

Vernonia residents offer ideas for proposed community center

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thing she feels is necessary, is to design the building so it can be expanded to meet future needs and can grow with the community.

"If the community pulls together, it can be done," Dailey said, "Good things are happening in the city and will continue to happen."

RUSSELL GREEN

Russell Green, member services manager at West Oregon Electric Cooperative, has been in Vernonia less than two years, but is serving as president of the local chamber of commerce and is involved in many community

endeavors.

"A community center must fulfill a variety of needs, so it must be multi-functional," Green said,

"even if it starts out as only a large room with kitchen facilities."

A place is needed for planned activities for young people, he noted, adding that such supervision means staff requirements would have to be considered.

"Community", as a concept, is important, Green feels. "Getting together and making the community center



a reality would be a continuation of some good things that are happening in Vernonia.

"It would create a positive feeling because the community could say 'We did that and we can get other things done.'"

KATIE PARROW

"I think that a [community center] facility would be very beneficial to the community" Vernonia High School Studentbody President Katie Parrow said, as she paused while decorating the high school gymnasium for the winter formal.

She noted that, while the



schools are the centers of student activities, it would be great to have some place different for activities such as dances or watching a video movie "A community center would allow students to spend their time wisely," she added.

KATHY WARD

This is Kathy Ward's fifth year as a teacher at Washington Grade School in Vernonia. She currently teaches a blend of 32 fifth and sixth grade students.

"I think that a community center is something that is missing in Vernonia," Ward said. "There is no place for kids to go after school hours or on the week-



ends."

Quick to utilize an opportunity, Ward calls over four students to provide some insight about what would suit the needs of their classmates. The ever-popular arcade is mentioned, then a basketball court or a swimming pool; a skating rink, another adds then—with no limits to hamper them—a theater for stage shows, a hobby facility for photography, and the list grew as Ward challenged the students to put their ideas before the board during the community meeting.

Ward, who is a Girl Scout leader and is active in programs hosting students from other countries, said, "I think that a community center should have the children well represented."

WOEC concerned about future of Bonneville Power

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continued congressional pressure to sell BPA to the highest bidder," said David Seuss, WOEC general man-

ager. "We need more certainty and control over what represents more than one-third of our total operating cost."

The agreement culminates

many months of research and discussions by the WOEC board. "The board is pleased to find such a competitively priced and reliable source of energy," said Robert VanNatta, WOEC board president. "The PacifiCorp agreement provides a fixed price over the initial term of the contract, versus the uncertainty of future BPA rate hikes. PacifiCorp is recognized throughout the Northwest as a low-cost energy provider and a good business partner, so our member-owners will benefit from predictable energy prices."

The third year of the PacifiCorp contract provides WOEC with an "opt-out" clause, allowing the cooperative to consider other power supply alternatives, according to Suess.

West Oregon Electric customers will not notice any change in service. The only difference will be where the cooperative obtains its energy resources.

WOEC provides electricity to more than 3,800 member-customers in Columbia, Clatsop, Tillamook, Washington and Yamhill Counties. Portland based PacifiCorp serves customers in seven western states, under the names Pacific Power and Utah Power.

Hess named to WOEC directorship

Dr. David Hess of Banks, has succeeded Charles Varnum as director of West Oregon Electric Cooperative District 7.

Hess, a scientist at the Oregon Regional Primate Research Center, will complete the remaining two years of Varnum's term.

Special district candidate filings

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Vernonia Rural Fire District

Pos. 2. No filing; 4-year term.

Pos. 3. Frazier Rohm (Inc.); 4-year term.

Pos. 4 Tim Bamberg (Inc.); 4-year term.

Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire District

Pos. 1. Eric Larsen; 4-year term.

Pos. 2. Douglas Grant (Inc.); 4-year term.

Pos. 5. Raymond Kyser (Inc.); 2-year term.

Tri-City Rural Fire District

Pos. 2. No filing; 4-year

term.

Pos. 4. Henry Schmidlin (Inc.); 4-year term.

Pos. 5. No filing; 4-year term.

Elsie-Vinemapple Rural Fire District

Pos. 1. No filing; 4-year term.

Pos. 4. No filing; 4-year term.

Columbia County Emergency Communications District (9-1-1)

Zone 4. Katharine Denckla; 4-year term.

Help is available to check smoke alarms

Smoke alarms need to work properly in order to safeguard people in the event of fire, reminded Marvin Meyers, chairman of the Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District.

Senior citizens, handicapped people and anyone else who is unable to check their own smoke alarms, may call 429-7563 for assistance, Meyers said.



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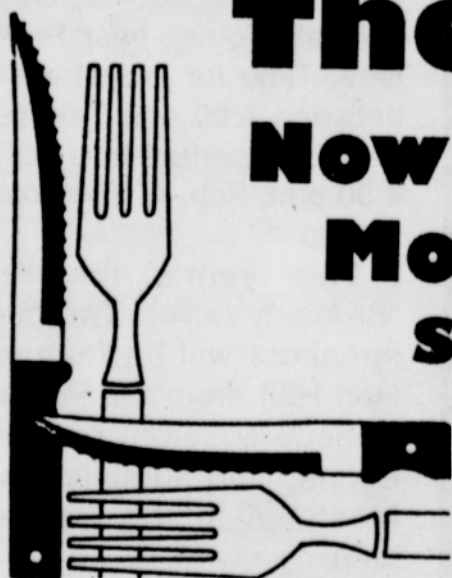
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