

"Swimmerships" available for low income kids' swimming lessons

Attention Parents: Does Your Child Know How to Swim?? If not, this is the year for them to learn! Swimming lessons usually cost \$40 per child and transportation is sometimes a problem. As a result, many Vernonia children have poor or no swimming skills. In many communities, teaching children how to swim is seen as such a priority that swimming lessons for beginners are offered for free. With all the water around Vernonia, our kids need to know how to SWIM!

Last March, Kim Tierney appealed to the Columbia County Commission on Children and Families, CCCCCF, to fund

Washington 2001 fundraising starting

Meetings will be scheduled in the near future for all those interested in the Washington DC 2001 trip for students in seventh and eighth grade students.

The meetings will include information about fundraising events, and an opportunity to find out more about this great adventure. In the past, this has been a wonderful experience for the students and chaperones involved. The trip will take place in October 2001.

Fundraising is a very important part of making this trip a reality. In the past it has been the generosity of community businesses and residents who have made this trip possible for so many students.

We will again be looking for help to fulfill these children's goals. We thank you for your past generosity and ask that you support our students in their fundraising efforts between now and October 2001. For additional information contact Shelly Lende at 429-3300.

Equestrian program seeks school okay

If approved by the Vernonia School Board, the Natal Grange will provide sponsorship to organize and support a new Equestrian Program for students attending Vernonia High School.

This is already an organized team sport for which athletic letters are awarded in 78 high schools across Oregon. Team members train rigorously for competition in many classes: Barrel Racing, Pole Bending, Western Pleasure, Showmanship at Halter, English Equitation, Trail Riding, Reining, and other events requiring skilled horse and rider. With experience and expert coaching, students can advance into roping and cutting.

Team members pay their own expenses, as this sport is not funded by the school district due to budget constraints. What gives this program great value is the wholesome nature of the sport, the individual and team training available, and the camaraderie that develops among team members.

The team coach, Barb Carr, can be reached at 429-4004.

swimming lessons for 10 children, plus necessary transportation costs. However, the Commission decided to triple the funding request. Mike Sykes and the City of Vernonia, Colco Transportation, and Vernonia Headstart offered to help with transportation. As a result, the Vernonia Learn to Swim program will be able to provide swimming lessons for 40 Vernonia youth. Priority for these "Swimmerships" will be given to beginning and non-swimmers who are 5 to 18 years old.

Lessons will be offered through Cedar Ridge, one mile

out of town on Keasey Road. Sessions will last two weeks. Cedar Ridge has also been very helpful in implementing this program. They have added a third session to assure that there will be enough room for all the children who may enroll. Dana Hyde has volunteered to coordinate the program. The Learn to Swim Program has definitely become a community effort and many people are pitching in to make sure that this is a successful program.

"We are not sure what the demand for swimmerships will be," Tierney said, "But, if it

proves to be as great as we think, we will look for more funding next year."

Applications are available from Washington Grade School

and Vernonia Headstart. For further information, or to obtain applications, you may also call either Dana Hyde at 429-9351, or Kim Tierney, 429-0720.

PCC math class scheduled at VHS

A Portland Community College mathematics course will start June 20 at Vernonia High School.

Math 95, an eight-week-long course, will be offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:00 to 8:20 p.m. For more information, call Glenda Delemos at 429-3521 or 429-4074.

PCC has also developed a non-credit class to help you get the most out of your time on the links.

A good test to determine your need for this class would be if the divot made by your swing goes farther than the ball. If this is true, PCC instructors are ready to impart their wisdom so that you connect with the ball every time.

The class runs from 6-7 p.m., on six Wednesdays, beginning June 21, at Wildwood Golf Course, just north of Cor-

nelius Pass Road on Highway 30 in Scappoose. Tuition is \$21 and there is a \$30 driving fee payable to the golf course at the first class.

Orientation to Horsemanship and Care, another PCC non-credit class, covers the basics of caring for a horse, such as feeding, exercise and hygiene, and stresses the rules that are necessary to keeping your horse happy.

The beginning class runs for five Mondays, starting June 19. The intermediate course is on five Tuesdays, starting June 20. Both classes are from 7:15 to 8:45 p.m. at Laramie Stables in Scappoose, four miles north of Cornelius Pass Road on Highway 30. The cost for the beginning course is \$95; \$130 for the intermediate class.

For more information, contact PCC Community Education at 503-397-1311.

Time for academy nominations

Congressman David Wu is now accepting applications from eligible students for Congressional nominations to United States Military academies.

This year, outstanding students will be nominated by Congressman Wu to attend one of four military academies: the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the U.S. Naval Academy, the U.S. Air Force Academy or the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy. Attendance at the U. S. Coast Guard Academy does not require a Congressional nomination.

Service Academies offer an undergraduate college degree at no financial cost to the student. Students must exemplify academic excellence, and serve a term in the U.S. military upon graduation. Candidates must be U.S. citizens, unmarried (with no dependents), and between 17 and 22 years of age.

Congressman Wu will ac-

cept applications until November 15, however, applicants are encouraged to submit information early. Nominees will be announced on December 1.

Application require the following information:

- Military academy of choice
- Full name, address and contact information
- Date and place of birth
- Names of parents
- Social security number
- High school grade point average, class standing, class size
- SAT-I or ACT scores
- Three letters of recommendation
- Resume of extracurricular activities

Mail applications to Congressman David Wu, Attn: U.S. Military Academy Nominations, 620 SW Main Street, Suite 606, Portland, OR 97205.

For further information, call Sarah Wiecks, (503) 326-2901.

Teachers honored at ceremony

Vernonia High School teachers Judi Gwin and Sheri Burleson were among ten teachers honored by the Columbia Foundation during the 41st annual St. Helens-Scappoose Chamber of Commerce Awards Banquet, May 25.

Gwin was named Teacher of the Year, and Burleson was selected as Teacher of Merit.

Other school districts and the honored teachers are as follows:

St. Helens - Della Larson, John Gumm, Teacher of the Year; John Lessard, St. Helens High School, Teacher of Merit.

Rainier - Suzan Watson, Hudson Park Elementary, Teacher of the Year; Doug Knox, Rainier Middle School, Teacher of Merit.

Scappoose - Dana Larson, Scappoose Middle School, Teacher of the Year; Sarah Campbell, Otto HH Petersen School, Teacher of Merit.

Clatskanie - Kara Burghardt, Clatskanie Middle School, Teacher of the Year; Julie Lipke, Clatskanie High School, Teacher of Merit.

"There were a lot of excellent teachers nominated for this award, the selection committee had a difficult time deciding between all the deserving candidates," said Bonnie Moss, who has led the project for the Columbia Foundation.

More than 200 nominations were submitted by students, parents, community members and co-workers.

"Teachers have a lasting effect on the lives of our children. Outstanding teachers should be commended for their efforts to make our communities better places to live," said Moss.

This is the third year that the Columbia Foundation has sponsored the awards. Columbia Foundation is a community based, non-profit organization.

Retirement party at Mist School

Friends, family members and former students are invited to a dessert in honor of Mist School teachers Sharon Batty and Mickey Hammerberg as they celebrate their retirement.

The event will be held Saturday, June 10, from 2-5:00 p.m.

in the Mist Grade School Gym, with a program to begin at 3:00 p.m.

Anyone who would like to share a memory, anecdote, story or music, is asked to contact Kari Hansen at 755-2486, or 755-9340.

OAK RANCH QUARRY

OPEN DAILY

Crushed Rock

1", 2", 3" Pit Run

DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Call Teevin Bros. for Information
503-458-6671



Atta-Boy Hi-Pro Dog Food

37.5 LB



\$10⁹⁹

Reg. \$13.99

WITH COUPON - LIMIT 2 WHILE QUANTITIES LAST

EXTRA SAVINGS ON LINE

www.sentrymarkets.com

Click on ValuPage

Look for Randy's Special Buys!

WESTERN UNION • MONEY ORDERS • FAX SERVICE
LAMINATING • BOOKS • GREETING CARDS • LOTTERY GAMES
Open 8 am - 9 pm Seven Days a Week - VISA & MasterCard

Vernonia Sentry

735 Jefferson Ave. • Vernonia • 429-3811