

Mayor announces Banks-Vernonia State Trail Appreciation Day

by Jodi Boylan

Mayor John Kinsky proclaimed October 29, 2010, as Banks-Vernonia State Trail Appreciation Day, at the October 12 meeting of the Banks City Council.

The first segments of the Banks-Vernonia State Trail were opened February 6, 1991, by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department as a rail-to-trail conversion along the scenic hiking and biking route.

One goal of the City of Banks Strategic Plan is to "establish Banks as a regional recreational hub centered around the Banks-Vernonia State Trail and the Council Creek Regional Trail". The city has worked with civic partners to support the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, and the Banks-Vernonia State Trail rangers and staff as they

have worked for trail improvement. The trail is open to a variety of recreational enthusiasts including hikers, walkers, runners, bicyclists, and horseback riders.

The City of Banks was presented with two Gold Medal Awards at the League of Oregon Cities meeting. The Gold Medals were for wellness promotion for having a 100% enrollment in healthy benefits in 2009-2010 and for Safety. The city had an injury frequency rate of zero in 2009-2010. City Manager Jim Hough commented that this is the reason our insurance rates are low.

Two citizens, who were not in attendance, were recognized for their public service to the city. John Deegan was recognized for his service to the city on the Banks Planning Commission, and Ann Witkowski for serving on the Banks Library

Board since September 2005.

Deputy Pat Chertude reported that there were 170 police incidents during September.

There were three arrests, one for an assault in a school bus in Manning, one for unlawful possession of firearm/menacing,

and for the illegal sale and transfer of firearms. Chertude said he received reports that

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In the Service

Army Pvt. Zachary D. Aldrich has graduated from Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill, Lawton, Okla.

During the nine weeks of training, the soldier studied the Army mission and received instruction and training exercises in drill and ceremonies, Army history, core values and tradi-

tions, military courtesy, military justice, physical fitness, first aid, rifle marksmanship, weapons use, map reading and land navigation, foot marches, armed and unarmed combat, and field maneuvers and tactics.

He is the son of Duane Aldrich of Banks.

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