

Banks 2010 Year in Review

- Jan. – WAVE bus service starts.
- Jan. 13 – Rob Fowler sworn in as new councilor. Lions Club presents new flag to city.
- Jan. 16 – The Banks Beautification Pennant Project completion ceremony held.
- Feb. 9 – Sellers Road Realignment Project goes out for bid.
- Mar. 7 – Banks Volunteer Firefighters' annual Breakfast.
- Mar. 8 – School board hears Facilities Planning Committee 3 recommend an approximately \$25 million bond.
- Mar. 13 – Banks Community Foundation holds Soup 'N Music Festival.
- Apr. 24 – Banks Community Auction.
- May 1 – Sellers Road Realignment Project set to begin.
- May 15 – Dan Hilger Memorial Trap Shoot.
- June 11 – Banks High School graduation ceremonies.
- Aug. 9 – School board approves \$25.98 million bond measure for November election.
- Aug. 13 – Sellers Road reopens after alignment.
- Aug. 20-22 – 64th Banks BBQ, Truck/Tractor Pull & Combine Demolition Derby.
- Oct. 15 – Sellers Road Realignment Project is completed.
- Oct. 29 – Last section of Banks-Vernonia State Trail opened.
- Nov. 2 – Banks school bond measure fails. City Councilors Pete Edison, Rob Fowler and Mark Gregg re-elected without opposition.

See Banks Library column on page 10

A New Year with the same Old Fashioned Service!



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School Board handles routine matters

by Dalan Lee

The Banks School District board meeting, on December 13, included topics ranging from outdoor school to voting on an Oregon State Board Association (OSBA) election. Other items discussed included a newly instituted policy regarding staff use of electronic communications, and collective bargaining negotiations. Administrators present were also able to share other news regarding Banks schools.

A student of Mr. Harris' sixth grade class gave a presentation on this year's outdoor school, which was held October 26-29. Her presentation included the unforgettable experience of dissecting a squid, but also the joys of the campfire and other enjoyable daily activities.

Deliberations were held on three OSBA resolutions and the selection of a new OSBA Representative for the Forest Grove District. The board voted unanimously for Karen Cunningham of Beaverton, who was unopposed for Frank Marble's seat. The first resolution, which called for annual automatic dues increases from OSBA members, was unanimously opposed. Resolution 2, to amend the OSBA constitution by updating language with previously approved legislation, was opposed by board

members Richard Bowden and Will Moore, and approved by Laurie Schlegel and Norie Dimeo-Ediger. Chairperson Kathy Edison broke the tie by voting to approve the resolution. The vote on the third resolution, to ratify certain OSBA priorities and legislative policies, was split in the same fashion, but Edison voted with Moore and Bowden, against the resolution. In state-wide results, only the first resolution was defeated.

Superintendent Jim Foster asked the board to consider a new policy that restricts staff use of any communication device during instruction time or while on duty. The policy also restricts the posting of confidential information about staff or students on the internet via popular social networking sites. Bowden expressed concern about encroachment on staff's personal life, and asked, "Can we do that?" Foster explained that the policy just required respectful posts and to keep electronic communication between staff and students school-related. After discussion, the board

unanimously approved the policy.

The board appointed a team for collective-bargaining negotiations with employees' representatives. The team includes Foster, principals Mark Everett and Bob Huston, board chair Kathy Edison, vice-chair Will Moore, and business manager Simon Lavear.

Administrators' reports included information on National Honor Society inductees, an outstanding fall sports season, staff development, and student fundraisers for the homeless.

Student services director Shelly Mitchell also reported that the district met the new Department of Education mandates, called Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives, or AMAOs, regarding progress for English language learning students. The students are identified with the state issued English Language Proficiency Assessment.

The meeting was adjourned at 7: 25 p.m. To be personally informed, attend the next regular session on Wednesday, January 12 at 7:00 p.m.

New rules for sturgeon fishing

According to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife the retention season for white sturgeon on the Columbia River from McNary Dam upstream to Priest Rapids Dam and in the lower Snake River is permitted seven days a week from February 1 through July 31. Previously, the retention season in this area was open year-around.


The rule change was adopted to reflect similar changes in sturgeon retention above McNary adopted last spring. The two states jointly manage the Columbia from its mouth upstream to the Oregon/Washington border, including a 17-mile mile section above McNary Dam.

"Whenever possible, we want our regulations for concurrent waters to be consistent with those of our partners in Washington," said John North, manager of ODFW's Ocean Salmon and Columbia River Program.

The retention sturgeon seasons in Bonneville, The Dalles and John Day reservoirs remain unchanged and is open seven days a week now, as outlined in ODFW's 2011 Sport Fishing Regulations. Each reservoir has its own management guidelines and the seasons will continue until the harvest limits are met. The current harvest limits for each pool are: Bonneville – 1,400; The Dalles – 300; John Day – 165.

Between Bonneville Dam and The Dalles Dam, sturgeon must be 38-54 inches fork length to be retained. From The Dalles Dam upstream, the slot limit is 43-54 inches fork length. The bag limit is one sturgeon per day and a maximum of five for the year. Anglers are required to use single point barbless hooks. Catch-and-release sturgeon fishing is allowed year-around.

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