

Pioneers set to meet on June 8

The 15th annual meeting of the Nehalem Valley Pioneer Association is scheduled for Sunday, June 8, at Natal Grange (located on Highway 47 between Rainier Junction and Mist).

The Nehalem Valley Pioneer Association consists of descendants of pioneers who settled the Nehalem Valley, although all past, present and future residents of the area are welcome to attend, as is everyone interested in local history. The association has long hon-

ored pioneers who have passed during the year, preceding each meeting with a simple memorial service. This year will begin a tradition of noting the birth of new descendants during the preceding year.

Doors will open at 10:00 a.m., the business meeting will be conducted at 11:00 a.m., the potluck picnic is at noon – served buffet style – and the afternoon program will begin after lunch, around 1:00 p.m.

Welcome Additions



Avery Noel Paul Dean

Avery Noel Paul Dean was born May 12, 2008, to John and Lara Dean of Vernonia. He weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces and was 18-1/2 inches long.

He joined three brothers, John Jr., Aaron, and Dylan; and a sister, Lauren, at the family home.

Electronic waste event scheduled

An electronic waste collection event will be held at the Columbia County Transfer Station, 1601 Railroad Ave., St. Helens, on June 14, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Free disposal for will be provided for DVD players, VCRs, phones, printers, copiers, fax machines, laptops, computer towers, keyboards, mice, cables, and external drives.

Up to two computer monitors, televisions and/or microwaves will also be accepted without charge. After the first two, there will be a charge of \$4.00 (computer monitors), \$7.00 and up (televisions), and \$20.00 (microwaves) per item.

For more information, call 503-397-7213.

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



A P.S. from my article of May 15. On my return from a Mother's Day trip at the

bank corner I was shown "Who owns the streets of our town." Two teens on roller blades were zig-zagging from sidewalk into the street for two blocks in front of myself and another car behind me. One of them knew there was "traffic" in the street but apparently didn't care. So again I say, "What right does the automobile have in Vernonia?" I sure was not about to toy and pass them.

The "Tella marketers" have a new twist – they pitch for a sentence or two and then say press #1 to talk to so & so (they do not say punch #2 to cancel hearing from us again). After three such calls from the same

voice I punched #1 and told here (or tried to) to remove me...she had the gall to hang up on me. Ho, ho, ho.

It was a lovely hot summer we had the other week. I even had a touch of heat stroke, also a touch of cabin fever while trying to stay cool.

Memorial Day has come and gone, even if we do think we just had Christmas. Did you give much thought to all in your family you should remember? My family root is getting mighty thin. My brother has one son, then there is a male cousin with one son and my maiden name is K-put.

The senior center had quite a treat this past Wednesday. The high school band master, Robert Izzett, and 25 plus students (high and jr. high) came and played several selections for us – big drum, tuba, sax, horns, clarinets, trombones, flutes and more. It was great. They are awaiting their marching band uniforms. Also, they will begin practice marching playing before school is out and

assured us they will be playing in events throughout the year. We all clapped and said yes, yes, yes, finally the school will have a marching band again. After how many years? Perhaps they will have a pep band, a jazz band, and perhaps other types that can go out and compete with other schools. Look at the "Golden Oldies", they are still having a ball, music never dies – "We Kept the Beat."

Keep it up kids.

Also, Sgt. Kay gave a very informative update on who, what, when and why we all need to keep track of our prescription drugs. It isn't just us that may be using them. (Know how many you have, if you run out before your should maybe it isn't you that can't count.) Perhaps you shouldn't keep them in the medicine cabinet. To easy for others to get at.

Kids in town are into using mom, dad, grandma and grandpas meds.

Be aware – check your pills if you think you've lost count of when you take them.

Medicare will be topic on June 19

Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance (SHIBA) will be at the Vernonia Senior Center on Thursday, June 19, from 1:30 to 3:30p.m. for anyone interested in learning about Medicare. Call Karen Miller, Community Action Team Senior Services Senior Advocate/ Case Manager at 503-429-9112 for further information.

20 Years Ago This Month

The June 30, 1988, issue of *The Independent* included the following article on page 3 under the Business Notes heading:

July 1st, Vernonia Lanes changes hands as Henry and Isabell Anderegg convey their bowling alley to new owner Kay Kleffner.

Kleffner, who lives in Vernonia, is currently operating a housecleaning business in Portland. She expects to open the doors to her new venture on July 2nd.

Vernonia Cafe has reopened after a winter-long closure. It has also, in the interim, changed hands. New owners

are Priscilla Cradit and Alicia Vaughn.

Featuring home style cooking, including pies, cinnamon rolls and doughnuts, special menu feature full dinners with soup, salad and dessert.

Barry Hess of Scappoose, the new owner of Vernonia Auto Parts, says his first priori-

ty is to increase the store's inventory of both auto and saw parts and accessories. Employees Joe Thornton and Jim Buxton will operate the Vernonia store for Hess. Buxton will continue to provide saw service as he did under the previous owner, Bill Hawkins.



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Pet of the Month

Columbia Humane Society in St. Helens has a variety of wonderful pets available for adoption. Find the pet that's right for you in the shelter at 2084 Oregon St. Monday through Saturday, 11 am. to 5 pm. 503-397-4353



Ultimo came to us as a very scared tiny kitten. Though still shy at times he now enjoys attention and loves to play. Ultimo is about 1.5 years old, handsome and unique looking boy with a stub tail. He is up to date with routine shots, house trained and has been altered. He has spent most of his life kenneled up and is so ready for his forever home. Do you have the room in your heart and home for Ultimo so he doesn't have to spend any more of his days kenneled up?

Ultimo

The Columbia Humane Society is a No-Kill non-profit shelter dedicated to helping friends find each other since 1985.

This Adopt a Pet is Sponsored by:

Senator Betsy Johnson