

**Bits & Bites**

By Jacqueline Ramsay



April 22 – 77 degrees. A heat wave here in the concrete jungle, but welcome at any degree after all the wind and rain we've had. The rain sure made it look like we had a yellow snow, every tree in town shed their first

batch of pollen blessing stuff.

News flash from the April 11 Vernonia Senior Center Wednesday Golden Oldies day. The Cross Road's group came for a day of fun and music. They come to visit (I think about once a year). Anyhow, we all had a great time. I must say those folks know how to dance and have a good time. They also know how to sing. This is a short version of their trip down memory lane: "Anytime You're Feeling Lonely" you can "Dream" because "It's a Small Small World" and you can "Take Your Hair Down" while a "Little Bitty Tear Let You Down". You might be "Lonesome Tonight" (a duet sung by a visiting couple from the Cross Roads group. It was great.), but, "Mary Lou" and "The Sheik of Araby" laments "Blue, Ain't the Way I Feel" because "Cowboy's Sweetheart" realized "God Made Honky Tonk Angels". All the time "Alley Cat" watched the "Easter Parade", while the rest of us decided to "Go Back Where We Came From: because we

realized "Ain't She Sweet" flashing her "Spanish Eyes" as she saw "Ghost Riders in the Sky" 'cause "It Don't Matter Anyhow, It's All Right" and "One Tin Soldier Rode Away". Another of the Cross Roads group sang a solo (at this point, I can't recall the title or the gent's name), but it was neat and he said, "I've wanted to do this for months." Flash – his name is Oliver.

Now on to the other happenings in my la-de-da life here in almost heaven. Anyhow, have you ever been told, "Get in the car, ask no questions." Well, my son did just that last Saturday evening. He drove, I rode in silence. Finally, we stopped in front of a small sign that read "Blue Grass Jamboree". I knew I was somewhere very good. So, for three and a half hours, I sat and filled my body with banjo, fiddle, bass fiddle, guitar, saxophone and mandolin. Two groups of four and one gent referred to as the "tweener" (lone individual performing alone). He has his own band, teaches and runs a summer camp for those wanting to learn or just jam (I guess). I learned there is one of these gatherings every month somewhere here in "you know where".

I have to sign off and get this in the mail. I've had a problem this morning with the phone, washer, dryer, and my fingers, so if this reads sort of jumbled up just consider the source. Rebecca tries to make me sound human most of the time, thank goodness. Maybe I'll be down from my blue grass high by the first of May.



On April 27, Steve Weller brought his self loader log truck to Anderson Park to help the Ridge Riders put up a new entrance to the horse arena. Joe Chestnut is on top of the ladder getting ready to hammer in a stake, and Richard Meyer is holding the ladder.

**County elections department sets ballot drop off locations**

The Public Certification Test of the counting equipment for the May 15, 2012, Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, May 8. The testing will begin at 11:00 a.m. in the County Elections Dept. The public is welcome to attend.

Drop sites for the election

will be as follows:

- Vernonia Library, from now through May 14, during regular hours plus May 15 from Noon to 8:00 p.m.

- Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD, during regular office hours from now through May 14 and on

**See Ballot on page 17**

**50 Years Ago This Month**

The May 24, 1962, issue of the *Vernonia Eagle* included the following news story on the front page:

At the meeting of the city council on Monday evening, matters discussed ranged from budget items to the purchase of equipment for the fire department and materials for the scout cabin.

The fire department was instructed to get estimates of cost for fog nozzles which they had requested and to draw up suitable plans for a workable hose-dryer which they also need.

The Scout cabin committee was authorized to purchase asphalt tile for the floors of the kitchen and two rest rooms. This is believed to complete expenditures for materials to be used in the present renovation. Paint is already on hand.

The city attorney advised the council to handle the matter of the lease on the mill office building through an ordinance which was introduced and given its first reading in full and second reading by title only.

Bruce Roberts who has been appointed as part attendant for the

summer was informed that the dam would be put in as soon as weather permits and that the scheduling of swim classes would be left up to him.

Wilhelm Ritz, as a city resident, was present to question the legality of the budgeting of funds for construction of a caretakers

house at Anderson park without first airing the plans in a city council meeting so that interested persons could voice their opinions. The advice of the city attorney was that it is within the power of the council to budget funds for any project of benefit to the city as a whole. He also stated that it is

within the power of the citizens to invoke the initiative and referen-

dum for a vote on action of the city council.

*Plant & Garden Sale  
Vernonia Senior Center*

*Two Days Only!  
June 1st & 2nd  
From 9am to 4pm*

*Herbs, Annuals, Perennials,  
Planted pots, Baskets,  
House plants & More.*

*446 Bridge St. Vernonia*

**Vernonia Volunteer Firefighter's  
5th Annual Pancake Feed!**

**Saturday, May 15<sup>th</sup>  
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
School Cafeteria**

**Pancakes, Biscuits & Gravy, Ham, Eggs, Fruit  
Coffee, Orange Juice & Milk**

**• Adult Plate \$7 • Kid Plate (12 & under) \$5  
• Seniors (62+) \$5 • Family (max 6) \$25**

**Cord of Wood Raffle Tickets \$1 for 1 or \$5 for 6**

**Fire Truck Rides & Blood Pressure Checks**

**Vernonia Health Care Board, Health Fair 10am-3pm**