



Updegrave photos are works of art

It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words, but what are thousands of pictures worth?

Vernonian Chris Updegrave has taken thousands of pictures and many of them are stunning. There are 8,755 on his www.flickr.com site. Well, there were that many as of August 30, but, by now, he's probably added some more. "If you can't edit a photo in three seconds, it's a bad photo," says

Updegrave, who doesn't use Photoshop much. Most of his pictures are taken outdoors, though his subjects are many and varied.

Updegrave took his first pictures with a Kodak Brownie camera in Pennsylvania, when he was nine years-old. He really started "getting into photos", he says, in high school when he was 16 or 17. The only time he's stopped clicking away

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20 Years Ago This Month

The September 28, 1989, issue of *The Independent* included the following news story on page 11:

"The Vernonia Incident," the original title of the video film made this year in Vernonia, will be the film's release title, after all, not "Bad Hit," as previously announced.

The film was showcased in August at the international

Video Software Dealers Association in Las Vegas, according to producer Ray Etheridge, and was picked up by 643 regional distributors from throughout the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico and Korea. Other sales are pending, he added.

The film will be available to video stores within a few days.

The final version of "The Vernonia Incident" has been

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St. Mary's Quilt Fair, Sept. 17-20

Mark your calendars! September 17 through 20 will be the 39th Annual St. Mary's Quilt Fair. It is an event that draws on the help and skills of all the parishioners, and demonstrates a proud history of a determined community. The event is the largest fundraiser for the parish, enabling it, essentially, to keep its doors open.

Each year, old friends and new visit the Fair, which boasts unique quilting designs and includes a Craft & Gift Bazaar as well as delicious homemade lunches. The array of colors on the quilts amazes people who perhaps have a stereotype in mind before attending the fair – there is something to suit and entice everyone. The bazaar products have included floral arrangements, wall hangings, knitted and crocheted items.

When the St. Mary's congregation outgrew its small country church many years ago, donations were collected to purchase the current property on Missouri Avenue in Vernonia. No money existed to actually construct the church – this was where the quilt fair tradition started. A parishioner, Louise Smekjal, began gathering scraps

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Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



Hello – all of you out there – wherever you may be. Sun, wind, rain, pine or fir needles falling on you.

It's only been three weeks since I left your company, but while you sweltered in the 100° heat I was in a cool hospital room.

I am now no longer "speedy". If I ran a race with a snail, it would win. Hands down. Another fact, I am no long an "outsider" to

the life of a kidney dialysis person. If you're not interested, stop reading now. It ain't fun, it ain't going to be a walk in the park and "Russ" I'm with you now. My week centers around Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, 3-1/2 hours each (mid-day). I can no longer enjoy anything with salt – no more Catalina dressing, no baked 'spuds', cantaloupe, soy sauce, tomato soup, chili, baked beans, Cheerios, nor salt & buttered popcorn, to name a few Oh, I forgot pickles, olives and salted nuts. I will however survive. I've too much to do yet – after I get used to having a normal blood pressure, which I haven't had for 20 or 30 years. Anyhow. I had to have a set-up implant in my neck for dialysis for awhile because the 'fistula' is too tender yet (anyhow no needle pokes in my arm for awhile). One thing on my side, I'm not a diabetic.

On to pleasanter things. I have been setting my house up, shopping, watching Shadow have a fit because I won't let her chase the squirrels. My days "eating out" are few, I have to learn what not to order.

I've heard the Seniors had a nice time at their picnic. I sure miss the "Golden Oldies" (the rest of you, too).

When I lived in Vernonia and wanted some things I had to go out of town. Well, now it's if I want something I have to go all over the place to find what I want and shop for hours to find whatever it was I went to town for. Hasn't changed much.

How long has it been since you just stood and watched the wind pick up a single piece of leaf and play with it while the rest of the leaves just lay there? Ever realize that some breeze caresses you in the same way throughout your day?



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