

Left to right, Ron Larson and Russ George were honored with Life Saving Awards from the OSMB. Photo courtesy of Columbia County Sheriff's Office.

CCSO Sgt. earns life saving award

Life Saving Awards were presented to Columbia County Sheriff Sergeant Russ George and Rainier Police Officer Ron Larson by the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) at their annual end-of-season conference on September 26.

George and Larson rescued two men from the Columbia River, on May 10, after the men's canoe capsized near Prescott Beach. Residents of the area called 9-1-1 after hearing screams for help coming from the river. George and

Power outages explained

Vernonians have experienced a number of power "blinks" and one outage in the past week.

The outage last week, lasting over one hour, came after three short "blinks" and was caused by a lightening arrestor failure. When the arrestor stopped working altogether, the power went out until the part could be replaced.

The "blink" that occurred on the morning of October 3, just after 6:30 a.m., was from an unknown problem. West Oregon Electric Cooperative (WOEC) General Manager Marc Farmer said this "blink" was most probably caused by a tree limb bouncing off a line at an unknown location. WOEC contacted Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and was told that BPA was not having any problems with the transmission lines to our area.

Larson launched a boat and pulled the two men from the river. The men were in a semiconscious state and suffering from hypothermia. Both recovered

"I am very honored to work with such dedicated public safety professionals," said Sheriff Jeff Dickerson. "Even with the reduced resources we have to provide public safety services in our county, it is people like Ron and Russ who make a difference every day for good in our county."

Senior Center News

Halloween is near and kids aren't the only ones who look forward to some fall fun. The Vernonia Senior Center's annual Halloween Party will be on Monday, Oct. 31. All who want to join in the fun are urged to come in costume. Costumes will be judged and prizes will be awarded; there will also be grab bags. On the 31st, Vernonia will be hosting the 5 Area Lunch, so there may be costumed visitors from other senior centers, as well. Incidentally, you don't have to be a member, or even a senior citizen to enjoy the party and have lunch.

Speaking of Halloween, if you need Halloween costumes or decorations, there are many choices available in the senior center Thrift Shop, and at great prices. If you're planning a Halloween party, now is the time to start making preparations. The Thrift Shop is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., best of all is the half-price sale during the first two weeks of October!

Gray, drizzly days can be a depressing reminder that winter is on its way. If you want a more congenial atmosphere, join us for your midday meal any Monday through Friday at noon. A \$4.00 donation is suggested for those 60 and older, and \$5.00 for those under 60. If you just want a well-prepared meal to go, it's only \$5.00; call ahead and place your order.

If you enjoy Bingo, you can also have fun while you eat lunch. Diners play free Bingo each Monday starting at 11:45 a.m.

The center's Board of Directors meets on the second Friday of each month at 10 a.m. Your questions and/or suggestions are welcomed.

Free hearing checks will be performed at the center by a representative of Columbia Hearing Aids on the third Monday of each month, 1-2:00 p.m. No appointment needed.

Foot Care is scheduled on the second and fourth Fridays of each month, at \$15 per person. Call Marilyn Albro, R.N., for an appointment, at 503-429-0406.

Other activities include needle work of all kinds. If you're currently working on a quilt, crocheting an afghan, knitting a sweater, or any other needlework project, bring your project to the Senior Center on Tuesdays, any time from 10:30 a.m. to closing, and enjoy the company of others as you work.

Don't forget that great breakfasts are available Fridays at the Senior Center, from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. Breakfast for all ages is just \$3.50 per person. Maple bars are made fresh daily for \$1.00 each! If you want maple bars for a gathering of any kind, call 503-429-3912 a day or two ahead and place your order.

Breads and pastries of many kinds are available daily at the center. There is no charge though donations are accepted.

Vernonia Senior Citizens Center:

446 Bridge Street

Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Senior Information Assistance Rep:

Rosie McCoy

Thrift Shop Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Phone: 503-429-3912

Police Chief Garcia killed 40 years ago

Forty years ago, on October 1, 1971, Vernonia Chief of Police Raymond Garcia was shot

and killed while making a traffic stop on E. Bridge St., at 7:50 p.m., on his way back to the police station to finish his shift.

An 80-year-old man got out of the car Garcia stopped and shot Garcia with a .22 caliber pistol. Garcia also fired his weapon and killed the 80-year-

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Garcia was a 26-year-old Vietnam veteran at the time of his death and had been with the Vernonia Police Department three years. He was survived by his wife and baby daughter.

Welcome Additions

Annelle Paige Berry-SedImeyer



Annelle Paige Berry-Sedlmeyer was born August 12, 2011. She weighed 5 pounds, 4 ounces and was 19 inches long.

lan James Berry-Sedlmey-



lan James Berry-Sedlmeyer was born August 12, 2011. He weighed 6 pounds, 9 ounces and was 19 inches long.

Twins Annelle Page and Ian James were born to Lynn Berry and Jerrid Sedlmeyer of Vernonia.

Grandparents are Lyla Berry of Beaverton, Bill Berry of El Cajon, California, Barbara and John Sedlmeyer of Johnstown, Pennsylvania.

Contra dance at grange on Oct. 7

A Contra Dance will be held October 7, from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m., at the Vernonia Grange, 397 North St.

The caller will be Stephanie Noll and admission is \$5 per

person or \$15 per family. The dance is sponsored by the Vernonia Prevention Coalition. All ages and levels of experience are welcome to attend.

