

College joins new computer system; eliminates four jobs

By PRISCILLA NORDYKE
Sun Staff writer

VICTORVILLE—Victor Valley College trustees have agreed to spend \$100,000 to join a "state-of-the-art" computer system.

The switch to services provided through a new computer system, managed by San Bernardino County also will mean the elimination of four positions, three of which will be replaced by more than 30 years combined service to the college district.

Barstow board president, said the elimination of the positions is unfortunate, but necessary to upgrade the college's data processing capabilities.

About \$60,000 will be saved annually by eliminating the positions, including that of Alice Kinzok, administrator of the

data processing program, said Dr. Howard Larsen, college president.

Larsen said the change-over is "cost neutral," but the college will have to purchase new equipment at about the same cost.

Between 40 and 50 percent of the amount to be paid by the college each year will go into escrow for the consortium to purchase new equipment in five years.

At that time, based on expected annual inflation of 5 to 6 percent, the college district will pay annual consortium fees of about \$230,000, Larsen said.

Barstow Community College District and the Apple Valley School District also have joined the program under the joint powers agreement, Larsen said.

Pinard said the board is "extremely pleased with the direction the college has taken in making VVC the computer learning center for the people and businesses of the Victor Valley."

Over the past several months the college district has spent about \$25,000 to computer equipment for administrative purposes.

"These machines will be integrated into the instructional program and the computer educational laboratory. Since the board resolution of two years ago to make the college a leader in computer education and training, a number of significant actions have been completed," Pinard said.

Among those, he said, are an open computer lab for students with 35 micro

computers and the "College for Kids" program for youths 9 to 17 years of age.

Pinard said the joint powers agreement will provide the college with expanded capabilities in the areas of student registration, business operations and personnel programs.

Trustee Caroline Stater commented on a recent Girl Scout tour of local businesses.

"The one thing that impressed the girls was the use of micro computers in the places they visited. A number of the scouts have been involved with the College for Kids course at VVC and they feel they are part of the computer age."

"So it's important that the college can continue to provide the latest in equipment and educational services for our

students going into the business world with experience in working with the latest equipment," Stater said.

Pinard said it is "ridiculous to train students on the old generation of computers that no one in the Victor Valley operates."

"We do not want any of the instructional programs whether it be automotive or computer technology, teaching how to make buggy whips when we are in the age of Lear jets," he said.

"It's important that all students work with the best and most modern technical equipment so that when they complete their training they are ready to enter the job market and make significant contributions as highly trained and skilled employees," Pinard said.

Centennial park's lease could be late for the celebration

BARSTOW—With inaugural events of Barstow's 100th anniversary celebration only 5% under way, there's some concern that a lease for a proposed Centennial Park may be late in time for the centennial kickoff.

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The draft was sent to the county's Special Districts Department on Friday for review, but Park Director Dave Meserve said a staff member who will study it begins a two-week vacation Monday.

"I've put in for a 25-year lease, with an option for renewal," he advised the park board and museum associations. The lease will be between Park and Recreation District, Chamber of Commerce, and Centennial Commission.

The park district's advisory commission gave its approval of a long-term lease of the park site to the Mojave River Valley Museum Association May 30. The museum plans a variety of exhibits at the site.

It has taken about three weeks for a rough draft of the proposed lease to be typed, park board members learned this week. The draft is based on a sketch for use as adjacent park land occupied by the museum.

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Staff photo by Chuck Muller

Committee plans events for Barstow's centennial

By CHUCK MUELLER
Sun Staff writer

BARSTOW—Special celebrations may be held on five separate weeks during Barstow's centennial year.

The Barstow Centennial Committee recently gave its conceptual approval to weeklong "points of interest" events to be held in September.

Other events include a winter celebration in January, a spring festival, a mid-summer program in conjunction with the city's July 4 Barstow Days, and a "grand finale" in September 1986.

Committee members also approved a series of month-long trips, planned by the Mojave River Valley Museum Association and Barstow College.

Jane Zetzelhach, museum spokeswoman, said two overnight outings are planned, as well as a lecture series on desert history and environment.

Committee member Alden Slivers suggested a major league baseball

game be considered as a sports event during the year.

He said the Pittsburgh Pirates plan to play a game here in 1958, and said, "Why not invite them to return, and perhaps play the Dodgers and the Yankees."

A proposal to put Barstow into the Guinness Book of World Records was outlined by committee member Pat Fox.

"Maybe we can bake a giant birthday cake for Barstow's 100th anniversary that will set a record," she said.

The committee endorsed Fort Irwin's organization day and open house, scheduled for Oct. 4, as a centennial event. Major Paul Luelbig, public affairs officer for the Fort Irwin Training Center, said the military post plans various activities during that day.

A centennial costume ball is planned Sept. 27, 1986, to celebrate the year's events. Kris Walmsley of Newberry Springs is chairman.

Just practice

Firefighters take on an intentionally set blaze in an abandoned Barstow house Friday as part of a test

'Lifeline' receives ten more emergency units

APPLE VALLEY—Civic organizations from throughout the Victor Valley have given "Lifeline"—a personal emergency response system—a life-saving boost.

Ten additional units have been supplied to augment 25 provided by the Apple Valley Pilot Club and St. Mary's Desert Valley Hospital.

Money for the purchase of the base station and the initial home visit was provided by the hospital, Lifeline's sponsor, said Nedra Murphy, a hospital spokesman.

Lifeline is a personal emergency response system, which subscriber wears a personal "buddy" button which, when activated by slight pressure, rings directly into the hospital emergency room.

"The beauty of this service is that it works 24 hours a day. The home unit includes a timer that is reset by depressing the reset button on the unit."

If the subscriber becomes unconscious or is otherwise unable to reset the timer, Lifeline automatically calls and starts the emergency response procedure for the subscriber, Murphy said.

Applications for units are reviewed by a committee and the applicant's physician.

Since the system was introduced in February, additional funding has been provided by the Pilot Club, Kiwanis clubs of Apple Valley, Hesperia and Victorville, the Rotary Club of Victorville, Apple Valley Federated Women's Club and the Apple Valley Lions Club.

The Independent Telephone

Pioneers Association has pledged to purchase a home unit and Continental Telephone Co. has followed with a pledge to pay the subscription fee for someone for a year.

Murphy said the Pilot Club has sponsored a fund-raiser and the Lions Club has sponsored a "Black-O-Ribs" barbecue to assist in the program.

The barbecue is scheduled from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 6 at 14357 Seventh St., Victorville.

More information on the barbecue is available from Pat Niekell at 242-6051 or Bill Maurer at 242-5763.

Hayden Foundation benefit set for July 7

PIONERTOWN—A western movie set at the Hayden Ranch will be the setting for the ninth annual Sandra Hayden Memorial Foundation benefit scheduled from noon to 6 p.m. July 7.

Attractions will include a sky-diving exhibition and performance by the U.S. Marine Drum and Bugle Corps.

Entertainment, a carnival midway, art show, stunt performance, auction, and turn-of-the-century luxury railroad car display also will be featured.

Admission is free. Steak and hamburger dinners will be available, said Gayle Anderson, a spokesman for the event.

Billed as a "free-recreated, free-wheeling celebration of the wild west," the benefit is expected to draw thousands of visitors to Pionertown, 60 miles north of Palm Springs near Hayden Valley.

The ranch, atop a rugged range of sawtooth mountains, was

built as a movie set by the late actor, director and producer Louis Hayden in the 1930s to film his "Judge Roy Bean" television series.

The movie set still holds Hayden's lifelong collection of movie memorabilia and artifacts of the old west.

It now forms the backdrop for the Sandra Hayden Memorial Foundation annual barbecue, which benefits a community resident suffering hardship because of a catastrophic illness or accident, Anderson said.

An art show will feature western crafts and new and collector's items will be offered for sale in the benefit auction.

Entertainment will include country music, Dixieland jazz and big band sounds. Anderson said.

The ranch can be reached by Route 62 from Yucca Valley north 4½ miles on Pionertown Road.

Public hearing set on trustee areas

BARSTOW—The San Bernardino County Committee on School District Organization has scheduled a public hearing Tuesday on a proposal to abolish trustee areas in the Barstow Unified School District.

The hearing will begin at 7 p.m. in the board room of the district's administrative office, 501 S. Avenue H.

Under the proposal, board members would be chosen on an "at large" basis.

People and places

New priest

TRONA—The Rev. Chester Kopeck of St. Marcellinus Catholic Church announced that the Rev. Pon Aranda will replace him on August 10 in September.

Aranda, who filled in for Kopeck when he was on vacation last summer, speaks English and Spanish.

Previous to a May 3 meeting attended by approximately 60 parishioners of the Catholic Diocese of San Bernardino was considering a part-time replacement.

Because of the interest shown and the comments made at the meeting, the diocese decided to supply a full-time bilingual priest.

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