

Vernonia City News...

At the December 16, 2013 City Council Meeting:

Council Approves Sewer Rate Increase- Based on a recommendation from the Public Works Committee, Council unanimously approved a \$9 increase to the sewer loan repayment fee. The increase will run for the remainder of the 2013/2014 fiscal year to cover budget shortfalls for the year and will raise an estimated \$44,450. A planned restructuring of the sewer rate and a move to a use based charge was delayed based on inaccurate current information and discrepancies that have been discovered in the current sewer billing system. Council and the City Finance Director will continue to work

to provide accurate data to calculate a proper rate structure for the next fiscal year.

Thompson Leaves VPD- Vernonia Police Chief Mike Conner informed Council that police officer Brent Thompson has taken a position with the St. Helens Police Department. Thompson is a graduate of Vernonia High School. Conner told Council that he does not plan to replace Thompson in the immediate future.

Council Approves Homeland Security Agreement- Council approved an Intergovernmental Agreement with Columbia County to support the delivery of Homeland Security and Emergency

Management services. By accepting the agreement, the City of Vernonia agrees to commit \$3,409 for the operation of the county Department of Emergency Management, which is staffed with three employees and provides planning and education for the region and local communities.

Council Approves Road Dedication- Council approved the dedication of Tax Lot 104 for a Right-of-Way on Alder Street. Past decisions have left Alder Street as a patchwork of private parcels that look like they should be a street right-of-way but are individually owned. The City of Vernonia owns Tax Lot 104. The action of dedicating this lot does not complete a street connection but is

a clear statement of intent so that in the future other lots may also be dedicated as street right-of-way to provide public street frontage.

Council Allows Public Works Committee Access to Data- Based on a request from the Public Works Committee, Council voted to allow the Committee access to raw data from water meter reads as presented to the City billing clerk. The Committee has expressed interest in helping create a process for sorting the data and creating an error detection program. Council granted the request based on approval by the City Legal staff.

Ukulele Class Offered in Vernonia

Lowell John Mitchell is offering a new ukulele class for all ages at the Vernonia Schools.

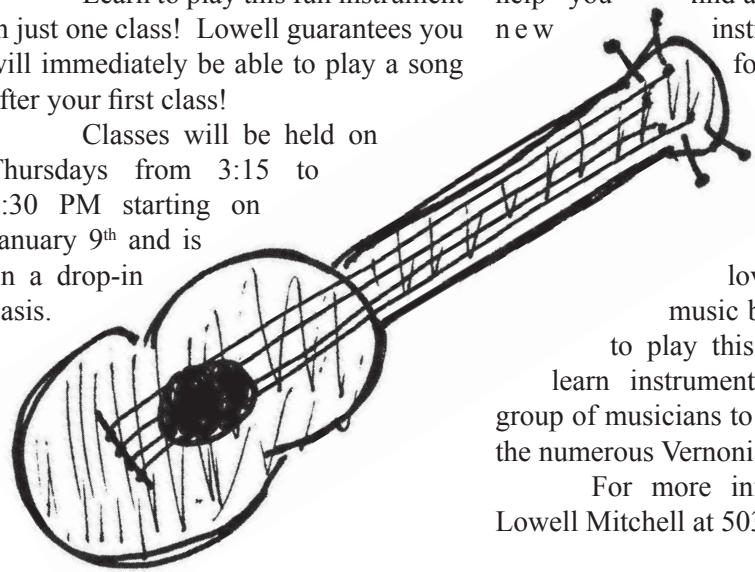
Learn to play this fun instrument in just one class! Lowell guarantees you will immediately be able to play a song after your first class!

Classes will be held on Thursdays from 3:15 to 4:30 PM starting on January 9th and is on a drop-in basis.

Cost is just \$10 per session, child with adult \$15. Instruments will be available to borrow; Lowell can also help you find a reasonably priced new instrument to purchase for under \$50.

Lowell says his mission in offering this class is two-fold: share his love of acoustic music by teaching people to play this fun and easy-to-learn instrument; and creating a group of musicians to play live music in the numerous Vernonia parades.

For more information contact Lowell Mitchell at 503- 235-8996.



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Police and County personnel are required to use a rotation of available providers, **UNLESS YOU SPECIFICALLY ASK** for a service by name.

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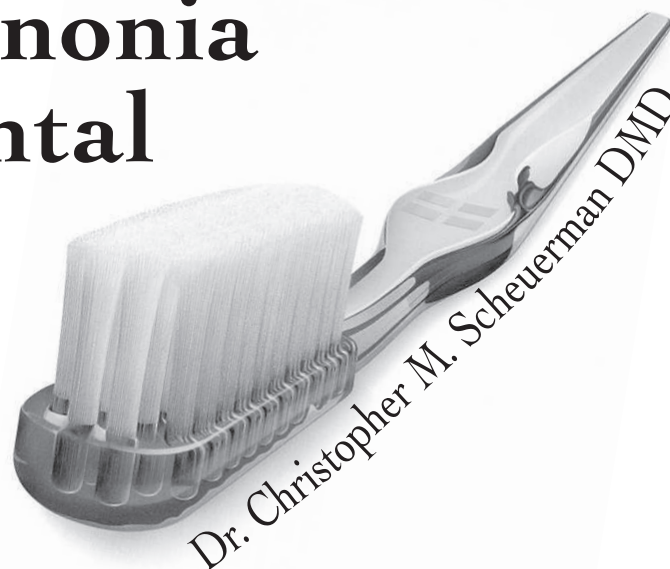
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Terry's Gym



**JOIN
THE TEAM!**

503-901-1705
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Cedar Side Inn



Taco Tuesday
from opening until 9pm
3 hardshell or 1 softshell \$4.25
Prime Rib
every Saturday

**New Year's Eve
Casino Night**

Blackjack & dice tables start at 7pm

Buy \$5 worth of food script & get \$2000 in chips

Complimentary black eyed peas after midnight for luck.

Come back New Year's Day at 7pm with your winnings for the prize auction.

Open Mic Night
Saturday, January 18

Check our Facebook page for daily specials and upcoming events
756 Bridge Street, Vernonia 503-429-5841



Happy Hour Mon-Fri 4-7
Lady's Night Wed 5-12

"STILL BIKER FRIENDLY"

EVENTS

Dec. 21
DC Malone
& the Jones

Dec. 31
New Year's Eve Party
with DJ Patch

Beer & Kegs to go

Sun - Thurs 11 AM - Midnight • Fri - Sat 11 AM - 2:30 AM
733 Bridge St, Vernonia • 503-429-9999