



TOGETHERNESS—
Shawn Stevens, on the left wearing a hat, sends his weekend charges along to the next activity planned for them. The fifth and sixth grades from WGS spent two days at Camp Wilkerson last weekend participating in the annual Outdoor School. Please see related photo and information below.



RAISE YOUR VOICES— Vernonia's fifth and sixth grades join in a sing-along towards the end of last week's Outdoor School. Organized by grade school teacher Joseph Batty, the program draws on volunteer experts from throughout the area. Among the cooperating personnel were WGS Principal Steve Farrell, Pete Forgey and Kari Hodgson acting as Boy's and Girl's Head Counselors, Bill Eagle from US Soil Conservation Service, Tom Budge of Longview Fibre, Dan Logan from the State Department of Forestry and Columbia County Commissioner Jay Ahlborn. Participating students received instruction in subjects ranging from Atomic Power, Timber Growth and Management and Outdoor Cooking to Survival Techniques, Outdoor Shelters and Fire Control. As in years past the effort was successful again this year due to the efforts of all the volunteers, according to Outdoor School Director Joe Batty. The kids, the instructors and supervisory personnel all report they had a great time.

vernonia freedom



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Local firms win city logging bids

Progress was made on several fronts Monday night as the City Council met to award logging contracts and discussed a change in their meeting format.

A bid from Mike Mullins Logging, a local company, for 32.9 percent of the market value of the timber on the city's

recently acquired new landfill site was accepted by the council. The approximately five acre site will be clearcut, according to contract terms.

The city also accepted a bid from K&K Logging, also local, to high-lead log an area below the old dump site for a 50-50 percent

split on the sale of the logs.

The council also acted to change its internal procedures by asking the city attorney to draw up a proposal for formal meeting rules and the implementation of a pre-scheduled agenda. Viewed as a move to streamline current council meeting practices, agenda procedures would require citizens to submit items for consideration at a council meeting in writing before hand.

Additionally the council acted to have a new compilation of city ordinances instituted. Last done in 1968, the housecleaning would formally reflect changes, deletions and additions that have occurred during the last 13 years.

According to city recorder Don Dunaway no word has as yet been received from International Paper concerning the city's bid for an additional ten acres for the siting of a new sewage lagoon. City officials are not enthusiastic about a prompt reply or an improved dialogue with the company.

Christmas in Vernonia

Annual Christmas bazaar set

Yes, there will be a third annual "Christmas in Vernonia Bazaar". The response from the two previous years has been overwhelming and inquiries started coming in during July. It will be held at the IOOF Hall on December 5 and 6. If schedules can be worked out Santa will be with us for both days. There will be more information available at a later date.

Space limits us to 24 tables so

reservations are accepted in the order received. Registration forms have been mailed to previous participants and those who signed up. If you wish to register for a table please call 429-7401 or 429-3105.

All money over expenses will be donated to the Vernonia Study Club this year to be used as needed for aid and relief in our community.

Heavy autumn rains highlight drainage

With the onslaught of Autumn rains locally and the promise of even wetter weather in the coming months we thought the following information from county extension agent Chip Bubl might be of some direct value.

"Most landscape drainage problems can be solved through the use of small diversion ditches or subsurface drains," says Bubl.

Subsurface drains at least four inches in diameter and surrounded with six to 12 inches of gravel can be placed along the outside of house foundations to divert water that may accumulate there.

Small diversion ditches will

channel excess surface water off the lawn or driveway.

Yard should be graded so surface water drains away from the house. A minimum grade of one foot in 100 feet is usually sufficient, said Bubl.

The installation of downspouts to control roof water will help prevent water from ponding in low areas of the yard. Downspouts can empty into subsurface drains or drywells that will carry the water away from the house.

Some homesites may have dense layers of clay soil that restrict the flow of water and create puddles or ponds. If this dense layer is near the soil

surface, a small trench can be dug through the layer and filled with sand, gravel or other coarse material. This will improve drainage in low-lying wet spots.

In large poorly drained areas, construction of subsurface drains four to six inches in diameter at a depth of two to five feet may be necessary. Pack the drain trench with six to 12 inches of gravel, and if possible use sand gravel to backfill the trench to within a foot of the ground surface.

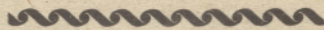
Heavy foot traffic during rainy periods will compact even well-drained soil, says Bubl. Limiting foot traffic in a wet yard helps prevent soil compaction and poor drainage.

Drainage problems in the garden can also be improved with the use of small diversionary ditches. If the problem is severe, drainage tile may be needed. Two ways to avoid construction of garden drainage systems is to either move the garden site or plant in raised beds.



My Neck Of The Woods

See Page Three



VOLLEYBALL CHANGES

Oct. 13 @ Warrenton at 4 pm.
Oct. 15 @ Knappa at 5 pm.
Oct. 22 @ VHS at 4 pm.



INDEX

New Feature
Page 3

Public Forum.....	2
My Neck of the Woods....	3
Classified Ads.....	4
Girls Scouts.....	6
Ridge Riders.....	6
Obituary.....	7
Ch. 7 Program Listings....	8