

# Hood to Coast Relays will be in Nehalem Valley Aug. 22-23

One weekend a year, the population of Columbia County

swells by fifty percent, as the annual Hood to Coast Relay Race jogs a diagonal path from Scappoose to Birkenfeld. This year's relay will be held August 22 and 23.

The event will bring 20,000 participants and up to 2,000 support vehicles into the area, which means added responsibility for local emergency management personnel.

In preparation for the 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 participants.

Since the St. Helens and Mist-Birkenfeld areas are the most impacted, the Columbia River Fire & Rescue District and Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire District will be providing most of the resources.

One of the biggest concerns is the ability to move emergency equipment through traffic clogged rural roads, especially in the Birkenfeld area, according to Mist-Birkenfeld Fire Chief Dave Crawford. "In recent years, the cooperation between Hood to Coast officials and participants and the fire districts has improved tremendously", Crawford said.

The ham operators group,

Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) will be on duty again this year to provide timely information to emergency service providers and to relay officials."

The relays will enter Columbia County at approximately 8:00 a.m., heading north on Hwy 30 through Scappoose, and turning west onto Berg Road. Winding past the County Fairgrounds and through Yankton, the course continues on Pittsburg Road, Schaffer Road and Apiary Road, until reaching Hwy 47. On Hwy 47, the runners/walkers will travel northwest to Mist, continuing on Hwy 202 to Birkenfeld and the final destination of Seaside. All runners/walkers should be past the fairgrounds by early Saturday morning and be entirely out of Columbia County no later than 1:45 p.m. on Saturday.

One concern is making sure drivers of the support vans are following traffic laws and the relay rules. Citizens who have complaints about relay vehicles or participants are urged to call the relay's 24 hour hotline at 503-913-5851. Callers will be asked the nature of the complaint and the team number of the vehicle, which is to be posted on the front and rear of the vehicle. Other information, such as the team name, the vehicle make and model is also helpful.

## Area students named to WOU Honor Roll

Stephanie A. Lardy of Buxton is one of 135 students who were named to the Western Oregon University President's List for the 2003 spring term.

Among the 643 students named to the Honor Roll were Edith E. Nelson of Vernonia, Robert T. Kent, Lori M. Orłowski, Sara M. Riggle and Nicole M. Scharlepp, all of Banks.

President's List students achieved a perfect 4.0 grade point average, while Honor Roll students earned a 3.5 to 3.99 average.

## Vernonia woman on OU Dean's List

Among the nearly 1,900 University of Oregon students named to the deans' lists for scholastic achievement during spring term of the 2002-2003 school year, is Hadassah Elizabeth Galey of Vernonia, a sophomore international studies major.

UO deans' lists are compiled for fall, winter and spring terms

during each school year. All undergraduate and postbaccalaureate students, including National Student Exchange students, are eligible.

To qualify, students must have completed 12 or more graded credits for the term with a minimum grade-point average of 3.75 on a scale having 4.0 as a straight-A average.

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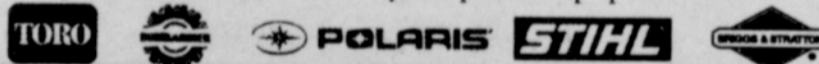


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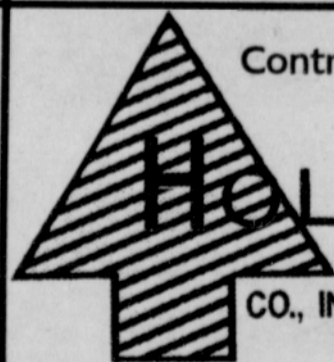
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