Banks needs person for school board

Banks School District board met briefly July 12 to pass the resolutions necessary for district operations and to discuss action that the board will take following the August recess.

Superintendent search process explained

Superintendent Marilyn Mc-Glasson outlined the time-line for the search for her replacement. John Young, from the Oregon School Board Association, will make a presentation to the board in October, outlining in detail the process of selecting a new superintendent. The job will be posted from December 1 to February 1, with the expectation that a new superintendent will be named at the

April board meeting, and will be able to step into the position July 1, 2005.

Appointing a superintendent is arguably a school board's most important job and is the sole responsibility of the board.

The board must also seek a replacement for Joe Evers, a long-time board member who has resigned following his move out of the district. The remaining board members (Doug Nordholm, Willis Meeuwsen, Duane Lundsten and Gene Kelly) agreed that the open position should be filled as soon as possible so the board will be at full strength to begin the superintendent search process. School boards may fill a vacated term by any means they

choose. Board members will discuss candidates whose names are brought to the September board meeting. Whoever is appointed to fill the oneyear remaining in Evers term will be required, by law, to run for election at the end of the term of office next year.

McGlasson thanked the City of Banks for two donations of \$5,000 each to the district. The city's donations will help underwrite the cost of Outdoor School and will provide funds to help complete the Youth Activities Facility.

Banks Bar-B-O and Tractor Pull will be coming up soon – August 21 - 22

The 59th Annual Banks Tractor Pull, Combine Demolition Derby and Bar-B-Q will take place this year on August 21 and 22 at Sunset Park in Banks.

Activities will include the tractor and pickup pulls, parade, dance, beer garden, barbeque, and the Lions Club breakfast on Sunday.



Two-Buck Tuesdays will be bargain days at the zoo

Dust from gravel roads harms crops

Do you drive on gravel roads? If you do, you are likely contributing to almost one million dollars damage per year to our agricultural community.

Washington County recently completed an "Agricultural Dust Damage Assessment" at the request of th Rural Road Advisory Committee. This committee advises the county on which roads should be reverted to gravel and has been researching the problems related to dust control.

The report indicated that crop damage is most persistent within 10 feet of the roadway and may be assumed to sustain a total loss. Dust damage may promote the proliferation of pests such as spider mites and pineleaf scale. Both insect pests attack distressed plants by feeding on a plant's fluids

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and can eventually kill the plant. The dust on growing Christmas trees therefore is not just a cosmetic problem.

If the gravel roadways were covered in a chip seal process, the cost is estimated at over five million dollars. Maintenance costs would be additional.

The counties, Dept. of Agriculture, legislators, the Dept. of Transportation, OSU Extension, Farm Bureau, DLCD, Agri Business Council, Metro, and ODOT received copies of the report in the hope that together, they can address the rural road infrastructure and assist the agricultural industry. How can you help? Please drive very slowly if you have to use a gravel road. Your local farmers will appreciate you and your mechanic will too.

Oregon Zoo admission will be \$2 per person on the second Tuesday of every month beginning August 10. Visitors can tour the zoo during regular zoo hours for only \$2 per person. Children under three years of age will, as always, be admitted free of charge.

The discounted admission is a shift from the "Free Tuesday" policy, which allowed admission without charge on the second Tuesday of every month, but only from 1:00 p.m. until closing. Due to safety concerns and poor visitor experiences, zoo management chose to charge a nominal fee and extend the discount for the entire day.

Problems developed with the free policy, Oregon Zoo Director Tony Vecchio explained. "Cars were lining up in both directions on Highway 26 by noon, causing traffic problems for several hours," he said. "Even if everyone took advantage of light rail, the logistical problem of getting the large volume of visitors through the gate created a less-than-positive experience for staff and visitors." Visitors also complained that they were unable to get close to exhibits due to the crowds.

The zoo expects visitors to take advantage of the discount throughout the day, decreasing the problems.

In addition to Two-Buck

Tuesdays, the zoo offers a 20 percent discount on admission and train rates for any group of 20 or more paying visitors, when one payment is made for the entire purchase. School group rates, with advance reservations, are available for \$3 per student. Zoo membership rates begin at \$39, which includes unlimited year-round admission.

On days other than Two-Buck Tuesday, general admission is \$9 (12-64), seniors \$7.50 (65+), children \$6 (3-11), and children under 3 are free. Additional information is available on the zoo's Web site at www.oregonzoo.org or by calling 503-226-1561.



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