



Weather

Date	Hi	Low	Prec.
12	53	38	0
13	59	28	0
14	70	30	0
15	62	39	.29
16	50	32	.07
17	50	34	.21
18	52	37	.11

City Council meeting of March 19

The Vernonia City Council met Monday March 19 with all members present except Councilman Batty.

Under committee reports Councilman Adams reported the Chamber had inquired about the use of the street cleaning machine among other things. Mayor Fisher confirmed with Roy Sanders that the 'Green Thumb' crews had been cleaning the streets.

Councilman Adams also reported on the Community Center saying that the CSAC (Community School Activity Center) council asked if the City wanted to have any questions entered in a community survey the CSAC hopes to take. Norman Jensen CSAC council chairman and also chairman of the Sewer Investigation Committee was present and spoke for both groups.

Concerning the sewer investigations he said he hoped the group would have something to put in the paper for the March 28 issue before elections as to some possibilities for Vernonia.

Mayor Fisher said he had sent a letter to State Senator Hanlon as to the possibility of a grant for a sewer project but as yet there is no answer to the letter.

Under communications the County Tax Assessor sent a notice of properties being foreclosed in the County.

Continued on page 3

Candidates for School Board interviewed

Following are interviews with some of the candidates for the School Board in the coming April 3 election. You should read them thoroughly and consider what other sources of information you might have and make a decision and vote. But by all means vote. *Freedom* has made this effort that you might become a better informed voter.

Another two possible interviews are to be in next weeks paper with Fred Skidmore and Leonard Schmidlin who will also be interested in your write in vote for position 3.

In the interviews the *italic* sections represent the questions by the interviewer and the other is the candidates response. All interviews were conducted by Ned Mawhirter.

In reference to the zoning of the district or the "gentlemans agreement" this refers to the fact that there has been an oral but not legally binding agreement since the incorporation of Mist into the Vernonia School District, that two Board positions would be filled by Mist residents. It is likely that the issue will be brought forward in the near future to zone the district into precincts or whatever, so that each neighborhood elects its own representative.

Seniors receive awards

Friday, March 16, was a special day at the Vernonia Senior Citizen Center. In addition to live music, potluck and cake and ice cream, 25 seniors received Certificates of Recognition for services which they have donated to this community for the year 1978-1979.

Linda Rood, Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Director, distributed the certificates and personally thanked each senior.

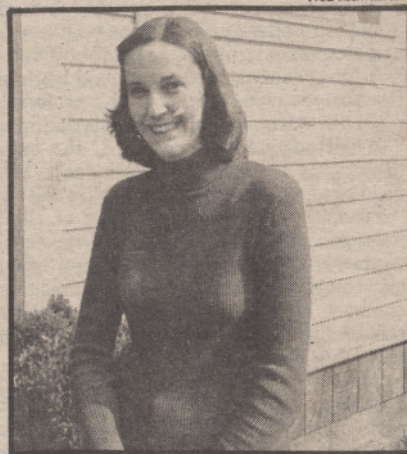
Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) is a federal program that was set up in 1971 as an experiment to see if seniors could be encouraged to leave their homes and volunteer their services to their communities. The programs success is demonstrated by 400 active RSVP members in Columbia County, 25 of which reside in Vernonia.

RSVP is loosely constructed and participating seniors can virtually do anything they like and are able to do to log hours. After all, a senior has learned a lot in 60 years and this program offers the unique opportunity of sharing those skills with fellow citizens of the community. RSVP activities are as numerous and diverse as the senior volunteers.

In Vernonia, some RSVP members are tutors at the school, helping students strengthen their reading skills, while others make regular trips to the St. Helens Nursing Center to visit and run errands for residents. Another senior donates her time every Monday at the Center helping other seniors learn more about oil painting.

To qualify for RSVP you must be a senior and willing to donate 25 hours or more per year to your community.

Ned Mawhirter



Lea Ann Berg

Lea Ann Berg is a 32 year-old housewife living in the Mist area and came to the Nehalem Valley when she was 16, from Montana where she was raised. She graduated from Vernonia High School and Cascade College formerly in Portland, now the Cascade Campus of Portland Community College.

She taught remedial reading at Clatskanie High School 2½ years before her marriage and returning to live in the Nehalem Valley. She is completing her first term on the Board and is officially on the ballot for reelection to position 7 with no one at this time opposing her officially or by write-in.

Lea Ann has a son, 4, and a daughter 8.

What do you hope to see in the future development of our schools?

I hope to see an orderly expansion and not to be caught in the crunch and find ourselves mashing thousands of students in not enough room.

In your own experience you found crowding a problem in the schools?

Yes, I wasn't under any particular problem but the building was crowded and if you wanted to implement any

Continued on page 6



Jenelle Wiggins

Seniors receive awards and cut cake for potluck on R.S.V.P. DAY at Senior Center.

Linda Rood happily announced that the total hours donated by the Vernonia Center for the year 1978-1979 came to a grand total of 5a,812½ hours. According to Linda, for its size, Vernonia over-represented every other community in the county. She stated that if the city had paid a wage for those 5,812½ hours it would have cost a booming \$16,856.25. "You have a lot to be proud of!" she told the group.

Lester Leer set a record with his 1,374 volunteer hours, the most in the county. Minnie Meier was second runner-up with 1,282 hours of volunteer time.

Other seniors who participated in RSVP and were presented with a certificate were; Nel Davis, Norman Davis, Dessie Eckland, Harry Eckland, Sylvia Falconer, Duane Garvin, Pearl Garvin, Ora George, Bessie Grindstaff, Rose Haddix, Nora Harders, Lois Johnson, Iva Lolly, Emma Magoff, Maudaleen Murray, Gertrude Schalock, Nellie Schmidlin, Virgil Snook, Leah Stiff,

Leta Whiteman, Lewis Morgan, Celeste Poetter and Leonard Skokan. New RSVP members who received pins and ribbons were; Alice Foster, John Kundra and Lois Johnson.

A pre-potluck concert was provided by Kimberly Fergus on piano and Dave Berge on hammer dulcimer, and Debbie Jorg serenaded the seniors after lunch.

A beautiful cake, decorated with roses and the letters RSVP was served and Cathy Cieloha was presented a going away gift by the Center. She will soon be replacing Linda Rood as Retired Senior Volunteer Director.



Judy Bates

Judy Bates was born in Modesto, Ca. and came to Oregon with her parents when she was three. She is a 1958 graduate of Vernonia High School having moved to Vernonia when she was 12. She married Bob Bates in 1959 and they have lived in Vernonia ever since except for one short period. Judy works as accountant and office manager for a development firm in Cedar Hills where she has been for six years. She has been secretary of the Jamboree Committee and is currently a member of the city's Sewer Investigation Committee.

She has two sons, Doug who will be finishing his first year of college and Dwayne a Senior at Vernonia High School.

Judy is a write in candidate for position three.

Why are you running for the school Board?

I'd like to see education get back in our schools. I think our schools are very lacking. The children are coming out of our schools nowadays with little or no education and the few that are going on to

Continued on page 6



L.E. (Bud) Atkins

L.E. (Bud) Atkins was raised in Vernonia and graduated from Vernonia High School in the late 30's. Bud has had four kids go through the Vernonia schools. Bud works for Crown Zellerbach out of the Portland office in timber sales and is well known for the 14 years he put in on the Vernonia City Council.

Bud is a write in candidate for position three.

Why are you running for the School Board?

Like I say just because there were not enough candidates filed, I think someone should take enough interest to give their time on the school board.

Do you have any goals yourself for the school board?

You mean programs?

Yes, or any aspect of personal interest? I've always been interested in the old three Rs type of education I think we should go back to those basics.

Do you think there is a lot of need in the primarys, are we below par?

Compared with other schools?

Yes.

Continued on page 7