

On the Shelves: What's Happening at the Vernonia Library

A free conversation with Reed College professor Pancho Savery will take place on Saturday, November 5, 2011 at 4:00 PM at the Vernonia Public Library. This program is hosted by the Friends of the Library and the Vernonia Library Board and sponsored by Oregon Humanities.

Recent efforts to remove the "N" word in literature—from the new edition of Mark Twain's *Huck Finn* in which the word is changed to "slave" to the attempt to halt a high school production of August Wilson's *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* because of its "offensive" language—raise questions about censorship. Is censorship ever a good thing? Should accommodations be made considering the difference between a character's and author's point of view?

This is the focus of "To

Cut or Not to Cut: Censorship in Literature," a discussion led by Savery who is a professor of English, humanities, and American studies at Reed College. He also teaches in Reed's freshman humanities program on the Ancient Mediterranean World (focusing on Greece, Egypt, Persia, and Rome). For the last eleven years, he has worked with Oregon Humanities on the Humanity in Perspective Program.

Through the Conversation Project, Oregon Humanities offers free programs that engage community members in thoughtful, challenging conversations about ideas critical to our daily lives and our state's future. For more information about this free community discussion, please contact Vernonia Public Library at 503-429-1818 or library@vernonia-or.gov.

Public Certification Test and Drop Sites for the Special Primary Election to be held November 8, 2011

The Public Certification Test of the counting equipment for the Special Primary Election to be held on November 8, 2011 will be held on Tuesday, November 1, 2011. The testing will begin at 10:00 AM in the County Elections Department. The public is welcome to attend.

Drop sites for the election will be as follows:

VERNONIA LIBRARY
701 Weed Ave.

Oct.21 – Nov. 7 During Library Hours
Nov. 8 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM

RAINIER CITY HALL

106 B St. West

Oct 21-Nov 7 During Office Hours
Nov. 8 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM

CLATSKANIE LIBRARY

11 Lillich St.

Oct. 21 – Nov. 7 During Library Hours
Nov. 8 12:00 – 8:00 PM

SCAPPOOSE CITY HALL
33568 E. Columbia Ave.

Oct 21-Nov 7 During Office Hours
Nov. 8 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM

MIST BIRKENFELD RFPD
12525 Highway 292

Oct 21-Nov 7 During Office Hours
Nov. 8 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM

COUNTY COURTHOUSE
ELECTIONS DEPT.

230 Strand St.

St. Helens, OR 97051

8:30 AM - 5:00 PM Mon. – Thu.
Election Day – NOV 8 - 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM

A drive-by drop box is located in the lower parking lot.

Frontier Completing Upgrades in Vernonia

On Monday, October 17, 2011, Frontier Communications completed a major upgrade to the network that provides residential, government, public safety and business telecommunications service to Vernonia.

The fiber optic network was upgraded to provide four times as much voice and/or data traffic between Beaverton and Vernonia. Beaverton is one of three major hubs that Frontier operates in Northwest Oregon and Southwest Washington region. All long distance and data connects to the World from there.

The network upgrade provides a robust link to the Internet, through a modern Digital Subscriber Line network (DSL), and all existing customers saw an increase in speed to a maximum of 3-7 megabits per second, depending how far away their home is from Frontier's central office on Highway 47.

Almost all modern phone and data services are now available to Vernonia businesses and government, similar to those available in Portland.

On July 1, 2010, Frontier Communications acquired Verizon phone companies in 14 states. The upgrades on the Vernonia network are part of a larger three year project, and many of the rural county areas are being considered for inclusion in its statewide plan.

Columbia County Assessment and Property Tax Bills Being Mailed

Columbia County has sent out Real Property Tax Statements for 2011-12. The first payment of the tax bill is due on Tuesday, November 15, 2011. At least one third of the amount is due at that time. Payments can be made at the tax office in the courthouse on Monday through Thursday between the hours of 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM. The courthouse county offices are closed to the public on Fridays.

Payments that are mailed need to be postmarked by the 15th. A return envelope will be included with the statements. The second and third installments are due by February 15, 2012 and May 15, 2012, however the County does not send out statements for the February or May due dates.

Columbia County is once again providing a way to pay property taxes

with E-checks and credit and debit cards through the Point & Pay website. Property Tax payments can be made with your E-checks and credit and debit cards on-line at www.co.columbia.or.us, or by calling 1-866-587-4007. There is a 2.95% charge to use your credit or debit card and a flat fee of \$2.95 for E-checks.

STORAGE. TOP
Need more room?

See us for the lowest prices
GUARANTEED!
Debit/Credit now accepted
U-Haul now available on site

5x10 \$39 10x10 \$69 10x20 \$99
RV Storage \$149

Outside storage available
Totally fenced and gated
Padlocks Available

58605 Nehalem Hwy S.
P.O. Box 292
Vernonia, Oregon 97064
(503) 429-7867

10-5 Tue-Sat, 12-4 Sun

Senior Center Activities

5-Area Luncheon: Monday, October 31st at the Vernonia Senior Center

Connie's Fabulous Breakfasts: Fabulous breakfasts are available to the public on Fridays for a cost of only \$3.50. The event happens at the Senior Center (446 Bridge Street) from 7:30 to 9:00 AM each Friday. Meal price includes a beverage, too. Enter through the side, parking lot door. What a deal!

Week Day Lunches: The Vernonia Senior Center offers nutritious and tasty lunches each weekday for a \$4 donation for seniors over 60; cost is \$5 for anyone under 60. To-go meals are available for \$5. These are available to the public, not just Senior Citizens. (Mealtime is noon; late arrivals may not be served.) You can reserve your lunch by calling by 11:15 AM, or further in advance if possible, to assist the cooks as they prepare the day's meals. Meals on Wheels are available for a \$4 donations for seniors over 60. Please contact the Senior Center for an application.

Maple Bars available locally! Connie King, the cook at the Senior Center, is making maple bars each day. The maple bars are available to the public, too, and only cost \$1 each. Availability is subject to quantity on hand. You can assure yourself of a good supply by pre-ordering them directly from Connie by calling the Senior Center (503-429-3912) any week day, from

7:00 AM-3:00 PM. Please allow one day lead time for larger orders. The Center's front door opens at 9:00, but the side parking lot door opens at 7:00. Ah, sweet treats!

Thrift Store: Bargain prices can be found in Vernonia's Senior Center in their Thrift Store. The retail store is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM. The Thrift Store provides funds for the Senior Center's facility and its many activities. Donations can also be dropped off during those same hours, and donated clothes need to be clean and in good condition so they are "sales ready". We are offering half off during the first week of each month. Buy locally and support your local Senior Center.
For after hours drop-offs please contact Pauline 503-429-5810.

Special Days: On the last Wednesday of the month Wauna Credit Union will be serving ice cream. On the last Friday of the month we will serve birthday cake and ice cream to celebrate that month's birthdays.

Membership Dues: Another way to support Vernonia's Senior Center is to pay the \$15 annual membership dues. Checks may be mailed or dropped off at the Senior Center. Anyone 50 and older may join.

Questions? Call: (503) 429-3912



True Value
START RIGHT. START HERE.™

Get Ready For Hunting Season!

Archery Equipment - Sporting Goods
Calls - Cammo - Boots - Accessories
Binoculars - Scent Killers - Targets

Family owned & operated for over 40 years

834 Bridge St, Vernonia 503-429-6364

