

## Banks residents show little interest in lack of law enforcement

"Glad to hear the city is considering law enforcement. It is BADLY NEEDED!"

The above statement was received in response to a questionnaire that was sent out by the City of Banks to solicit input regarding the community's feelings about a need for locally controlled law enforcement. The questionnaire accompanied every city water bill.

Written response was one thing, but only three citizens were concerned enough to attend a public hearing July 13 to discuss the issue with city officials.

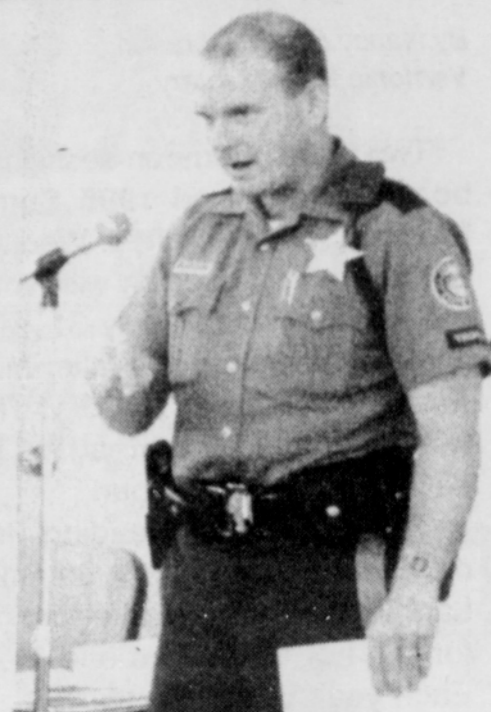
At the hearing, Oregon State Trooper Jeff Dickerson, of the Banks Outpost, presented a breakdown of 67 incidents responded to by State Police in the Banks area during the past year. He also

noted that the Washington County Sheriff's Department filed an additional 112 reports.

The community would benefit from the presence of local law enforcement officers who would be familiar with the people and the area, Dickerson emphasized, comparing that to the current situation wherein an officer who patrols

vast areas must make determinations from information gathered in a short period of time. The patrol area for some Washington County Sheriffs Deputies may encompass 400 miles, Dickerson noted.

Because of financial constraints, the city council cannot make any decisions at this time concerning the establishment of a police department. Additionally, without concrete evidence of concern shown by the city's residents about the lack of law enforcement, it is not likely that there will be much effort to change the present situation.



Jeff Dickerson

## Explanation of current fire regulations

There are few exceptions to outdoor burning, according to Oregon Forester Dan Logan and Vernonia Rural Fire District Chief Steve Weller, but to eliminate confusion about what is and isn't allowable at this time, they have offered the following information:

- Recreational fires are allowed at properly prepared residential and recreational (parks, etc.) locations. They must be kept under responsible supervision and control at all times, however.

- Barbecues are allowed, but briquets must be thoroughly extinguished with water. They can appear to be out, then flare up with a small breeze.

- Trash and debris burning are not allowed regardless of whether the burning is done in the open or in a burn barrel.

- Outdoor fires are not allowed in any forested area.

- Some areas in and around Vernonia are, or will be, posted prohibiting smoking and ATVs.

- Tall grass and weeds that contribute to fire danger are a violation of City of Vernonia safety ordinances. It is best to cut them before they dry enough to create a problem. Property owners who fail to maintain a safe area may be cited and fined.

The exceptions noted above are contingent upon weather conditions. If, at any time, the State Fire Marshall bans all outdoor burning, that will include a ban on recreational fires and barbecues.

Anyone who would like an inspection of their property before enjoying a recreational

### Kidsport Co-op activities listed

Activities available for children during the remainder of the summer include the following sponsored by Vernonia Kidsports Co-op:

Tuesdays, 5 p.m., trisbee golf at Washington Grade School.

Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m., soccer at WGS.

Thursdays, 5 p.m., croquet at Hawkins Park.

Saturdays, 10 a.m., soccer at WGS.

Volleyball will be added at a later date.

For additional information, call Robb Wilson, 429-3713.

fire in their yard, may call the following numbers:

Vernonia (rural and city)—429-8252; Forestry Department (Pittsburg station)—429-2501; Forestry Department

(Columbia City office)—503-397-2636.

For special situations during Vernonia's annual Friendship Jamboree, see the Vernonia Jamboree tabloid.



A new first response foam and rescue unit for the Vernonia Rural Fire District utilizes the chassis of an old ambulance.

### Council gets architectural bids

Following requests for architectural services to remodel and modernize City Hall, the City of Vernonia has received nine proposals ranging in cost from \$2,500 to \$26,150.

Proposed remodeling for the building includes construction of a combination council chamber/court room in the area which formerly housed ambulances, plus new restrooms with access for the disabled, enlarging the

police department and adding a holding cell.

The building also needs major maintenance work, including repairs to the south wall and either re-roofing the existing flat roof or building a pitched roof. Converting to natural gas for heating is also under consideration.

Council members will review the architectural proposals and discuss them at the next meeting on August 7.

### Special parade viewing areas set

Handicapped persons who would like to watch the Vernonia Jamboree Parade from the comfort of their cars can do so this year. Areas will be designated along the parade route for people who need this service.

There will also be an area for wheelchairs and senior citizens who want to sit in the shade. The new sidewalk in

front of Meyer's Auto Body and Bob's Auto Repair will be the shade area. It will be cordoned off and available on a first come basis.

Reservations for the shade area or a car viewing spot can be made by calling Bill Yeo at the Senior Center, 429-3912 or by calling Robb Wilson at the Museum 429-3713.

### Insurance against pink flamingos

A unique fundraiser will soon be in operation for the Jamboree Court. Be on the lookout for pink flyers posted about town to see how you can protect your lawn from the "pink flamingos that are coming to town."

This is just one of the fundraisers for the 1995 Vernonia Jamboree Court. Court members are earning money for expenses and especially for the \$500 scholarship the King and Queen will each be awarded after their coronation.

The Court consists of one junior, one senior and four June graduates from Vernonia High School.

Former Jamboree Court members are invited to be special guests at the coronation. Anyone who was on a prior court, or knows someone who was, is asked to contact any member of the Court Committee.

The coronation will be held Friday, Aug. 4 at 8 p.m. in the Washington Grade School Gym. The Coronation Dance will follow on the High School tennis court.

### Driver cited for rear end collision

No one was injured in a motor vehicle accident last Friday that demolished a small pickup on Highway 47 south of Vernonia near milepost 66.

According to Oregon State Police, a southbound 1991 Nissan pickup driven by Tracy Bishop Jordan, 46, of Vernonia, slowed to make a right

turn and was struck from behind by a 1992 GMC flatbed truck belonging to Parr Lumber Co. The impact forced the pickup off the road, over an embankment and into a field.

The unloaded truck, driven by Matthew Eugene Andresen, 29, Forest Grove, ended up partially off the road. Andresen was cited for careless driving.



Vernonia Police Sgt. Gene Baska looks over a small pickup that lost in an encounter with an unloaded lumber truck. No one was injured.

### WOEC nominating meetings set

Two open nominating meetings have been scheduled for directorships of West Oregon Electric Cooperative, Districts 2 and 5.

District 2 members will meet Monday, August 7, 7:00-7:30 p.m., at the Natal Grange Hall on Highway 47, three miles south of Mist. The position is currently held by Robert VanNatta of Apiary.

District 2 includes Hwy. 47 from Scappoose junction north to, and including Mist, Birkenfeld, Fishhawk Lake, the Jewell area on Hwy. 202 only, Olney and Apiary.

District 5 meeting will be Aug. 14, 7:00-7:30 p.m., at Sunnyside Deli on Hwy 47 two miles south of Vernonia. The position is currently held by Tom Budge. District 2 in-

cludes the Rose Avenue, Corey Hill, Capitol Hill and Noakes Road portions of Vernonia, Hwy. 47 south to the Washington County line, Timber Road, Timber, Glenwood and Strassel.

In keeping with WOEC by-laws, General Manager David Seuss will call the meeting to order and act as chairman. The meetings will adjourn promptly at 7:30 p.m., Seuss assured.

"This is an opportunity for you to participate in your cooperative. I encourage you to attend this important meeting. If you would like information on the duties of a director please feel free to contact me," he added.

Elections will be held at the annual meeting September 30.

**Vernonia Friendship  
Jamboree & Logging Show  
Aug. 4-6, 1995  
Join in the Fun**