

Where to Find Them

U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (Dem)

1220 SW 3rd Avenue, Suite 585
Portland OR 97232
Phone: 503-326-7525
223 Dirksen Senate Ofc. Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510-0001
Phone: 202-224-5244
E-Mail: <http://wyden.senate.gov/contact>
Website: <http://wyden.senate.gov>

U.S. Senator Jeff Merkley (Dem.)

One World Trade Center
121 SW Salmon St., Suite 1250
Portland, OR 97204
Phone: 503-326-3386
107 Russell Senate Ofc. Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-3753
E-Mail: <http://merkley.senate.gov/contact>
WebSite: <http://merkley.senate.gov>

U.S. Representative David Wu (Dem) OR District 1

620 SW Main, Suite 606
Portland, OR 97205
Phone: 503-326-2901
2338 Rayburn House Ofc. Bldg.
Washington, DC 20515
Phone: 202-225-0855
Website: <http://house.gov/wu>

Senator Betsy Johnson (Dem) Senate District 16

PO Box R,
Scappoose, OR 97056
Phone: 503-543-4046
900 Court St. NE, S-314
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: 503-986-1716
E-mail: sen.betsyjohnson@state.or.us
Website: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/johnson>

Representative Brad Witt (Dem) House District. 31

21740 Lindberg Road,
Clatskanie, OR 97016
Phone: 503-728-4664
900 Court St. NE, H-373
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: 503-986-1431
E-mail: rep.bradwitt@state.or.us
Website: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/witt>

Representative Deborah Boone

(Dem) House District 32
PO Box 926
Cannon Beach, OR 97110
Phone: 503-717-9182
900 Court St. NE, H-375
Salem, OR 97301
Phone: 503-986-1432
E-mail: rep.deborahboone@state.or.us
Website: <http://www.leg.state.or.us/boone>

An Oregon Perspective

By Senator Jeff Merkley



Taking Back Our Economy

The reach of last year's economic collapse has extended far beyond Wall Street. Because of the bad bets made by the big banks, thousands of Oregonians have lost their homes and hundreds of thousands more have lost their jobs.

It seems obvious that our financial system needs significant reform and increased transparency, but the industry is just as freewheeling and unregulated as it was before crashing our economy.

And, astonishingly, many of the Wall Street banks – the same banks that taxpayers bailed out over the last year – have spent millions deploying lobbyists to Washington to weaken or stop any real reform of our financial system. They prefer to continue setting their own rules and relying on American taxpayers to pay for the huge risks they take.

Failing to restore accountability and trans-

parency to our financial system is like cleaning up the wreckage of the pile-up on the highway, but not putting in place the road signs to prevent it from happening again. If we continue to rely on the same flawed regulatory system, we're setting our economy up for future financial failure.

We have to take action to make our financial system work for middle-class families and small businesses again. Starting this week, I'll be joining my colleagues in the Senate Banking Committee to move forward on a package of reforms to do just that.

I'll be fighting to make sure that the bill we send to the president includes a Consumer Financial Protection Agency to weed out the tricks and traps often incorporated into consumer financial products.

To be effective, the reform bill also has to include stronger regulations of complex transactions like derivatives trading, and the means for regulators to stop firms from becoming "too big to fail" and bringing down the entire system.

Oregon families are still hurting from the damage done by the big Wall Street banks. It's time to fix the financial system to make sure the banks can't turn around and gamble the American economy into another economic crisis.

Ike Says . . .

From Page 2

ored hillside.

I was still shaking, my rifle scope had fogged up and I had to wipe it with my shirt; my glasses were in about the same shape. It was the perfect environment for fogged glass – a hot body and cool foggy weather. I got my trusty rifle cradled in my shooting sticks and settled down on the old bull. I had already used my range finder to know the distance, and then the old brain had to calculate the drop. I figured as long as I held just inside the top of the bull's back I would be successful.

As my rifle recoiled, I lost sight, but heard the smack of my bullet hitting home, and regained sight fast enough to see the bull crumple right in his tracks. I was actually a little alarmed by this, most times a bull falls in his tracks only from a spinal or brain shot, but if the bullet had just clipped a spinal process, the bull could soon be on his feet. The bull was strug-

gling a little and I sent two more rounds his way to quiet him. Finally I was satisfied that the bull was not going to get up and made my way down to him.

When I got close enough to see antlers my heart sunk; all I could see was a stub of an antler sticking up and then a brow tine; it looked like this bull only had 2pts! Then I noticed a big club-like drop tine, well he was a legal bull, but not what I had seen. When I got closer, I could see the antler on the ground was a full 6pt., whew! My first shot had struck the bull high and had basically broken his back, besides going through both shoulders.

I attached my punched tag and got to work gutting and skinning the bull. I actually had cell phone coverage in my spot and made a couple of calls, one to my hunting partner who was a couple of miles away. Then it was back to the pickup and the pack board and axe, I would start packing the bull up closer

to the road. When I got back to the pickup I discovered I hadn't placed my axe in the pickup! Oh well, I would pack the two forequarters up the hill and take one out; I could do that with my knife. I finished packing both forequarters up to the road and made the first round out with my bike. Once I got the back to the pickup I decided, heck, that wasn't too bad, I would go get the other forequarter.

About half way back up the hill, my cell phone went off, it was Marshal, my hunting partner. I asked him what he was doing? He replied, "Oh just sitting here looking at the bull I just shot!" When it rains it pours!

Have a safe and merry Christmas!

**Izaak Walton League,
Nehalem Valley Chapter**
meets monthly on the 3rd
Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Call
503-429-7193 for location.

Letters

Head Start parents appreciate support

To the Editor:

The parents of Head Start would like to thank everyone for all of their generosity so far this year! The kids have been super busy learning all sorts of new things! All the kids are learning with Choosy how to eat right and exercise, which is wonderful! They are focusing on animals right now and are very intrigued by all that they are learning!

We also want to remind everyone of the pictures with Santa fundraiser on Saturday the 5th, from 10 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., everyone is encouraged to stop by and have their pictures taken. Once again thanks to everyone for all that you do for our kids.

Thanks,

**Jailee Slaughter
Chairman**

Thanks to all for Fall Festival participation

To the Editor:

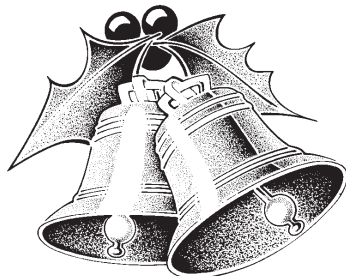
The Mist-Birkenfeld Helping Circle would like to thank everyone who participated in any way to our Fall Festival. Especially to the businesses and people that donated items or services. Also the people who purchased those items. We would also like to thank the people who participated in our program and our auction.

**Shirley Kyser
President
M-B Helping Circle**

Policy on Letters

The INDEPENDENT will not publish letters that include personal attacks on private citizens. Because of space limitations, preference will be given to brief letters, 300 words or less.

All letters must be signed and include a verifiable address or phone number.



**Get in the holiday spirit by enjoying the many
holiday events in Banks and Vernonia.
And remember to patronize local merchants,
they help our communities thrive.**