

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

Post office changes business hours, mail boxes removed

Effective Monday, March 16 the Vernonia Post Office service lobby will open for business at 8:30 am and close at 5 pm on weekdays and will remain closed on Saturdays. The post office box lobby will, as in the past, be open 24 hours daily.

Mail deposited in the curb-side box before 4:55 pm weekdays and 4:45 on Saturdays or in the inside lobby drop before 5 pm weekdays and 4:45 pm Saturdays, will be postmarked and

dispatched the same day.

There will be no receipt or dispatch of mail on Sundays or postal holidays.

To ensure timely dispatch of their outgoing mail, volume mailers are

encouraged to deposit their mailings at least 15 minutes prior to closing time.

As the low volume of mail deposited in them on a daily basis

does not justify their continued use the following collection boxes will be taken out of service in the near future: First Ave. and Nehalem St.; Bridge St. and California Ave. (by the grade school); E Bridge St. and Texas Ave. Those living in areas affected by these removals are reminded that outgoing mail attached to patron mail boxes in such a manner as to be visible to the delivering carriers will be picked up by them on their regular delivery rounds.

As a result of reductions in work hours allotted this office we will be operating with fewer employees on duty than in the past. The work load however will be the same and most likely increase. Nevertheless, we are determined to maintain the quality of service our customers expect and deserve.

Dan Fletcher
Postmaster

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Vernonia Community Store will have its opening on Tuesday, March 17, 1981.

Several meetings are being held with Dorothy Churchill of the Community Action Team helping.

This store will be in the old Co-op building.

We welcome all people interested in the co-op to come and see the new store. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Mary Wohlfarth

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Vernonia City Council invites interested citizens to attend the Council meeting on March 16, 1981. At this meeting the Council will discuss the probable need of raising water and/or sewer rates beginning July 1, 1981.

Listed below is a comparative chart showing water and sewer rates in other Columbia County cities.

Clatskanie: \$9.00 for 3,000 gallons of water, \$7.00 for sewer.

Scappoose: \$6.00 for 3,000 gallons of water, \$6.50 for sewer.

Rainier: \$8.10 for 3,000 gallons of water, \$7.50 for sewer.

St. Helens: \$4.50 for 3,000 gallons of water, \$6.00 for sewer.

Vernonia: \$5.50 for 4,000 gallons of water, \$4.00 for sewer.

Don Dunaway
City Recorder

3-5 & 3-12

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Natural Family Planning Teachers and Co. will present an introductory lecture on the Billings Ovulation Method on Thursday, March 26, 1981 at 10 am.

The lecture, sponsored by the young mothers of St. Mary's Parrish, will be held at the new hall at 960 Missouri Ave.

Ray Heesacker Weatherby will make the presentation and answer questions.

All interested community members are invited to attend.

Free babysitting will be provided and a sack lunch fellowship will follow the lecture.

For further information call Emily Mawhirter at 429-7971.

American Legion unveils hospital equipment to loan

American Legion Post 119 would like everyone in our community to know that hospital equipment is available for their use on a loan basis. Contact Bill Wilson at 429-7731 or Ed Evans at 429-6723.

Vernonia Freedom

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Deadline for display advertising: Friday for normal material and Monday for after-weekend copy.

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**PUBLIC FORUM**

NEW POSTMASTER ASSUMES DUTIES— On March 7 Vernonia's new Postmaster Dan Fletcher (right) was sworn in by Senior Postal System Examiner Kenneth E. Hamlin, Jr. Fletcher, whose new duties became effective immediately, replaces retired Postmaster Tommy Tomlin.

Girl Scouts host "Thinking Day"

To the Editor:

On Saturday, March 7, the Vernonia Girl Scouts hosted the Clatskanie Girl Scouts for a "Thinking Day" program. This program turned out very good as a result of the cooperation of leaders and parents.

I would especially like to thank the Vernonia Marketplace for their continuing support and donation, the mothers who helped supervise the

girls and clean up, and to all of the great leaders who worked together many hours to make the day a success.

I would also like for all the Vernonia Girl Scouts to know how proud I am of their behavior and the work they did on decorations, cooking, serving, and registration.

We appreciate being able to use our school facilities for the program also.

Thanks to all,
Nona Skinner

Titus home burns to ground in minutes

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he said. Titus managed to get his wife and their dogs, as well as their pet birds, to safety before the fire got completely out of control. He wasn't able, however, to save a valuable money collection or his many antique guns.

Earlier that day the Titus's had had reason to celebrate. The day before had been Bill's 69th birthday and Mrs. Titus had just come home from five weeks in the hospital for hip surgery. "I had a case of beer I was

going to celebrate with," Titus said. "Now, it's just ashes," he added.

Marvin Titus tried, while his father was getting Mrs. Titus out of the house, to gain entry through the back door but the fire was so hot by that time that just touching the structure burned his arms. "It (the house) exploded when the fire caught on, and from that point on it was all downhill," Marvin said.

Firefighters were able to save the Titus's camper so they have someplace to live until permanent arrangements can be made and numerous family and friends in the area are offering what help they can.

Although no lives were lost and no one was severely injured, Marvin Titus did suffer burns on his arms

and his mother was isolated from the scene of the fire to lessen the shock of seeing her home destroyed.

Mist gas royalties

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affected; using the interest generated by the tax money to help defray local costs; and a well-head tax were all mentioned. A committee has been formed to work out the details in the ammendment and submit it to the public at another meeting. A nearly unanimous decision was made to press ahead with the ammendment even in the face of continuing opposition.

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