

Vernonia theater auditions, Oct. 14

Calling all seasoned actors and those who've always dreamed of being on stage.

The Vernonia Community Theater will be holding auditions on Thursday, October 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the Washington Grade School gym for a holiday-themed play, *Exposé: Holiday Celebrities Tell All*. Adults and youth aged 13 and up are welcome to try out for one of more than twenty speaking parts. Callbacks, if needed, will be held October 19 at 7:00 pm. If you'd rather help behind the scenes with sets, props or costumes, please come on the 14th to sign up.

The play, a comedy by Bryan Starchman, is a "journey

through the bizarre, strange and riotously funny underbelly of the holiday world as the icons we all know and love go on strike." Theresa Morris will direct; she was Stage Manager for VCT's Robin Hood.

Rehearsals will begin the week of October 25, three nights per week, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Performances are slated for Friday, December 10, at 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 11, at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at Washington Grade School. To help cover production expenses, there is a \$20 registration fee for all performers.

For more information, call Kinnell Steward, 503-819-0143.

Candidate interviews, continued

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need to feel they can come to city council and address an issue. Even if city council doesn't agree, they need to listen.

Johnson, S. – Use of the Vernonia Community Learning Center (VCLC). It's an under-used facility so I'd like to be more informed on that. Another big issue is the governor's executive order. That's a great opportunity for us. We need people in city government that can be responsible with the checks and balances and be good stewards in managing that responsibility. We're at a pivotal point here between being a vibrant community or a ghost town.

Nicks – Wastewater treatment and getting living wage jobs here. Communication is a big issue, between the governing entity and your average citizen. Smith – Infrastructure. By that I mean, sewer system, water treatment and roads. We've got to figure out better ways to manage these while keeping costs down. I believe that's going to require thinking outside the box.

Tschache – Education, healthcare, wellness education, entrepreneurial opportunities, infrastructure update and repair. Truly, the list is endless as there is much work to be done. If we, as Vernonians, can come together and focus our intentions and abilities, like we did in searching for a 10-year-old sleepwalking boy, like we did when we were hit by the second 500-year flood in 11 years

and realize that we can do anything we put our minds to doing, the solutions to many problems will become self evident. Nobody can or has to do it all. We can each do what we feel drawn to and the work will get done.

4. What do you believe the role of council members should be?

Ball – First and foremost, a city councilor is a representative of all the citizens, who should be trying to fulfill the wishes of the people without damaging the position of the city. I have always encouraged people to attend council meetings; to bring both their questions/comments to government attention. Burch – Council needs to listen without bias and educate themselves before they make decisions. They need to keep in mind that the decisions they make affect other people's lives.

Helmer – A student of the city,

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



Hi. It's 9-20-10 and until 4:30 a.m. this morning my mind was a blank on an idea for a topic of conversation for this week. Flash – This article may be of interest to only dog pet owners. The rest of you enjoy my problem solving technique.

She (or he) is your pet, your pal, your around-the-clock companion, right? O-Kee-Do-Kie. She's been off her feed for a few days and only drinking from her outdoor water pan (she wants it cold). Tagging after your every step. Wanting attention until it drives you into a headache. What's wrong with her? You don't know and she can't talk. Something she ate – I finally discover. Whee, and then 4:00 a.m. this morning she lands on top of me (I'm sound asleep), she's shaking like a leaf in a wind storm. Huh – What – I finally hear a noise, from where? Upstairs apartment? In our hall? Outside? Finally I hear and recognize: Beep, beep. With every beep she dashes into and around every room, finally she climbs into the bath tub. Shadow is a nervous wreck. The smoke alarm is on an 8' ceiling. No ladder – so Beep away. I'm consoling the dog (getting on the front room floor with her in my lap, rubbing her ears). 8 a.m. my son comes, gets on a chair and works his way into the battery. Step 1, step 2 and finally step 3, replace the 9V, then reassemble it. Now Shadow is telling me, "Let's go get the mail," not even a Thank You. Dogs...

In reading the paper you folks have quite a few things to think about – a new mayor? a new medical setup.

asking lots and lots of questions, a problem solver – looking at what is for the greater good of the city. Council members should not have their own agenda, they should be opening up communication between the council and the citizens of Vernonia. I also believe councilors should be involved within the city, outside of council chambers, they should be out

there volunteering with aspects other than the required ones. I also think councilors should attend activities that other cities invite us to attend, such as the city/county quarterly dinner. We should also partake in training opportunities.

Johnson, E. – Their role should

Another thing I noted the CCEM told all who have computers or fancy phones how to get info on disaster preparedness. What about those who don't have that access. Do they have kits of info you can send for??

Garden update: Tomatoes and cukes tasting good.

AND the forsythia saga begins again. Noted today 9-21-10 it is blooming again.

Thank you Father.

How was your Friday? I awoke felling "great", decided to clean house from top to bottom. O.K. one hour into the job while running the Red Devil he started smoking. I pulled the plug, jerked off his front, pulled a half full bag out. Tipped him over, then hunted for thirty minutes for a teeny-weeny phillips screw driver. Removed the guard. Eeeek. Dog hair, wound all around the important parts. It was froze up (or down – take your pick). Twenty minutes to clean just the bar, then came the sprocket. Hair burned to the metal. I working on that for an hour. Finally it ran free. Ready to screeeam. So I took Shadow for her walk. Put the Devil back together and it wouldn't pick up (no air in the bag). The hose was plugged top to bottom. I don't have a four foot knitting needle, now my question is, "How could I have filled the hose with dog hair in vacuuming just one room?" It had been holding back hair for better than a month. Anyhow, it took four hours to clean 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1 front/dining room.

Now it's 1:30 a.m. I'm asleep. Shadow hits the bed (and me). I faintly hear a Beep Beep Beep. I'm out of bed, check the house. Beep Beep Beep not in my house. Stick my head out the front door. Beep Beep Beep, someone's car horn is crying. After ten minutes someone killed it. Ahhh, the joys of living in the Concrete Jungle. Back to bed and to sleeep...I hope.

be to oversee the budgetary issues, institute laws and regulations that benefit the citizens – in other words, handle local laws.

Johnson, S. – They need to work together in the interests of all the people of Vernonia; to

See Candidates on page 10

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For information leading to recovery of fire equipment.
Stolen Sunday, September 26th from Apiary area.

MISSING

- Round green low profile 550 gal. water tank.
- 5 HP red and white Honda fire pump
- Bright red fire tool box and fire tools.
- Four 75' x 3/4" reddish fire hose.

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