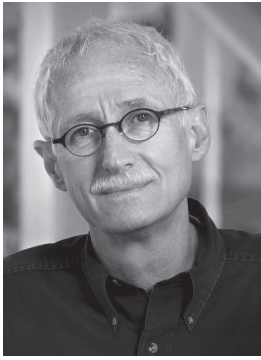


Life after War: Photography and Oral Histories of Coming Home

This November 5 event is a free discussion about life after war and part of Oregon Humanities' statewide Conversation Project.



vive in American Boxing Gyms. In 2009 Oregon State University Press published Lommasson's *Oaks Park Pentimento: Portland's Lost and Found Carousel*. His most recent book, *Exit Wounds: Soldiers' Stories—Life after Iraq and Afghanistan*, is about American veterans from the Iraq and Afghanistan Wars and their lives after their return.

When does a war end? Does it ever? Many returning soldiers bring wars back with them, and these wars can reach beyond the battlefield or firefight, infiltrating the very thing that defines comfort and safety: home. The trials of homecoming are vast and complex, often resonating with tales of Odysseus' journey back to Ithaca from the Trojan War.

This is the focus of "Life after War: Photography and Oral Histories of Coming Home," a free conversation with photographer Jim Lommasson on Saturday, November 5, 2016 at 4:00 pm at the Vernonia Public Library, 701 Weed Ave. This program is hosted by the Friends of the Vernonia Public Library and sponsored by Oregon Humanities.

Lommasson is a freelance photographer who received the Dorothea Lange-Paul Taylor Prize for his first book, *Shadow Boxers: Sweat, Sacrifice & the Will to Sur-*

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 Shannon Romtvedt at (503) 429-1818 or shannonr@vernonia-or.gov.

Oregon Humanities (921 SW Washington, Suite 150; Portland, OR 97205) connects Oregonians to ideas that change lives and transform communities. More information about Oregon Humanities' programs and publications, which include the Conversation Project, Think & Drink, Humanity in Perspective, Idea Lab, Public Program Grants, and Oregon Humanities magazine, can be found at oregonhumanities.org.

Library Storytime



Children at the Vernonia Library's Storytime on Friday, October 7, got a special treat when Captain Will Steinweg of the Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District stopped by and read some stories. The kids had great questions and really enjoyed Captain Steinweg putting on full gear after the stories.

On The Shelves

By Shannon Romtvedt

Not everyone knows the ladies behind the desk at the library so I'd like to take a moment to honor Susan Knowlton who we will greatly miss as part of our staff. Susan Knowlton has served as a Library Aide for the City of Vernonia for the past 15 years. Originally from Salt Lake City, Utah, Susan moved with her husband to Vernonia from Beaverton, Oregon in 1977. Prior to working at the library, Susan has years of experience helping the public as both a school teacher and a custodian. She has four children and eight grandchildren who live "everywhere," with the closest in Gresham, Oregon.

Susan enjoys music and cooking but reading is her first love. When asked about working at the library, Susan says it's the "best job I ever had and I will miss the patrons and city employees." I encourage everyone to stop by and say goodbye to Susan. Her last day working as an employee at the library is Saturday, October 29.

Thank you Susan for helping make the library shine and putting a smile on so many faces. We will miss you!

Upcoming Events at the Library

Vernonia Flood Stories

Wednesday, October 26, 6 – 8 pm
History, images, and stories from the floods of 1996, 2007, and 2015. Inspirational stories about people coming together and support received. For people new to the community as well as for those who

have experienced these floods. Audience participation encouraged. Program emceed by Tobie Finzel.

Halloween Pre-Parade Photo Shoot

Monday, October 31, 3:45 – 4:30 pm
Come to the library in costume before lining up for the parade to get your picture taken with a spooky backdrop. Also pick up the first treat for your bag. Photos will be on Facebook, can be emailed, and some may appear in the newspaper. Sidewalk parade starts at 4:30 pm. Line-up begins at 4:00 at City Hall.

Life After War: Photography and Oral Histories of Coming Home

Saturday, November 5, 4 – 5:30 pm
When does a war end? Does it ever? Many returning soldiers bring wars back with them, and these wars can reach beyond the battlefield or firefight, infiltrating the very thing that defines comfort and safety: home. Photographer Jim Lommasson has collected oral histories from returning soldiers and documented their struggles at home. In this conversation, participants will consider the wars at home faced not only by returning veterans, but also by communities at large. Sponsored by Oregon Humanities and hosted by the Friends of the Vernonia Public Library.

Movie Night

Thursday, October 27, 6 pm
Family movie night, showing a Halloween movie, filmed in Columbia County, recommended for ages 7 and up. Relax and enjoy a movie and popcorn at the library. Call or visit the library for movie titles.

Ongoing Programs

K-5 Library Time (New!)

Third Thursday of every month, 4 – 5 pm. Snack and craft for students K-5 and parents. Older kids/teens welcome as long as there are enough materials.

Homeschool Library Time

November 9, 1 – 2 pm
Second Wednesday of every month, 1 – 2 pm. Opportunity for homeschoolers and families to get together at the library. Geared to K-5 students. Will need parents to attend for activities.

Book Discussion Group

Last Monday of every month, 5:30 pm
Selection for October 24: *A Mercy* by Toni Morrison

Writer's Group

October 20, 6 – 7:30 pm
Third Thursday of the month. For all levels of writing experience. New members always welcome.

Baby and Toddler Time

Mondays, 10:30 – 11:15 am
Songs, short stories, toys, and bubbles for 0 – 3. Older siblings welcome.

Preschool Storytime

Fridays, 10:30 – 11:15 am
Stories and a craft/activity for up to age 5.

Rice Northwest Rock and Mineral Museum Membership Pass

A membership pass to the Rice Rock Museum will soon be available at the library, admitting up to 8 people to the museum at no charge. The library is also hosting a traveling display from the Rice Rock Museum Tuesday, October 18 through the end

of November. Please inquire at the library if interested in using the pass or stop by to see the display. The library's Cultural Pass collection also includes a membership pass to OMSI and to the Oregon Historical Society Museum and Research Center in Portland, Oregon.

Library Volunteers Needed

The library is seeking volunteers for the following:
Program assistance: Help prep crafts for programs, storytimes, and/or our craft box. Volunteers are also needed during children's programs.

Newspaper Archives Project:

Volunteers are needed to help with a project to make archived historical newspapers (*Vernonia Eagle* and *The Independent*) more accessible to the public. Attention to detail, basic computer skills, and an interest in local history is a must. Contact Shannon Romtvedt at the library (503) 429-1818 or shannonr@vernonia-or.gov if interested or want more details.

Library Board: Currently one open position for our seven member Library Board. Board members work to improve library services and update policies. If interested, pick up an application at the library or City Hall, or on the City of Vernonia website www.vernonia-or.gov.

Library Closures

Friday, November 11 for Veteran's Day

Hours & Contact Info

Mon, Wed, Fri 10 am – 5 pm
Tues & Thurs 1 pm – 7 pm
Sat 10 am – 4 pm
Closed Sundays

Phone: (503) 429-1818

E-mail: library@vernonia-or.gov