

Skills Park project obtains \$245,000 grant, 40% match is needed



Fairview Police Officer Doug Absoe with Thor, a son of Vernonia's police dog, Kreuger, relaxing outside Vernonia City Hall before Thor was presented to the Fairview Department.

Burn season restrictions in effect

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tection District:

- Smoking is prohibited while traveling, except in closed vehicles on improved roads.
- Open fires are prohibited, including campfires, charcoal fires, cooking fires and warming fires, except at designated locations. Wood burning devices used in conjunction with temporary dwellings, including tents and trailers, is prohibited. Portable cooking stoves using liquefied or bottled fuels are allowed.
- Non-industrial chain saw use is prohibited, except as waived by the Forester. Current waiver allows power saw use until 1:00 p.m. in the afternoon, or after 8:00 p.m. in the evening. The following equipment must be provided with each power saw as a condition of the current waiver: a .023" spark arresting screen in good condition and fit; a long handled shovel and an 8 oz. or larger fire extinguisher; in addition, a

60-minute fire watch is required following power saw use.

- Use of motorized vehicles, including motorcycles and all terrain vehicles, is prohibited, except on improved roads.
- Possession of the following fire fighting equipment is required while traveling, except on state and county roads: one gallon of water or one operational 2-1/2 pound or larger fire extinguisher and one shovel.
- Use of fireworks is prohibited.
- Cutting, grinding and welding of metal is prohibited.

In addition, the Industrial Fire Precaution Level for forest operations moved to Level II on July 9. This level, commonly called a "Partial Hootowl", requires shutdown of certain activities between the hours of 1:00 and 8:00 p.m.

For current information, contact the Columbia City office of the Oregon Department of Forestry at 503-397-2636 or go to <http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/FIRE/precautionlevel.shtml>.

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Andersen said the Parks Committee understood at that time that there would be follow through on this, but it continues and she finds it distressing. The flagpole, though in a city park, is owned by the Vernonia Lion's Club.

Scott Laird told council that the Bicycle Skills Park is under development and that they just found out they received a \$245,000 State Parks grant, which will be used for Phase II of the project, thanks to Bill Hansen's work on the grant writing. The \$245,000 grant requires a city match of 40 percent (stated as \$123,000 though 40% of \$245,000 is \$98,000) in in-kind donations. Laird went on to say the city has two years to find funding to make that match. Phase I is already fully funded, according to Laird, after receiving \$15,000 in grants that don't require a match. A \$4,800 contract (part of received grants) for Ric Bal-

Hazardous waste collection on July 28

The July monthly Household Hazardous Waste collection will be held Saturday, July 28, 8:00 a.m. to noon at the Columbia County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Intake Facility at 1601 Railroad Ave., St. Helens, near Wal-Mart).

The HHW facility can accept the following items: Paints and stains; pool and spa chemicals; pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and poisons; motor oil, antifreeze and other automotive fluids; thinners and solvents; household cleaners and disinfectants; batteries; art and hobby chemicals; aerosol spray products; propane tanks or bottles from barbecue grills; fluorescent lamps and ballasts; mercury (ie., thermometers, etc.).

Unacceptable items include radioactive material; standard household garbage; explosives including ammunition; bio-medical waste.

Water-based latex paints, antifreeze, used motor oil and automotive batteries can be recycled at the Transfer Station anytime.

For more information about contact Columbia County Solid Waste Administrator Bill Potter at 503-397-7213.

four to continue as project manager was to be reviewed by the Parks Committee at their July 18 meeting.

Administrator Kline told council that he is working on converting the budget system to the new software, but does not yet have the payroll or bill paying portion ready to go.

Councilor Brett Costley reported to council that the gateway project did not overspend its funds. He said costs for the pocket park project were incorrectly credited to the gateway project, but this has been adjusted.

In other business, council;

- approved the second reading of Reimbursement District Ordinance changes required

due to scrivener's errors,

- approved transfer of \$18,100 in funds needed to lease two police cars with cameras,

- approved (with Costley voting nay) a letter to be sent to ODOT asking them to change the speed limit on Bridge Street, from Rose Ave. to the Rock Creek Bridge, from 25 mph to 20 mph,

- declared a 2001 Crown Victoria, used by the police, as surplus property for disposal,

- approved a request from Dana Roach of Black Bear Coffee Company to close the pocket park beside his business, during Jamboree, in order to keep beer and wine from leaving the area.

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