

Artists sought for banner project

The St. Helens Arts & Cultural Commission seeks artists interested in creating decorative street banners as part of the commission's Gallery Corridor Project. Aluminum banners are to be mounted on poles and placed along Old Portland Road, Columbia Blvd. and Gable Rd. in St. Helens. Future phases of the project call for more banners and placement of complementary art projects throughout the city.

Selected artists will receive a \$1000 for each banner they are commissioned to create. A 2' by 6' aluminum sheet, donated by Pacific Stainless Products in St. Helens, will be provided to commissioned artists for execution of the banner design. Paints and cover coats must ensure weatherability. While the commission is open to creative strategy and concept, they do have an interest in historical content and kinetic

design. Banners should correspond with the City's 20/20 Vision Statement, tourism messaging and target audiences and conform to requirements set forth by City ordinance. See related documents online or request more information from John Walter at 503-397-4544, ext. 102. Requests for Proposals can be found on the City's website at www.ci.st-helens.or.us, or can be requested by phone at 503-366-8218.

Interested artists are asked to submit a proposal by Monday, April 19, at 5:00 p.m., either in person at 265 Strand St., in St. Helens, or via mail to City Recorder Kathy Payne, City of St. Helens, P.O. Box 278, St. Helens, OR 97051. Facsimile and e-mail submissions will not be accepted. Incomplete proposals and those received after the deadline will not be considered.

Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



It must be Spring. Why? I don't know but...Heaven's sprinkler system seems to working just fine – it's working night and day now. Spring flowers are popping out all over – lawn mowers, shovels, rakes, hammers

and saws making a new song. Have you done your Spring cleaning yet? Me? No, I'm waiting for 'warm' weather. I think we had Spring three days last week.

I saw a bumper sticker that I've been pondering. Study this one: "Growl less – Bite more." Is someone trying to send a message to the President or giving vent to an inner battle with their self? Myself, I am trying to give up for Lent; my

frustrated side – be cool, calm and collected. Those who know me will laugh at that thought. But, who knows, maybe it will work then I can make a bumper sticker to read, "Bite less – smile more."

I was in your fair city, Vernonia, last week. The town looked the same, sort of cool, sort of wet. The Senior Center was alive with good music, good food and good friends. I even found a good buy on a jacket and blouse.

Yes, you've guessed it – there's no hot-off-the-press news, I'm in a rut; eating, sleeping, reading, knitting, and sitting, sitting, sitting. And thinking of writing a Letter to the Editor on thoughts I can't or won't put in this article – because it would be a BITE.

Surely there is more to lift than trying to stifle the newspaper.

Bye now.

24 Years Ago This Month

The March 27, 1986, issue of *The Independent* included the following news story on page 12 under the heading, "Jamboree on track toward expansion":

While just a few weeks ago, the 30th Friendship Jamboree was in limbo for lack of community support, it is now humming along in a manner indicative of a highly successful community celebration.

According to Jamboree chairman Tony Hyde, all committee assignments have been made, with each scheduled to make reports of their activities and progress at successive meetings.

Some items of interest have occurred. The Princess Court has been revived and, though it may not be structured exactly as it has been in the past, appears to have enough support to make it a reality once more.

The parade has shifted from the Jamboree committee to the

Chamber of Commerce. "Both the committee and the scope of the committee will be expanded. An effort will be made to develop Vernonia units that will participate in the celebrations of other communities," Chamber president Fred Klinger said, "and maybe have representatives from those communities participating in ours."

There is even a possibility that elements of the V.H.S. Band may provide music for the occasion!

An art show is also in the offing, which should draw artists from a wide area and become an added attraction for local as well as out of town visitors to the Jamboree.

Sue Cavinee reports that her committee is pretty sure of having five fun activities for children this year.

"If you want to help make this the greatest Jamboree, come to the next meeting..." said Hyde.



We recommend a little surfing for safer winter driving.

Winter weather in Oregon can make driving downright hazardous at times. Columbia 9-1-1 encourages you to check reliable web sites for weather and driving conditions to help you decide when and if to hit the road. While you're at it, consider all of the conditions before you drive this winter.

Weather conditions Check a weather web site, such as www.weather.gov/forecasts/graphical/sectors/pacnorthwest.php, for driving conditions to help you decide when and if to hit the road, or across the mountains and into the city.

Road conditions Oregon Department of Transportation continually updates www.tripcheck.org with road and weather conditions, construction zones and road camera views.

Your car's condition How are your tires? Do you have chains? You should also be prepared with emergency supplies, a full tank of gas and a charged cell phone so you can call 9-1-1 in an emergency. We hope you never need us, but if you do, we're here to help you arrive safely at your destination.

Your own condition Have you had enough rest? Or a few drinks? Honestly assess your own ability to drive safely before you get behind the wheel in winter's more challenging driving conditions.



Columbia 9-1-1 Communications District. Always there.

**Happy St. Patrick's Day
March 17
Don't miss the parade
starting at 5:15 p.m.**

