

On The Shelves

By Shannon Romtvedt

Free Wifi is now available at the Vernonia Public Library, generously funded by the Friends of the Library. When connecting to the network, look for "Library Wifi." Ask library staff for the password. Thank you to the Friends for providing this service to the Vernonia community.

Also new to the library, over 140 new plants! The plants were donated by the Aloha Garden Club to the Vernonia Community Garden for the Spring Plant Sale. Local Master Gardeners planned out projects for plants leftover from the sale. Thank you to Linda Perry who volunteered for the library and spent many hours planning, researching, and planting (in very hot weather). Thank you to volunteer planters, CiCi Bell and Brady Romtvedt, and volunteers for watering, Janelle Cedergreen and Audeen Wagner. And to the Aloha Garden Club, Master Gardeners, and the Vernonia Community Garden for the donation and coordinating the project.

Summer Reading registration is happening now at the library! Children, birth - age 14, can sign-up (or be signed-up) anytime during library open hours, now - July 31. Registration will also be at the Summer Meals Program, Friday, June 19, and the Open Air Market on Saturday, June 27. The theme for Summer Reading 2015 is "Every Hero Has a Story."

What is Summer Reading? It is a fun opportunity for kids to maintain or improve their reading skills over the summer. Children who sign-up receive free Oregon State Fair and Oregon Zoo tickets (limited number of zoo tickets available),

and other incentives. Every hour of reading equals one prize drawing entry for weekly drawings. Children who return time logs between July 27 and August 15 can choose a free book and are eligible to enter the grand prize drawing.

Upcoming Summer Reading Events (all FREE)

Thursday, June 25, 6 - 7 pm: Historic Heroes – The Weeds of Vernonia with Tobie Finzel

Tuesday, June 30, 10:30 am: Story and Craft Time – Animal Heroes (designed for children Pre-K – Grade 3)

Wednesday, July 1, 6 - 7 pm: Border Collies International – performing dog team at Hawkins Park

Tuesday, July 7, 10:30 am: Stages Youth Academy – kid's theater group presenting one act plays and musicals

Ongoing Programs

Writers' Group

Thursday, June 18, 6:00 pm

Every 3rd Thursday of the month, 6 - 7:30 pm.

Opportunity for writers with all levels of experience to get together, write, and get feedback.

Baby and Toddler Time

Mondays, 10:30 - 11:00 am

Book Discussion Group

Last Monday of every month, 5:30 pm

Selection for June 29: *Dad is Fat* by Jim Gaffigan

New and Recommended Titles

Adults

On the Burning Age: A Fateful Fire and the Men Who Fought It by Kyle Dickman

The Wright Brothers by David McCullough

The Forgotten Room by Lincoln Child

Young Adults

The Strange and Beautiful Sorrows of Ava Lavender by Leslye Walton

Saint Anything by Sarah Dessen

Children

Treasury of Greek Mythology by Donna Jo Napoli

The Thicket: The Path Begins by J.A. White

Percy Jackson Graphic Novel Series

Young Children

Sheep Go to Sleep by Nancy Shaw

Peck, Peck, Peck by Lucy Cousins

Lunch by Denise Fleming

Did You Know?

The library is partnering with the Summer Meals Program to serve a free snack to children every Monday - Friday, 3 pm, now through the end of August. Children under the age of 18 are welcome to come by for a snack and play games, do an activity or coloring sheet, build with legos, do a craft or puzzle, or READ!

Holiday Closures

Saturday, June 27 (The Library will have a booth that day at the Open Air Market, 10 am - 2 pm)

Friday, July 3 and Saturday, July 4

Hours & Contact Info

Mon, Wed, Fri 10 am – 5 pm

Tues & Thurs 1 pm – 7pm

Sat 10 am – 4 pm

Closed Sundays

Phone: (503) 429-1818

E-mail: library@vernonia-or.gov

Wyden Holds Town Hall *continued from front page*

concerned about rising prices that expand uncovered costs and says Medicare is currently prohibited from negotiating lower prices for seniors. "I don't know anyone in America that doesn't try to use their bargaining power," said Wyden. Wyden said he has introduced legislation in the past which has been rejected that would allow Medicare to purchase in bulk and will continue to support that concept. Wyden said Fast Track is really about protecting your position in a negotiation process leading to an agreement. "You can't get people to negotiate, if every time you try to make a move, everyone else knows about it, because then they go back and make a different move," explained Wyden. Wyden said Fast Track specifically refers to the TPA which are the rules for the

agreement and he is supporting access to the TPP prior to any votes on approval.

There was a large contingent of audience members from the "Vernonians Against LNG" group. Diana Peach represented the group and asked that Wyden reconsider his previous verbal support of the economic and job growth LNG projects would bring to Oregon. Peach argued against LNG based on the potential environmental, health and safety risks the projects bring with them, the profits that go to corporations instead of locals who are invested in their communities, the chance that Eminent Domain would be used to secure properties, and the potential loss of jobs in the fishing industry that could occur. Peach asked Wyden if he is willing to respect the decisions of state and county

governments if they reject the projects. Wyden responded that he will respect local decisions about the project and would oppose the federal government overturning any local decisions. He said that, based on local actions already taken, the projects look to be dead already. He offered to work with the group to craft a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) saying they should not approve the project based on environmental questions. He also pointed out the need for economic development in rural Oregon but not at the expense of Oregonian's quality of life, water quality and other values the state has.

Nancy Phillips, also with the Vernonians Against LNG group, raised concerns about the danger of pipeline explosions. Wyden said he has served as the Chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee in Congress and is aware of pipeline safety issues. He said he wants to see better quality pipelines. He did say he is more supportive of the LNG project at Jordan Cove in southern Oregon, because of the need for jobs in that region, but said the company that is proposing the project needs to make the case that they can do it safely. Wyden took this opportunity to say that, even though he is a big supporter of solar, wind and thermal energy production, we can't get all our energy from renewable sources in the immediate future, so he has supported the use of natural gas in our country. He later reiterated his strong support for development of renewable energy resources and said he is making it a priority to increase tax

credits for renewable energy. He also stated that Columbia County is a great place to make use of biomass and that he has introduced legislation that doubles timber production on ONC lands over the next fifty years and also protects streams in the process.

Bob Paleck, a Board member at West Oregon Electric Cooperative, started his question by pointing out his disappointment that Wyden didn't include hydroelectric in his list of renewable resources that he supports. Wyden agreed with Paleck and thanked him for the correction and pointed out that a bill is moving forward supported by both the hydro industry and environmentalists that will produce 60,000 megawatts of additional hydropower in the near future. Paleck also took time to thank Wyden for his support for internet neutrality. Paleck then told Wyden that he needs to "hold the line" on the Columbia River Treaty, an international agreement between Canada and the US for management of shared resources from the Columbia River, and not continue to give away power to Canada while US users pay high rates. Paleck said Canadians are getting more than their fair share of the power and it's time to put a stop to it. Wyden agreed with Paleck, saying the next negotiations are critical and he will continue to follow it.

Jack Harvey, President of the Vernonia Senior Center, asked for help from the federal government in completing the new Senior Center construction project. Wyden responded that he has a background working with the

continued on page 12

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