

Between the Bookends

By Nancy Burch
Vernonia City Librarian

New books for the New Year include selections by Dean Koontz, Rosamund Pilcher, Anne Tyler, Richard North Patterson and James Patterson. Since the Pattersons are not as well known as Koontz, Tyler, and Pilcher, some background information might be useful for their potential readers. Richard North Patterson is a former trial lawyer whose novels focus on (surprise, surprise!) murder and the resulting courtroom drama. Each of his suspenseful novels is descriptive, fast paced, and has a completely unexpected ending. Patterson's latest thriller, *The Final Judgment*, begins with the brutal murder of Brett Allen's boyfriend. When Brett is taken into custody for the murder, her aunt, Caroline Masters, is summoned to be her defense attorney. Caroline, who left home twenty years ago when her family betrayed her trust, has just been nominated to the Court of Appeals. By agreeing to represent Brett, Caroline finds herself faced with losing her career, with emotional challenges of her return home, and with doubts concerning Brett's connection with the crime. Did she do it? And if not, who did?

James Patterson's thrillers, *Along Came a Spider* and *Kiss the Girls*, were both recent bestsellers. Now, he has created a villain so scary and complex — a magnificent athlete, film star, handsome husband — that the reader will hate, but will not be able to outwit, in *Hide and Seek*. Will Shepherd is this villain, a man who has seduced, killed, and manipulated, to gain recognition, but not peace of mind. When Will hears the lyrics of singer/songwriter Maggie Bradford, he deludes himself into believing she speaks to him and eases the restless urge he cannot assuage. After he succeeds in deceiving and marrying Maggie, she finds herself in an inescapably dangerous position. With her future, her life and that of her children threatened by Will, does she kill him? Does he find some way to even manipulate Maggie by his death? This has an ending that will really fool you.

Keep reading, and if you have any authors that you enjoy and that you feel others should be aware of, please let me know.

Library Hours: Monday and Friday 1-5 p.m., Wednesday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **Preschool Story Time:** every Wednesday from 10:30-11 a.m.

Ike Says (cont.)

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this fish's decline. Sea-runs are also very vulnerable to predation in the ocean, as they are the smallest of the anadromous fish there. El Nino effects are probably also responsible for some of the sea-run's decline, again because the sea-run cutthroat is at the bottom of the food chain.

The public can propose new regulations during this process and I'm sure the Izaak Walton League is going to, so if you have an idea give me a call and I will help you submit your idea. All new proposals are due by

February 28, 1996. There will be public meetings on all the proposed regulations, including one at Astoria on May 23 and one at Portland on May 30. Meeting sites are still to be announced.

Izaak Walton League meetings are the third Wednesday of each month, Vernonia Public Library at 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome.

Letters to the Editor

Public Works dep't really does work

To the Editor:

I stopped by City Hall and mentioned that several of my neighbors on A Street were missing, having been swallowed by the pot holes in the street. This brought laughs from [Clerk] Kathy [Morrison]

and [Recorder] Jana [Borst] and a statement from Kathy that they were "gone forever". The next morning, the pot holes were filled.

I had a terrible winter water drainage problem. The problem is solved through the efforts of [Public Works Director] Robyn [Bassett] and her staff in conjunction with the well oiled machinery of City

Hall.

When my gas line was installed, the contractor hit a water line—it was repaired in less than an hour.

My sincerest thanks for a public works department that, with limited staff and resources, really WORKS!

John Naron
Vernonia

Once again a small group

of people have singled out another business and are trying to destroy it and all the jobs associated with it. Just like they did with my good friends Tim and Michelle Bero (Technetwork) who has been welcomed in the town of Warren, Oregon with open arms.

Freedom of choice is the American way

To the Editor:

I am writing this letter regarding the JUDGEMENT and crucifixion of Miss Linda Hartman (Cindernook) by a local "Christian group". I have known Linda for quite some time now and I do not believe that Miss Hartman is getting the respect that she deserves.

I have worked for Miss Hartman in the past, and I have never seen anything out of line. I have seen Miss Hartman donate her building, rent free, for community fund raisers, weddings, and high school graduations.

As far as I am concerned, Miss Linda Hartman is a law abiding citizen. If she was not, she would not have the State Lottery behind her. I know the State Lottery put in a lot of scrutiny. Therefore, I do not understand why some uninformed Vernonians cannot give Miss Hartman a fair shake.

In reference to past Letters to the Editor about the Male Strippers. What happened to FREEDOM OF CHOICE? In this great country we live in, as AMERICANS, we have the right to make our own choices. As an AMERICAN and an adult I made the choice to observe a little live entertainment (which I might add, has been going on since the beginning of time). As an observer I saw grandmothers, mothers, and daughters...all exercising their right to choose and all having a good time. They were all of legal age and thus they have the right to assemble, consent, and consume alcoholic beverages if they choose to do so. The right to assemble does not only pertain to Sunday morning activities! It boils down to FREEDOM OF CHOICE.

Thank you Sincerely,
Kelly Schaumburg
Vernonia

Thinks Wyden is "full blown Socialist"

To the Editor:

The so called "INDEPENDENT" has finally come out of its "journalistic closet" and at least we now know where you stand! Your descriptions of the 2 Senatorial candidates in the Jan 3rd issue was so much broad brush B.S. that it read like a Junior High paper. Ron Wyden is not a semi-liberal, he's a full blown Socialist with no brains and we've had enough of his ilk! Send him back to his East side Portland Roots.

John Hiestand
Banks

Furse aide will be in Vernonia

Ann Richardson, a district representative for Rep. Elizabeth Furse, will be in Columbia County, Thursday, Feb. 22, to hold field offices for county constituents.

Anyone wishing to talk with Richardson may either drop in, or make an appointment by calling the Portland office, toll-free at 1-800-422-4003.

Richardson's schedule is as follows:

St. Helens, 9:00 - 10:00 a.m., Soil Conservation Service office, 2514 Sykes Road.

Vernonia, 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m., Vernonia Public Library, 919 Bridge Street.

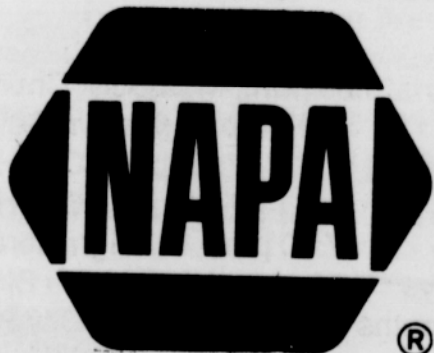
Clatskanie, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m., City Hall, 95 S. Nehalem Street.

Rainier, 3:30 - 4:30 p.m., City Hall, 106 West B Street.

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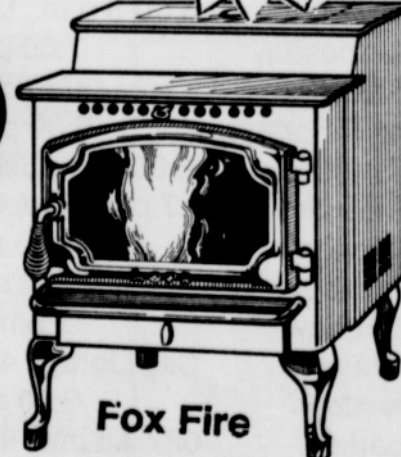
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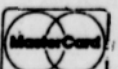


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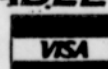


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