

20 Years Ago This Month

The June 29, 1989, issue of *The Independent* included the following news story on the front page:

An ordinance increasing West Oregon Electric Co-op's franchise fee from 3% to 4%, a 33.3% hike, was given preliminary approval by the Vernonia City Council on June 5.

Councilor Scott Sword asked to have weight limits established on some city streets because of increasing problems with broken water lines. Since the city lacks a scale, he suggested that one way to reduce the damage would be to ban loaded log trucks on those streets.

Councilor Mario Leonetti hotly contested the proposal, saying that poor maintenance, lack of ditching and inadequate run-off cause the problems, not log trucks.

"This is the wrong thing at the wrong time," Leonetti said, adding that he wanted "proof" that the trucks are causing the problem.

Owner/operator Gene Weller spoke of the many hours of time and labor that log truck drivers had donated to the city, and asked that such a ban not be imposed.

"Let's get more information on this, and work together," Weller urged.

Mayor Wally Vaughn agreed that more information was needed and suggested referring the matter to the planning commission, a view supported by Sword and Councilor Mark Stevens. Leonetti and Councilor Wells Oviatt opposed the referral.

No action was taken.

In other business, the council agreed that a public hearing will be held before consideration of mandatory garbage service. A date for the hearing hasn't yet been selected.

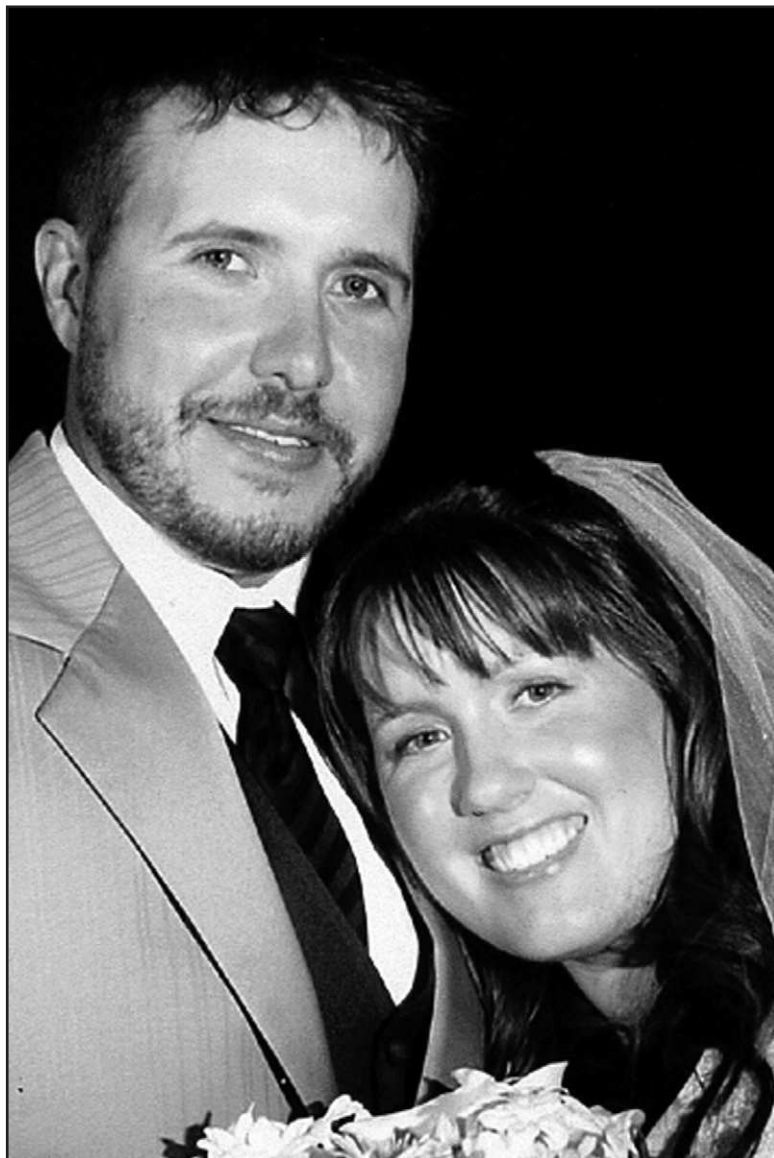
A reduction in the \$500 set-up fee for manufactured homes is under consideration. The matter was referred to City Attorney Tom Kohl.

A petition was presented to the council asking the city to enforce its public nuisance ordinances, and eliminate two uninhabitable residences on "C" Street. One was partially destroyed by a fire more than four years ago, the other has

been unusable far longer. City Building Official Jim Tierney said they were on a priority list, and would be taken care of "As soon as possible," probably

within 60 days.

The council noted that the city swimming pool wasn't open because they hadn't yet hired a life guard.



Pete Caspers and Jayme Cameron shown at their wedding.

Cameron, Caspers wed in March

Jayme Cameron and Pete Caspers were married March 28 in Dubuque, Iowa. They are making their home in Peosta, Iowa.

Mrs. Caspers works at the Galena Gazette, in Galena, Illinois and Mr. Caspers is employed at Wendling Quarries in

Springville, Iowa.

The bride is the daughter of Keith and Allyson Cameron of Vernonia and Kathy and Warren Bell of Galena, Ill.

The groom is the son of Rust and Cheryl Caspers of Anamosa, Iowa, and Julie and Brad Hansen of Olin, Iowa.

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



T o o much sun, my brain is on vacation or I put it in the wrong box during my clean-out of the shed. I'm at present watching the National Spelling Bee. Gee Whiz, so far they have used ten words I've heard of.

I'm sorry, there is no flow of thought or words – I lost a friend this week.

As you go through life you meet many folk. Some old, some young, some you will remember sometimes, others you'll forget (for years and years). There are a special few you will never forget, therefore, when they pass away you're left with a void that will be hard to fill.

Gyascutus – mythical animal with longer legs on one side of the body than the other. Phooey – today you can see them on side hills in cattle country. They are called "Side Hill gougers". They leave walking paths up steep slopes. (They are cattle.)

CORRECTION

After printing a press release from the Vernonia Police Department on page 9 of the April 2 issue, questions arose about the accuracy of the information provided. The press release, regarding an underage drinking party on March 20, said that 11 people were involved and all were apprehended. After repeatedly being denied public

records regarding the incident, the public record finally received indicated nine people were apprehended. When asked about the difference, Interim Chief Mike Kay responded, "Two went out the window and were not apprehended but we know who they were... That's why the reports said not all apprehended."

Ready? Set? Plan for Plant Sale

Brighten your garden with plants, shrubs, bulbs, trees, garden stuff and more from the Vernonia Senior Center Plant & Garden Sale. Other items will also be available, including

fishing equipment.

The sale will be at the Senior Center, 446 Bridge St., June 10-13, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. All proceeds benefit the Senior Center.

Flag Day June 14



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