

Reward fund added as tool in zero tolerance policy for vandalism

By Chief Jim Walters
Vernonia Police Department

When you walk through downtown Vernonia, I am sure you can see a change that is pleasing to the eye. Buildings are painted, the bridges are painted, flowers are everywhere, even the garbage cans look great. When things like this change, so do attitudes. People are less likely to damage something or even touch it when it looks well-kept.

Run down areas, empty or damaged buildings breed

vandalism (litter, broken windows, graffiti, etc.). These are also areas where people congregate and undesirable activities take place. The reason seems to be that those involved feel the area is already run down and no one cares! This is no excuse for vandalizing other people's property, but it is a contributing factor.

Some people were never taught to respect other people's property. There are people who have little respect for themselves and, if you don't

respect yourself, it is difficult to respect others.

Vernonia Pride deserves a lot of credit when it comes to making Vernonia more pleasant to look at. I know they will continue to do that. Representatives from the all-volunteer organization have con-

tacted me and expressed their concerns about flowers and flower pots being damaged along the downtown area. The Rock Creek Bridge was recently painted and graffiti is already showing up.

Because of those concerns, Vernonia is offering a \$100 reward to any person(s)

who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of those involved in acts of vandalism. The name of the informant(s) will be kept confidential. Please contact the police department at 429-7335.

Remember, we need ZERO tolerance for vandalism.

Two arrested for burglary of store during blackout

Near midnight on July 8, during the storm-caused power outage, a Vernonia Police officer responding to a report of a possible burglary at Vernonia Sentry Market, saw a broken window at the front of the store and two males walking away from the scene.

One fled when the officer

called them, the other returned. Approximately two hours later, officers arrested Christopher J. Moore, 1025 Rose Ave., charged him with burglary II and transported him to the Columbia County jail.

The second suspect, a juvenile, was interviewed yes-

terday and also charged with burglary II. He was referred to the county juvenile department and released to his parents.

CASES FOR JUNE, 1995
Calls for Service..... 49
Cases..... 34
Cases Cleared..... 23
Traffic Citations..... 15

Public hearing scheduled on Banks law enforcement

Law enforcement will be the topic of a public hearing in Banks City Hall at 7:00 p.m. tonight.

Though the Oregon State Police has an outpost in Banks, as the city grows, there is greater concern at the lack of a police depart-

ment.

Citizens are urged to attend, listen to some options the city has developed and bring along their own ideas.

Corrections for County Fair book

The following corrections for the Columbia County Fair book were sent by the Fair office:

The Superintendent for Canned Goods is Barbara Le-Tourneau.

The Superintendent for

Textiles is Julie Hughes.

The Superintendent for Arts & Photography is Amanda Burum.

Nadine Stevens is Campgrounds Superintendent. To make reservations, call her at 543-7501.

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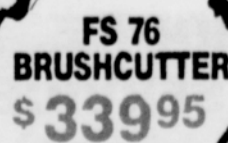
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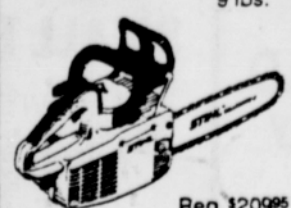

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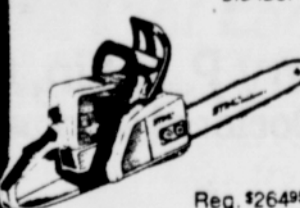
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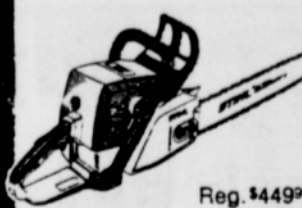
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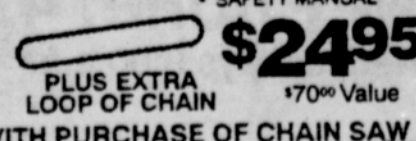

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