

Bicycle Skills Park Breaks Ground

The morning of June 30, 2007, was the official ground-breaking for Vernonia's Bicycle Skills Park. Mayor Sally Harrison kicked off the activities with a short but heartfelt speech:

"Thank you all for being here today! This is not just the beginning of a new Bike Skills Park! No, it's the beginning of a renaissance for the city of Vernonia!

I was here when the land was a mill. I was here when the mill shut down in '57, and I've been here ever since, seeing this as fallow ground. I'm so proud to be here, knowing this land will become not only a wonderful place for kids and adults to enjoy, but a safe, clean step in the economic development for all of Vernonia.

Thanks to the Skills Park Committee's untiring work. Thanks to Ric Balfour for his expertise. Thanks to all the hands that will do the work. And a special thanks to the Mitchell's-Sykes, Ann and Casey. We were so lucky they had the foresight to save this property and keep it safe for us to use now. It could have gone so many other directions. But it didn't because they want what's best for Vernonia, too.

So with no more ado, let's start digging our way to a new Bicycle Skills Park!"



Open Mic Night Returns

The Vernonia Community Grange and Vernonia Hands-on Art are holding a second "Open Mic Night" at the Grange on Friday, August 3, from 8:00 to 10:00 pm.



The first "Open Mic" held in May was well-received by performers and audience alike. The August 3 event celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Grange Hall.

Anyone with a desire to perform before an appreciative audience is welcome. Performers should come to the Grange by 7:30 pm to register. All types of music are welcome as long as the lyrics are family-friendly.

Each performer will have from 10 to 20 minutes of stage time depending on the number of performers registering. Everyone else is encouraged to come and enjoy the show. Admission \$1. Questions? Send an email to VernoniaArt@aol.com or call 503.705.2173.

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