

Vets For Peace and Iraq Vets plan ride to Seattle

July 30 will bring a dedicated "band of brothers" through eastern Columbia County on their way to the national Veterans for Peace convention in Seattle, August 10-13.

Members of Veterans For Peace (VFP) and Iraq Veterans Against the War (IVAW) are planning this human-powered cycle ride to promote taking responsibility for the consequences of personal and community choices as a response to war. Cyclists will depart from Eugene on July 25 and pedal to Seattle.

The "Veterans Peace and Sustainable Living Ride" seeks to demonstrate taking responsibility for reducing our dependence on oil, an addiction believed to be a major cause of current wars. In the words of veteran Brian Willson, "A revolution of consciousness is needed, enabling us to recognize the sacred interconnected-

ness of all life. Once that is internalized, we naturally make different choices based on mutual respect." The cyclists believe that one of the most radical things we can do is stop consuming while recreating local, community-reliant economies.

The ride was initiated by Brian Willson and Lane Anderson, both Vietnam veterans residing in California. Willson, a double-amputee from Arcata, California, will be riding a three-wheeled, arm-powered hand-cycle. Anderson, one of the main organizers of the Arlington West project in Santa Barbara, has arthritic knees and will ride a bicycle outfitted with an "Exycle" hand-generated power booster. The ride will be accompanied by several alternative-fueled vehicles, including "The White Rose," a VFP biodiesel bus from Mendocino.

Columbia County Citizens

for Human Dignity (CCCHD) welcome and host the riders as part of their "Cost of War" platform. "The 'CO\$T of WAR' campaign demands accountability from our elected officials and awareness from our own communities for the tremendous human and monetary cost of the Iraq occupation. The Cost of War reduces our ability to Create Real Security, uses fear to erode our democratic pledge to Protect the Rights of All and derails any commitment to Build Sustainable Communities. Framing our election 2006 concerns and our Rebuild America vision in terms of the Costs of War forces the spotlight onto the huge and glaring disasters of war and global injustice. Therefore, part of the CCCHD Election 2006 strategy is to compare and contrast the candidates, the ballot initiatives and all election platforms with the overwhelming reality of the

Cost of War. "With Iraq war costs nearing the \$9 Billion mark, our demand will be that our Members of Congress and Senators use the resources available to them to communicate with all their constituents the true cost of the occupation of Iraq. From our state officials, we demand that they account for the cost of deploying our Oregon Guard in Iraq," states CCCHD member Gigi Gordon.

Community events will be scheduled at each stop along the ride, including a dinner and rest stop in the Scappoose area. For information about the VFP convention in Seattle, visit <http://www.veteransforpeace.org/>, or call 503-543-8337. More activities for the Scappoose arrival will be announced soon. When you see these intrepid riders on Hwy 30 on July 30, be sure to give them a wave or a honk to let them know you support them and "the troops".

Washington Co. gets new judges

Governor Ted Kulongoski has appointed Rita Cobb and Jim Fun to the Washington County Circuit Court. Both Cobb and Fun were elected in the May 2006 primary election to fill vacancies created by the retirements of Judges Nancy Campbell and John Lewis. Governor Kulongoski has appointed both to start as soon as they are sworn into office, in order to fill the existing vacancies. However, their official terms begin January 1, 2007.

"I'm proud to announce the appointments of two great judges to the Washington County Circuit Court," said Governor Kulongoski. "Both have years of experience serving their communities and helping the world around them."

Rita Cobb has been a probate judge in Washington County for 17 years. Jim Fun has been a deputy prosecutor in the Washington County District Attorney's Office for 16 years.

Did You Know . . .

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ways glad to conduct a tour, followed by a description of how the department functions and some of the equipment we use. If you have a group interested in a tour, you can call Chief Mathew Workman at the station 503-429-7335.

Vernonia Justice Court

July 11, 2006

Traffic..... 63
Marine..... 12

47J says no to alcohol on grounds

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from \$100,000 to \$200,000.

Revisiting the policy regarding the use of alcohol on the school grounds, Cox told the board that, after consulting with the district's attorney, it was determined that there should be no change in the existing policy (Policy KGB). Part of the policy specifies that drugs, including alcohol and tobacco, may not be used on school property.

A line has been added to the permit regarding use of school facilities, specifying that "Alcoholic beverages are not permitted on school district grounds."

The Vernonia Planning Commission has approved moving the modular buildings at Lincoln Grade School to the main campus, Cox reported. Before they can be occupied, however, the district will have to modify parking areas to meet the required amount of off-street parking.

The superintendent also provided each board member with a copy of the Oregon Public Meetings law (ORS 192.610 - 192.710).

In other business, the board:

- Awarded a contract for reroofing, maintenance and repair to low bidder McDonald & Wetle, Inc., of Portland. Their bid of \$41,048 was approximately \$12,000 less than the nearest bid.

- Accepted the resignation of groundskeeper/custodian Byron Havens.

- Set substitute teacher pay at \$12 per day above the state minimum as a travel allowance.

- Adopted a schedule for regular business meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. They also adopted a schedule for work sessions on the fourth Thursday of each month through November, and again in March and April.

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