

47J will change to cost-effective computer program

Vernonia School District directors heard details of what is planned as a long-term, cost cutting program at their March meeting. The district will drop their affiliation with the Oregon Total Information System and switch to an in-house accounting program developed by Mount Rose Business System.

The new software will cost slightly more than \$8,000, Vernonia Superintendent Ellis Mason said, but changes

planned for OTIS are estimated at about \$10,000.

The Mount Rose system, which is designed for Oregon public school financial accounting, will cost \$100 per month. The district is now paying \$700 per month for OTIS, which requires a telephone hook-up.

Seeking ways to increase the number of students who can enroll in driver education classes, now limited to 25 per year, the district is exploring the possibility of adding a fall

semester class in addition to the spring class, or possibly enlarging the class size. At this time the district has only one teacher certified to teach driver education.

Also under consideration is the purchase of a used car for driver education. The district now rents a car each spring.

The board discussed the three law firms interviewed for potential drug testing litigation and, at Mason's recommendation, approved the selection of Paula Barrens because of her firm's experience with drug testing. Barrens is associated with the Portland firm of Spears, Lubersky, Bledsoe, Anderson, Young and Hilliard.

Mason reported there have been no confirmed positive drug tests this year.

The district will soon be asking for price quotes on a new gas furnace for Mist School. No date has been set for the oil to gas conversion, but Northwest Natural Gas Company has determined where the gas line will be installed.

In personnel matters, the board approved a maternity leave of absence for teacher Bonnie Schorzman for the 1990-91 school year, but only if a suitable replacement can be found. If none is found, Schorzman will be asked to take only the statutory maternity leave instead of the full year.

Marsha King and Bill Howard were named high school head golf coach and assistant coach, respectively. Mel Nice was named high school track head coach and Dan Newbill assistant coach. Christy Allen was named head coach for elementary track.

Barbara Rainbolt was named head cook, which creates an opening at her former position of assistant cook. Current employees will have first opportunity to apply for the opening, then applicants for the head cook position will be considered.

Leonard Simmons was hired for the Maintenance II position.

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Jamboree helpers appear, more needed

While the response to the Jamboree Committee's plea for help was less than overwhelming, sufficient progress was made to assure the event for this year.

The committee approved a proposal by Dean Julian and John Ragner to host a full scale tennis tournament on the high school tennis courts. Preliminary work, they reported, is complete, with enough entries to schedule matches

throughout the three day festival. There is still a need for funding of about \$1,500 to resurface the courts.

The committee agreed to invite the Astoria Clowns and the Al Kader Shrine for a return engagement to spice up the parade with their antics.

Mary Cota will handle the registration, fees and siting of concessions this year. She may be contacted at Vernonia Variety, 847 Bridge Street, phone 429-5384.

Nancy Burch will organize the window-decorating contest this year.

Final approval has not been given to a theme for this year's Jamboree. The committee would welcome suggestions.

Help is still needed in several key areas and interested people are urged to attend the next Jamboree meeting at WOEC, 7:30 p.m. on April 9th. Bring a theme and a friend.



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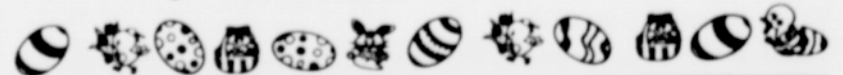
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Soccer club to be formed

An organizational meeting will be held Saturday, March 31, for people interested in forming a Vernonia soccer club. Parents and children are invited to attend the 9 a.m. meeting at the Vernonia

Golf Club.

Anyone interested in coaching or helping in other ways, is also welcome to attend. For additional information, call Barb Fulmer, 429-6811.



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