

Did You Know . . .

By Chief Mathew Workman
Vernonia Police Department



Well the snow seems to have melted away (for now) and we are back into the more familiar weather pattern of rain and fog. Please

keep in mind that the Middle School and High School students are still being bussed to Scappoose around 11:00 a.m. and returning around 5:30 p.m. This makes for heavy traffic in and around State Ave. and Bridge St. Please drive carefully through these areas as there is a large amount of pedestrian and vehicle traffic, as well as the fact that is very dark in the evening making it even more dangerous. Hopefully, tempo-

rary arrangements will end soon and we will be back to a more normal schedule but I would still ask that all drivers be cautious around the schools.

In the Crime Blotter this week you will see a case involving a counterfeit check. When the Vernonia citizen brought the check and corresponding letter into the station is looked like the typical fraud/scam mailer. As with most scams the recipient was

presented with a check and asked to deposit the check, then send money and information to a third party. In looking a little further into the check I found that the bank account information on the check went to an actual bank account in Georgia. I called the issuing bank and they advised me that the account information was valid, but the check was counterfeit. A very good one I might add. The bank asked that I

seize the check and file an incident report. I was advised that several of the checks had been cashed then the victim business froze their account. Anyone who now tries to cash the check will have the police called on them for attempting to negotiate a counterfeit instrument.

All too often these scams are successful. The old cliché is "If it seems too good to be true, it is." Please see page 19

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