

THE INKWELL

By Lynn Berry

I wish for a hopeful New Year to all. The cultural significance of the New Year, with the idea of hope, renewal, rebirth, and starting new, extends back over 4000 years ago to the Babylonians. Nevertheless, the New Year calls out for the opportunity to better ourselves, each in our own way, using everything that happens to us as a means of waking up. Every moment and every decision can be made an opportunity for awareness of how our words and our actions affect others (and what affects others, ultimately affects ourselves). Each has the possibility to bring loving kindness and hope towards every moment. And each moment eventually constructs this thing we call life.

The poem below, Sunlight In My Room, authored by local resident Barbara Lentner, describes a blissful moment in time. Her poem illustrates the experience of attention to the moment, a flicker of human essence that adds to all of life.

Poetry expresses human essence. Think

about this. Each poem contributes to the community collage of our thoughts, feelings, perceptions, beliefs, social movements, the insurmountable and diminutive moments of our lives. The variety and diversity of poems throughout the world is remarkable, each its own color thread, weaving the tapestry of history and of ourselves. Amazing. When we create, we contribute. So go--create.

Sunlight In My Room

The sunlight came through
The curtains of lace,
And sprinkled design
All over the place,
Rainbows reflected through
the crystal light.
Capturing color and beauty
For my delight,
As I am warmed by
The warm sunlight.

-----Barbara Lentner

---**Writer's Idea:** Write about a moment in time, similar to an instant snapshot of a visual image or situation, physical or emotional. For example, for a visual description, describe the details of your grandfather or grandmother's wrinkled face or hands, and what that description may define about their previous life. For a situational description, write about a moment when your perception suddenly shifted about a person in your life.

---**Writer's Tip:** Go---create.

---WE ARE LOOKING FOR LOCAL POETRY. WE NEED YOUR POEMS!!!!

Please send your original submissions to InkwellVernonia@gmail.com or by mail: PO Box 333 Vernonia, OR 97064. Please include your name and contact information.

Write--Express--Expand.

Lynn Berry holds an M.A. in English, specializing in feminist literature and literary criticism. She has spent several years teaching Literature, Composition, Poetry, Creative Writing, and Critical Thinking at various school districts and colleges, and occasionally provides writing workshops

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Jocie Roberts. "Dezi might be our most improved player," says Whiteman.

The Lady Loggers have a stretch of upcoming home games with Gaston on January 18, Warrenton on January 19 and Delphian on January 21.

Boys Basketball-The Loggers moved to 3-1 in Northwest League play and 4-4 overall after a good 58-43 win over Neah-Kah-Nie at home on January 4.

Head coach David Weller says

his team has struggled at times and is still playing inconsistently, but after the long break holiday break, Weller is looking forward to having everyone back at practice and together on the court.

"We've been doing some good things, but it hasn't been for the entire length of the game," said Weller. "Our big thing is getting a complete game put together."

Weller is concerned because his team has let several games slip away, after leading most of the way.

On the court for the Loggers, Kendrick Leaverton and Ezio Rusticali have been sharing the point guard duties. According to Weller, Leaverton has provided some high energy and experience for the Loggers and has been a strong defender as well. Weller says Rusticali has improved as the season has progressed.

In the front court Austin Cutright and Jesse Edgar continue to be the go-to guys. Against Neah-Kah-Nie Ruben Fabers saw significant time off the bench and contributed with a strong performance, showing a solid inside

game.

Larry Andersson has earned more playing time off the bench and has contributed as a shooting guard, scoring 11 points in a non-league loss against Gervais on January 3.

The wild card for this team seems to be transfer student Jared Leone, who has had limited practice time with the team. At 6-3 with some good ball handling skills and the ability to get to the basket, Leone looks like he really has something positive to offer Coach Weller and this team.

"We're still trying to figure out rotations, what works the best, and who plays well with each other," says Weller.

"We just have to get them to play more consistently. We know they are better than they have shown so far this season," says Weller. "I think over the next couple weeks we are going to improve a lot."

The Loggers are on the road for upcoming games against Nestucca, Riverdale, Faith Bible, and Portland Christian. On January 18 the Loggers return home to face Gaston, who handed the Loggers their only league loss earlier this season.



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