

# Banks City Council presented with 2007 Tree City Award by ODF

It was standing room only at the April 8 Banks City Council meeting. The scheduled meeting was preceded by an executive session, then a work session to discuss the city's park management agreement and the public hearing process. The regular meeting began at 7:30 p.m.

Eric Perkins, Oregon Department of Forestry – Forest Grove Branch, presented the Banks Tree Board and the city with the 2007 Tree City Award. According to Perkins, to qualify for the award, the city must adopt a tree care program, establish a tree program, \$2 per capita must be paid toward trees, and the city must hold an Arbor Week Ceremony. Perkins said that “the city should be proud of this accomplishment - there are only 3,800 Tree Cities nationwide with 48 of those Tree Cities in Oregon.”

Perkins presented the city with t-shirts, hats, stickers, a 1998 replacement Tree City flag and a 2007 Tree City flag. A decision on where to hang the Tree City flags will be on the Council agenda for next month.

Mayor Teri Branstittre proclaimed April 25 as Arbor Day and read the City of Banks Arbor Day Proclamation, as follows:

*Whereas in 1872, Mr. J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special Arbor Day date be set aside for planting of trees – 2008 is the 136th anniversary of Arbor Day. In celebration of this effort, the citizens are invited to*

*attend a tree-planting ceremony at the Banks School District Offices at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, April 25.*

Branstittre proclaimed April 22 as Earth Day and supports community wide activities and events that remind us of our connection to the earth and our responsibility to conserve our environment. She also encouraged all citizens, businesses, organizations, schools, clubs, congregations, neighborhoods and families to participate in community Earth Day activities, and to engage in environmentally sensitive activities. There will be a doggie clean-up Earth Day activity in Greenville Park on Tuesday, April 22 at 10:00 a.m. Dr. Steve Vrendenburg of Banks Veterinary Service donated an all-weather, green aluminum outdoor Mutt Mitt Dispenser, that will be hung in the park.

Deputy Tran reported that there were 37 calls for service in February, four arrests, and 31 citations issued. In March, there were 21 calls for service resulting in 6 arrests; 62 vehicles were pulled over for speeding, resulting in 17 citations.

Tran explained a computer presentation which graphed the annual police activity in Banks. The data broke down to 514 calls for service, 489 traffic stops, 159 written police reports, 99 citations and 43 arrests. The top two, mostly juvenile-related crimes, were criminal mischief (28) and theft (22),

with 15 assaults, seven trespasses, seven frauds, five sex crimes, three DUIs, three burglaries, and two harassments. Tran said that “Jim’s Thriftway gets hit really hard at lunch time” with kids stealing. He added that criminal activity in the city has mellowed out since the sheriff’s office has had the contract to monitor the city, and that most of the undesirable folks who lived in Banks seem to have moved away. Tran still has concerns but, “speed seems to be the real issue in the City of Banks.”

Sheriff Rob Gordon and Pete Morris made a presentation on Senate Bill 111, which requires municipalities to establish a Use of Deadly Force Policy, and requires counties to form advisory panels to develop a standard county-wide policy.

Gordon said that part of the plan deals with the discretion of the District Attorney’s (DA) statutory and constitutional duty in deciding whether to immediately empanel and present the matter of use of deadly physical force to a grand jury. In Washington County, the DA will

review the Major Crime Team’s investigation and then decide whether to present the case to a grand jury; the timing of the decision will be when he feels there is sufficient information for a competent decision.

Washington County D.A. Bob Hermann does not believe that a grand jury is needed immediately after the use of deadly physical force. Gordon said “I appreciate our DA’s stance on that; it’s a brave one.” When council asked Gordon if he thought the plan was a good

**Please see page 14**

## Library Plant and Book Sale, May 2 - 3

The annual Plant and Book Sale sponsored by the Friends of the Banks Public Library will be held for two days next month, on Friday, May 2, 3-7:00 p.m., and Saturday, May 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. It will be held at Banks Public Library, 111 Market Street.

Books for all levels of readers will be offered for sale, as well as some videos, magazines and other materials. Items for sale will come from donations and from library withdrawals. A wide selection of

reasonably priced plants will be available, including vegetable starts, annuals, perennials, herbs and trees. Master Gardeners will be available to answer questions.

The Plant and Book Sale is a good place to pick up plants for your garden and books for summer reading. It is also a major fundraising activity for the Friends of the Banks Public Library.

Funds raised by the Friends are used to purchase best-sellers and current titles, CDs,

DVDs, equipment and programs for the Library throughout the year. The Friends also fund a weekly story time for preschool children, a summer reading program for early readers through teens, and provide books for the Banks Community Auction.

For more information, call Margaret Holland at 503-324-7148, or email mholland9@verizon.net, or call the Banks Public Library, 503-324-1382.

### Affordable Tuition for an Excellent Education

Now Enrolling for 2007 - 2008  
**Banks Christian Academy**  
 Established since 1983



Challenging academics, Christian values and small class sizes.

- Preschool (3 & 4 yrs.) – 8th Grade
- Before & After School Care
- Languages, Music, Art & Computers
- 3 or 5 Full Day Kindergarten
- Many Educational Field Trips
- Transportation Vernonia/Banks

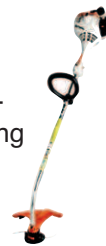
22785 NW Fisher Rd. Buxton 97109  
 503-324-4500  
[www.bankschristianacademy.org](http://www.bankschristianacademy.org)

## Are you ready for a **STIHL**®?

Trimmers Starting at **\$139<sup>95</sup>**

### FS 45 TRIMMER

Low cost, homeowner trimmer. Lightweight with dual line, TapAction™ AUTOCUT® cutting head and easy-to-service air filter. Primer bulb and starting throttle lock.



### FS 55 Bike Handle Trimmer & FS 55 R Trimmer

Occasional User  
 A primer bulb and starting throttle lock assure fast, reliable starts. STIHL PolyCut™ heads and metal grass blades.



### FS 90 Bike Handle Trimmer & FS 90 R Trimmer

Professional User  
 This professional trimmer features the low emissions 28.4 cc\* engine. It has a solid driveshaft and offers the end user more flexibility with a choice of cutting attachments.



### FS 110 Bike Handle Trimmer & FS 110 R Trimmer

Professional User  
 Revolutionary new engine design is powerful, lightweight and fuel efficient. Professionals will appreciate the fast acceleration and cutting torque. The engine meets EPA emissions standards.

## PRECISION OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT

**Banks Hardware**

503-324-5221 • 150 N. Main Street, Banks



Mon - Fri 8am to 6pm  
 Saturday 8am to 5pm  
 Sunday 10am to 4pm