

In 2010, as in 1986, our advertisers are the best

Advertisers in our first issue, January 30, 1986, who continue to advertise with us today include: Fuiten - Rose Mortuary Chapels (now Fuiten, Rose & Hoyt Funeral Homes), Vernonia Federal Credit Union (now

Wauna Federal Credit Union), Terry P. Tobin, O.D., Wilcox & Flegel, and Western Auto (now Vernonia True Value). We thank these advertisers for their continued support.

1986 Headline Review

- Jan. 30 – Faulty bridges top county agenda.
- Feb. 27 – Top 47J staff shuffled.
- Mar. 27 – Thompson (Wally) named to county position.
- Apr. 24 – Many choices to face voters.
- May 29 – Jewell residents demand closure of forest camp.
- June 26 – Ordinance revisions are necessary say planners.
- July 31 – Standing room only crowd fills July council session.
- Aug. 28 – City displays apathy towards local business.

Please see page 21

25 Years Ago This Month

The January 30, 1986, issue of *The Independent* included the following news story on page 3:

A new city hall dominated discussion at the January meetings of the Vernonia city Council when city recorder Don Dunaway read a letter from Bob Eidem, county building official, that concurred in condemnation of city hall, which has been seriously deteriorating for several months, and two potential solutions were offered to the council.

Eidem's letter said the ground is sinking under the back wall of city hall, and that the wall is moving outward. The city had previously obtained an engineering report and estimate of \$20,000 to replace the wall, which is at the end of the ambulance bay.

Local businessman Bill Hawkins said that he had also had an engineering study done, and received an estimate of \$19,000 for replacement of the wall.

Hawkins also presented plans for a new city hall, police, ambulance and library complex on property he owns at the corner of Bridge and Weed Streets. Hawkins proposal included a building of 3,920 square feet on a lot 11,235

square feet, with one finished interior wall, up to two 12' overhead doors in the wall facing Weed Avenue, and with the floor finished in either carpet or linoleum.

The plan also includes twelve paved parking stalls, plus a wide parking space for handicapped parking, and landscaping. Estimated cost for Hawkins proposal is \$95,000.

Boyd Ruby then presented plans for a new city hall, police department and courtroom building of 4,496 square feet, plus a separate 1,280 square feet library, on approximately 35,000 square feet of land now owned by the state, on the old railroad right-of-way along Weed Avenue. The state has indicated a willingness to turn the land over to the city if public restrooms and parking are made available.

Ruby's plans included finished interiors for the complex, and he estimated the cost at \$120,000. Ruby also presented another proposal to add to the fire station for ambulance housing, possibly getting funding from the county impacted area monies.

The council decided to seek more information concerning available grants for an emergency services building.

Bill Hawkins also reported to

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



Ah, the cold weather couldn't stand itself – now it's crying, Buckets. While walking Shadow this morning I opened 10 storm drains so the lakes could find their way to the Columbia river. Got my sox wet, but I did my good deed for the day. We took our showers clothed, so now I'm hanging in the shower. I now have a new mission. I'm squirrel hunting. Two months ago, I planted a 3" evergreen in my lava rock (it was a ming tree garden at one time). Anyhow, this past cold spell some hungry "varmint" dug it up and carted it off for a meal. (I might add – I put a "nut" in the bottom of the hole hoping it would germinate in the spring. Well, that's gone, too.)

Am I ready for Christmas? I don't know.

Am I ready for 2010? I don't know.

Am I ready for my grandson's wedding? I don't think so – he's too young (grandma's thought).

Dec. 19, for those of you who do not believe

in the wonder of God, please excuse the next paragraph – The Saga of the Forsythia. It is blooming (yes, full flowers) and has many showing buds (yellow) again. From Joyce Kilmer, "Only God Can Make a Tree" so therefore only God can cause the miracle Shadow and I enjoy every day we walk. Oh, by the way, it's raining.

Dec. 23, someone's Christmas goose has escaped his fate. He was standing in the intersection of S.E. Monroe St. and 77 Avenue. Lucky for him Shadow saw him or I'd have missed him. I was vying for the side of the street because a car was coming up behind us. I slowed them down by pointing ahead or goose would have been "road kill" or the car would have ran up on someone's lawn. Anyhow, two cars missed him and he was still in the middle of the street last I saw of him.

Dec. 29, Christmas is over but the turkey, spuds, dressing and green bean casserole linger on. But, I have one more thing to say (no, 2 things). I've heard so much on what was just celebrated I've this to comment. Who came first? "Christ"mas or "Chris"mas. Me, I celebrated the birth of Christ.

Happy New Year to all of you – anyhow.

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