

VHS Seniors Present Projects *continued from page 10*

she helped with paper work, gathering needed equipment and gear and observing. Although McCord says she is no longer interested in pursuing a career as a paramedic or dispatcher, she is still interested in the medical field and might pursue nursing or medical imaging.

Bridger Steward worked at Abundant Life Church camp in Clackamas with Dennis Gorton and learned about being an Executive Chef. Steward worked there for four days and helped prepare lunch and dinner for 400 people each



Bridger Steward

day. Steward says he helped make grilled cheese sandwiches, a taco feed, deli meat sandwiches and roast beef. Steward is no longer interested in becoming a chef, although he says cooking will always be a hobby. Following a summer of working outdoors for Northwest Youth Conservation Corp, Steward says he would like to pursue a career in Parks and Recreation or Fish and Wildlife.

Jerimiah Hammons restored a 1974 Dodge Swinger as his Senior Project. Hammons worked with his father to complete the restoration. He says the project took almost a year of work to complete. He had to deal with a lot of rust and body work, did some welding, painted and sanded numerous times because of the age of the vehicle, applied several coats of primer and then applied several coats of paint before the final coat and then several clear coats and a final polish. Hammons also had to clean and paint the trim and install a new windshield. Hammons says he learned a lot of

skills that he can use to buy, restore and re-sell cars for profit.

Laura Rice co-directed the Vernonia Ballet's "Nutmcracker" this holiday season with Jessica Davis. Rice has been a dancer in the local ballet for many years. For her project Rice helped sew costumes, painted backdrops, drew the artwork for the program cover, choreographed several dances and directed the two rehearsals and the recital. "It went well, but there were also a lot of little things that went wrong, like there always is," said Rice about her directorial debut. Rice says she would like to pursue a more reliable career, and plans to go into speech therapy, although she would like to continue in the dance field as a way to make money and have fun.

Felicia Schirmeister did a job shadow with a dental hygienist, Tina Rhett, at Gentle Dental in Hillsboro. Schirmeister's mentor let Felicia clean, floss and polish her teeth, so she had a chance to have a real hands-on experience. Schirmeister says she spent thirty-two hours working and observing with Rhett. She says this is definitely the career she plans to pursue and will begin work on her Bachelors Degree at PCC in the fall and hopes to finish at OHSU.

Jacob Medearis intends to pursue a career as a trombone soloist. He spent his time on his Senior Project working with Charles Reneau, the bass trombone player with the Oregon Symphony and also Medearis's private instructor. Medearis has participated in Honors Band programs as well as the Metropolitan Youth Symphony and has competed in



Jacob Medearis

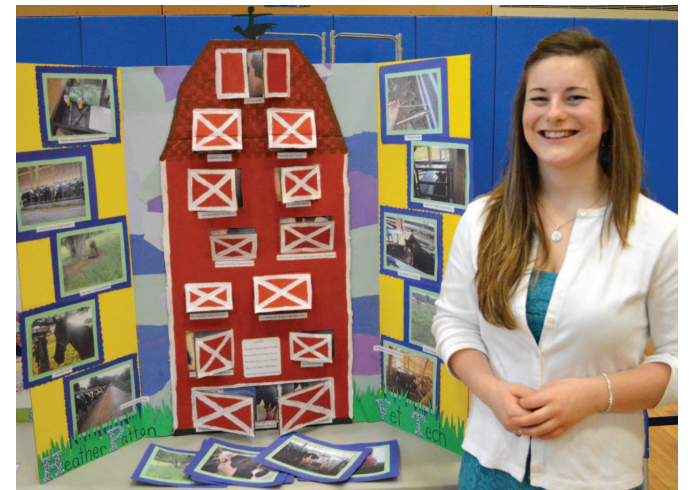
numerous solo contests. Medearis says he is learning how to better himself as a musician and how to perform in public. "I have loved music my whole life and really like to share that passion with others through my playing," says Medearis. Medearis is scheduled to go on a two year mission following graduation. When he returns he will likely attend Brigham Young University to study Musical Performance and hopes to continue his musical studies and earn a Masters Degree.

Mariah Cook created an imagined bakery business called "The Yummies" for her Senior Project. Cook says she watched several baking videos as a mentoring tool. She created a recipe book filled with favorite family recipes, many handed down from her grandma, and even provided samples of her work for visitors to her display. "The theme of my business was 'Baking Creates Memories,'" said Cook. "When you smell something like brownies it reminds you of a happy time." Cook did much more than bake numerous tasty treats.

She created an advertisement and business card for her business. She also chose an available building in Vernonia and spoke with a local bank about options for financing her project. "I learned a lot of ways to lower interest and a lot about finance in general," say Cook. "I learned that credit is like a reputation-it

takes forever to build but is easily lost." Cook says she learned she is not interested in pursuing baking as a career, but would like to continue as a hobby. She is very interested in teaching and music.

Heather Patton spent last summer in Virginia with her uncle who is a bovine specialist and also a professor at Virginia Tech University. Patton worked as a Veterinary Tech for her Senior Project. "I did a lot of interesting things, consisting of both the gory and the not so gory," said Patton. Patton says she assisted in surgeries, drained an abscess, castrated a bull, gave lots of vaccinations and helped treat pink eye. Patton says she would like to pursue a career in



Heather Patton

veterinary medicine, although she says she would prefer to not work with such large animals. She plans to attend college at either BYU or Southern Virginia University to major in Biology because her dream job is to do field research on animals or in botany.

BABY AND TODDLER TIME
SONGS, RHYMES, VERY SHORT BOOKS, TOYS AND BUBBLES!

STARTING MARCH 12TH
11:00 - 11:30
2ND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH
VERNONIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

FOR AGES 0-3, OLDER SIBLINGS WELCOME

1984 mist drive, po box 321 vernonia, or 97064

MIKE PIHL LOGGING CO., INC

Specializing in Private Timber
Free Estimates

503-429-1470
cell 503.789.1268
fax 503.429.0252
mplogging@frontier.com

Made In Vernonia
Bit of something handmade for everyone!

Store Closing
~ Final Day to Shop February 28 ~

805 Bridge Street
503-429-0111

Thurs 10-6
Fri 11-5
Sat 10-6