

Business Notes

Hobby becomes business that provides a variety of local goods and services



Einstein, the 10 year-old pet cockatoo of the Edgars, enjoys a rose. Einstein has a fan base of people who stop by just to say "hello" to him.

Creatures Pet Shop has been a popular business on Bridge Street, Vernonia, since they opened in April, 2001. They moved to their present location in September of 2001.

The whole idea for the pet

shop started as a result of Ben and Lisa Edgar's hobby of breeding birds, plus their love of animals in general. Lisa put it this way, "Pet animals are a passion for both of us."

Creatures has been growing

Council okays fiscal resolutions

The Vernonia City Council held three public hearings at Vernonia City Hall on June 23. All three hearings had to do with the city budget.

The first hearing was to adopt Resolution 05-08, a 2007-08 supplemental budget. Financial Officer Dick Kline told council this resolution was needed in order to reflect changes in appropriations necessitated by the December flood. With no public comments in favor or opposition to the resolution, council unanimously approved the supplemental budget.

The second public hearing was for Resolution 06-08, a formal process needed for the city to be able to accept State revenue sharing funds. The resolution was adopted unanimous-

ly; there were no public comments in opposition, support, or neutral.

The final public hearing was to adopt the 2008-09 budget, make appropriations, impose and categorize the taxes. This was done as Resolution 07-08 and was also adopted by council. As with the other two hearings, there were no comments in opposition or in favor of the resolution from any of the three citizens who were present in the audience.

After the resolutions had been adopted, Kline told council that, next, he would update the budgets and print copies of the new budget document for each council member and for the newspaper (this had not been received by press time).

and adding services for Vernonia area pet owners and now offers birds, fish, and supplies for birds, fish, dogs, cats, and reptiles. They carry a line of premium pet food and have recently added livestock feed, including duck scratch for those who enjoy feeding the ducks at Vernonia Lake. Scratch is much more nutritious than bread for the ducks. If you can't find what you are looking for, just ask. If they don't stock it, they can probably order it for you.

What most people may not realize is how price competitive Creatures is compared to out-of-town shops. "We are very price conscious because we know people have choices about where they spend their money," said Lisa Edgar.

Dog and cat grooming is another service offered at Creatures, just call or stop in for an appointment.

Floral services is another hobby turned business for Lisa Edgar, who has been doing flowers for 25 years. Lisa can meet all your floral needs and even offers her services as a wedding organizer if needed. Long distance floral needs can be facilitated as well, so you don't have to leave town to send flowers.

Gift certificates for pet and floral services are available, too.

"The talent in Vernonia is amazing," said Lisa in explaining their newest venture. Hand made items are now being offered to showcase the talent of area crafters. Offerings by Alice's Stained Glass, Paisley

Jobless rate stable

Columbia County's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 5.9 percent in May, the same as in April, slightly more than one year before (5.7%). Statewide, the unemployment rate is 5.6%; the national rate is 5.5%. Total employment decreased by 33 to 23,146 and the number of unemployed people dropped by 61 to 1,357. Total employment this May was 285 more than one year before, but there were 81 more people unemployed this year.

Pincushion, Ram-z Horse Shoe Art, Camardia Gardens and Rena Titus Designs are now available at Creatures. In addition, the Edgars invite everyone to come in and welcome Double C Tack Shop, now open and offering tack and supplies ('tack' for those unfamiliar does not include custom leather work).

The Edgar's also want to thank everyone who helped them with flood cleanup, both physically and financially and offer a huge thank you to the Unmet Needs Committee for all they did to help get Creatures up and running again after the flood.

Come shop at this family owned Vernonia business and don't be surprised if the Edgar's sons, Austin and Jesse, are there to help with carry-out service. If you don't already shop there, you'll find Creatures at 736 Bridge St. or call them at 503-429-PETS (7387). Their web site is www.creature-spetshop.com.

And, don't miss Creatures long overdue Grand Opening, July 2 through July 12. There will be in-store specials, refreshments, and even gifts for the first 50 customers (even though this comes out July 3, it might not be too late to get one of these gifts).

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