

The INDEPENDENT

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Opinion

Seems like we've heard this melody

Looking at the "Summary Report," the Department of Environmental Quality's response to public comments at the DEQ hearing in Banks concerning the Bacona Road landfill site, creates a feeling of déjà vu: They changed the words, but sang the same tune.

In other words, there is no response to area concerns; only repetition of DEQ's stance that they know-it-all and anyone questioning their data is insufferably stupid. They even cited one of their own Wildwood studies as an expert reference - without mentioning the \$1 million wasted by Metropolitan Services District and DEQ during 7 years of study - wasted because their "expert" studies were fatally flawed and they finally had to stop trying to put a landfill on an active landslide!

That \$1 million was tax money that could have been put to better use if some of the overgrown egos at DEQ and MSD hadn't interfered with common sense.

That same egotism created one really interesting section in the Summary Report, however. In defending themselves from a charge that the leachate projection model was incorrect because it didn't include calculations of snow melt, the DEQ said:

"The point made relative to accounting for snow accumulation and snow melt does not apply to the analysis...Because data were unavailable...The average monthly temperature for Portland and the average precipitation values for Astoria were used. The (computer) program assumes precipitation to be snow only where the ambient temperature is below freezing (32 deg. F.). None of the...temperatures (in the program) are below freezing, therefore the model did not recognize snow accumulation...the lowest mean temperature (used) was 38.1 deg. F. for January. Thus, snow accumulation did not enter into the computations."

So now we know - the leachate projection model is correct - as long as it doesn't snow on Green Mountain, as long as the rainfall there doesn't exceed Astoria's, and as long as it never gets any colder than Portland.

That's some model!

Mistaken identity

A list of the people who testified at the DEQ hearing in Banks is printed at the end of The Summary Report mentioned above. This writer was one of the people who testified, but was identified as "Lonnie Anderson."

As much as I appreciate the compliment, few people would confuse me with the gorgeous actress; after all, I don't have blond hair.

Noni Andersen



Between the Bookends

By Sandy Nimz

Summer is almost here! It's hard to believe that another school year is coming to a close. This is a very important time to keep your young reader reading. We will be having a summer reading program at the library. If anyone in the program reads 10 books or more, he will receive a certificate from Governor Neil Goldschmidt and State Superintendent of School Verne Duncan.

Storytime for children 3-5 years old is a wonderful success. We are averaging 20 little bodies each Wednesday

morning. It's really nice to see so many young book lovers.

I will be starting a story time for older children, 6 and up, on THURSDAYS AT 4 P.M. in June. We'll start with a good classic and hope to finish it this summer!

Parents, check with me for a list of good books for independent summer reading.

Some new and exciting titles are: Danielle Steele's "Fine Things", Tom Clancy's "Hunt for Red October", Stephen King's "The Eyes of the Dragon" and Dean Koontz's "Watchers". We also have several new "How to build Your Deck or Patio"

books, and many new romance novels; just about anything you'll need to start your summer off right.

Many have asked to have the library hours in the paper. They are: Tuesdays, 1-5 p.m.; Wednesdays, 9-5 p.m. (including story time for 3-5 year olds at 10:30); Thursdays, 3-7 p.m. (including story time for 6 yr. olds and up at 4 p.m.); Fridays, 1-5 p.m. The library is open 20 hours a week.

REMINDERS: Sign up for our summer reading program! Please return over-due books!

See you soon! Keep reading....

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

The members of the Misty Meadows 4H Horse Club would like to thank our parents and members of the Ridge Riders who have helped in re-doing the horse arena at Anderson Park.

We would also like to thank all who have donated newspapers for the fund-raisers also.

Sincerely,

Preston Gibson, Reporter
Misty Meadows
4H Horse Club

To the Editor:

Citizens of Vernonia, be proud of yourselves! Your show of community spirit at the April 21 Bacona Dump testimony and hearing in Banks was sensational.

DDOVE wants to express its appreciation for your support and your contributions. The struggle is not yet over, though. We are \$12,000 in the red, and if the Bacona site is chosen, war will be declared, which will cost ad-

ditional megabucks.

Donations may be sent to H/MPC, Rt. 1, Box 507, Hillsboro, OR 97124, or may be dropped off at Vernonia Variety, 847 Bridge Street.

DDOVE

Roxana Sherman, President
Vernonia

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jim and Cathy Morrison for the fantastic job they did in organizing a work party for the little league park. Their tremendous effort has put the park very near completion, and they are continuing their efforts to finish the fields.

The work these people put forth has saved the city many thousands of dollars, and will allow many local youths to enjoy baseball this season.

Thanks again for a tremendous effort.

Bill Hawkins

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