

Business Notes

Craft Room is now open

Though Diane and Bob Waltrip have some handcrafted items for sale on consignment from local crafters, their business, The Craft Room, will cater to people who are interested in getting involved in any of several crafting activities.

At present they do not have a complete stock, but will expand it as they find out what crafts are of major interest locally. Even now, they have many items to help interested persons get started.

Diane has been involved in sewing most of her life and says she gets as much satisfaction out of helping others learn as she does out of doing it herself.

She plans to have classes in quilting, block printing and stenciling. In addition to her own expertise, she also has how-to books with ideas, patterns and instructions.

After many years in management positions in K-Mart stores, Diane said, she is looking forward to having her own business in a place where she can meet and get to know her customers, as both friends and clients.

The Craft Room is located at 902 Bridge Street, in the mall being developed at Charley's Cabinets. Stop in and check it out Wednesday through Friday from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m., or Saturday and Sunday 10 am to 5:00 p.m.



Diane Waltrip listens intently as some very young customers explain their needs.

Rice qualifies as investment service representative

U.S. Bank has announced that Victoria Rice, a personal banker and officer at the Vernonia Branch, has qualified as an investment services representative with U.S. Bancorp Securities, the full-service brokerage affiliate of the bank.

Rice started with U.S. Bank in 1983, in the Bankcard division, then moved to Consumer Loan Service in Beaverton and has been at the Vernonia Branch for nearly four years. She and her family moved to Vernonia three-and-a-half years ago.

Rice is a board member of both the Vernonia Area Chamber of Commerce and Vernonia Cares, is the local representative for Salvation Army and was 1996 chair of the Vernonia School District Budget Committee.

ESA listing is topic for Watershed Council meeting

The Upper Nehalem Watershed Council will hold a public meeting Thursday, February 27, at 7 p.m. in the Washington Grade School Library on Bridge St. in Vernonia.

On the agenda is a presentation by Garwin Yip and

Joann Wu, of the National Marine Fisheries Service. Providing background information on the Endangered Species Act, they will answer questions about the potential ESA listing of the coho salmon and other species, and what such a listing could

mean to private landowners, private industry, watershed councils and restoration workers, natural resource agencies and others.

The public is invited to bring questions, concerns and solutions. For more information call Maggie 429-2401.



Vicki Rice

Planning underway for Municipal Building project

The first planning meeting of the Vernonia municipal building project committee with the project manager will be held Monday, Feb. 24, at

6:30 p.m. in the Vernonia City Library.

Topics under consideration will be the siting and funding

of the building to house city hall, public library, police department, council chamber, court room, meeting rooms and visitor information center.

Hearing on Heather Lane subdivision

Vernonia Planning Commission will continue the Public Hearing for Heather Park II, on Thursday, Feb. 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the Vernonia City Library.

Mitigation grant approved, sort of

Although it has one of only 20 projects...out of more than 100...approved by the state to receive a Hazard Mitigation Plan Grant, the City of Vernonia isn't cheering.

The City's grant request was for slightly more than \$900,000 to raise, or purchase and move, structures in the flood plain. In order to stretch available dollars, the state decided to cap the maximum grant at \$500,000.

However, the \$500,000 is really only \$375,000, or 75 percent federal money, because the state is putting nothing into the grant and will require the city to come up with \$125,000 (25 percent) in order to get the \$375,000.

If the city can come up with \$125,000, which is problematical, that will result in a net grant of \$250,000.

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