

# Wash. Co. Cultural Summit on Feb. 23

Members of the Washington County arts, cultural and heritage communities are invited to attend a Cultural Summit on Friday, February 23, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the Glenn and Viola Walters Cultural Arts Center, 527 E. Main Street, Hillsboro (corner of Fifth and Main, three blocks from the Hillsboro Central MAX Station). The Summit is sponsored by the Washing-

ton County Arts, Heritage and Humanities Coalition (WCAH-HC). The Coalition will open its 2007 grant cycle on February 26th. Information on grant priorities will be discussed at the summit. In addition, representatives from a variety of arts and cultural organizations, such as the Regional Arts and Culture Council, the Oregon Cultural Trust, the Oregon Arts

Commission and the Beaverton Arts Commission, will be on hand to discuss grant opportunities, event opportunities, continuing education workshops and cultural tourism. Light refreshments will be served.

View the Washington County Cultural Plan, at <[www.westsideculturalalliance.org](http://www.westsideculturalalliance.org)>.

# Help the homeless – donate items

In January 2006, more than 1,100 homeless children and adults resided in Washington County. Connecting homeless persons to services and involving citizens in the work to end homelessness is the goal of Washington County Project Homeless Connect.

On February 28, volunteers from the community, in collaboration with nonprofit, public, and private agencies, will host a one-day Project Homeless Connect event to provide critical services and resources to people who are homeless and/or desperately poor. Services will include medical, dental and vision exams, prescription glasses, legal advice, help applying for financial assistance, employment counseling, transportation guidance, domestic violence consultation, haircuts, pet care, energy assistance, and housing information and referral.

Project Homeless Connect will be held at the National Guard Armory, 848 NE 28 Avenue, Hillsboro (across from the Hillsboro Airport).

How can you help? Donations of time, funding, and/or personal items including tarps, blankets, sleeping bags, hygiene items, etc. are being accepted. NW Medical Teams Van will be available, but dentists and dental hygienists are needed to staff the event. Anyone can volunteer to help serve food or assist. To volunteer your time, or for more information on how you can become involved in this community event, go to [www.handsonwashingtoncounty.org](http://www.handsonwashingtoncounty.org) and click on the red/blue logo for "Washington County Project Homeless Connect" or call event coordinator Kim Krohn at the Good Neighbor Center Shelter, 503-443-6084.

# Banks set to begin search for new city engineer

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velop the charges. Parati estimates this will take two weeks and will cost less than \$3000.

Previously, council decided not to continue with Parati, (formerly LDC engineering) as the city engineer. As a result, the city needs to conduct a request for qualifications to find a new city engineer. Mayor Teri Branstitre presented a copy of a recent RFQ used by the City of North Plains. Council agreed to modify and use the model presented.

Lucas spoke to council about adopting an e-mail policy soon. He explained that, if the city doesn't have a system in place to capture all public e-mails sent and received by city staff and councilors, a situation could arise where the individual's personal computers could be subpoenaed.

Mayor Branstitre told council about improvements for city hall, including carpet cleaning, electrical updating, and installation of an ADA compliant front door. These are all included in

the budgeted.

The city is starting budget preparations for the next fiscal year. Council appointed City Recorder Jolynn Becker as the city's budget officer. She will prepare the proposed budget. The Budget committee will meet four times from March until May. The budget committee includes the councilors, mayor and eight community members. Branstitre asked the councilors to consider committee members so they can be appointed next month.

# Families not using available tax credits

**From page 12**  
runs \$480 a month and \$865 in a child care center. (Rates vary for different types of care and in different areas of the state.)

Nemmers' agency launched the campaign after learning that many families do not apply for the tax credit benefits. According to Nemmers, the IRS estimates that at least 20 to 25

percent of taxpayers leave thousands of dollars on the table just from the federal Earned Income Tax Credit alone. "Many families are not aware of the tax credits or don't know where to find help preparing their taxes," Nemmers said.

To get the word out, the Network has distributed to Oregon radio stations public service an-

nouncements that feature Governor Ted Kulongoski. Summaries of the tax credits and sites where families can find free tax help are listed on the Network's Web site at [www.oregonchildcare.org](http://www.oregonchildcare.org), and callers may obtain general information about the credits by calling the Network's toll-free line, 800-342-6712.

# Tips given for back country trips

**From page 13**  
an outdoor store or talk with your health care provider about what is appropriate to carry for you and your family.

Carry these other essentials, whether on a day hike, road trip or sea kayak adventure:

- Shelter. It can be as simple as a tarp, nylon poncho, cagoul (a long waterproof, oversized rain coat affair used by climbers), or as elaborate as a tent. Even a couple of big plastic garbage bags can save a

life.

- A portable shovel. You can dig out a stuck vehicle, make a snow cave, snow trench or dig someone out of an avalanche with a shovel.

- File a trip plan with a friend, family member or, if climbing or traveling in the back country, with the appropriate authorities.

Source: *Cecelia Haack, M.S. OSU Extension Faculty Nutrition Educator*

# State forest plan

**From page 5**  
Annual operations plans identify and describe specific projects such as timber sales, road maintenance, stream enhancement and recreation projects on state-managed public forests.

Annual operations plans are available at each district office, area ODF offices in Forest Grove, Roseburg and Prineville, at Salem headquarters, Please see page 23



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