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THE INDEPENDENT

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The Voice of the Upper Nehalem River Valley for Over 27 years

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Just one of the fun scenes from the play, Vaudeville's My Home, performed at Washington Grade School on April 13 and 14 by the Vernonia Community Theater group. See article on page 7.

Banks offers free recycling on Apr. 21

Whether you're looking to clean out your garage, or just plain do something good for the environment – there's a way to make it happen. On Saturday, April 21, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., City of Banks and the Banks Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a free recycling collection at the Banks High School parking lot. Recycling services will be provided by EG Metals.

All of the following items will be accepted at the event:

- Computers: Computer CPUs, laptops, boards, keyboards, mice.
- Cell Phones & chargers.
- Wires and Cables: Power supplies, Christmas Lights.
- Other Electronics: laptop batteries, Printers, keyboards, mice, peripherals, copiers, fax machines, scanners, PDAs, calculators, electronic games/toys, telephones, flash drives, populated circuit boards, hubs, switches, routers, digital cam-

eras, VCR/DVD players, A/V & stereo equipment, etc.

• Batteries: Any battery except Alkaline.

• Appliances: Stoves, small appliances, microwaves, washers, dryers, refrigerators*, freezers*, air conditioners*, etc. [*All Freon must be removed]

• Metal: Scrap metal, iron, steel, aluminum, brass, copper, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, lawn mowers (fuel drained), auto parts, BBQs, water heaters, Propane tanks w/out valves, etc.

Plastics – Sort clean and dry plastics into these categories:

• Plastic Bags/Film: Dry cleaning bags, grocery bags, shrink, bubble & pallet wrap, clean freezer & Ziploc bags, clean Visqueen polyethylene, six-pack rings, clean fertilizer, soil & seed bags.

• Media Plastics: DVDs, CDs, jewel cases, cassette tapes and cases, VHS tapes, 8-track audio tapes.

• CLEAN Rigid Plastics: All plastics #1 - #7, plastic strapping – no metal, buckets – no metal handles, bottle caps and drink lids (yogurt, butter, soda), nursery potting flats/trays, nursery pots of all sizes, potting 4 and 6-packs, vinyl, tarps, swimming pools, liners.

Plus:

• Paper and Cardboard
Items that won't be accepted are:

• No garbage, no yard debris, no hazardous waste or other toxic materials. If it is not on the list above, it will not be accepted.

- No vehicle fluids.
- No light bulbs.
- No styrofoam.

The event is completely free to the public.

For more information on this event or if you are interested in hosting your own recycling event, please contact Peter Van Houten at info@egmetals.com or 503-693-8939.

Commissioner candidates weigh in on county issues

Columbia County voters will decide who should represent them on the Columbia County Board of Commissioners, in the May 15 primary election, when two positions are up for election. The two open seats are Position 1 and Position 3, currently held by Earl Fisher and Tony Hyde, respectively.

If one candidate for each position gets a majority, or 50% plus one, of the ballots cast, that candidate is elected in the primary and will not have to run again in the general election. If no candidate gets a majority, the top two candidates for each position will go on to a runoff in the November general election.

The Independent interviewed the candidates, asking the same questions of each one. Here are the questions and the candidates' responses. Responses are in alphabetical order, separated by the position they are seeking.

The candidates for position 1 are Earl Fisher, Wayne Mayo (who was unable to make time for the interview, citing a job in Canby), Brady Preheim, Terry Luttrell, and Colleen DeShazer (who was unable to respond before deadline).

The candidates for position 3 are Tammy Maygra, Jim Gibson, Tony Hyde, and Reginald

Ward.

Following the questions and answers, there is additional information about each candidate.

Position 1 Candidates

1. How do you propose to provide county services with less money (bad economy, loss of county payments, etc.)?

Fisher – This is very, very difficult. We are going to do our very best to provide as many services as we can given the \$2.3 million budget shortfall due to reduced tax income and increased cost of providing services. We've already had to close the county offices every Friday and have taken the County Fair out of the county

See candidates, page 4

Make Vernonia Shine offers free yard debris day

Let's Make Vernonia Shine in honor of Genny Fisher, who recently passed away, and was one of the founders of Vernonia Pride. Make April 21 a special day to honor her by cleaning up each of your own properties and neighborhood.

Waste Management will place a dumpster at the Fire Station, and another at Bridge St. and Weed Ave., for yard debris. No garbage please. Waste Management Transfer Station will be open on April 28, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for garbage collection.

To recycle materials such as tires, old cars, trucks, metal, washing machines, dryers, refrigerators, etc., call for pick up Terry Buckner at 503-438-8546 or contact Dad's Recycling on Mist Dr., or other local haulers.

Vernonia Household Hazardous Waste event

A Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event will be held in Vernonia on April 21, from Noon to 4:00 p.m., in the Vernonia Lake parking lot.

For information on what's accepted, see <http://www.co.columbia.or.us/departments/land-development-services/solid-waste-program>.