck out our office, for the

truck and for hauling away wet stuff. Thanks to Sunny Kay and Costco for generosity and support of the community. More thanks go out to Dr. Ken Cox, Vincent Stannick and Kennedy Restoration. And, thanks to Carol Davis and all the other people who stopped by to see how we were and offered to help us clean up.

Clark and Rebecca
McGaugh

Want to thank someone for their help during or after the flood? Submit your "Thanks" to us and we'll run them in the next issues. Send them to The Independent, 725 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064, or drop them in the mail slot above the paper box out front, or email them to rebecca@the-independent.net