

Scholarships/transportation available so kids can learn to swim

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.

The Columbia County Commission on Children and Families (CCCCF), which funded swim lessons for 40 children last year, plus necessary transportation, has renewed the pro-

gram and will fund it for the summers of 2001 and 2002. Mike Sykes and the City of Vernonia, Colco Transportation and Vernonia Headstart are expected to help with transportation again this year.

As a result, the Vernonia Learn to Swim program will again be able to provide swim lessons for 40 Vernonia youth. Priority for these "Swimmerships" will be given to beginning and non-swimmers who are five to 18 years old.

Lessons will be offered through Cedar Ridge, one mile out of town on Keasey Road. Three sessions are scheduled, allowing lots of opportunity to fit these important lessons into the family's summer calendar, two weeks.

Kim Tierney and Dana Hyde are coordinating the program, but the Learn to Swim Program has become a community effort and many people are pitching in to make sure that it is a successful program again this year.

Applications may be obtained from Washington Grade School or Vernonia Headstart. For more information, call Kim Tierney at 503-429-0720.



In December, when this North Street home burned, it was a tragedy that left a family homeless. In May, with the family's needs taken care of, the partially burned home became a training ground for Vernonia Rural Fire District volunteer firefighters as the home was alternately burned and extinguished.

Welcome Additions

Aubrey Luv Crawford

Aubrey Luv Crawford was born June 1, 2001, to Kathy Crawford and Josh Leach of Natal. She weighed 5 pounds, 14 ounces and was 19-1/2 inches long.

Grandparents are Chuck & Jeina Crawford of Natal and Doug & Kim Leach of Vernonia.

VHS cheerleaders schedule clinics for children

Vernonia High School Cheerleaders will hold their annual summer clinic for children ages 5 through 12. Clinics will be on Tuesdays from June 19 until Jamboree, at Hawkins Park from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The children will be taught cheers and chants and will join the cheerleaders in the Vernonia Jamboree Parade, August 4. The cost is \$5.00 per student, with family discount available.

The cheerleaders will also have a bottle/can drive, going door to door, on July 5. For more information, call Nancy Dailey at 503-429-3703.

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Scholarship information by mail

A conservative estimate of college costs for a full-time student runs from \$10,000 to \$30,000; high cost colleges can run from \$40,000 to \$100,000! Most parents and students think that scholarships are only for students with excellent grades, low-income families or the athletically inclined. A small example of the numerous scholarships available to students include Handicapped Student Scholarships, Members of a Church Scholarships, Scholarships for "C" Students, Veteran Children's Scholarships, Scholarships for Minorities and much, much more.

Though the majority of scholarships are from the Federal Government and are merit and/or need based, billions of dollars are available to stu-

dents from private sector scholarships. Much of private sector financial aid goes unused because the parents and students do not know how or where to apply.

There are organizations that have spent hundreds of hours in research locating scholarship sources. The U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance – College Bound is such an organization and supplies the public with over 700 different private scholarship sources. The scholarship list includes the scholarship names, addresses, application deadlines, summaries about the scholarships and the amount the scholarship will pay your child.

Many scholarships pay the entire tuition; others can be applied toward tuition, living expenses and/or other fees. Most scholarships can be used at junior colleges, career and vocational schools, four-year colleges, graduate schools, medical and law schools.

For information on obtaining these scholarship lists, send a self-addressed, stamped, business size #10 envelope to: The U.S. Commission for Scholastic Assistance, P. O. Box 668, O'Fallon, IL 62269.

Student art will be on exhibit at gallery

The art works of Vernonia High School students will be on exhibit Friday, June 8, through Sunday, June 10, at Grey Dawn Gallery in Vernonia. The mixed media show will include photography, acrylics, perspective, line drawings, watercolors and more.

Student artists will be at the exhibit Friday from 6:30 to 9:00 p.m. Saturday hours will be 10 a.m. until 4:00 p.m., then on Sunday from after graduation ceremonies until 6:00 p.m.

Grey Dawn Gallery is located at 879 Bridge Street.

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Spring into Summer at Grange dance

"Spring into Summer" is the theme for the Vernonia Grange community dance.

The dance will be held June 15 at 7:30 p.m. to help commemorate and celebrate the 100 year "Golden Anniversary" of the Grange. The local band, Golden Oldies, will be playing, featuring all of your favorite dance tunes for an evening of pure enjoyment and relaxation at the Grange Hall on the corner of Washington and North Streets in Vernonia.

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