

Banks tree arbor is growing

The recently established educational tree arbor in Banks has another tree bringing the total to four. Donation of a Noble Fir to the Greenville City Park Management Committee gives a boost to the committee's effort to create a serene area of the park that can be both scenic and educational as well.

"We established the tree arbor in the park as part of a cooperative effort with the Banks Tree Advisory Board" said Vern Weedman, president of the Arbor Village Homeowners Association which manages and operates the city park through an agreement with the City of Banks. "We thought that since our subdivision is called Arbor Village and since we are a Tree City, USA," Weedman continued, "it makes good sense to have a tree arbor designed for

educating all citizens about the benefits of an urban forest."

Tree Board Chair Denise Holmes echoed that sentiment, "Greenville City Park is such a special place in our community that the Board wanted to expand the number of trees already landscaped in the area, but in an orderly manner so that children can learn more about our tree heritage in Oregon". She continued, "So we asked that the Park Management Committee to look at putting mostly evergreens in the Arbor, both for the educational value and the year-round enjoyment of the park and trees."

The additional Noble Fir was grown by the Tualatin River Watershed Committee as part of a tree enhancement project. On February 13th, representatives of the Banks Tree Board and the Greenville City Park Management Committee met at the tree arbor to plant the Noble Fir with members of the Banks Parks & Trees Department.

Tom Tuski the Parks & Trees supervisor quoted an old foresters saying: "The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second best time is today", to which all in attendance agreed.

Farm Bureau seeks photographs for 2013 calendar

Oregon's Bounty, an award-winning calendar produced by Oregon Farm Bureau, features gorgeous photography of agriculture, its orchards, ranches, fields, and people.

Images for the 2013 calendar are being sought. Farm Bureau invites the public to submit their own photos of Oregon agriculture: the commodities, the families, the production, the landscape, the retail, anything that depicts the beauty, technology, culture, and/or tradition of farming and ranching.

High-resolution, horizontal-format close-ups and panoramic views are needed for all types of agriculture in all seasons.

Photographers with images selected for month pages in Oregon's Bounty will receive a photo credit, copies of the calendar, and Farm Bureau membership if they have not already joined the organization.

The deadline for entries is August 1, 2012.

For photo specifications and other contest rules, please visit

oregonfb.org/media/publications.

Oregon Farm Bureau is a voluntary, grassroots, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization representing the interests of the state's family farmers and ranchers in the public and policymaking arenas.

For more information or to request a copy of the 2012 Oregon's Bounty calendar, contact Anne Marie Moss, OFB Communications Director, at annemarie@oregonfb.org, 503-399-1701, ext. 313.

Murphy's St. Pat.'s Parade a success

by Kathy Murphy of Murphy's Furniture

What a glorious day Saturday was for the 2012 Murphy's St. Patrick's Parade. The weather surely helped boost participation and spectator attendance with more than 40 entries. The Irish Family Festival and Corned Beef And Cabbage Feed at the Civic Center was flooded with partygoers, with food selling out in record time.

The sky turned blue at the beginning of parade staging as

if a big smile was bestowed on Hillsboro, approving of the efforts and no rain fell until the last plate of Corned Beef and cabbage was sold!

The most positive impression was that made by outfits adorning those viewing the parade's procession. If awards were given for Most Irish Onlooker, judging would be difficult.

Most Irish Animal Entry went to "St. Paul Rodeo Court" for shamrock-ed floral arrangement that secured their success!

Most Irish Vehicle Entry was "Tillamook County Rodeo Queen Katie Born" inside her spiffy classic Mustang. Though not four-legged, but four-wheeled, it sped away with the

judge's vote.

Most Irish Walking entry was "Hillsboro Parent Preschool." Their gaily-clad wagons and strollers tugged at the heartstrings of the young judges.

Most Irish Float Entry was awarded to the "Cub Scouts Pack 622." Brimming with "Junior Explorers", they were very proud to be honored with such a prestige.

A special thank you goes out from Murphy's to all those who helped them put on the parade: Hillsboro FFA for Pooper Scoopers, Hillsboro Police for traffic control, The City of Hillsboro, Intel EARS for communication, the "all volunteer" crew of Sports Look for their hard work on the Corned Beef and Cabbage feed, and Washington County Sheriff Mounted Posse Color Guard. Last but not least, thank you to the New Visions Dance Studio for their classic Irish entertainment at the Festival.

This parade would not be possible without such wonderful community support and that's why it's always a privilege for Murphy's to produce this event. Thank you Western Washington County!

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