

# Phone calls from Microsoft may be scam

Better Business Bureau warns that consumers in multiple countries have received phishing phone calls impersonating Microsoft. BBB serving Alaska, Oregon and Western Washington confirms the scam has hit the region.

How does the scam work? The caller impersonates a Microsoft representative and

claims there is a serious virus or issue with the consumer's computer. The caller may warn that if the problem is not solved, the computer will become unusable. To "fix" the problem, the consumer is directed to visit a website or download a program that gives the caller remote access to log in to the computer. In some

cases, the consumer is then offered a preventive service for a fee.

The scam: the caller does not work for Microsoft. If the consumer takes the suggested actions, they give a stranger access to the data on their computer; putting themselves at risk for identity theft.

**See Scam on page 21**

## Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



Chapter whatever in the saga of the Country Girl Moved to the Concrete Jungle. A lot has happened to me since I last wrote to you, but life goes on. You either go with the flow or hang on to keep from going down the drain. I've been fighting or putting up with a physical problem since, I guess about the last of October of '10. I felt (and still feel) lousy, and I looked it. I even had to stop taking Shadow on her long daily walks

– just too blamed tired. Went to my doctor, was tested, slight heart problem. Tests began.

24-hour heart monitor, change in pills, I still feel BLAH. Sent to heart specialist. Wore a monitor for a month, kept a diary of any and all pings, pains and flutters I felt. Night or day. Lost lots of sleep (the monitor ran a tape of feelings if I pushed the button), kept it on a tape, then I had to phone it in. Lots of fun. I turned in the monitor, was to go in for final test and counsel February 2. But, I developed a slight fever on a Saturday during my Dialysis, so pills and info if it hung on or got worse over the weekend. Crack of dawn Sunday – PAIN – whiter than a sheet, shaking inside and out, can't catch my breath. Fuzzy wuzzy was a small example of how I was walking.

I went to the E.R. in my orange P.J.s, maroon bathrobe and on my feet were my electric pink fuzzy slippers. Do you get the picture?? A nurse asks, "Do you need to see a doctor?" (I wanted so bad to say, "No, I just wanted you to see my outfit," but I said, "I think so." I was wired for everything including moving pictures, given Nitro pills, blood draws, x-rays, catscan with a dye run, no food, wait for test results, more blood draws, wait some more, a one-hour antibiotic drip. Final result: Walking pneumonia. Maybe someone sneezed on me, who knows. Anyhow, I'm feeling better. Still have Dr. appointments to keep. How do you spend your time, really, when you think you're having fun? Any of you out there relate to this experience? How do you feel? My only answer – I feel with my fingers. Keep a bright light shining, it makes the road back shorter.

P.S. One bright spot in my saga. Before E.R. I went to lunch with a friend to Chevy's and had a great salad with applecapoly dressing, but have you ever eaten "deep fried ice cream"? WOW, give it a try. One dish serves two very nicely. Did you know pneumonia does not kill your taste buds? Homemade nachos taste real good and go down easy.

Keep lookin' up – the fog will lift. I hope.

## 50 Years Ago This Month

The February 23, 1961, issue of the *Vernonia Eagle* included the following two news story on the front page:

A new 50 star flag for use at the Vernonia Memorial cemetery was presented to the city of Vernonia at the council meeting held Monday evening on behalf of the American Legion post by E. Louis Towne, local post commander. This flag had dropped (sic) the casket of Frank Meibus for whom services were held last week and is to be dedicated in his memory on memorial day. The old flag will be turned over to the Legion for proper disposal.

W. A. Rumbaugh, high school ag teacher, appeared before the council on behalf of the class to present a sketch of the area on unused city property near the sewage lagoon which the class wishes to tree farm. After discussion, the city attorney, Donald Kalberer, was instructed to draw a one year lease with options to renew over a ten year period.

Relative to previous discussion of the need for new city maps, the attorney reported that the county surveyor would make up such maps for \$56 for the first four with additional copies for \$1.00 each. The matter is to be investigated further before action is taken.

Sale to the city of a street right of way on the east side of the Washington school has been approved by the International Paper company and an ordinance is to be prepared authorizing the purchase. It was informally agreed by the council that one of the new street lights should be placed in that area after the street is constructed.

Discussion of the installation of water meters in the O.A. subdivision resulted in a decision to utilize the large capacity six inch mains rather than the smaller ones now used for household service. This will require some new pipe for interconnection of separate units and installation of a number

of valves, and quotations are to be obtained from several suppliers before buying new parts.

The renewal of the bank building lease previously acted on was formalized by the passage of an ordinance covering the terms of the agreement between the city and the U. S. National Bank.

The Columbia County Historical Society was entertained in the Vernonia Grange hall Saturday, February 18 with representation from Portland and Westport as well as most areas of Columbia county. Present from Portland were Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd A. Burris, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Hiatt, Mrs. Doris Gillis and Lester Sheeley. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Parker, Mrs. Sally McMahan and E. H. Condit were present from Westport.

The Parkers were early settlers of the Vernonia area and he was the first white child born here in 1872. Mrs. Parker told of coming here as a bride in November 1900. She came with her new husband by buggy from Houlton. There was a little snow on the ground when they started across the mountain range, but it got deeper as they climbed to the higher ground. They were fortunate in falling in with the mail carrier, and after an all day trip she reached her

new home. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary last November at Westport. Ed Condit also told of early days when he was in school here.

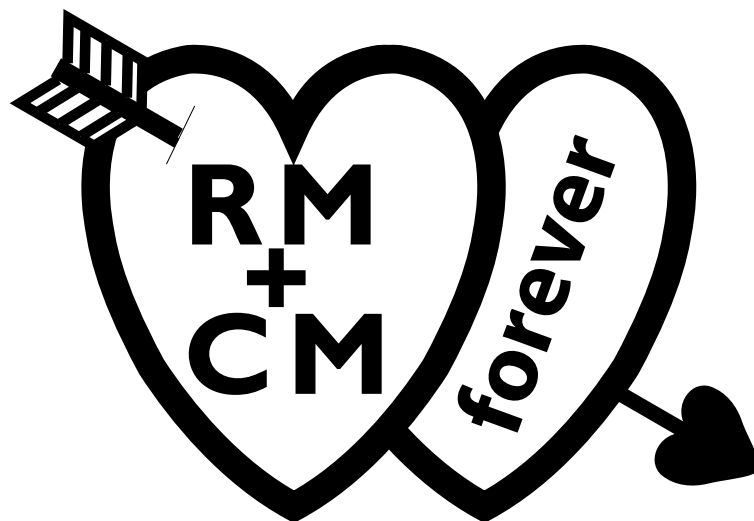
Allen York of Vernonia favored the society with songs, self accompanied on the accordin (sic), which were much enjoyed.

Walter Carl, a pioneer of the Birkenfeld area, told of their family going to Woods Landing to attend school when there was no school in the valley. This place is now known as Woodson. Mr. Wood and his wife taught the school and also helped early settlers on their way. The road was about 12 miles over the steep mountain. It is still listed as a county road, but is not in repair for travel.

Mr. and Mrs. John Krinick were present from Vernonia. She told of her grandfather, George Morgan, coming to Sauvie's Island in 1844. Descendants of this family still live on the island.

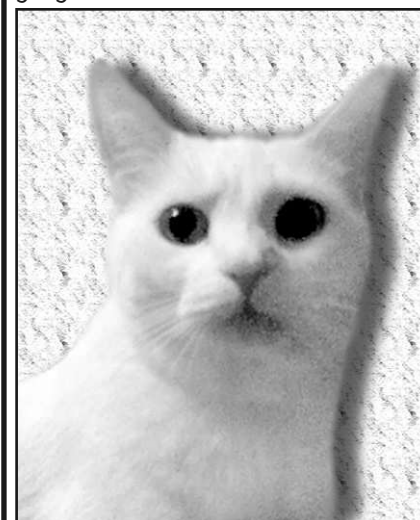
It was announced that exhibits will be wanted for the historical display at the county fair in August. Also, the Historical booklet will soon be finished and ready for sale.

The next meeting of the society is planned for Clatskanie in March.



## Luba needs a new home!

Luba (which means "Love") was born in June, 2008, is about ten pounds, all white with golden eyes and pretty pink ears. She is a gorgeous inside cat, but not de-clawed. She is fine with dogs, but



must be the only cat. She needs and gives lots of love and attention and is a champion cuddler. She is spayed, up to date on her vaccines thru Valley Vet, and living near Vernonia. If you know someone with an empty lap that needs filling, please call.

**503-429-0898**