

Between the Bookends

By Nancy Burch
Vernonia City Librarian

The library's extensive collection of Christmas crafts books contains some really fabulous ideas for making and giving that special gift. Consider giving a Christmas collage sweatshirt, some caramel pretzels and nuts presented in a country drawstring bag, or some exquisite crocheted snowflake ornaments.

Ideas also abound for home decorating, for creating personalized clothing and for entertaining with the holiday as the focus. Have you thought about decorating your Christmas tree with flea market treasures or with candy cane reindeer, or wearing festive decorated sneakers, or serving an impressive cranberry cake? Hurry and check out these holiday idea books, have some fun, and impress your friends and family with your "creations".

If you are thinking of traveling during the holidays, the library has *Oregon Coast* and *Northwest Travel* magazines for planning your trips. *Northwest Travel* has a calendar of events for Washington, Oregon, British Columbia, Idaho, Montana, and Alaska. Nearby, you will find the Festival of Lights at the Grotto, the Wine Country Thanksgiving in Yamhill County, the Festival of Trees in Newport, the Zoolights Festival, and the Willamina Christmas Light Parade. Special events on the coast featured in *Oregon Coast* include a Christmas Boat Parade in Astoria, the Christ-

mas tree lighting and Community Sing-along in Cloverdale, and Sail With Santa at Newport. Check these magazines for the dates of these special events.

This month's novel to "curl-up-with" is *The Deep End of the Ocean* by Jacquelyn Mitchard. This is the story of a family that emerges from a horrible experience — intact, redeemed, and reborn. While Beth Cappadora is registering for her high school reunion, her three-year-old son, Ben, disappears. His disappearance leaves Beth on the edge of suppressed agony for nine years, drives a shattering wedge in her marriage, transforms their other son into a delinquent who encourages danger in an attempt to break the silence that surrounds the whole Cappadora family. Then something so unexpected happens, it changes everything that seemed true or possible. This is an unforgettable novel that will enthrall and haunt the reader as only those very special stories can.

Other new novels include tales by Scott Turow, Tom Clancy, Sue Grafton, Dick Francis, and Mary Higgins Clark.

Use and enjoy your library!

Vernonia Library is located at 919 Bridge Street. **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:** Wednesdays, 10:30-11 a.m.

Ike Says (cont.)

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absolutely vicious. The males' jaws become hooked and are adorned with canine-like teeth that they use to tear into their opponents. Natural selection and survival of the fittest are dramatically played out in the spawning beds. I observed many occasions when the dominant males were constantly challenged and many occasions when tremendous, water-splashing fights would erupt as two males battled with open, slashing jaws for the right to fertilize the freshly-laid eggs.

The Izaak Walton League views this salmon run as a local treasure and is working on a plan to publicize this natural wonder. Our preliminary idea is to develop salmon viewing areas, with signs directing people to the viewing sites. Vernonia could become a stop for a lot of people who go to the Jewell Wildlife Meadows and provide them with a fuller wildlife outing for the day. We feel this could be a really big draw for the Vernonia area as more people became aware of this resource.

Next year be sure to keep an eye open for

people watching the salmon from the Bridge Street bridge; then drive up to the Water Plant and see if the fish are spawning.

Here's a note for you elk hunters in the Saddle Mountain Unit. ODF & W is again collecting bull elk tooth samples for age determination. If you shoot a bull, please remove a tooth from the very front two teeth in the lower jaw (elk don't have teeth in the upper jaw) by slicing down on all sides of the tooth with your knife and then give it a pop with an axe handle or something heavy to remove it. The tooth should come out intact to the very tip; if the tip breaks off it is useless. If you will turn the tooth in to me, I have the envelopes and will see that they get to the district big game biologist. This information will help determine how our elk herds and hunting opportunities will be managed in the future.

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

Letters to the Editor

Kuiper says thanks to her supporters

To the Editor:

As Election '96 comes to a close, it's time to thank each and every one of you who supported me during the busy and rewarding campaign.

As the new four-year term approaches, I am looking forward to working for all of you and being a part of the Columbia County work team.

An invitation is extended to all. My open door always says WELCOME!

Thanks again, voters.

Paulette Kuiper
Treasurer-elect

Emotion sometimes slows responses

To the Editor:

Nine months have come and gone, and it's only now that I can sit down with pen in hand to say Thank-You to a special group of women who came together during a crisis and made a difference to hundreds of people. The ladies I'm referring to are Lyn O'Dair, Marie Krahn, Norma Wood, Doreen Richards, Jeanine Hall, and Carolyn Keasey. Many of these women did not know each other before the flood, however, they became fast friends by the time the last meal was served and the last dish washed and put away.

These women are, of course, the ones you saw in the morning when you made your way to St. Mary's for scrambled eggs and pancakes or a cup of coffee. They are the ones you saw when you came back for homemade soup or fresh cookies and cakes and the faces you saw in the evening as you gathered your family for a meal of baked salmon or chicken and dumplings. This was their contribution to their devastated community. The 12 to 16 hour days and the 1,600 meals a day they served was their way of saying they care and they want to help. However, they could not have done it without the help of all the men, women and children who came in to clean up, set up or help serve, or without the many people who brought in food from their own freezers to be prepared. There were moments when we didn't know where the next meal would come from and then someone would come in with a hot dish to serve or meat to prepare. Because of all of you — We made it! Carolyn, Doreen, Lyn, Jeanine, Norma and Marie.

Not many women can work so closely, for so many hours together in one kitchen without wanting to kill each other — even under the best of conditions, but hey — you ladies are like no others!

Thank you for your time, your love and your dedication during the flood of '96

Kim Brucken
Vernonia

Interim Sheriff says goodby to County

To the Editor:

It is hard to believe [that] my time as your Interim Sheriff is nearly at an end. The past seven months have literally flown by. On December 6, 1996, your newly elected Sheriff (Phil Derby) will be sworn-in.

As I reflect back on my experiences with the Sheriff's Office, I have seen many changes and I am encouraged about the future of the Department. The men and women of the Department are hard-working and dedicated to their profession. We have worked hard to make improvements to provide you with good service. We have created efficiencies and provided the best service possible within existing resources. Clearly, more staff is needed to provide you with the proper level of law enforcement services. As the Department continues to gain your trust and confidence, I hope you will support the employees' continued effort to do the best job possible.

My job has certainly been made much easier with the spirit of cooperation between the various law enforcement agencies, the community, employees of the Sheriff's Office, and the staff of the various county departments. Coming from "outside" the County, I had many concerns about being accepted, not only by the employees of the Sheriff's Office, but community as well. In all sincerity I have never received such a warm welcome as that given me by the people of Columbia County. That in itself is something to be extremely proud of, and in this day of hustle and bustle a rare commodity. It has truly made me appreciate my experience as your Sheriff.

To all of you I wish the best, and offer my thanks for the support and assistance you have rendered me. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve you.

Pat Detloff
Interim Sheriff
St. Helens

Sheriff-elect thanks the county's voters

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my family and the many wonderful people who helped in my recent campaign for Columbia County Sheriff. The campaign took many hours of hard work and people throughout Columbia County were more than willing to dedicate their

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STAY WARM THIS WINTER



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Frye's has a large selection of pro-logo jackets great for kids.
Reg. '95 **'79"**



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Reg. '29 **'25"**

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