

Unattended fire destroys truck

An early morning fire on Saturday, June 8, destroyed a 2001 Ford-250 parked at the Jeffers residence on Birch St. The vehicle was owned by Turner Logging.

The fire was started in a burn barrel that was too close to the truck and was left unattended, according to a Vernonia Fire District spokesman. The fire traveled from the barrel across the ground and to the truck, according to Vernonia Fire Chief Paul Epler.

The person responsible for starting the fire did not have a burn permit. A warning was issued and a bill will be presented for the costs of fire suppression.

Photo at right: An unidentified firefighter continues to spray fire suppressant on hot spots in the remains of a 2001 pickup truck.



47J administrators make modifications

Budget restraints have caused a reduction in the Vernonia School District administrative team from eight to five employees, including Superintendent Mike Funderburg.

Now, with approval by the board of directors, Funderburg has restructured the administrative team. After consulting the district's strategic plan for increasing student achievement and the staff development plan, the remaining administrators were placed to take advantage of their strengths, according to Funderburg.

The new structure divides instruction into three areas — kindergarten to third grade, four to eight, and high school — which corresponds to the state's benchmark assessments and will allow more effective analyses of state test scores.

A new high school principal, Curt Scholl, was hired at a special school board meeting June 4. Scholl comes to Vernonia from St. Helens High School, where he has been vice-principal and athletic director for the past year. Previously, he had been a social studies teacher and head baseball coach at West Linn and Scappoose High Schools. He started teaching social studies and alternative school at Siuslaw High School.

Scholl's wife Kelly is head volleyball coach at University of Portland and is expecting their third child. Scholl was born and raised in St. Helens and played football and baseball at Linfield College.

Mike Durbin has moved from the high school to Washington Grade School, where he will be principal for grades 4-8. Durbin will also serve as K-12 curriculum director.

Anne Kingsley will serve next year as principal for kindergarten through third grade at Washington and Lincoln Schools and principal of Mist Grade School. Kingsley will also serve as middle school athletic director.

Laurie Harrison will remain as director of special education and will assume responsibility for district wide assessment (state testing).

Like other small high

schools across the state, Vernonia will have a teacher, Tony Pupo, fulfilling the role of athletic director.

"Partners in Education" honored at Vernonia schools assemblies

Vernonia School District recognized businesses and individuals for their help to the district during a special Partners in Education assembly. The following people and businesses were recognized:

Buckner Land Salvage — Use of pressure washer for VHS stadium

Landscape & Products Supply — Bark dust

Western Farm Service, Inc. — Fertilizer for athletic fields

Farmwomen's Nursery — Bedding plants

Mayor Cindy Ball, Marie Botchie, Michelle Blum, Kevin Swayze and Heather Bassett — Strategic Planning Workshop

Scott Griffith/Boise Cascade — Bark chips to LGS

Dass Logging, Mr. & Mrs. Dick Gwin, Herb Huson & Shelly Linde, Curl's Transportation, Pihl Logging, Holce Logging and Gwin Logging — Spring Sports transportation cost

Tim Titus, Mark Stevens, Gunny Cox, Greg Schaumburg/WOEC — Power pole removal

Cafall Bros. Forest Products — Donation to HS wrestling

Mr. & Mrs. Dick Gwin — Donation to Athletic programs

Pastor Grant Williams — Use of Vernonia Community Church
Joe Batty — HS Baseball Dugout Construction

Marcie Gwin, Carolyn Keasey and Dawn Buckner — Refreshments for CIM Recognition Night

Mark Stevens and Greg Schaumburg/WOEC — Set poles for Homecoming Bonfire

ODOT-Manning Maintenance Station — Paving Project

City of Vernonia — Use of Water Rights

Dick Titus, NW Excavating — Bark Dust Delivery

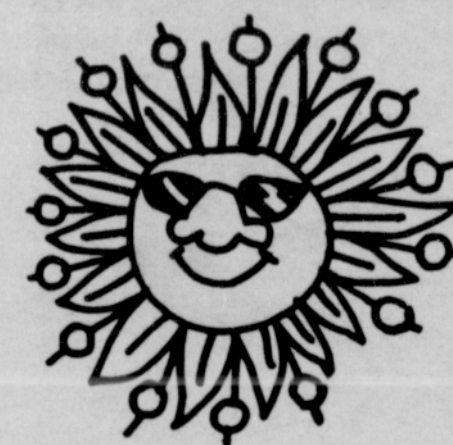
Vernonia RFPD — Use of staff and pump truck to water football field

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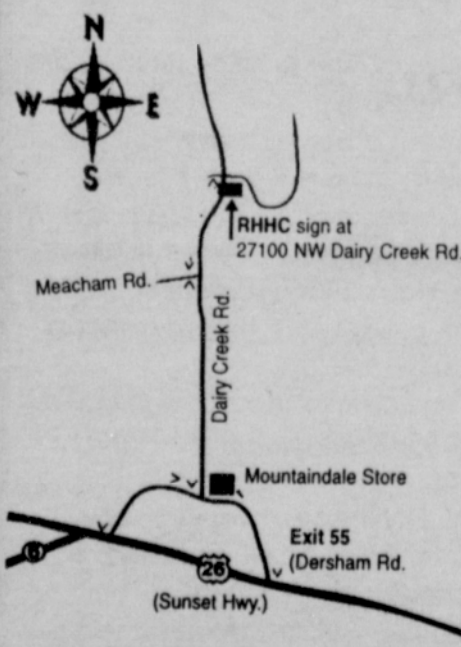
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