

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Dorena school celebrates — The Beat Goes On

Dorena School will be having a celebration fundraiser on June 3 at 5:30 p.m. Music will be provided by "The Fret Boys". Many fun family activities will be held and you will be contributing to the education and enrichment of Dorena students. There will be face painting, bounce house, plant sales, student performances and silent auctions for a bike, camping gear,

lawn mower, patio table and chairs, tools, and more.

### Caregivers to meet

Caregiver Network is meeting on Monday, June 6 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 1200 E. Quincy Ave. The presenter will be Linda Diaz speaking on services and products for the hearing impaired and on ways to help someone with hearing issues. Potluck will follow after this very informative and enjoyable presentation.

### 912 Project

At the Cottage Grove 912 Project's Monday, June 6 meeting, guests and members can hear Gordon Okumu, a Kenyan who has sought political asylum in the U.S. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. at Stacy's Covered Bridge Restaurant, 401 E Main St.

Okumu will share his personal history, discuss his 2015 run for political office and the threats made against him and why he has sought political asylum and his future plans.

## OFFBEAT

Continued from page 4A

and sitting on the table by the door. All that was left was to pick it up, walk to the car, and leave town.

Then there came a knock on the front door. It was Medford Police Constable George Prescott and Oregon State Police Sgt. James O'Brien. And they were there with a warrant for Banks' arrest.

Llewellyn Banks' wife, Edith, opened the door just enough to throw some papers out at the officers — papers intended to challenge the officers' right to make the arrest. Prescott stuck his foot in the door before she could close it. And then Banks came up behind Edith with his .30-06 and put a round into Prescott's chest.

Prescott, shot through the heart, died almost immediately. O'Brien retreated and called for backup. Dozens of cops swarmed the house, but a siege was avoided when Banks voluntarily surrendered into custody. He seemed utterly unrepentant and claimed to be confident that he'd be vindicated when the investigation was done — that he had been fully justified in "defending his home" from the marauding constable with his foot in the door.

The force of some 30 state police

officers now decided enough was enough and spread out through the streets of Medford with shotguns and tear gas and started rounding up Good Government Congress members.

Later investigation turned up evidence that Banks and his aides had actually made plans to kidnap the district attorney — the one official they hadn't been able to defeat at the ballot box with any amount of cheating — and warehouse him at a remote cabin in the hills, where he could be quietly killed if it came to that. They also had a contingency plan for launching an actual armed guerilla insurrection from the hills of Southern Oregon.

Banks was convicted of second-degree (unpremeditated) murder at the ensuing trial, and sentenced to life in prison. For the rest of his life, his family tried diligently and sometimes shamelessly to arrange for him to be pardoned. One state prison official was fired for allegedly accepting a bribe to advocate for him. But all the various governors approached by the family and its agents recognized a political suicide rap when they saw one and declined to help. Banks died in prison in 1945.

Fehl drew a four-year sentence for

his part in the ballot theft, and ex-sheriff Schermerhorn served three. Most other defendants were found guilty and were sentenced to various shorter terms.

At the end of the whole debacle, the Medford Mail-Tribune — the larger of Medford's two daily newspapers, which had, under the leadership of owner Robert Ruhl, kept a remarkably cool and level head throughout the crisis — received the Pulitzer Prize for meritorious public service in 1933. It was the first Pulitzer Prize won by an Oregon newspaper, and the Mail Tribune remains the smallest Oregon newspaper to have won one.

(Sources: LaLande, Jeff. "The Jackson County rebellion," Oregon Historical Quarterly, winter 1994-1995; Thorburn, Mark. "Llewellyn and Edith Banks Trial, 1933," law.jrank.org)

Finn J.D. John teaches at Oregon State University and writes about odd tidbits of Oregon history. For details, see <http://finnjohn.com>. To contact him or suggest a topic: [finn2@offbeatoregon.com](mailto:finn2@offbeatoregon.com) or 541-357-2222.

# Precautions urged to help save bats

Fungal disease devastating bats out east

White-nose syndrome (WNS) is a fungal disease that has devastated bat populations in eastern North America, killing an estimated six million bats since 2006. In March 2016, Washington's first case of WNS was confirmed 30 miles east of Seattle.

WNS is primarily spread by bat-to-bat contact. Pets, other animals, and humans and their equipment — including clothing, footwear, and gear — can transfer spores of the fungus to new locations. The disease is not known to pose a threat to humans, pets, or other animal species.

To avoid the spread of WNS, federal land management and state wildlife agencies ask that visitors to bat-friendly locations — such as caves, rock cliffs, buildings, talus areas, talus caverns, mines, or human-made structures — follow these important recommendations:

Whenever possible, avoid disturbing bats and entering areas where bats may be living. This includes abandoned mines, caves, and abandoned buildings and structures.

Do not handle bats, as they have reduced energy and fat stores in the spring following a lengthy hibernation. Some bats can carry the rabies virus, a deadly disease carried by less than 1% of Pacific Northwest bats.

Report sick, injured, and dead bats, or groups of bats. In Washington, report such findings to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at [www.wdfw.wa.gov/bats](http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/bats). In Oregon, report to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife at [http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/health\\_program/WNS/reporting.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/health_program/WNS/reporting.asp) or call the ODFW toll free line at 866-968-2600.

Prohibit dogs from accessing areas where bats may be roosting.

People who come into contact with areas where bats live should follow these steps to keep from spreading the WNS fungus:

Clean shoes and clothing of any dirt or mud before entering and after exiting a cave or climbing area, and change into clean clothing and shoes before entering a vehicle to leave.

Wear different footwear at each visit to a cave or climbing area, unless completely cleaned after each visit.

Wash hands and exposed skin after each visit to a cave or climbing area.

Wash clothing, hats, gear, and shoes worn in caves in hot, soapy water at 131°F (55°C) or hotter for at least 20 minutes. Clean equipment that cannot be washed with alcohol wipes if the wipes will not damage the equipment.

Wildlife agencies including the WDFW, ODFW, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service — along with land management partners the U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and U. S. Geological Survey — are cooperating in the response efforts with many other state, local, and private organizations.

Bats play an important role in a healthy environment and economy, eating tons of crop and forest pests and saving farmers billions of dollars each year.

Additional resources and information may be found at [www.whitenosesyndrome.org](http://www.whitenosesyndrome.org).

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**Dorian Perkey**  
Dorian Perkey is an eager new Real Estate Broker working at Territorial Land Company here in Cottage Grove. She may only have a few months under her belt but, what she lacks in experience is made up through a determination to succeed for her clients. Dorian is supported by 26 years of Real Estate experience from her Principle Broker and Father, Doug Perkey. If you are interested in owning a new home, or selling your current one, Dorian has the time and energy to devote to meeting your needs and exceeding your expectations. Visit the company's website [territorialland.com](http://territorialland.com) to learn a little more about Dorian, and also find out how to contact her for your buying or selling needs.



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**South Lane County Fire & Rescue has a position open on the Civil Service Commission.**


South Lane County Fire & Rescue services a 132 square mile area for Fire/Rescue/EMS services based on voter approved taxing rates, levies, and bonds equaling \$1.80/\$1000, beginning with fiscal year 2016-2017. The current voter approved permanent and levied rate is \$1.50/\$1000 of assessed property value, including a house and five acres within the District's boundaries. The District further provides advanced life support ambulance service to an area totaling 850 square miles. The area outside the District's 132 square mile area does not provide tax revenue. The District operates from four fire stations and staffs the Cottage Grove and Creswell stations 24/7, with a combination of career/resident and community volunteer personnel. The Saginaw station is staffed 24/7 with off duty residents and the Camas Swale station with community volunteers. The District is managed by the Fire Chief who reports directly to the five member Board of Directors. All other District personnel report to the Fire Chief utilizing a chain of command.

The district is seeking an individual who has the desire to contribute to ongoing efforts aimed at enhancing and improving Fire Services in the South Lane County community. Interested applicants must be at least 18 years of age, be an elector, or a property owner within the district.


The Civil Service Commission's primary responsibilities involve overseeing competitive examinations for Firefighters and Fire Officers on an as needed basis. The Civil Service Commission meets quarterly to comply with the provisions of the Oregon Revised Statutes.

Interested persons may secure an application from the Business Office Located at 233 E. Harrison Ave, Cottage Grove, OR 97424 or by going to our website at [www.southlane-fire.org](http://www.southlane-fire.org) or by calling the Office at 541-942-4493.

**All Applications due by June 8, 2016 at 5:00pm.**



**COTTAGE GROVE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE ROUND-UP**



**SATURDAY JUNE 4 • 8-2**

**SOUTH LANE COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE**  
233 HARRISON AVE  
COTTAGE GROVE

SPONSORED BY LANE COUNTY, THE CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE & South Lane County Fire & Rescue

**WHAT TO BRING:**  
Bring paint, household cleaners, lawn and garden chemicals, car care products, arts and crafts products, and just about any other household hazardous waste. The limit is 35 gallons of waste in total from each household. Check labels for words like flammable, corrosive, poison, caution, and danger. For your safety it is always best to carry these items in a separate compartment (like the trunk of your car) with secured lids to eliminate spills in transport.

**DON'T BRING:**  
Empty containers, drums, radioactive waste, asbestos, explosives or electronics. For information about disposal of radioactive waste, asbestos and explosives, call Lane County Waste Management Division at 541-682-4120. Up to seven (7) Covered Electronic Devices, CEDs. Can be recycled for free at any one time at these 6 Lane County Transfer Stations; Glenwood, Cottage Grove, Florence, Oakridge, Veneta, and Vida during normal operating hours. Also, Lane County accepts sharps, oil, antifreeze and batteries of all types year-round at all refuse disposal sites. Call 541-682-4120 for more information.

**What about hazardous waste from businesses?**  
Businesses which generate small amounts of hazardous waste may pre-register to bring that waste to this event. Businesses must pay for disposal of the waste, but most can save money by using this program, rather than hiring a contractor on their own. For more information about this program, call Lane County Waste Management Division at 541-682-4120.

**Year Round Collection Sites—Paint, Electronics, and Fluorescent Lamps**  
Paint, Electronics, and Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (and tubes up to 4 feet) are accepted year-round at various locations in Lane County through on-going collection programs. Check out the websites below to find a location near you, or call 541-682-4120 for more information.

PaintCare  
[www.paintcare.org](http://www.paintcare.org)

Oregon E-Cycles  
[www.deq.state.or.us/lg/ecycle](http://www.deq.state.or.us/lg/ecycle)  
1-888-5-ECYCLE (532-9253)

CFL Collection Sites  
List of Participating Lighting and Hardware Stores  
[www.lanecounty.org/lamps](http://www.lanecounty.org/lamps)

