

# Understanding How WOEC Operates *continued from page 6*

members. The increase to the base charge helps the co-op cover the fixed charges that are needed for day-to-day operations and keep power flowing to homes and businesses. "The co-op has costs no matter how much power our members use," says Perry. "We have to maintain those lines to the end of each and every road where we have members that have meters. It also takes a certain number of people to run this co-op whether we have 1,000 members or if we have 10,000 members."

Whenever anyone starts talking about WOEC rates, the size and make-up of WOEC's service territory always gets brought up. The total area of WOEC's service district is 1,225 square miles, with all of it rural, except Vernonia, and most of it forested, which causes trouble for utility lines. Keeping the lights on for all those members is expensive.

According to Huggett, both Management and the Board have a fiduciary responsibility to an ongoing operation. "I'm a member of the co-op, too, and I would like to keep our rates as low as possible," says Huggett. "But the fact is, we have to be thinking about, not only today, but for the next five, and for the next 10 years. And that's what we're doing right now with the changes we've made through improvements to the system that have increased reliability."

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# Bridge Street Bits

By Karen Miller

Hope everyone is having a safe summer, and once again we thank those of you who look after your senior neighbors in this hot weather pattern we have been experiencing.

JAMBOREE is over for the year and the Vernonia community thanks ODOT for leaving the scheduled bridge closure on 47 open until after that weekend event. It meant a lot to so many - to the participants and to those who came in to visit.

OUR BARGAINS ON BRIDGE (Street) senior Thrift Store also thanks those of you who dropped by to shop our outside sale and inside as well. Thank you Romanna and Theresa for manning that Saturday, and we so appreciate Romanna's decorating talent in our front window. Come on in and browse all the constant new donations that YOU graciously bring to us.

IT IS OUR THRIFT STORE that supports our precious local senior programs. Thank you to Subway, Black Iron Grill, and Mariolino's Restaurant for their menu contributions for our Meals on Wheels Program until our new senior building with kitchen is in service.

VOLUNTEERS are always

welcomed, in the store and delivering Meals on Wheels. For Meal deliveries please call Jack Agee at (503) 369-5839. Thank you so much for those of you who deliver, it is VERY appreciated.

SENIORS had a grand time at the local Columbia County Fair and once again enjoyed a free bus ride by CC Rider to the Fair and back.

I TOOK my 5 year old grandson and he enjoyed the Pirate Ship program with the "Pirate" parrot entertainers - his parrots who would fly over to anyone holding up a dollar bill, grab it with its beak and fly back to the trainer dropping it in a bowl. Hmm... our Senior Board is always looking for fundraising ideas... I wonder if they would think this is one idea that's for the birds.

FOR SENIOR QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS call Mandy at Community Action Team (503) 366-6545

FOR VETERANS SERVICES call Russ Clark (503)366- 6580

NEXT BOARD MEETING: Friday September 14

SENIOR SIGN OFF: Today is the tomorrow you worried about yesterday.

See ya' around town...

**Vernonia Senior Center**  
939 Bridge Street • (503) 429-3912

# Church Directory

**Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints**  
Sunday Schedule:  
Sacrament Meeting: 10:00 am  
Sunday School & Primary: 11:20 am  
Relief Society, Priesthood and Young Women: 12:10 pm  
Roger Cook, Branch President  
1350 E. Knott Street  
503-429-7151

**Grace Family Fellowship**  
Sunday School: 9:00 am  
Worship Service: 10:30 am  
Thursday Prayer: 6:00 pm

Greg "Mac" McCallum, Pastor  
957 State Avenue  
503-429-6790

**Nehalem Valley Bible Church**  
Sunday School: 9:45 am  
Worship Service: 10:45 am  
Tues. Ladies Bible Study: 9:30 am  
Wednesday Service: 7:00 pm  
Sat. Men's Prayer Meeting: 6:30 am  
Gary Taylor, Pastor  
500 North Street  
503-429-5378

**Open Door Gathering Place**  
Service: Sunday 6:00 pm  
Grant Williams, Pastor  
375 North Street  
503-702-3553

**St. Mary's Catholic Church**  
Sunday Mass: 12:00 pm  
Fr. Josh Clifton, Administrator  
960 Missouri Avenue  
503-429-8841

**Vernonia Christian Church**  
Sunday School: 9:45 am  
Worship Service in Youth &

Family Center: 11:00 AM  
[www.VernoniaChristianChurch.org](http://www.VernoniaChristianChurch.org)  
Sam Hough, Pastor  
410 North Street  
503-429-6522

**Vernonia Seventh-day Adventist Church**  
Sabbath (Saturday) Services  
Sabbath School: 9:30 am  
Worship Service: 11:00 am  
[www.VernoniaSDAC.org](http://www.VernoniaSDAC.org)  
Larry Gibson, Pastor  
2nd Avenue and Nehalem Street  
503-429-8301



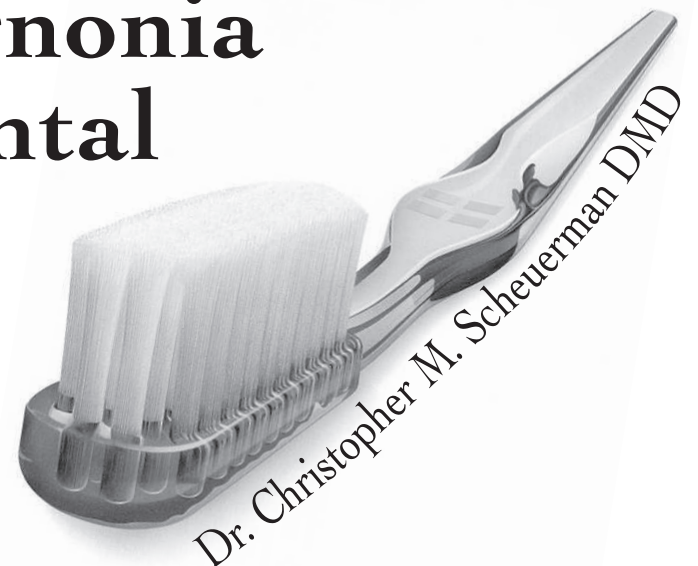
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