

Between the Bookends

By Charlene Bechen
Banks Library Volunteer

As you clean up the Christmas decorations, save your non-foil cards and gift wrap for Recycle Saturday, January 14, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the SWATCO service yard, 15945 NW Sellers Road. These, along with many other types of clean scrap paper, can now be recycled. Narrow neck plastic bottles may now be recycled as well. Bottles must not have contained toxic substances and must be clean. Labels may be left on. Examples of acceptable types of bottles include aspirin, bleach and cooking oil. Call Donna McCall at 324-3404 for more details, or pick up a brochure at the library.

It is not too late to reserve your 1995 Entertainment Book from Friends of the Library. Save hundreds of dollars on meals, car rental, movie tickets, hotels and services, both locally and nationwide. Call Karen at 324-9452 or Donna at 324-3404 before January 16 to order your copy. Don't miss out on all the savings and all the fun!

The Banks Library Adopt-a-Magazine program has been quite successful. To date, nine magazines have been sponsored for this year. If you or your group would like to adopt a specific magazine for the cost of one year's subscription, please call Denise at 324-1382. Several magazines still remain on our "wish list" and suggestions for others are welcome.

The next meeting of the Friends of the Li-

brary is scheduled for Saturday, January 21 at 10 a.m. in the Library. The "Friends" are members of the community dedicated to helping keep the Banks Library viable. Some volunteer their time for activities such as Recycle Saturday or the Quilt Project. Others donate an hour or so providing janitorial services or shelving books. Still others donate new and used books for circulation. Anyone interested in learning more about the Friends of the Library is welcome to attend this meeting.

Saturday, February 4, will be "Wool Day" at the Library. This annual event will run all day, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and will feature local spinners, weavers and knitters demonstrating their crafts. Patrons can inspect different styles of spinning wheels, looms and related devices such as niddy-noddys and lazy kates. Fleeces at various stages of preparation will be displayed, along with a diverse assortment of yarns. Yarn, apparel and kits for making socks, berets and children's hats will be available for sale, with part of the proceeds going to the Friends of the Library. Bring the family in to help us celebrate the fiber arts. In the event of snow on February 4, Wool Day will be rescheduled for March 18.

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



This photograph, taken in 1994, indicates some of the variety of activities—rug braiding, wool gathering and spinning—taking place during Wool Day at the Banks Public Library. Shown from left to right are Helen Hancock, Maryial Wilson, Laurellen Jabor, Sandy Sitzman, Nell Rand and Bonnie Shumaker.



Rilla and Brandy

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For your sewing needs, Forest Grove Vac & Sew carries a full selection of threads and sewing needles. They also sharpen scissors.

For vacuums, they sell a complete assortment of bags and belts for all makes and models.

Letters to the Editor

Vernonia Cares says response overwhelms

To the Editor:

We at Vernonia Cares are sincerely thankful for the efforts of everyone involved in our first Annual Food Drive. The response was overwhelming. The goal of 2,000 pounds of food was nearly doubled, with donations of 3,610 pounds. Additionally, cash donations totalled \$1,700.

Fifty-six families received Christmas baskets and, with the help of local firefighters, all the baskets were delivered.

Jamie Stacklie saw the need to help families in Vernonia and started the school food drive, which extended to a city-wide effort. Her enthusiasm encouraged others to get involved and was instrumental in the success of the endeavor.

Though our shelves have been restocked, donations are always welcome. With cutbacks in U.S.D.A. food allotments, we're uncertain of adequate support from Oregon Food Bank. Vernonia Cares is also in need of a donated freezer. Please call 429-1414 or 429-5451 if you can help provide one.

Once again, thank you for all your support and help on our first Annual Vernonia Cares Food Drive.

Becky Elder, Director
Vernonia Cares

Toy & Joy a success with your help

To the Editor:

This year's Christmas Toy & Joy program was again A HUGE SUCCESS! The joy of Christmas, for local area children, was brought to our town thanks to the overwhelming support and generosity of the entire community. Never before has the Toy & Joy program been so large, so successful, or helped so many.

I would like to say "THANK

YOU" to all of the committee members that helped to make the Toy & Joy program possible, and a special "THANK YOU", to all of the individuals, families, organizations, and businesses for their many contributions of donated time, money, and gifts. They're very much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Joseph E. Thornton
Toy & Joy Program
Vernonia Volunteer
Firefighters

Dislikes "drivel" of environmentalists

To the Editor:

I wish to respond to a recent letter appearing in *The INDEPENDENT* entitled, "Critic Speaks as a Former Logger."

I am a native of Columbia County. I was born at Clark & Wilson Lumber Company's Camp Wilark and started grade school at Washington School in Vernonia in 1934. Since leaving your city in 1937, my life has been spent in logging communities, and as an adult, my work has been in the logging and the wood products industry. I have experienced woods work in the salvage of the Tillamook Burn, participating in the development of sustained yield forestry, survived the assault on loggers by environmental organizations and, most recently, have been engaged in forestry and timber harvesting consulting in several foreign countries.

These activities and experience provide a long view of the current public concern for the forest. The author of the aforementioned letter, in my judgment, has succumbed to the environmental drivel and the politically correct posturing of the preservation elitist. Today's residents of Vernonia are surrounded by forest-covered hills. When my family left the community, those same hillsides were a sea of stumps. The tragedy of the Tillamook fires where I set my

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Ike Says (cont.)

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ologist Walt Weber added a note: "Environmentally stressed fish, even resistant fish, can become susceptible to a whole host of naturally occurring diseases and parasites, which can reduce fish populations."

There are a lot of people in our community who distrust ODF&W officials; that has included me when it comes to some of our big game biologists and staff, but whenever I've had dealings with the fishery people, I've found them to be very open and honest with the public. Sure, there has been political maneuvering by some of those higher up in the department, but the district-level staff people are there for only one reason—to have the very best fisheries possible. Remember it was the fishery people, themselves, who became critical of their own surveying methods and did the research needed to resolve the issue. They openly admitted they were wrong; this is rare in public officials. Our North Coast District biologist and staff can be trusted; they are dedi-

cated to restoring our fish runs and are suffering right along with the rest of us through these tough fishery years.

I remember, when I was an eleven-year-old kid and the snow was up to my waist, my dad and a whole lot of other Vernonians spending day after day, using their own pickups and gas, to haul hay donated by local farmers to starving elk. Many of us remember the nice bull elk trapped near the tunnel on Highway 26 and the brave men who risked injury to get hay to that animal so he would survive. They didn't use excuses about how it was ODF&W's problem and turn their backs. I was proud to be a Vernonian who helped save many elk back in 1968-69. Well, guys, the snow is waist deep again, it's just that you can't see it. Let us again be proud to be Vernonians; let's quit placing blame and help find the solutions. Finding solutions is the only way to move ahead and insure our children the return of the mighty salmon.