

Business Notes

OWEB publishes a directory of watershed enhancement funding sources

On March 11, 2002, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) is releasing its new Oregon Watershed Enhancement Funding Directory on their website. The Funding Directory is a guide to federal and state funding sources for watershed protection and restoration. It provides general program information and several quick-search indexes based

on keywords like project type, eligibility, type of assistance and sponsor. The website address is www.oweb.state.or.us/directory/fundingintro.html

The intent of the Funding Directory is to help watershed councils, local government, private landowners and other Oregonians, find money to support their conservation efforts.

The Funding Directory profiles 80 different federal and state funding sources for activities designed to conserve or improve watershed health. Eligible activities range from restoration to educational projects and include a variety of issues such as native fish, invasive plants, erosion control and organizational capacity building.

In addition to offering a convenient means to identify appropriate federal and state financial aid, this website offers a Guide to Other Resources. OWEB and its partners created the Funding Directory and the Guide to Other Resources as an avenue for project coordinators to develop strong, long-term partnerships with state, federal and private entities. This was a collaborative project funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of

Land Management and OWEB.

The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) was created in 1999. OWEB is charged with funding local voluntary efforts to improve water quality and quantity, enhance habitat for critical fish runs, and restore watersheds to support local economies. Utilizing a combination of science, public input, partnership opportunities

and state and federal resources, OWEB accomplishes its mission in a way that also emphasizes the maintenance and strengthening of the economy statewide.

The greatest pleasure of a dog is that you may make a fool of yourself with him, and not only will he not scold you, but he will make a fool of himself too.

— Samuel Butler

Dep't of Revenue lists names of taxpayers who are owed refunds

The Department of Revenue is using technology to return money to more than 18,000 taxpayers. The department's web site, www.dor.state.or.us now lists the names of taxpayers who are owed unclaimed refunds. Most are kicker rebates, although some are from other tax programs the department administers.

When the postal service returns an undeliverable check, department staff searches for a new address. If a new address is not located, the name of the owner of the check is posted on the web site.

To receive their refunds, taxpayers whose names are on the list can complete a check request form, which is available on the web site, and mail it to the department.

"Just as it is important that we collect Oregon taxes, it is important that we get tax re-

funds to those who are entitled to them," said Elizabeth Harchenko, director of the Department of Revenue.

The department transfers unclaimed checks to the Unclaimed Property Program at the Division of State Lands after two years <www.statelands.dsl.state.or.us/upintro.htm>.



Fresh bicycle tire tracks in the snow on the linear trail bridge over Rock Creek illustrate local resistance to letting a March snowfall interfere with spring. In fact, the snow melted completely away by afternoon, except in some permanently shady areas.

Class scheduled on tractor safety

The State of Oregon requires all youth who operate tractor/farm equipment, other than on their own home, have a Tractor Safety Certificate. This can be obtained only through a certified program.

This year, Columbia County will be offering a program, with Mike Greisen as instructor. The program will be held in Scappoose over four nights, April 23, 25, 30 and May 7, at the Scappoose Fire Station, and all day Saturday, May 11. Practice will be held at a place to be announced.

To register, contact the OSU Extension office. The course will cost \$10.00, which includes material/program supplies and Saturday's lunch.

The INDEPENDENT is available FREE at the following locations:

VERNONIA:

The Independent office
Leonetti's Pizza & Grill
Triple S Saw Service
Vernonia City Hall
US Bank
Buds & Blooms
Midway Veterinary Clinic
The Lyon's Den
Bridge Street Antiques
New Hong Kong
The Spar Tree
Country Kitchen
Bridge Street MiniMart
Vernonia Federal Credit Union
Creatures
Creative Impulse
Lew's Place
Vernonia Inn
Vernonia Golf Club
Wilcox & Flegel

West Oregon Electric Coop.
Vernonia Public Library
Vernonia Hardware
Vernonia Realty & Insurance
Grey Dawn Gallery
Laundromat/Ray Pelster 4-Hair
Vernonia 76 Service
Carey's Create-a-Cate
Meyer's Auto Body
Gardener's Farm & Home
Napa Auto Parts
Vernonia Sr Citizens Center
Providence Family Medicine
Hair Parlour
Western Auto
Bridge Street Mall
Sunnyside Cafe
Out on a Limb/Storage Too
Gasoline Alley
Vernonia Packaging

NORTH PLAINS

A.M./P.M. Mini Market

BANKS:

Jim's Sentry Market
Main Street Pizza
Banks Fire Station
Banks Lumber Co.
Benson Mortgage
Gift Shop - Sewing
Banks Auto Parts
Banks City Hall
Bighorn Logging
Smarty Pants
The Brown Derby

Oak Village Laundry
Banks Hamburgers
Strassel's Auto
Cop's Feed
Sunset Laundry
Banks Billiards
Banks Police Department
Banks Public Library
Banks Hardware
Banks 76 Service
Lumberjack Farms

MANNING - HIGHWAY 26

Manning Market
Dairy Queen
76 Station
Hildegard's @ Timber Road

Ye Olde Dingheiser Tavern
Dairy Creek Tavern
Staley's

ELSIE-JEWELL

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Mini Mart
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