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The INDEPENDENT

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Job training...



Yes, the paving job on the parking lots at the high school and district office were designed as training sessions, but some jobs still require more muscle than technical expertise.

Training, paving get job done together

Superintendent Mike Funderburg called a special, 7:30 a.m. meeting of the board of directors for the Vernonia School District on July 23 to discuss getting the district and high school parking lots paved at a greatly reduced cost. Working in cooperation with the City of Vernonia and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), Funderburg told the board that the job could be completed for approximately 20 percent of the cost of bidding out a contract. This project would also be a great way to show the community that the district's management and board can take care of existing

buildings and make the facility look good, according to Funderburg.

Though board member Leslie O'Leary expressed concern about moving ahead with a capital project without a long-range plan in place, the board unanimously approved the project.

John Lewis, the district's new maintenance supervisor, a city employee and ODOT personnel used the paving project as a training exercise. This will enable both the district and the city to borrow paving equipment from ODOT for small paving projects in the future. Funderburg, too, was working

alongside city and ODOT employees.

Because the project was used as a training exercise, the district will be able to complete it for under \$25,000. The district parking lot and the high school parking lot were graded and repaved. The parking lot east of Washington Grade School was graded and excess paving material was used to fill pot-holes in that lot and behind the grade school. The work was done early this week so it would be completed before Jamboree.

Robyn Basset, Director of Public Works for the City of

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Friendship Jamboree ready for 46th year

This year, the traditional reunion of former Vernonia residents and the gathering of newcomers is well underway before the Friendship Jamboree even gets started. The population has noticeably swollen and a celebratory atmosphere filled the air at least two days before any event started.

Starting with the kids' fishing derby on Friday and ending with the logging show on Sunday, there will be enough activities and events to keep everyone busy August 2, 3 and 4.

The fishing derby attracts 70 to 100 young anglers, through the age of 14, and volunteers with the local chapter of the Izaak Walton League see to it that no youngster leaves without something good to remember.

Participants start gathering early Saturday morning for the parade and the car show, and many of the softball players arrive a day or two before Jamboree starts. The parade will get underway at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, going east on Bridge Street from City Hall.

The car show on the lawn between Vernonia High School and Washington Grade School, Jamboree Cruisin', will be busy until late afternoon with people enjoying the cars, the 50s-60s rock music of the Bouncing

Baby Boomers, and the Booster Club's barbecued hamburgers.

In addition to the softball tournament that continues throughout the weekend, musicians hit the Alternative Stage on Friday evening and continue through Sunday afternoon. The outdoor Stage is behind the Lyon's Den and the old theater, a half block off Bridge Street, and brings in an eclectic gathering of musical styles and genres. Spectators can relax on the lawn or get up and dance, and it's all free.

Also underway throughout the weekend is the Nehalem River Rendezvous, a gathering of black powder, muzzle loading devotees. Their encampment on Stoney Point Road, about 2-1/2 miles out of town, is open so spectators can enjoy a trip to an earlier time, too.

More on Jamboree on page 2

Water curtailment is Town Hall topic

Water curtailment during times of drought will be the topic of a Town Hall meeting on Monday, August 5 at 6:30 p.m. in Vernonia City Hall.

Following the discussion, the Vernonia City Council will convene their regularly scheduled meeting.

Filing deadline nears for City Council

Anyone interested in election to mayor or a city council position must complete the paper work by 5:00 p.m., Aug. 27.

Three Vernonia positions will be open. The mayor's term, presently held by Cindy Ball, is for two years. Council positions are for four years. Two council positions, currently held by Shirlee Daughtrey and Brett Costley, will be on the ballot.

The Vernonia City Council last month appointed Costley to

fill the remaining term of Ball, who was council president when former Mayor Mario Leonetti resigned. The council unanimously chose Ball to complete the vacated mayoral term, leaving her council position open. Daughtrey is completing her full term.

Packets are available at City Hall with information and instructions. The positions will be on the ballot for the November General Election.