

Jobless? Applications now being accepted for two electrician apprenticeship programs

The NECA-IBEW Electrical JATC offers a five-year apprenticeship program, and the Limited Energy Technician JATC offers a four-year apprenticeship program. Both programs combine on-the-job training (OJT) and related classroom training. Oregon-Columbia Chapter NECA and IBEW Local 48 sponsor these programs.

If accepted into the program, apprentices are assigned to an electrical contractor for a minimum of 8000 OJT hours; there is no guarantee of 40 hours per week. Apprentices will complete a total of 10 terms (8 terms for Limited Energy Technician) of school for NECA-IBEW Electrical JATC; classes meet at the NECA-IBEW Electrical Training Center, 16021 NE Airport Way, Portland.

Costs for the programs include tools and books of approximately \$600 for the first year, less for later years. Scholarships may be available for the NECA-IBEW Electrical JATC program.

Descriptions of work performed and apprenticeship wage information is available online at www.nietc.org.

Applications will be accepted at the Electrical Training Center July 7-11 and July 14-18 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Applicants must bring photo identification, a non-refundable \$25.00 application fee (some waivers available), high school, GED or Associate Degree transcripts and all supporting documents. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age. A NJATC aptitude test will be scheduled

and applicant must receive a qualifying score when tested.

Johnson: Retirement has been elusive goal

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council has been working together, too. Johnson has come to some cities and found council in-fighting, but not here in Vernonia. That makes managing those relationships easier, he says.

Johnson, whose first official day on the job was June 3, expects to be in Vernonia for about seven months, and is fully prepared to help the city council start the hiring process to find the next city administrator. Then, maybe, he can finally get to try for more retirement, at least more than the two months of travel in New Zealand he's managed so far.

Oregon HEAT fundraiser to assist Vernonia area with energy bills

The Oregon Public Purchasing Association (OPPA) raised \$1,648 to support Oregon HEAT during OPPA's Annual Spring Conference & Exhibitor Showcase in Redmond last week. The money will provide energy assistance to the Vernonia area community impacted by devastating floods in December 2007.

Oregon HEAT is an independent nonprofit organization committed to providing emergency energy assistance to households in crisis through its statewide network of 34 partner agencies. Oregon HEAT's mission is to develop and coordinate resources to help low income Oregonians meet their energy needs and achieve energy self-reliance through energy education and advocacy.

OPPA hosted a silent auction and a 75/25 raffle during the conference, whose focus this year was on environmentally sustainable procurement issues. Conference attendees bid generously and raised \$1,109 on silent auction items donated by OPPA members and exhibitors. Raffle ticket sales raised another \$539; the winner of the raffle draw donated the 25 percent winning proceeds back to Oregon HEAT.

Founded in 1969, OPPA is an award-winning chapter of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP), a non-profit organization that supports public sector purchasing professionals. For more information about OPPA, go to www.oppaweb.org or call Gail Rubin at 503-239-5124.

Community Calendar

VERNONIA			MIST-BIRKENFELD		
Alcoholics Anonymous	Monday	6:30 p.m., 410 North Street	M-BRFPD Board Business Mtg.	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
American Legion Post #119	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m., 627 Adams Avenue	M-BRFPD Board Workshop	4th Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Arts & Crafts Society	2nd Thursday	2:00 p.m., City Library	M-B Ambulance Drill	1st & 2nd Thursdays	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Booster Club	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., VHS Library	M-B Fire Drill	1st & 2nd Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Boy Scout Troop 201	Tuesdays	7:00 p.m., Scout Cabin	M-B Helping Circle	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Boy Scout Troop 860	Wednesdays	7:00 p.m., LDS Church	M-B SAR Drill	3rd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Cemetery Beautification Comm.	2nd Thursday	6:30 p.m., City Hall	M-B Volunteer Assoc.	1st Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
CERT	4th Wednesday	For Info Call 503-429-3018	Natal Grange	2nd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., Natal Grange Hall
Chamber of Commerce	2nd Wednesday	For Info Call 503-429-6081	T.O.P.S.	Mondays	6:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Community Coalition	2nd Monday	12:30 p.m. School District Ofc.	Upr Nehalem Watershed Council	For date call 429-2401	7:00 p.m., Main Fire Station
Cub Scout Pack 201	Scout Cabin	For Info Call 503-429-4250			
Friends of the Library	1st Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Vernonia Library			
Girl Scouts, Neighborhood 4-2		For Info Call 503-819-0143			
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			
Municipal Airport Committee	4th Thursday	7:00 p.m., City Hall			
Narcotics Anonymous	Saturdays	7:00 p.m., 410 North Street			
Pioneer Museum		For Info Call 503-429-3713			
Public Works Committee	4th Tuesday	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	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 Wednesday	6:00 p.m., VLC			
Vernonia Parks Committee	3rd Wednesday	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			
BANKS			COLUMBIA COUNTY (All meet in St. Helens unless otherwise noted.)		
Alcoholics Anonymous	Fridays	7:30 p.m., Methodist Church	Board of Commissioners	Wednesdays	10 a.m., Courthouse
Alcoholics Anonymous	Wednesdays	7:30 p.m., Methodist Church	Citizens for Senior Justice	2nd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., Sunset Park Church
American Legion Post #90	2nd Tuesdays	7:30 p.m., Main Street Post	Columbia Soil & Water District	3rd Wednesday	7:30 p.m., NRCS, 2514 Sykes
Banks City Council	2nd Tuesday	7:30 p.m., City Hall	County Fair Board	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m., Fairgrounds 4-H Bldg.
Banks Fire District #13	2nd Wednesday	7:00 p.m., Station 13	County Parks Commission	3rd Monday	6:00 p.m., 1054 Oregon St.
Banks Library Commission	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Library	Mental Health Advisory Comm.	3rd Tuesday	10 a.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse
Banks Planning Commission	Last Tuesday	7:00 p.m., City Hall	Comm. on Children & Families	3rd Thursday	5:30 p.m. OSU Ext., 550 N. Hwy. 30
Banks School Board	2nd Monday	7:30 p.m., Jr. High Library	Local Alcohol & Drug Plann. Comm.	2nd Tuesday	3:00 p.m., 2nd Floor, Courthouse
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.			

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.