

# The quilt that just kept coming back

Ruth Grimsrud, of Vernonia, won this year's Senior Center Quilt Raffle. The quilt she took home already had a history with her.

When Grimsrud's mother passed away in 1992, she inherited her mother's sewing machine, sewing supplies and fabric. It was this fabric Grimsrud pulled out when she was staying in a travel trailer after the flood of 1996 caused the loss of her new house. She decided to make quilt blocks to fill her time. She made the blocks, but didn't have room to assemble the quilt-top, so into a box they went. Some time after Grimsrud moved into her current home, she came across the quilt blocks, assembled the quilt-top and, as many quilters do, put the quilt on the back-burner for a while.

The next time she came across the quilt-top, she decided she wouldn't have time to finish it and donated it to Goodwill. Several months later, she ran into the quilt again at a yard-sale nearby and she bought it. The quilt languished for a time before she donated it again, this time to the Vernonia Senior Center.

The "Quilt Ladies" at the center took on the task of finishing the king-sized quilt. At some time during its travels, the quilt-top had picked up a few damaged spots. The "Quilt



**Ruth Grimsrud with the quilt she won on November 18. Photo by Louise Hamnett.**

Ladies" ingenuity solved that problem when they added strategically placed appliqued flowers and vines to the top.

Then, the quilt went on the quilting frame and the final quilting was added. When it

**See The quilt on page 22**

## Buy flowers to help Girl Scouts

Vernonia Girl Scouts will again be pre-selling flowering, potted tulips and hyacinths from VanderZanden Farms as a fundraiser for their spring camping trip. All Girl Scouts will be selling them from December 1 through January 8, 2010, for pick-up from the school near Valentine's Day. This is a great way to support scouts while getting fresh flowers for a loved

one. Remember, the bulbs can be planted in your yard and enjoyed for many years to come. The cost will be \$6 per pot.

Orders can be placed with any Girl Scout as well as at the Vernonia Christmas Bazaar. For further information on Girl Scouts or to place an order, call Katie Poetter at 503-429-0700 or Susan Ely at 503-840-8136.

## 20 Years Ago This Month

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

The Vernonia City Council was informed that it will receive \$26,612 to go toward a bicycle path around Vernonia Lake. The money was awarded by the Columbia County Board of Commissioners, and represents two years worth of county bicycle path allocations.

Councilor Mario Leonetti said he would start the preliminary planning for the path immediately.

The council also approved a contract of \$2,250 with Jim Cradit for repairs on the Hawkins Park restrooms.

The council also learned that the city is again in need of both a director of public works and a

water superintendent, due to the resignation of Dennis Coates as director of public works and the termination of the water superintendent.

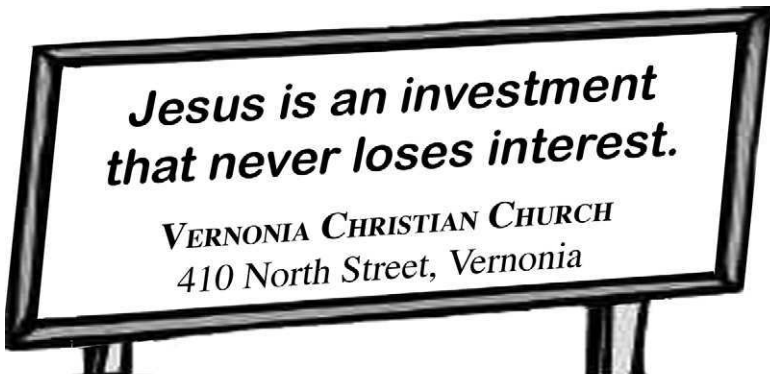
Public Works employee Robyn Bassett will serve as acting director until such time as she qualifies for the position, or the city hires a qualified person.

The council discussed possible sales of city property in or-

der to raise money, but also to put some of it back on the tax rolls. A list of properties will be sent to the city planning commission for consideration.

In other business, the council:

- authorized issuance of sewer revenue bonds not to exceed \$1,400,000 with the bonds to be paid from revenues generated by the project.



## Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



Nov. 15 – Here I am again. I am seeing things in this place I've only seen in the National Geographic. There is a yard, tree shrouded, covered with maple leaves and pine needles year round. Since the rains have started, toadstools have been popping up. But, this morning I am awed by the sight of "large" bright red ones with creamy white spots on them (30 of them, also two or three tall, large ball-shaped, larger than a soft ball, yellowish tan ones.) Then to add to the beauty one 6-8" tall stalk with an open bowl top (like a compote fruit bowl) also a creamy white color. I'm tempted to go knock on the front door and ask how come – Did you plant seeds or is it a trick of nature?? To add to the beauty, two blocks farther on my walk, forsythia is beginning to bloom. No, I'm not seeing things that aren't there. They are there. Fall leaves are still falling, trees are baring their limbs for winter's onset.

Nov. 24 – I'm in the baking mood – fruit cakes, mince pie, pecan pie and holiday candies, but I don't have anyone to make much for and so – I just make lemon pie for "self." Short note – passed by the forsythia that doesn't know it's fall – two new flowers trying to open – poor thing. Flash, my treatments are going better than good. If they keep going I may be free of the gadget in my neck before the 15th of December. Oh joy, I can hardly wait – first thing I'm going to do is fill the tub and take a long, long bubble bath. Ho, ho.

Nov. 25 – The Big day is upon me – just pulled the cherry pie from the oven. Time to go to "D" treatment so I just say:

Gobble, Gobble!!

Shop early for Christmas – invite a friend to dinner.

## Free Christmas dinner planned

Everyone is invited to the fourth annual Christmas dinner, hosted by the Friends of Vernonia, on December 25, at the Vernonia Senior Center.

Starting at 1:00 p.m. and continuing until 4:00 p.m. or un-

til the food is gone, the dinner includes turkey, ham, all the trimmings, dessert, and beverage.

Dinner is served free of charge and gratuities will not be accepted.

## The 4th annual FREE Christmas Dinner

Everyone is Invited!!

Turkey, Ham, All the Trimmings, Plus Dessert and Beverage.

December 25, 1-4 p.m. Vernonia Senior Center

Gratuities not accepted Provided by Friends of Vernonia