

Did You Know . . .

By Chief Matthew Workman
Vernonia Police Department



I hope everyone was able to enjoy Salmon Festival this year. I was approached by numerous visitors who

complimented me on our town and the people who live here. Another successful event that showcased Vernonia and what a special community we have.

After Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans, I received a call from Louise Hamnett suggesting that we send all of the child quilts from our "Village Kids" program to victims. I agreed and tasked the Police Volunteer Pat Stipe to find an

avenue to donate the quilts. After several calls, Pat was able to connect with the Salvation Army who would send the quilts down the hill to be sent to the New Orleans area. We hope the quilts were able to provide several children with warmth and love during this catastrophic time.

Speaking to the hurricanes, be wary of the many "scams"

and "phishing" schemes that are surfacing. Several thousand web sites and phones scams have duped generous people out of money intended for relief efforts. Never give your personal information out over the phone. Also, make sure when you are donating that you check out the source to make sure they are reputable and trustworthy. Thieves prey on our giving and compas-

sionate nature.

My final topic is a warning about an increase in gasoline siphoning in the Vernonia area. The VPD has taken no official reports but several people have approached me stating they believe they had gas stolen. Keep an eye on your vehicles and your neighbor's vehicles. Also, a locking gas cap can prevent this crime as well as criminal mischief.

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