

On the Shelves

By Shannon Romtvedt
with Nancy Burch

The Vernonia Public Library is getting ready for Columbia County Reads 2019! This year Columbia County Libraries have chosen two books linked together by a historical account of an Oregon slave who won a court case against his former master in 1853. On Friday, April 26, 6 pm, New York Times Bestselling Oregon author, Phillip Margolin, will come to the Library to discuss his novel, *Worthy Brown's Daughter*, along with Gregory Nokes, author of *Breaking Chains: Slavery on Trial in the Oregon Territory*. This is a great opportunity for the Vernonia community. Please join us and read one or both of the books and meet the authors at our event!

Columbia County Reads 2019 was made possible by a grant from the Columbia County Cultural Coalition along with support from local organizations like the Friends of the Vernonia Public Library. Thank you to the St. Helens Public Library for taking the lead and organizing this county-wide event!

Columbia County Reads is an annual collaboration between Columbia County Libraries with events held in April. Presentations will be held at four Columbia County Libraries this year:

St. Helens Public Library,
April 25, 7 pm
Vernonia Public Library,
April 26, 6 pm
Scappoose Public Library,
April 27, 3 pm
Clatskanie Library District at the
Clatskanie Cultural Center,
April 27, 7 pm

The Vernonia Public Library has multiples copies of *Worthy Brown's Daughter* and *Breaking Chains* for check-out. If you would like to read one or both of the books prior to the event, please contact the Library.

Upcoming Events

Spring Break Read-In

Wednesday, March 27, 2-4 pm
Storytellers at 2 pm and 3 pm, snacks, and drop-in activities for families (crafts, board games, Legos, and toys). Come by on the hour for a storytime or anytime with comfy clothes, a pillow, and take a reading break!

Seeing the Forest for the Trees: Stewarding our Public Forests

Thursday, April 11, 6:30 pm
We live in a state with abundant forests, and yet we don't all see the same thing when we look into the woods. Oregon is known for both its timber industry and its deep environmental values. For many decades management of our public forests has made headlines and driven apart neighbors. Facilitator Mariah Acton will lead this conversation to explore the values, identities, and beliefs we each have about our forests and what we, as a state, do to steward, manage, and protect this special resource. Sponsored by the Friends of the Vernonia Library.

Columbia County Reads with Phillip Margolin and Gregory Nokes

Friday, April 26, 6 pm
Join New York Times Bestselling author Philip Margolin and Oregon author Gregory Nokes as they team up to discuss their books *Worthy*

Brown's Daughter and *Breaking Chains: Slavery on Trial in the Oregon Territory*. Event is sponsored by the Columbia County Cultural Coalition and the Friends of the Vernonia Public Library. Multiple copies of the books are available for check-out at the Library.

Ongoing Programs

Writer's Group

Thursday, March 21, 6-7:30 pm
3rd Thursday of every month. For writers with all levels of experience.

Book Discussion Group

Last Monday of every month, 5:30 pm. Discussion for April 29: *Comet's Tale* by Stephen D. Wolf. No meeting on March 25.

Storytimes

Baby and Toddler Time

Mondays, 10:30 - 11:15 am
Songs, short stories, toys, and bubbles for 0-3.

Preschool Storytime

Fridays, 10:30 - 11:15 am
Stories and a craft/activity for up to age 5. Older siblings welcome!

No Storytimes on Monday, March 25 and Friday, March 29

Did You Know?

Summer Reading Program

The Library offers an annual reading incentive program for children in June - August. During the summer we offer a line-up of performers and craft programs. In the past we've also hosted a chess club and offered Lego and craft programs. These programs were designed and run by volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering to run a small group program for children over the summer, please

contact Shannon Romtvedt (503) 429-1818 or shannonr@vernonia-or.gov. We would love to hear your idea and offer new opportunities for kids in our community.

Featured Titles at the Library: Sturdevant Family Donation

A recent donation from the Sturdevant family has made possible several welcome additions to the library's collection. These include items selected with Barbara and Ralph's interests in mind and include two books about survival in the Alaskan wilderness by Bonnie Rose Ward and one about Mark Adams' 3,000 mile journey around wild Alaska. Also added was a mystery by one of Barbara's favorite authors, Arlene Sachitano, *Quilts Make a Family*, and two reflecting Ralph's interests—*Company Towns of the Pacific Northwest*, and *This was Logging* by Ralph Andrews with photographs by Darius Kinsey. Two large print books and several new audiobooks complete the selections in honor of Barbara and in memory of Ralph Sturdevant. Watch for the name plates in these books recognizing this couple whose dedication to the library helped make it successful through the years.

~Nancy Burch

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

Free Discussion About Stewarding Our Public Forests

April 11 event is part of statewide Oregon Humanities Conversation Project

We live in a state with abundant forests, and yet we don't all see the same thing when we look into the woods. Oregon is known for both its timber industry

and its deep environmental values. What are the beliefs we have about our forests and what will we, as a state, do to steward, manage, and protect this special resource?

This is the focus of "Seeing the Forest and the Trees: Stewarding Our Public Lands," a free conversation with Mariah Acton on Thursday, April 11 at

6:30 pm at the Vernonia Public Library, 701 Weed Ave. This program is hosted by the Vernonia Public Library and sponsored by Oregon Humanities.

Mariah Acton is a recent graduate from the University of Oregon where her master's work focused at the intersection of conflict resolution, nonprofit management, and public administration. She currently works in Salem as a strategic business analyst at Oregon Housing and Community Services where she helps to facilitate conversations around housing, homelessness, and anti-poverty policies. As a recent social science researcher for the U.S. Forest Service and a former volunteer facilitator with forest collaboratives in the southern Willamette Valley, she recognizes that this is an exciting time for public-driven, sustainable forest management, and she appreciates that there are more conversations to be had.

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, Bridging Oregon, Public Program Grants, Responsive Program Grants, and Oregon Humanities magazine, can be found at oregonhumanities.org. Oregon Humanities is an independent, nonprofit affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and a partner of the Oregon Cultural Trust.

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