

Power of the People

By W. Marc Farmer,
General Manager,
West Oregon Electric Cooperative



Raising Money for Energy Assistance

The West Oregon Electric Cooperative staff is once again raising money for our Energy Assistance Program we call "Care to Share." Throughout the year we have a donations program where members can donate funds over the counter, purchase popcorn in the office, make arrangements to include a donation in with their bill, and participate in the Vernonia Community Garage Sale. All of the money raised goes directly to our "Care to Share" program, which offers energy assistance to our members.

On September 15, we will be participating in the annual Vernonia Community Garage Sale and will have a large sale in our truck bays at the Co-op building. We have a big selection this year which includes appliances, furniture, clothing, books, a smoker, tools, and many other items big and small. If anyone has items they would

like to donate, they can contact our front office to make arrangements. Our staff will be working at the sale and will have the popcorn machine going as well. We'd love to have you stop by and make a purchase or a donation. It's a great way to help a neighbor, friend, or fellow member.

Last year we raised over \$1,500 through all of our sales and donations. The funds raised were then donated for the experienced staff at St. Vincent de Paul to administer to benefit our West Oregon Electric members. This money will be kept separate from other funds at St. Vincent de Paul and will be for WOEC use only.

Those needing assistance are directed by our office to St. Vincent de Paul, who then determines who is eligible to receive funds. They are very supportive of our local communities and our members needs and we thank them for the great work they do and the benefits they provide. We experience first hand the struggles and difficulties that sometimes occur with our members and are pleased to be able to contribute in some way to helping those who need some assistance. We feel good about helping and supporting those organizations that are busy helping others. We hope you will, too.

Area square dance clubs offer lessons

Several nearby square dance clubs, members of the Tualatin Valley Council of the Oregon Federation of Square & Round Dance Clubs, plan to offer square dance lessons this month. The next round of lessons will start in January, 2008.

September lessons will be held at the following clubs:

Eager Beavers start Wednesday, September 19, at 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Beaverton Community Center. Contact Mary Johnson at 503-646-9731 for details and costs.

Fireballs starts Monday, September 24, at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Helens Senior Center. Contact Barbara Baer at 503-556-0068 for details and costs.

Hillsboro Hoedown starts Wednesday, September 26, at 7:30 p.m. at the Aloha Grange. Contact Heide Petrovsky at 503-430-8989 or Mike Duyck at 503-645-2414.

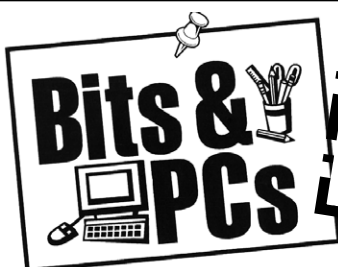
Sunset Promenaders starts Sunday, September 9 at 7:30 p.m. at the IOOF Hall in Hillsboro. Contact Kleve at 503-640-5140 or Tom Sminia at 503-848-3841.

4N8ers starts Monday, September 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the IOOF Hall in Hillsboro. Contact Rita Smith at 503-844-6699 or Shirley Mathews at 503-642-2341.

The instruction is for Main-

stream Square Dance. This includes the basic and mainstream steps danced by most of the area's clubs. It is introductory to and included within the next levels of dance, for example, Plus.

Dance instruction is available to all ages. The youngest member of one club is six and the oldest in another is 95. Families are welcome.



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Citizens can get a first hand look and practice with patrol, criminal investigations, and firearm safety. Participants learn criminal and procedural law, traffic law, and crime prevention. They will also learn about narcotics and DUII enforcement. In addition, students will tour the Columbia County Jail and the 9-1-1 dispatch center.

"Some of our alumni have moved into law enforcement or public safety careers, but the main purpose of the academy is to educate and reach out to the community," said Lieutenant Terry Moss, "Most important to us are the relationships we are building." The academy is a way for police and citizens to find realistic solutions to neighborhood problems.

Laurie Brownlow attended the academy in January and had this to say, "People need to get involved to help insure the safety of our community. It takes all of us."

The nine-week program is free and begins September 25. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older to qualify. Applications will be accepted as late as September 20.

Participation in the Academy requires a commitment of one night a week for the nine-week period. Classes will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. beginning September 25 and concluding on November 20. The classes will be held at the Columbia Learning Center located at 375 S. 18th Street, St. Helens.

Anyone interested may apply online at www.sthelenspolice.org or pick up an application at the St. Helens Police Department, 150 S. 13th Street, St. Helens, during regular business hours. Applications must be received by 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 20.

For more information please contact Lieutenant Terry Moss at 503-397-3333.

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NCUA

Location	Date	Time	Phone
Astoria	Sept 18, 2007	6 to 7 pm	325.1044
Clatskanie	Sept 11, 2007	6 to 7 pm	728.4321
Vernonia	Sept 13, 2007	7 to 8 pm	429.8031
St Helens	Sept 10, 2007	4 to 5 pm	366.1334

— CORRECTION —

In the August 16 issue, the Vernonia Logging Show results provided were incorrect: the Max Sword Sportsmanship award went to Forrest Harrison, not T.J. Braxton.