

Spring brings out construction scams Applicants wanted for fish panel

It's like clock work. When the weather improves, the scam artists strike. And they usually strike the person that appears most vulnerable.

"Older adults tend to be targets because of mobility issues," says Gina Fox, Public Information Officer for the Construction Contractors Board (CCB). "They may not be able to climb on the roof or crawl into a crawlspace to look at

Nominations open for WOEC District 4

A nominating meeting for the District 4 director of West Oregon Electric will be Thursday, June 22, from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the WOEC boardroom. The election will be August 19, at the 2006 Annual Meeting.

District 4 includes most of Vernonia. The position is currently held by Joe Riley.

problems or repairs." They also tend to be more trusting.

The CCB is warning homeowners of a scam that recently came to light in the Gresham area. In this event, the homeowner was approached by a man – driving a white pickup with Nevada plates – about doing some work for the homeowner. The man had a sad story to tell and even a wife and kids at his side. When the homeowner agreed to have the work performed, the man found more problems which could be fixed at a higher price.

Generally, the work performed is substandard at best and the "material" used in this case to seal the leak in the roof turned out to be nothing more than ordinary latex paint.

While door-to-door sales can be legitimate, be wary of those who are peddling left-over materials, have sad tales or use

high pressure tactics to get you to accept their offer without a chance to think it over, or do your homework. Be careful of unlicensed contractors that drift in from out of state, scam unsuspecting homeowners and run.

"Always check on a contractor's license", says Fox. "Make sure your contractor is actively licensed, which means they have a bond and liability insurance, and check their complaint history."

The CCB is a state agency licensing more than 42,000 contractors. Anyone who is paid to repair, improve or build a home must be licensed by the CCB. Consumers can verify a contractor's license and find other helpful tips at www.oregon.gov/ccb and clicking on Consumer Help. Consumers can also call 503-378-4621.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is seeking qualified candidates to fill two open positions on the Fish Restoration and Enhancement Program Board. Available positions include one sportfishing representative and one gillnet fishery representative.

Created by the Oregon Legislature in 1989, the Fish Restoration and Enhancement Program is funded by a surcharge on sport and commercial fishing licenses and commercial poundage fees.

The program is overseen by a seven-member citizen board made up of three sport fishing representatives, three representatives from the troll, gillnet and seafood processing industries and one public-at-large representative. The Board reviews grant proposals from various organizations and agencies and recommends funding

for fish restoration and enhancement projects throughout the state.

Board members, who are appointed to four-year terms by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, meet three or four times each year in various communities throughout the state to review project funding applications, hear public testimony, act as liaisons between the program and the public and to conduct other program business. Board members are volunteers, but Board-related business expenses are reimbursed.

The application deadline is June 26, 2006. Final appointments will be made in the fall.

For more information or to obtain an application, contact Fish Restoration and Enhancement Program coordinator Laura Tesler at 503-947-6259.

Community Calendar

JUNE 2006							JULY 2006							AUGUST 2006						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				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	31		
25	26	27	28	29	30		30	31												

VERNONIA

- Alcoholics Anonymous Mondays 6:30 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
- Alcoholics Anonymous Saturdays 7:00 p.m., Head Start Bldg.
- American Legion Post #119 2nd Thursday 627 Adams Avenue
- Arts & Crafts Society 2nd Thursday 2:00 p.m., City Library
- Booster Club 2nd Wednesday 7:00 p.m., VHS Library
- Boy Scout Troop 201 Tuesdays 7:00 p.m., Scout Cabin
- Boy Scout Troop 860 Wednesdays 7:00 p.m., LDS Church
- Cemetery Beautification Comm. 2nd Thursday 7:00 p.m., Leonetti's Grill
- CERT 4th Wednesday For Info Call 503-429-6033
- Chamber of Commerce 2nd Wednesday For Info Call 503-429-6081
- Community Coalition 2nd Monday 12:30 p.m. School District Ofc.
- Cub Scout Pack 201 Scout Cabin For Info Call 503-429-8133
- Friends of the Library 1st Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Vernonia Library
- Hands On Art Committee 1st & 3rd Thursdays 4:00 p.m., City Hall
- 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 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 7:00 p.m., WGS Library
- Vernonia Grange 3rd Monday 7:00 p.m., Grange Hall
- Vernonia Health Center 2nd Monday 6:00 p.m., 510 Bridge St.
- Vernonia Learning Center 1st & Last Wednesdays 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- Vernonia Parks Committee 3rd Tuesday 6:30 p.m., City Hall
- 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 2nd Friday 1:00 p.m., Senior Center
- Vernonia Transfer Station 2nd & 4th Saturdays 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Behind VHS
- 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

MIST-BIRKENFELD

- M-BRFPD Board Business Mtg. 2nd Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- M-BRFPD Board Workshop 4th Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- M-B Ambulance Drill 1st & 2nd Thursdays 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- M-B Fire Drill 1st & 2nd Wednesdays 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- M-B Helping Circle 2nd Monday 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- M-B SAR Drill 3rd Wednesday 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- M-B Volunteer Assoc. 1st Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- Natal Grange 2nd Wednesday 7:30 p.m., Natal Grange Hall
- T.O.P.S. Mondays 6:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
- Upr Nehalem Watershed Council For date call 429-2401 7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station

BANKS

- Alcoholics Anonymous Fridays 7:00 p.m., Methodist Church
- Alcoholics Anonymous Wednesdays 7:30 p.m., Methodist Church
- American Legion Post #90 2nd Tuesdays 7:30 p.m., Main Street Post
- Banks City Council 2nd Tuesday 7:30 p.m., City Hall
- Banks Fire District #13 2nd Wednesday 7:00 p.m., Station 13
- Banks Planning Commission Last Tuesday 7:00 p.m., City Hall
- Banks School Board 2nd Monday 7:30 p.m., Jr. High Library
- Banks Youth Group Sundays, Wednesdays 7:00 p.m., UMC Youth Bldg.
- Chamber of Commerce 1st Thursday 12:30 p.m., Fire District Office
- CPO 14 3rd Monday 7:00 p.m., City Library
- Friends of the Library 2nd Tuesday 7:00 p.m., City Library
- Lions Club 1st & 3rd Mondays 7:00 p.m., Brown Derby
- Sunset Park Assoc. 3rd Wednesday 8:00 p.m., Gun Club
- T.O.P.S. Wednesdays 7:00 p.m., Administration Bldg.

COLUMBIA COUNTY (All meet in St. Helens unless otherwise noted.)

- Board of Commissioners Wednesdays 10 a.m., Courthouse
- Citizens for Senior Justice 2nd Tuesday 7:00 p.m., Sunset Park Church
- Columbia Soil & Water District 3rd Wednesday 7:30 p.m., NRCS , 2514 Sykes
- County Fair Board 2nd Monday 7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds 4-H Bldg.
- County Parks Commission 3rd Monday 6:00 p.m., 1054 Oregon St.
- Mental Health Advisory Comm. 3rd Tuesday 10 a.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse
- Comm. on Children & Families 3rd Thursday 5:30 p.m. OSU Ext., 550 N. Hwy. 30
- Local Alcohol & Drug Plann. Comm. 2nd Tuesday 3:00 p.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse

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.