Superintendent Ott sets retirement date Grandparents raising kids get day

Chairman Duane Lundsten opened the school board meeting March 9 by recognizing Superintendent Marv Ott, who announced that he would be retiring at the end of the school year. Ott said that he had enjoyed his stay in the community and the opportunity to work with great staff and students. Later, when the board reached the agenda item for discussion on the superintendent's evaluation, Lundsten said that it wasn't necessary because of Ott's decision to retire.

On a lighter note, elementary principal Bob Huston introduced three fourth grade students, Zach Montero, Antonio Franco and Grace Slaughter. They each read aloud an original essay on, "If I was President?" All of the readers received a round of applause. Huston introduced Trevor Geraci a third grader participating in "Take the Initiative", a project to encourage self-directed learning. Geraci proceeded to amaze and astound by reciting, in order, the names **Please see page 14** "In Oregon, over 20,000 grandparents have stepped forward to raise children because their parents struggle with drug and alcohol abuse, incarceration, HIV/AIDS, mental illness, domestic violence, divorce, unemployment or military deployment," noted Deborah Letourneau, Program Coordinator for Washington County's Family Caregiver Support Program of Disability, Aging **Please see page 21**



The Banks Chamber of Commerce welcomes Maddie Kay's Café back to Banks after a twoyear absence. The Café is open Tuesday through Sunday from 6:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. with a full lunch and breakfast menu. Pictured is Chamber Director Ray Deeth; employees Kristina Beard and Vicky Carpender; owner Tara Francis; Chamber President Debi Wyckoff; Chamber

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Ambassador Kathy Douglas and City Manager Jim Hough. Photo provided by Banks Chamber of Commerce.

