Business Notes

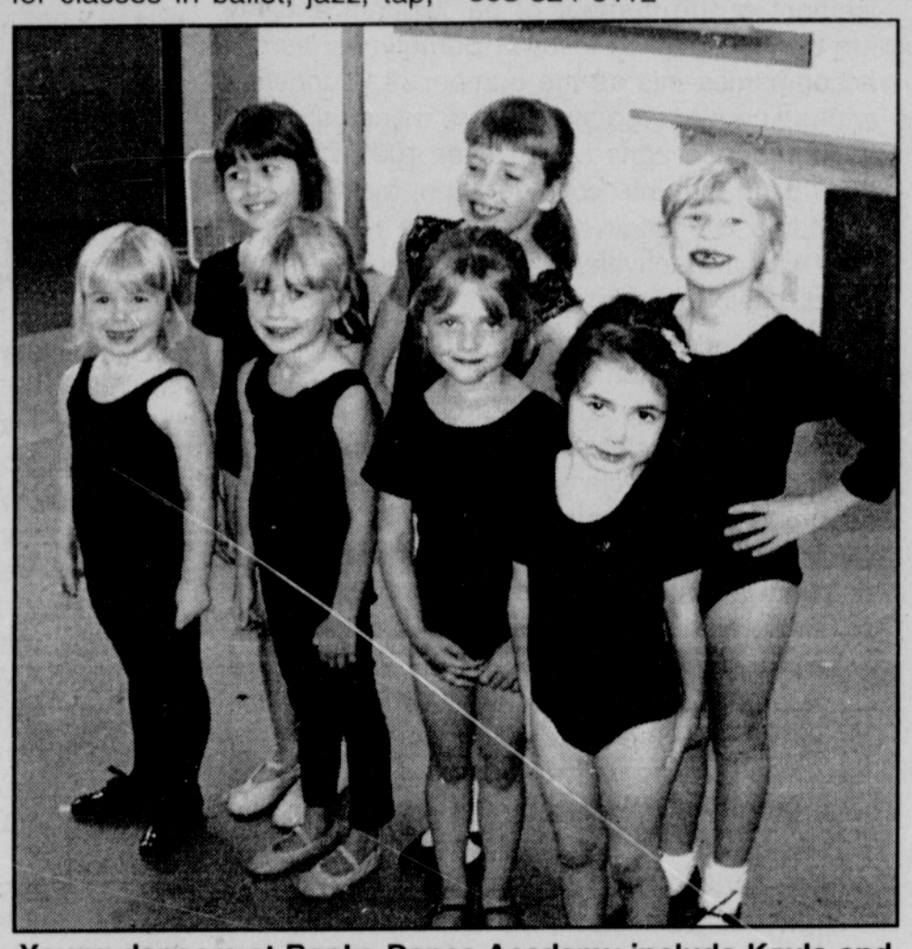
This was the scene in Hawkins Park Aug. 1 and 2 as General Motors Western Region used the Scout Cabin as a lunch and recreation break for two groups of automotive writers who were test driving two new GM utility vehicles. The poles and logs were in place for the Jamboree Logging Show on Aug. 4.

Banks Dance Academy

A professional dance school in a country setting is available at Banks Dance Academy on Sellers Road, just a short distance north of the Hwy. 47/Banks Road intersection.

Owner and head teacher Dian Punzel, and her staff, offer classes in ballet, jazz, tap, Celtic, hip hop and ballroom dance. Fall classes will begin Sept. 18 and run through the winter, culminating with a recital in June.

For further details, see their advertisement in this issue of The INDEPENDENT, or call 503-324-0112



Young dancers at Banks Dance Academy include Kayla and Karissa Bentley, Emma Coffey, Laura White, Brianna Shelton and Clara and Veronica Kiss.

Dr. Sole and Mr. Heel can mend your shoe problems

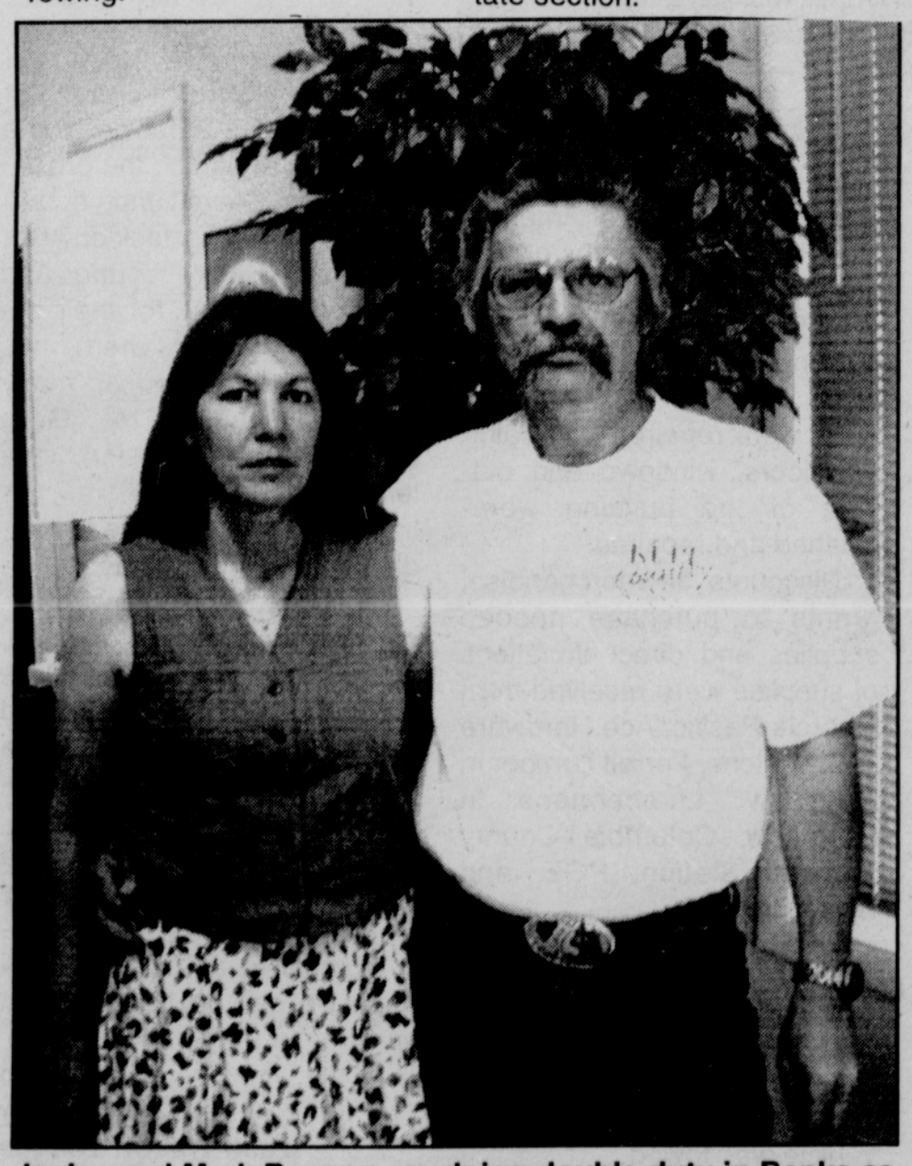
Mark and Janice Benson of "Dr. Sole & Mr. Heel" Shoe Repair, have their second location operating in Banks. They have another shop in Portland.

"We saw a need for this service in Banks and the surrounding communities," Janice said. Working his trade for a quarter of a century, Mark is a master craftsman in shoe and boot repair. In addition to repairing shoes and boots of all kinds, Dr. Sole & Mr. Heel offers repairs on all types of leather goods, some non-leather goods and orthopedic work. All work is guaranteed.

"Our goal is to have satisfied customers," Mark said, and there isn't much he can't repair. He recalled the time when a customer brought in several hiking boots that had been display items. All of the boots were lefts only. The customer wanted Mark to make pairs out of them. That meant turning lefts into rights. Using his supreme skills and some ingenuity, Mark accomplished the task.

Dr. Sole & Mr. Heel is located at 202 S. Main Street, across the street from Cop's Towing.

Janice Benson operates Benson Realty, L.L.C., from the same address, and serves as the designated broker in the local office. See their ads in the Service Directory and Real Estate section.



Janice and Mark Benson are doing double duty in Banks as they open two new businesses.

In the Service

Ryan C. Eberly

Army Pfc. Ryan C. Eberly has graduated from the chaplain assistant advanced individual training course at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

The course emphasized religious support, development of interpersonal skills and unit ministry support to soldiers and family members. The support training provided services in a battlefield environment and battle fatigue casualty care.

Religious support classes taught students to prepare altars for Protestant, Catholic, Jewish and Orthodox worship services and stressed the importance of being knowledgeable of all faith groups represented in the Army.

Eberly earned distrinction as an honor graduate.

He is the son of Earl C. and Joan M. Eberly of Banks, and a 1995 graduate of Beaverton High School.

Careful preparation underway for annual Hood-to-Coast relays

While 20,000 participants in this year's Hood to Coast Relay Race and Portland to Coast Relays Walk might be good news to area businesses, the addition of that many people – and up to 2,000 support vehicles – means added responsibility for local emergency management personnel.

In preparation for this year's August 24 and 25 event, law enforcement, fire, medical and relay officials have made contingency plans to help minimize the impact on local residents and emergency service providers, as well as to ensure the safety of relay particpants.

"Our number one objective is to maintain essential emergency services for local residents while, at the same time, providing medical support and traffic enforcement for those participating in the event," said John Clouse, Columbia County Emergency Management Coordinator.

St. Helens-Rainier RFPD and Mist-Birkenfeld RFPD personnel will be manning first aid stations at various points along the route, according to Ron Youngberg, Division Chief with St. Helens-Rainier RFPD. This will provide aid for relay participants while minimizing the impact on local emergency medical services, he added.

As with any large event, communications is a critical factor. The county-wide ham operators group, Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES), will be on duty again this year, to provide timely information to emergency service providers and relay officials.

The relays, which begin in the morning on Friday, August 24, will enter Columbia County on Hwy. 30 and continue through Scappoose until turning west onto Berg Road, wind-

Please see page 16

Country Kitchen & Pizza
BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER
Soup & Salad Bar • Pies & Pastries
"SOFT SERVE" CONES & SHAKES
Home of the Paul Bunyan Burger
Across from High School
OPEN 7 AM - 8 PM
Orders To Go
503-429-6523
DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Creative Impulse Espresso Bar & Deli
HOT, ICED & BLENDED DRINKS & TEA
PASTRIES • MUFFINS • COOKIES • BAGELS
SANDWICHES • SALADS • SOUPS • CHILI • CHILI DOGS
6' SUBS • DELI TRAYS AVAILABLE BY SPECIAL ORDER
We will close @ 2 pm on Aug. 24
Closed all day Sun & Mon of Labor Day Weekend
Nail & Tanning Appointments Available • Walk-ins Welcome
REG HOURS: Mon 5a-12:30p • Tu-F 5a-5p • Sa 7a-5p • Su 8a-2p • Deli opens 11a
854 BRIDGE ST., VERNONIA • 503-429-9011