

Between the Bookends

By Charlene Bechen
Banks Library Volunteer

Polish your thimble and join the other volunteers at work on the Friends of the Library quilt project. This quilt will be a "Come-along" pattern utilizing the strip method of quilting, in shades of blues and greens. Quilting bees are taking place Thursday evenings throughout the spring and early summer. The completed quilt will be raffled off at the Banks Barbecue in August. Raffle tickets are available at the library for \$1.00 each. Please call Denise at 324-1382 for more information.

Volunteers are also needed to help staff the Friends' Saturday Recycling at the SWATCO service yard. Occurring the second Saturday of each month, this project helps keep our community beautiful and provides extra funds for the Banks Library. Many faithful patrons work there every month, but with summer approaching, more help is needed. If you can spare an hour or two once a month for this worthy endeavor, please call Donna at 324-3404. Your help would be greatly appreciated.

A hearty thank you is extended to all those who donated and purchased items at the Spring Plant and Book Sale. As with all the

Friends' activities, the money raised at this event will help defray the costs of running the Banks Library.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, May 16. At 7 p.m. that day at the Banks Library, JoAnn Pari-Mueller, a member of the Portland Art Museum speaker's bureau, will host a slide presentation of the Imperial Tombs of China. This exhibit opens May 1 at the Portland Art Museum and is the most significant display of Chinese artifacts ever seen outside the Orient. The exhibit contains more than 250 objects, including life-sized terra cotta warriors. Portland is the only city on the West Coast to host this exhibit. The slide presentation at the library is open to the public and free of charge.

Beverly Cleary, an author with local roots, has published the second part of her memoirs, *My Own Two Feet*. This book, as well as her first book of memoirs, *A Girl From Yamhill*, are available at the library.

Library Hours: Wednesday and Saturday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Thursday 1 - 7 p.m., Friday, 1 - 5 p.m. Banks Library is located in Oak Village Shopping Center, 669 S. Main Street. Phone: 324-1382.

More Letters

I think people should know that they have a great road department crew. These men and women do more with nothing than just about any other public organization I know of. The February floods showed just how dedicated these people really are. While the mudslides on US 30 got a lot of media attention, it should be noted that there were hundreds of slides and washouts throughout the county road system. Your road department personnel worked their hearts out to get traffic moving. Some individuals, I'm told, worked upwards of two hundred hours overtime in February alone.

As former Roadmaster, I just want everyone to know that there are some darn good folks working on the county road system and they deserve to be recognized and appreciated.

Sincerely,
Jim McBride,
Retired County Roadmaster
St. Helens

intends to vote in the Primary election, I will choose her over Bushnell.

Harold Leatherman
Bay City

Enhanced 9-1-1 is benefit to everyone

To the Editor:

When an emergency strikes you or your loved ones, most people reach for their phone and dial 9-1-1. In Columbia County your 9-1-1 call reaches a dedicated group of individuals in a crowded office the size of a large closet. These trained folks then have to determine where you are calling from and dispatch the appropriate agency. In most cases the caller is able to tell the dispatcher where the emergency is. However, this is not always the case, especially at district boundaries or when the caller is unable to give an address. Additionally, since our system is entirely dependent on the phone lines, if there is problem with those lines there can be problems with completing a 9-1-1 call.

I would urge you to vote in favor of the 9-1-1 request for a bond issue and tax base. This money is needed to upgrade our system to what is called Enhanced 9-1-1. Under this system, all calls would automatically display the associated address and could be immediately and appropriately dispatched.

In addition to very badly needed facility and equipment upgrades, part of the complete program is the production of accurate maps for all areas of the county. The tremendous growth in our area has outdated our maps and leads to delays in emergency response (and tremendous frustration in responders searching desperately for an address that is not on the maps). In addition, the new system would reduce our dependence on the phone lines.

Resolutions in support of this bond measure have been passed by many local groups including Lions, Vernonia City Council and Vernonia Volunteer Fire and EMS Association. I urge you to support this badly needed improvement.

Schann W. Nelson
EMT-Intermediate
VRFPD

Please see page 16

Bushnell ignoring wishes of the voters

To the Editor:

One of the most important things we can do to regain control of our government is to reform the method we use to finance our elections. Campaign spending in Oregon legislative races has increased 10-fold in the last two decades. Oregon is one of only seven states that had no limits on campaign contributions. Measure No. 9, which passed by a wide margin during the 1994 General Election, changed that.

The new campaign reform law allows candidates to sign a statement with the Secretary of State declaring that they will limit their campaign expenditures to \$20,000 for the primary election. As reported by the Voters' Pamphlet recently mailed to me, Scott Bushnell [Republican candidate, State Rep. Dist. 2] is the only candidate who did not sign this voluntary declaration. This means if you contributed to his campaign you cannot obtain a tax credit from the State. It also means that Mr. Bushnell is not listening to the wishes of the voters. Diane Waldron agreed to the campaign expenditure limit. As a Republican, who

Letters

Country Kitchen is back in business

To the Editor:

The Vaughn Family cannot begin to thank everyone for all the help, support, donations, loss of sleep, sore muscles during the floods. We got another 3" April 22nd., but it could have been worse with-

out the help of friends, and neighbors, who stayed up all night long.

Your names, organizations, Red Cross, St. Marys CATV, churches, friends and numerous New friends are endless. All we can say is "you all know who you are."

We have everything on our menu including B.B.Q. Ribs - a favorite - and are slowly

getting the specials back. Donuts are in, homemade pies are coming, Mom says.

We're open at 7:00 a.m. and ready to serve you again.

Dave, Betty, Marshall,
Jim, Jason & Cody
Vernonia

Good folks work on county road crews

To the Editor:

During the many years I served as the Columbia County Roadmaster, I came to know the road department crews very well. It would be fair to say that we had our differences like any other management-labor relationship does, and sometimes those differences were significant. I can honestly say, however, that all of us at the Road Department were committed to doing the best job we could do for the the citizens of the County.

I had a lot of support from a lot of folks even though their requests for road improvements couldn't always be filled. It seems we were always trying to stretch a dollar for materials. But that's not why I felt I had to write this letter.

The reason I'm peeking my head out of retirement is that

STATE REPRESENTATIVE JACKIE TAYLOR

DISTRICT 1 DEMOCRAT



It has been an honor for me to serve as your representative completing Tony Federici's term. I ask for your vote in the May 21st primary so that I may continue to represent District 1.

JACKIE TAYLOR...
a leader who listens

Authorized and paid by FRIENDS OF JACKIE TAYLOR,
Norma J. Olson, Treasurer
1324 Miller Lane, Astoria, OR 97103



Retain...Elect

JUDGE
PAULA

BROWNHILL
Circuit Court Judge

Our community needs Circuit Court Judge Paula Brownhill. She is fair, firm and works hard to serve the citizens of District 19.

• Experience • Fairness
• Commitment

Paid for by Committee to Retain Judge Brownhill, No. 002280, Blair J. Henningsgaard, Treasurer