

Did You Know...

By Chief Mathew Workman
Vernonia Police Department



fatal accident near Banks. As much as I would like for winter

Get-ting ready for work this morning at 5:00 a.m. I heard of a double-

weather to be over, it keeps hanging on, as do the hazardous driving conditions. Please be patient and adjust your driving to the conditions of the road. Snow, ice, slush, and black-ice can appear suddenly with elevation changes even when you have driven for miles on dry pavement.

I am happy and proud to say that my articles are being read and seem to be making a difference. My recent article on the

counterfeit check received by a Vernonia citizen made others think and use some common sense when they received a similar check with instructions to cash it and forward funds to another party. Three counterfeit checks were turned in to the Vernonia Police in the past two weeks. One of the checks was a "Lottery Scam" where the check was supposed to be assistance with taxes and fees prior to receiving a large sum of

money. The other two checks were received as part of a work-at-home business ad where you receive checks, cash them, keep 10 percent, then forward the money to a Western Union account somewhere in the world.

Remember, if it seems "too good to be true" then it probably is. Also know that if you receive a check or money, then cash it and send funds to someone else, you have now

met the definition of a "financial institution" and must be bonded, insured, registered as a financial institution. If you are not, then there are federal consequences. The FBI has put out a flyer to help you determine if you are getting involved in a fraud or scam. You can get a copy of this flyer at the front window of the Vernonia Police Department or see it on the VPD website under the "Com-

Please see page 19

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