

Community

Senior News

By Patricia Olson

Spring seems to have arrived, although some days we feel we are standing IN the spring. But drier days are just ahead and the air definitely smells different, don't you agree?

Our lunch crowd seems to be growing a bit and I think word is out about our terrific cook. The menu has more variety and even soup and sandwich day is special.

Jac's crochet class seems to be growing, as well. We recently saw four people waiting for her to come teach the class. They meet twice a week.

Our Saturday crowd is slowly growing as more people find we are open until 1:00 pm. We also are open Friday evenings 'til 5:00 pm. Great time for the after-school or the working crowd to come shop.

Our chairman, Fred Oviatt, is away for awhile but things continue, as usual. We continue to plan and make new improvements in the way we conduct business. I think you will like the changes.

We had a small turn-out for Rental rates set for Scout Cabin

There will be no charge for adult-supervised youth activities in the newly-renovated Scout Cabin, according to fees and regulations recently adopted by Friends of the Scout Cabin. If a youth organization uses the Cabin on a regular basis, however, they will be asked to do one fund raiser a year.

Prices for people with a Vernonia address will be \$25/hour, or \$125 for six hours with 75 or fewer people. Groups with over 75 people will be charged \$200 for six hours. There is also a refundable deposit charge.

Since the cabin became available for public use, there has been a family reunion, a wedding reception and several birthday parties. A public "open house" will be held later this year, when weather permits use of the deck.

New members are welcome to the Friends of the Scout Cabin. The board meets in the cabin at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Monday of each month.

For further information, call Shirlee Daughtry at 429-9002.

Have you met Jesus?
We'd be glad to introduce you.



Assembly of God
662 Jefferson Avenue
Vernonia, Oregon
429-6353
Mike Jackson - Pastor

our Valentine Dinner, but all enjoyed a good, hearty chicken dinner with all the trimmin's. Just a sample of what we enjoy every day.

We are sorry to hear of the loss of Jerry Sharar. Our hearts go out to Gladys and her family. We also hear that Marge Trahan has been hospitalized recently, but hope she is getting better now.

The craft and jewelry department is finally open for business. We had to close it temporarily to get the new floor down, and re-establishing it turned out to be a major chore.

I would like to remind you of the drop box near the dumpster for after-hours drop off. More and more things are showing up at the entry doors or on the

porch. If these items get wet, they go straight to the dumpster, as we have no way of drying them. In this climate, mildew sets in fast. Please don't leave your unusable or broken items. We do appreciate all the very nice things we have received.

We need someone to do Meals On Wheels, help in the Thrift Shop, be a back-up cook or general chores. We have dirty vans, unswept sidewalks or any number of other chores that can be done. Any help you can give us is appreciated.

Watch closely! That first Trillium is due any day now. Let's see who can spot the first one. Call and let us know when and where you found it. 429-3912. Happy hunting!

Training reimbursements for child care providers

A \$1000 scholarship fund has been established by Caring Options of St. Helens to assist eligible child care providers in Columbia and Clatsop counties.

Child care providers may be eligible to receive up to \$35 toward the cost of required training and/or other related fees associated with becoming a state registered child care provider.

To be eligible, a provider must have attended a Child

Care Division (CCD) overview and plan to become an active provider on the Caring Options database.

Four eligible classes are First Aid, Infant/Child CPR, Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect, and Food Handlers. Fees that may be eligible for reimbursement through this fund are CCD registration fees, Portland State University Professional Development registration fees and Criminal Background Check fingerprint check fees.

HIV/AIDS network seeking funds

The Oregon Pacific HIV/AIDS Network is beginning its spring fundraising drive, "Spring Into Action". Donation request letters will be sent to area residents beginning March 1.

Formed in 1999, the Network is a new approach to HIV/AIDS support. The collaboration of under-funded community-based organizations in eight rural northwest Oregon counties facilitates resource sharing and strengthens services as a whole. This includes developing outreach programs

to individuals most at risk, working to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS and improving care to persons living with the disease.

Donors will receive *Collaborations*, the Network's quarterly newsletter, and donations of \$15 will garner a cloisonne AIDS ribbon held together by a star.

For information or to donate, call the AIDS Prevention Team of Columbia County at 503-366-2839, or Oregon Pacific Area Health Education Center toll free at 1-877-877-3477.

Volunteers help at Senior Center

At the Vernonia Senior Center, lunch is offered to seniors in the local area. For this, the Center requires the help of volunteers to set up, serve, and clean up after lunch.

For some time now, various church groups and other organizations have provided the needed assistance. It takes only about an hour, but the pay-off is great on all sides. For the employees at the Center, it takes away some of the stress of trying to accomplish the task alone. For the seniors, it is a chance to get prompt, quality service, and the opportunity to visit with members of the community of all ages, who they might not otherwise meet. The volunteers, share the joy of doing something positive in the

community while getting to know a population that has much to share.

Allison Dinger, volunteer coordinator from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints said, "The work is easy and those who participate always enjoy it." Jim Waters, one of her volunteers said of his experience, "The seniors are just like kids; always so happy and grateful for what we are doing. I would recommend it to everyone."

The Vernonia Senior Center can still use volunteers to help with lunch and various other things. If you or your organization is interested, call Wilma Brewer at 429-3912 for more information.

To apply, write a letter detailing classes/fees for which assistance is needed; a timeline for proposed registration application; and a brief explanation of why financial help is needed. Include copies of certificates of attendance, along with receipts for the amounts paid. Send the

letter to the attention of Ginger Johnson, Fiscal Director, Community Action Team, Inc., 310 Columbia Blvd., St. Helens, Oregon 97051.

For further information, call Barbara McKenney at 503-397-3511, or toll free 1-800-404-3511.

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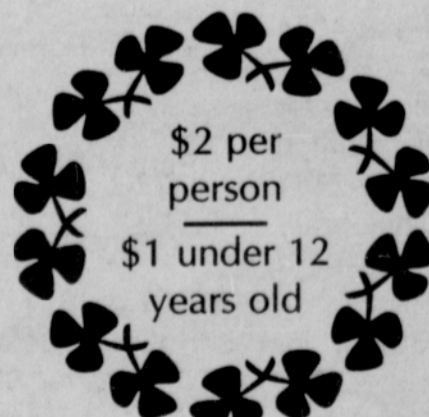
Vernonia Sentry

735 Jefferson Ave. • Vernonia • 429-3811

Please Don't Drink & Drive

St. Patrick's Day Dinner
Friday, March 17th • 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Join us for
Corned Beef
and Cabbage
Hotdogs & Fixin's
Clover Leaf Rolls
Pistachio Cake



at the
Vernonia Community Church
957 State Avenue

RSVP: 429-6790

