

Early pioneers created their own fun

The August 6, 1959, issue of the *Vernonia Eagle* included the following news story on the front page under the headline "Early Pioneers Created Own Fun, Proved Themselves Hardy Stock:

(Because of the great amount of interest shown in the stories of the early settling of the Nehalem valley, it has been decided to run a series of stories about the families who were among the early settlers here. This story has been prepared by Mrs. Albert Parker and gives some additional and most interesting facts about the first family to homestead in the Upper Nehalem valley. Much of Riverview is on the homestead site. Their place included what has in later years been known as the Andy Parker place. Clark Parker donated a piece from his homestead to the school district when it was formed and the

first log school was built there near what is now known as tenth street.)

Clark L. Parker was born in Kansas in 1825. His wife, Malissa, was born in Kentucky in 1839. They were married in 1857. Eight children were born to the couple while living in Kansas. Two died before the Parkers sold their farm and came West.

They first lived in Portland for nearly two years and considered buying 10 acres on the East side, the price, \$3,000. This area is now in the heart of the city.

In the meantime before the deal could be made Parker heard talk of the Nehalem and its great opportunities, and the big attraction for him at the time was the chance for trapping of fur bearing animals, along with homesteads for the taking and the talk then was that a railroad and wagon road would

soon be built into the Nehalem country.

See Pioneers on page 22

Pitt and Griffin marry in Utah

Anne-Marie Pitt and Zacharia Joseph Griffin were married September 9, 2009, in Tooele, Utah.

Anne-Marie is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Pitt Jr. of Rush Valley, Utah, and Dodie Tumlinson of Vernonia.

Zacharia is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Scott Hansen of Logan, Utah.

Anne-Marie and Zacharia will make their home in Logan with their daughter, Autumn Griffin.

Senior News

By Karen Miller



PLEASE, no donations after our business hours of 9:00 a.m to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Any drop-offs made at other times will be considered illegal dumping subject or prosecution. Call Pauline to make other arrangements.

See you at the Senior Center this Saturday, September 19, where there will be tables set up as part of the Community Garage Sale.

Reminder: You can get fresh made fritters for \$1.50 or maple bars for \$1.00 here at the center and the proceeds go to the center. Take your chances or call ahead to be sure there are some here for you.

Doctor to patient, "Well, did your asthma go away since I told you to sleep with your window open?"

Patent, "Yes, it did. Along with my wallet, my laptop and my television set."

Vernonia Senior Center: 503-429-3912.

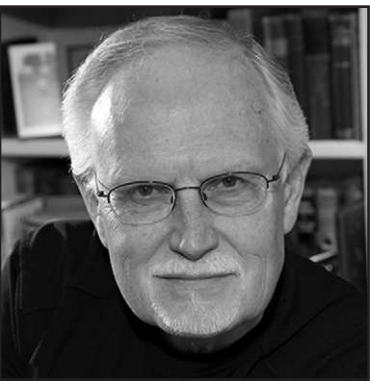
Plan for hospital topic of meeting

Are you interested in the project currently underway to site a hospital in Columbia County? There will be a public meeting on September 28, in the Lou Witt room of the St. Helens High School, 2375 Gable Road, from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m.

This meeting will be to discuss the application for a certificate of need by Columbia Health District for a 12-bed hospital to be located at 35311 Millard Road in St. Helens.

Any person may speak at the meeting. The time period allowed for testimony may be limited depending on the number of persons who wish to speak.

New book sales to benefit Library



When Oregon author George Byron Wright finally located a man he had been trying to find for over 25 years, he was inspired to write a novel with that theme: finding a person who had played an important role in one's life – especially when young. On October 1, Wright will introduce the result of six years work when he launches "Driving to Vernonia", his fourth novel, at the Vernonia Public Library.

"After years of looking for a man who had been so very special in my life," Wright said, "I was caught up with the idea of writing about someone who desperately needs to find someone long lost to him." In fact, the concept caught the fancy of people asking about his next novel to such an extent that the title of the book has become a metaphor in Wright's mind.

"It seemed that every time I explained the premise of the novel, people would indicate

that they too had one or more people of significance in their past that they had lost track of. Often, as in Wright's case, they still needed to thank that person for all they had done. In the end, Wright formulated a pseudo definition for the title of the book: *<driving to Vernonia>* v phrase: the act of locating a person of significance in one's past.

Wright assures the reader that the novel is not merely a warm fuzzy with big hugs at the end. "Driving to Vernonia" explores one man's loss of self and chronicles his journey to reconnect with his past and reclaim what is there. Wright stresses that "Driving to Vernonia" is a penetrating story of deprivation, laced with love and anger, violence and self-discovery.

Wright will attend a brief reception at the Vernonia Public Library, 701 Weed Ave, Vernonia, on Thursday, October 1, at 6:30 p.m. At 7:00 p.m., he will discuss and read from the book. Books will be available for sale with a percentage of the proceeds going to the Friends of the Library.

Wright's previous novels, known as the Oregon Trio, include: "Baker City 1948", "Tillamook 1952" and "Roseburg 1959". To learn more about Wright and his work go to www.c3publications.com.


What to do with your sale leftovers

If you are participating in the Vernonia Community-Wide Yard Sale and have unsold items that you don't want to store any longer and would like to donate to a not-for-profit organization, you may take them to the yard next to Vernonia Realty for pickup on Monday morning by The Arc of Multnomah-Clackamas, a local chapter of The Arc of the United States and The Arc of Oregon, which is committed to helping children and adults with mental retardation and related developmental disabilities achieve their greatest potential. The Arc will send a truck to Vernonia for the donations.

Following is a list of items that The Arc will pick up.

Clothing (all ages) including coats and jackets, small appliances, bedding (blankets, sheets, pillows), towels, curtains or drapes, fabric, thread and patterns, sewing machines (small), jewelry, portable TVs/stereos, shoes, purses, records, tapes, CDs, dishes, pots, pans, silverware and cooking utensils, toys, tools, musical instruments, bicycles (good condition), pictures and paintings.

The Vernonia Senior Center will also accept clean used items, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Neither of these organizations can accept furniture.



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