

Officer joins Police Department; fireworks discussed by council



Mayor Sally Harrison presents the oath of office to Officer Mike Conner as Vernonia Police Chief Matt Workman observes.

The Vernonia City Council got down to regular business on September 6, after holding a public hearing on the OA Hill Pedestrian/Bike Sidewalk Improvements slated to start next spring from Texas Ave. to

Riverside Drive. There was no testimony in favor and no testimony in opposition of the project. Peter O'Leary attended as a representative of the Vernonia Post Office to ask about the impact on mail deliveries. City

Administrator Robyn Bassett responded that mail deliveries would be either at one combined location, on the street that runs behind the residences or a combination of both.

The newest Vernonia Police Officer, Mike Connor, was sworn in by Mayor Sally Harrison. Connor moved here from Toledo with his wife, Katrina, and their three daughters.

In Topics from the floor, citizen Mike Orth with the CERT team, invited the council members to drop in to the CERT public meetings, held at the Vernonia Grange at 7:00 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

Mayor Sally Harrison appointed Noni Andersen, Derl Roberts, Kala Cota, Brett Costley, and Mike Pihl to the newly formed Tree City Committee.

The Council denied a request by School District 47J for credit on their system development charges (SDC) after the

city's legal firm advised that the school district does not qualify for the credit.

Discussion of whether to hold future fireworks at Vernonia Lake took place after the council received a letter from Tom Ramsey (lead pyrotechnician) asking for permission to stage fireworks displays on October 22 (his birthday), November 11, possibly January 1, and during the 2006 Jamboree. The council also received a letter from citizen Clark McGaugh asking council not to allow fireworks at Vernonia Lake due to concerns about the impact on wildlife. Other locations where fireworks could be held include the school, Spencer Park and the airport (which may require approval by the FFA). Council decided to hold a workshop on fireworks at Vernonia Lake to get further information before making any decision.

Council unanimously approved a request from Helen

Johnston to place a chain and a sign across Oregon Street, prohibiting automobile access to what amounts to a path.

• Proclaimed October to be Disability Employment Awareness Month.

Airport Committee volunteers needed

The City of Vernonia has two positions open on the Airport Committee. This committee makes recommendations to the city council regarding needs, changes, policies and planning for Vernonia Municipal Airport and Airport Park.

Those interested in serving on the Airport Committee may express interest in writing or by speaking with City Recorder Kate Conley at city hall between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or by calling 503-429-5291. Letters should be sent to City of Vernonia, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064.

Community Calendar

| SEPTEMBER 2005 | | | | | | | OCTOBER 2005 | | | | | | | NOVEMBER 2005 | | | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | 30 | 31 | | | | | | | | | | | | |

| VERNONIA | | | MIST-BIRKENFELD | | | BANKS | | | COLUMBIA COUNTY (All meet in St. Helens unless otherwise noted.) | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|--|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Alcoholics Anonymous | Mondays | 6:30 p.m., Head Start Bldg. | M-BRFPD Board Business Mtg. | 2nd Tuesday | 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station | Alcoholics Anonymous | Fridays | 8:00 p.m., Methodist Church | Board of Commissioners | Wednesdays | 10 a.m., Courthouse |
| Alcoholics Anonymous | Saturdays | 7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg. | M-BRFPD Board Workshop | 4th Tuesday | 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station | American Legion Post #90 | 2nd Tuesdays | 7:30 p.m., Main Street Post | Citizens for Senior Justice | 2nd Tuesday | 7:00 p.m., Sunset Park Church |
| American Legion Post #119 | 2nd Thursday | 627 Adams Avenue | M-B Ambulance Drill | 1st & 2nd Thursdays | 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station | Banks City Council | 2nd Tuesday | 7:30 p.m., City Hall | Columbia Soil & Water District | 3rd Wednesday | 7:30 p.m., NRCS, 2514 Sykes |
| Arts & Crafts Society | 2nd Thursday | 2:00 p.m., City Library | M-B Fire Drill | 1st & 2nd Wednesdays | 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station | Banks Fire District #13 | 2nd Wednesday | 7:00 p.m., Station 13 | County Fair Board | 2nd Monday | 7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds 4-H Bldg. |
| Booster Club | 2nd Wednesday | 7:00 p.m., VHS Library | M-B Helping Circle | 2nd Monday | 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station | Banks Planning Commission | Last Tuesday | 7:00 p.m., City Hall | County Parks Commission | 3rd Monday | 6:00 p.m., 1054 Oregon St. |
| Boy Scout Troop 201 | Tuesdays | 7:00 p.m., Scout Cabin | M-B SAR Drill | 3rd Wednesday | 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station | Banks School Board | 2nd Monday | 7:30 p.m., Jr. High Library | Mental Health Advisory Comm. | 3rd Tuesday | 10 a.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse |
| Boy Scout Troop 860 | Wednesdays | 7:00 p.m., LDS Church | M-B Volunteer Assoc. | 1st Tuesday | 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station | Banks Youth Group | Sundays, Wednesdays | 7:00 p.m., UMC Youth Bldg. | Comm. on Children & Families | 3rd Thursday | 5:30 p.m. OSU Ext., 550 N. Hwy. 30 |
| Cemetery Beautification Comm. | 2nd Thursday | 7:00 p.m., Leonetti's Grill | Natal Grange | 2nd Wednesday | 7:30 p.m., Natal Grange Hall | Chamber of Commerce | 1st Thursday | 12:30 p.m., Fire District Office | Local Alcohol & Drug Plann. Comm. | 2nd Tuesday | 3:00 p.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse |
| CERT | 4th Wednesday | For Info Call 503-429-6033 | T.O.P.S. | Mondays | 6:00 p.m., Main Fire Station | CPO 14 | 3rd Monday | 7:00 p.m., City Library | | | |
| Chamber of Commerce | 2nd Wednesday | For Info Call 503-429-6081 | Up'r Nehalem Watershed Council | For date call 429-2401 | 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station | Friends of the Library | 2nd Tuesday | 7:00 p.m., City Library | | | |
| Community Coalition | 2nd Monday | 12:30 p.m. School District Ofc. | | | | Lions Club | 1st & 3rd Mondays | 7:00 p.m., Brown Derby | | | |
| Cub Scout Pack 201 | Scout Cabin | For Info Call 503-429-8133 | | | | Sunset Park Assoc. | 3rd Wednesday | 8:00 p.m., Gun Club | | | |
| Doll Club | 4th Tuesday | 1:00 p.m., Senior Center | | | | T.O.P.S. | Wednesdays | 7:00 p.m., Administration Bldg. | | | |
| Friends of the Library | 1st Tuesday | 7:00 p.m., Vernonia Library | | | | Women's Aglow | 2nd Thursday | 7:00 p.m., City Library | | | |
| Hands On Art Committee | 1st & 3rd Thursdays | 7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg. | | | | | | | | | |
| Izaak Walton League | 3rd Thursday | For location call 503-429-7193 | | | | | | | | | |
| Lions Club | 1st & 3rd Tuesdays | 6:30 p.m., Buckhorn Restaurant | | | | | | | | | |
| Nehalem Valley Car Club | | For Info Call 503-429-4074 | | | | | | | | | |
| Pioneer Museum | | For Info Call 503-429-3713 | | | | | | | | | |
| Preschool Story Hour | Mondays | 10:30 a.m., City Library | | | | | | | | | |
| Upper Nehalem C.P.A.C. | 2nd Tuesday | 7:00 p.m., City Hall | | | | | | | | | |
| Venturing Crew 201 | 1st & 3rd Thursdays | 5:30 p.m., Buckhorn Restaurant | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia Airport Committee | 3rd Wednesday | 7:00 p.m., City Hall | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia Cares Directors | | For Info call 503-429-1414 | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia City Council | 1st & 3rd Mondays | 7:00 p.m., City Hall | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia Community PTA | 3rd Thursday | 6:30 p.m., WGS Library | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia Grange | 4th Saturday | 10:30 a.m., Grange Hall | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia Health Center | 2nd Monday | 6:00 p.m., 510 Bridge St. | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia Planning Comm. | 1st & 3rd Thursdays | 7:00 p.m., City Hall | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia Pride | 3rd Thursday | 1:00 p.m., City Hall | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia Ridge Riders | Last Thursday | 7:00 p.m., Senior Center | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia RFPD Board | 2nd Tuesday | 7:00 p.m., Fire Station | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia School Board | 2nd Thursday | 6:00 p.m., District Office | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia Sr. Center Board | 3rd Friday | 1:00 p.m., Senior Center | | | | | | | | | |
| Vern. Volunteer Ambulance Assoc. | 1st Thursday | 7:00 p.m., Fire Station | | | | | | | | | |
| Vernonia Volunteer Firefighters | 2nd Monday | 7:00 p.m., Fire Station | | | | | | | | | |
| WOEC Directors | 3rd Tuesday | 7:00 p.m., WOEC | | | | | | | | | |

Organizations and meeting dates not listed may be included by calling 429-9410 or by mail to The INDEPENDENT, 725 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064.