

Between the Bookends

By Charlene Bechen
Banks Library Volunteer

Summer is flying by, and the Summer Reading Program is coming to a close. Completed reading records may, however, still be turned in through August 31. Those readers who achieved their reading goals will each receive a book award.

The library is in need of an artistic volunteer who is willing to spend an hour or so a month lettering signs and creating displays. If interested, please call the library at 324-1382.

The Friends of the Library-sponsored "Shady Evergreen" quilt will be raffled off at the Banks Barbecue on Sunday, August 21. Raffle tickets are on sale now at the library and will be sold at the barbecue for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Two previous quilt projects have raised about \$1,000 each. Since the Banks branch is small compared to the circulation of other Washington County libraries, our portion of funding is less. The proceeds from the quilt raffle will be used by the "Friends" to provide books and supplies that the Banks branch could not obtain through county funding alone.

Remember, the second Saturday of each month is Recycle Saturday at the SWATCO Service Yard, 15945 NW Sellers Road, about one block South of the Sunset Highway. The next recycle day is August 13. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Magazines are now accepted,

as well as glass, newspapers, aluminum, steel (tin) cans, corrugated cardboard, brown paper bags, motor oil in screw top containers and plastic milk and water jugs. This project not only helps keep our land clean and beautiful, it also raises money to help support the library through the efforts of the Friends of the Library. Volunteers are always welcome. Please call Donna McCall at 324-3404 if you can spare a few hours once a month to help out.

Have you made the WIL connection yet? Anyone with a personal computer and modem can now access "WIL", a computerized card catalogue listing more than 290,000 items available at Washington County public libraries, Tuality Health Information Resource Center and the Oregon School of Arts and Crafts. The system allows the user to search by title, author or subject, reserve wanted items, review library card status and search for human services provided in the community. WIL even contains an electronic dictionary and word finder. Brochures with more information are available either at the library or through Washington County Cooperative Library Services, PO Box 5129, Aloha, 97006.

Library Hours: Wed. and Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Thurs. 1-7 p.m., Fri., 1-5 p.m.
Address: Oak Village Shopping Center, 669 S. Main Street. Phone: 324-1382

Letters to the Editor

Hospitality Center a great success

To the Editor:

The Vernonia Area Chamber of Commerce wants to give a big thank you to the following people and organizations who helped make our Hospitality Center such a success over Jamboree weekend:

Enid Parrow for baking and calling all the other gourmet cookie makers (the selection was fantastic), Bill Hawkins for the Clarke & Wilson logging pictures, Guy and Lisa Hardwick, Vernonia Mini Mart, Silva Diaz and the Jamboree Committee, Rose and Wally Dettmers, Dolly and Jerry Keenon, Mary Cota, West Oregon Electric Co-op, Ruth Steers, City of Vernonia, Don Whitchurch, and a very special thanks to those Chamber members who gave hours out of their busy schedules to host the center and show our visitors what a wonderful, caring city we are privi-

leged to live in.

Thanks also go to any others who helped, even if their names are inadvertently omitted.

**Mary Tolonen, President
Vernonia Area Chamber
of Commerce**

County Fair was a job well done

To the Editor:

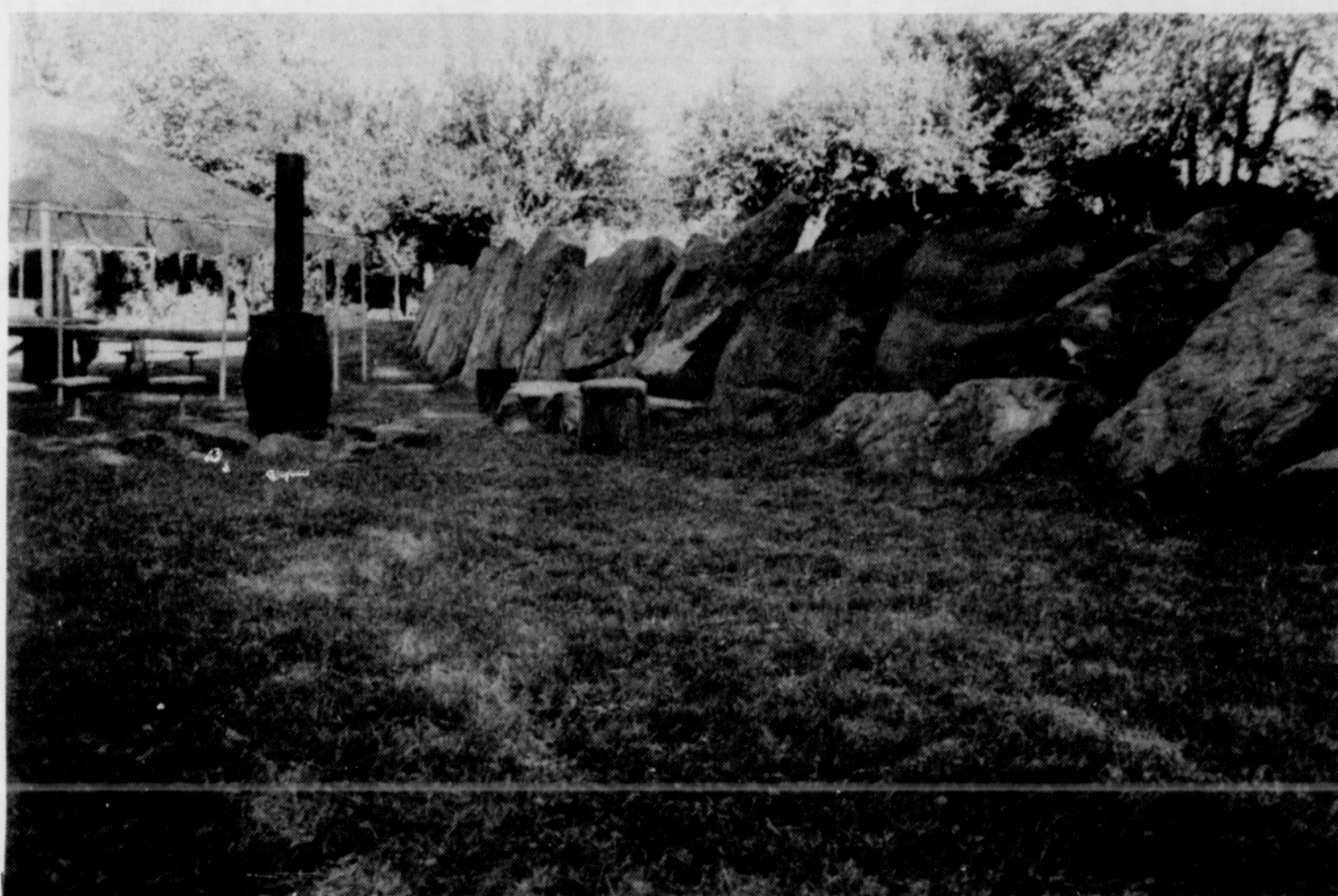
I would like to congratulate the Columbia County Fair Board for a job well done.

With virtually no tax dollars, a great amount of volunteer labor, and a strong commitment, they have made the Fair a success.

A big thanks to the Fair Board, staff, volunteers, and business people that made our fair possible.

**Dale B. Heimuller,
Commissioner
Columbia County**

Pearson Park fills every year with family and friends



Huge stones line the wall retaining the upper level.



A view of the lower terrace of Pearson's Park.



From left are Odell Pearson, Donna and a friend, Ralph Edmonds of Portland.

Vernonia's Friendship Jamboree has, for 38 years, served as a magnet, drawing many of its former residents, in the spirit of reunion with those who stayed on following the closure of the Oregon American mill.

One, among many such families, is the Barrick family. Melvin "Bear" Barrick and his wife, Luella, with their 2 year old daughter, Donna, moved to Vernonia in 1934. Bear worked in the woods. In 1936 they bought their home on Washington St. and there followed three more children—Melba, Dolores and Eldon.

Bear eventually wearied of working in the woods and signed on at Ed Miller's mill, where he worked for 26 years before retiring. The parents and one daughter, Melba, have since passed away. Eldon now has the family home.

Across the street and a few paces north of the home, lies a beautiful property fronting an Rock creek, which Donna and her husband,

Odell Pearson, bought in 1964. It lay fallow for a number of years, but a dozen or so years ago Odell began developing it. Odell is a heavy equipment operator and contractor in Tigard and has put his skill and equipment to good use in creating a lovely private park, which has become the locale for family reunions at Jamboree for at least a dozen years. A rockery lines the property at the creek's edge and the creek bank has been tiered, with massive stones, creating two levels with camping facilities and a barrel stove (unusable during summer months due to fire restrictions), that is suitably landscaped with plants and flowers.

Sharing the facility at this year's reunion were 32 family members and several personal friends.

The tradition will continue. Odell and Donna have two daughters, five grandchildren and four great-grandsons. You can be sure there will be many more reunions at Pearson's Park.