

Between the Bookends

By Charlene Bechen
Banks Library Volunteer

As the children count down the remaining days of school, the Banks Library is gearing up for the Summer Reading Program. This year's theme is "Blast Off With Books!" Sign up will be Wednesday, June 14, at the library. Each child will set his own goals, and awards will be given for goals attained. Preschoolers' "Read to Me" sign-up will also begin June 14.

"Up For Grabs" will present the first program, "Jugglemania", on Thursday, June 22, at 2 p.m. Kids of all ages will enjoy the acrobatics, comedy and Wild West tricks. Future presentations will include storyteller Nina Di-Giovanni, Dr. Wilderness, B.J. Scampy, City Mouse & Country Mouse, and puppeteer Teresa Fox.

Recycle Saturday is the second Saturday of each month at the SWATCO service yard, 15945 NW Sellers Road. Most scrap paper can now be included, as well as many narrow necked plastic bottles. Lists of acceptable materials are available at the library, SWATCO, or by calling Donna McCall at 324-3404. Saturday recycling is staffed entirely by volunteers. Proceeds are used by the Friends of the Banks Library to augment the library budget. If you can spare an hour or two once a month to help with the recycling project, please call McCall at 324-3404 or the library at 324-1382.

Friends of the Banks Library meet the first Saturday of each month at the library at 10 a.m. Anyone who is interested in becoming a member is welcome to attend. With the new library on the horizon, the Friends' job is even more important. Clearing of the new site is scheduled for the end of July, with construction planned to begin next January. The tentative completion date is June of 1996. The Friends are responsible for raising the matching funds for the Community Development Block Grant that is making construction possible.

Many thanks are extended to the friends and neighbors who purchased used books and plants last month. Special thanks go out to Bloomers, Woodstock and Weeks nurseries; their generous plant contributions made the sale so successful.

New books this month include *The Good Marriage*, by Judith S. Wallerstein and Sandra Blakeslee; *Mars and Venus in the Bedroom*, by John Gray, Ph.D.; *Family Secrets*, by John Bradshaw; Belva Plain's newest novel, *Carouse!*; and the most recent J.P. Beaumont mystery by J.A. Jance, *Lying in Wait*.

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

If you have, or know of, youngsters willing to decorate themselves, or any push or pull-type vehicle, Vernonia is asking them to join in the parade. There will be a gift for all entrants. All entries should be of a patriotic nature. There will be prizes for most patriotic, most creative, and best decorated vehicle. No motorized vehicles, please.

The parade will form at Bridge Street and Weed Avenue at 6:00 p.m. and will start at 6:30 p.m., followed by games on the school grounds and music by our own local musicians, lasting until fireworks begin. Just to remind you, the 4th is on a Tuesday this year, and this WILL be on the 4th.

Vernonia Pride was requested to take this project on and we want to do our best to make it a "bang-up" success for everyone in the community.

If you care to enter the parade, or help with any of the other good happenings call me at 429-5924, or get in touch with any Vernonia Pride person. We all are working together on this and Vernonia Pride is, after all, you.

Thanks in advance,
Dorothy Hass
Vernonia Pride Member

Protection of rights protects freedom

To the Editor:

What does liberty and freedom, mean to you? To me, it means I have authority over absolute control, on the lawful exercise, of my rights. I mean that so long as I do not infringe the rights of another, or place the rights of another in imminent danger, our governmental trustees, can make no law, to restrict my rights. Also, governments protect and enhance rights, while punishing those in society, who are abusive of rights. Now ask yourself, do you have "more" rights, or less?

Don Schwarz
Nazareth, PA

Ejection from store for good cause

To the Editor:

Do you remember when, as a teenager, you landed your first job and how it felt working part-time at a local convenience store, going to school full time and just kind of floating through life? The job was not very glamorous but there seemed not to be a lot of pressure, so you went along with it.

In time you might catch a kid shop-lifting; no problem. Then one day a twenty-something-year-old adult male threatens bodily harm to you. So your employer hangs a note (with your best interest in mind) saying this adult is no longer allowed in the store, life goes on.

Several weeks later you

pick up a copy of *The INDEPENDENT*, read the letters to the editors and, lo and behold, there's one that concerns you.

The letter was not written by the person involved, but by his mother, claiming it (the sign) is unjust although he admits he was wrong for the way he did what he did.

In my opinion he was out and out wrong. I would like to know what the mother would have said if something like this had happened to her younger son while he was employed by me. Would she have condoned it, say it's "Okay, let's give this person a second chance"? I doubt it.

She wants to know why I don't have notes up with the names of other people who have been kicked out of the store for threatening harm to my employees. The reason is because her son took top honors, him being the first.

This should be an issue between her son and me, it's time for mother to step out of the way.

I've seen this young man on numerous occasions; not once has he said a word about any of this, to either defend himself or to rectify the situation.

It seems to be no big deal to the person named; the only person it seems to bother is his mother.

The sign is still there.

Diana Hudson
Vernonia Mini-Mart

47J was good, but is becoming factory

Dear Editor:

I want to thank all of the terrific kids, supportive parents, and caring staff members I have had the privilege of working with during the last three years in the Vernonia School District. It would take pages to list all of your names, but you know who you are.

These have been the best three years of my eight-year teaching career, and I am truly going to miss working at Lincoln-Grade School next year. At the same time, I am looking forward to my new position teaching high school English in Gambell, Alaska, just forty miles (and a lot of ice) from Siberian Russia. Please write and send firewood (there are no trees on St. Lawrence Island)!

When I received my elementary certification, Vernonia was the only school district I applied to because it was the one place I had worked as a substitute teacher in the Portland metro area where the kids were enthusiastic, parents and relatives were actively involved, and staff members were friendly (with a few exceptions in all three categories). I have loved teaching here.

Thank you for supporting me and my fellow public school teachers in doing what

Please see page 16

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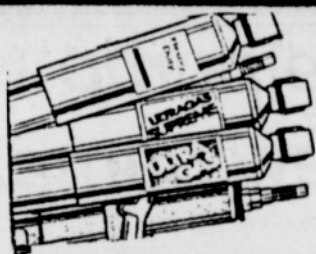
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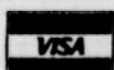
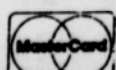
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More Letters

Letter to City from Oklahoma governor

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the people of Oklahoma, thank you so very much for your contribution of \$156.61. Although no amount of money can heal our deepest wounds, your kind words and tremendous generosity has helped to expedite the recovery process. Although we have much yet to do, the help and support of thousands of Americans and people around the world have already made our path to healing smoother.

This awful event has once again reminded us that we are not just Oklahomans or Californians or Virginians or Texans, but Americans and members of the world community. When our own are hurt or threatened, we respond, irrespective of state line or region. The outpouring of caring and concern from our fellow citizens has simply overwhelmed us.

The world has touched our heart. As we grieve our losses and repair the damage, you will always be in our thoughts and prayers, as we know we are in yours.

Sincerely,
Frank Keating
Governor
State of Oklahoma

July 4th festivities include kids parade

To the Editor:

This year Vernonia is again making some plans for the evening of the 4th of July.

We are planning a kids parade followed by games and music on the school grounds, food and, of course, fireworks, for which donations are being requested.