

Letters to the Editor

From page 3

this year's theme, loyalty to our country, "Patriotism."

Due to scheduling constraints for the artwork on the tee shirts we need to receive theme entries by May 8th. Mail entries to PO Box 244, Vernonia, OR 97064

Please note: Those of us on the 2001 Jamboree committee had many people tell us AFTER Jamboree finished that there needed to be more activities for the kids, and for adults.

Some of the suggestions, in addition to the arts and crafts section, were baking & cooking contests, pie and/or watermelon eating contests, horseshoe tournaments and, for kids, possibly calf races, greased pig chase, water activities etc.

In order to even contemplate these events, people must step up and volunteer their time to plan and run any additional activities.

We are hoping to hear from 10 or more new people, and/or any folks who have helped in the past, who are willing to coordinate an event in advance of the Jamboree and commit 2-4 hours the weekend of Jamboree to run the event.

If you are one who thinks that Jamboree is the same old thing every year, here is your chance to do something about it. A good idea becomes a great idea only if YOU help bring it into reality.

From our personal experience the Jamboree is anything but the same old thing. We

have met so many wonderful people from the local area, and many that travel great distances, just to attend Jamboree. We are looking forward to seeing them again, along with the many new ones we will meet this year.

If you are new to the area and want to meet people, we guarantee you will have a great time and will meet a lot of wonderful people. Some of whom will become lifelong friends. After all, the name of our annual festival is the "Vernonia Friendship Jamboree."

What better way to make friends, than working alongside someone and helping to bring laughter and smiles to those around you? The Jamboree needs your help to show off our wonderful city and make it an annual destination point / summer activity for people, who would not normally visit our "quiet little town."

If you are interested please contact Randy Parrow at 503-429-1093, or me, at 503-429-3541. Meetings are held at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month in the Washington Grade School library. We hope to hear from you, or better yet, see you there...

**Glen Purvee, for the
Vernonia Friendship
Jamboree Committee**

Objects to fairgrounds benefit from concerts

To the Editor:

The County Commissioners have made their final decision regarding the Morse Bros., Inc. and Double-Tee Promotions concert agreement. In my opinion, the deal was made last

year between Morse Bros., Inc. (MBI), Double-Tee Promotions and the County in order to benefit the fairgrounds by providing space to hold concerts during the summer. For this deal, MBI will be granted their surface mining permit prior to concerts being held, even though there are concerns yet to be addressed (i.e., DEQ's conditions not yet met regarding safe habitat for the bald-eagles and safeguards for nitrate contamination in current water wells). Also, why didn't the County retain the mineral rights to the [current] MBI property back when they sold it to Shell Corporation? Or why didn't they condemn the property prior to MBI purchasing it, use the rock to support county government (parks, roads and fair), and the property to sponsor the annual fair? This would have benefitted everyone! (The Fair, County government, and its citizens.)

I have several questions. Why is it that only the fairgrounds benefits from the MBI deal? We have roads and parks deteriorating and threats of giving parks away. Why don't the Commissioners think these services are important too? During these concerts, the Sheriff's Office will provide personnel for law enforcement and safety mitigation. Why is it that when we call for assistance, it is extremely difficult to get a hold of an officer, we are told "there are no officers available" and the Sheriff's Office only needs to provide a jail and serve subpoenas. Why, then, do out-of-county groups (concerts and bike/walk-a-thons)

receive these services while we, the taxpayers do not? Why does the County feel they must negotiate with MBI? It looks like the "good ole boy, you scratch my back, I'll scratch your back" syndrome. When all is said and done, we will be left with another big hole in the ground; with MBI not being required to reclaim the land after raping it.

In regards to Double-Tee, their contract with the County states that, should they default on payment to sub-contractors or vendors, the County will assume responsibility for payment of those bills and charge Double-Tee 10 percent above those charges. What ever makes the Commissioners think Double-Tee will pay them for these defaulted bills, should they occur? Why would they not pay their vendors, but pay the County, with interest? This looks to me to be another US Gypsum Chapter 11 bankruptcy case waiting to happen! Double-Tee is storing their equipment at the fairgrounds. Are they paying storage rental fees or getting another "county incentive", in other words, "freeby"?

I have many more questions of the Commissioners, but it boils down to, did they really think this through when they made their decision and was it really in the best interest of the public? And, are the Commissioners getting addicted to concerts (like the schools have with Coca-Cola) to solve all their money problems?

**Thelma Bonar
Warren**

From page 2

Chairman Alan Greenspan acknowledges, "you can't use tax receipts over nominal GDP as a tax rate."

Thompson calls claims that taxes now take a larger share of GDP than at any time in his-

tory, "hollow." Total federal receipts, according to the Economic Report of the President, absorbed 19.6 percent of GDP in 2001, no different from levels seen in early 1980's, late 1960's or mid 1940's.

The federal government's share of GDP has remained about the same, cycling around 18 percent, for most of the last 55 years. "By pinning away for days when taxes were lower than they are now, the anti-government activists reveal their desire for a society that we haven't had since before World War II," noted Thompson.

"The last time we had taxes considerably lower than current levels was in the days of the Great Depression, back before the existence of the American middle class or strong military, and when masses of the elderly withered in poverty for lack of Social Security," Thompson added.

Banks Fire District #13

Abbreviations: EMS, Emergency Medical Service; MVA, Motor Vehicle Accident

MARCH 2002

- Mar. 1 - MVA-Sellers Road
- Mar. 2 - Residential fire
EMS Assist
- Mar. 3 - EMS Assist (2)
Brush fire
- Mar. 6 - Power Lines Down
- Mar. 7 - MVA-Hwy-Tunnel
- Mar. 8 - MVA-Hwy 26
MVA-Cedar Canyon
- Mar. 9 - EMS Assist (3)
- Mar. 10 - EMS Assist (2)
- Mar. 12 - MVA-Hwy 26
MVA-Woolen Road
- Mar. 13 - Auto Alarm
- Mar. 15 - EMS Assist
- Mar. 16 - MVA-Hwy 6/47
MVA-Hwy 6/47
MVA-Hwy 26
- Mar. 17 - EMS Assist (2)
- Mar. 19 - Smoke Investigation
- Mar. 20 - Car Fire
Auto Alarm
EMS Assist
- Mar. 22 - EMS Assist (2)
- Mar. 23 - EMS Assist
- Mar. 26 - Brush fire
EMS Assist
- Mar. 28 - Brush fire
MVA-Cedar Canyon
- Mar. 29 - EMS Assist
- Mar. 30 - EMS Assist
- Mar. 31 - EMS Assist



THE SPAR TREE

BREAKFAST - LUNCH - DINNER

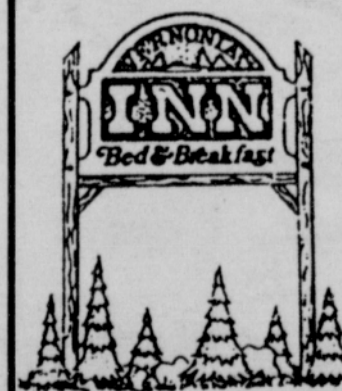
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