

Between the Bookends

By Cecelia Sadtler
Volunteer, Banks Library

If you haven't been to the new Banks Public Library, May is a great time to visit. The aisles are roomy, the shelves are brimming with a growing collection of interesting books, large windows let in the bright spring light, and there's one final program scheduled for the Banks History Lecture Series.

May 14 is the date for the last historical presentation in this year's series. The history programs were made possible through the efforts of the Friends of the Banks Public Library with funding from the Oregon Council for the Humanities, the Banks Area Merchants Association, and the Japanese American Citizens League. The lectures have covered a variety of enjoyable and informational topics about growth in Banks and surrounding communities. Audiences have been very enthusiastic. The final program is titled *Banks, A Darn Good Little Town* and will be presented by Ann Fulton, author of a book by the same name. Fulton, Adjunct Professor of History at Portland State University, will follow the formal lecture and slide show with a general discussion. Historical photographs will be on display and refreshments will be served. There is no charge for the program which begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Banks Library.

Fulton's interest in depicting life in rural Oregon is also evident in her authoring of *Vernonia, A Pocket in the Woods*. This well documented and illustrated volume follows the settlers who arrived in the mid-1870s at the place where the Nehalem River meets Rock Creek. It continues in a stimulating narrative to track the growth and development of the city of Vernonia. The Banks Library has a copy of this book available for borrowing.

New books on the shelves this month are Robert B. Parker's new thriller *Sudden Mischievous* which has received great reviews in major newspapers. Also new is *Pandora* by Anne Rice. This novel takes the reader through the ages from Imperial Rome to twentieth century Paris and New Orleans with the mesmerizing tale of Pandora's fantastic adventures and immortal love. A must-read for Anne Rice fans and all who appreciate the lessons and insights of history.

During May the front desk at the Banks Library is the setting for an interesting display of

multicultural books. The Library has used funds from the Washington County Co-operative Library Services (WCCLS) Multicultural Grant to create a collection of books featuring a variety of rich customs. You can glimpse a peek into the stories, festivals, folklore and rituals of Hispanic, Japanese, Hebrew, and many other peoples.

The Library is in the process of expanding their collection of reference materials. There are books about everything from baby names to science, religion to travel accommodations, gardening, art, fashion and video games. There's a book about game rules, the New Book of Guinness World Records and many, many more. With the convenience of the Library's photocopy machine you can make copies on the spot at ten cents apiece.

The Library has been given a 1997 set of *The Thomas Register of American Manufacturers*. This valuable resource contains addresses, phone numbers and other information from manufacturers who elect to register in this guide. If there is a product you've been looking for or wondering about, stop by the library and look it up in the *Thomas Register*.

The Banks Library sponsors some events that take place on a monthly basis. Recycling Saturday is organized by the Friends of the Library and will be held this month on May 9. Bring your recyclables to the SWATCO service yard located at 15945 NW Sellers Road between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Another monthly Library event is the meeting of The Banks Writers' Group on the second Monday from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The date is May 11. This is a small group whose purpose is to provide a low key format for developing writing skills. Participants are invited to share their writing and to receive sensitive and honest feedback from peers. If you would like more information or would like to join this group please call Cecelia Sadtler at 324-0225.

These are just a few of the reasons to put the Banks Library on your "to do" list today! Local flyers, news bulletins and copies of *The INDEPENDENT* are also available. Come by and see us soon.

Banks Library 111 Market Street.
Hours: Tues. and Thurs., 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.;
Wed., Fri. and Sat. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Phone: (503) 324-1382

Letters to the Editor

Helpers at Easter Egg Hunt were great

To the Editor:

As a representative of the Vernonia Area Chamber of Commerce, I'd like to take this time to say how much we appreciate Vernonia Sentry Market for donating all the eggs for the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. When we had excessive breakage in the boiling process, Manager Randy Parrow replaced them with bigger and better eggs.

Our bunny helpers were Sharon Doores, Nancy Dailey, Mary, Arnie and Tonya Tolonen, Kathy Fetch, Dolly, Jerry and Alana Keenon, Rob Guinn, Katie Parrow, Bill, Mary and Shelly Cota, Pat Miles, Mary Ann Shaw, Tegan Jones, Dianne Waltrip, Trista Eckland and her friend.

The weather held off raining on us and the Easter Bunny had lots of candy to hand out. The kids are so cute, and we look forward each year to their smiling faces. Even though some would rather not sit in the bunny's lap, most were eager to give a hug, or at least a wave. The volunteers gave of their time and hearts, and we want them to know it was appreciated.

Thanks Trehan Cafe for serving us our breakfast. We look forward to next year's Hunt.

Sincerely,
Dolly Keenon
Vernonia Area Chamber
of Commerce

Thanks for support of D.A.R.E. program

To the Editor:

The Vernonia Police Department would like to thank Vernonia Sentry Market for their donation of \$500 to the Vernonia D.A.R.E. program. This money will be used to purchase materials for the students' D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony. We appreciate the generous donations from local businesses who support the D.A.R.E. program and help make it a success for our youth.

Jim Walters
Chief of Police
Vernonia Police Dept.

Mike Durbin's efforts are really appreciated

To the Editor:

The Vernonia Booster Club would like to acknowledge the efforts of Mr. Mike Durbin, Athletic Director at Vernonia High School.

We, the Booster Club, work to raise money to fund activities that students in our district are involved in. The activities that we support include, but are not limited to, academic scholarships, financial support to purchase equipment needed for individual students to participate in various athletic activities, sports awards dinners, uniforms (T-shirts) for band

members, assistance for students traveling to Ashland to see plays, volunteer support for almost any activity when asked; the list goes on and on.

Our organization has had one of the most successful years that we can recall. Mr. Durbin has been very involved in keeping us informed of opportunities for us, not only to provide services but where we could possibly make money to further support our students. He attends nearly all of our meetings, which are always in the evenings, even though he does not live in the community and must either drive to Beaverton and return or stay after school until 7:00 pm.

Mr. Durbin has been instrumental in several of our successful endeavors and his enthusiastic support of our efforts is very much appreciated. Without his cooperation, dedication, support, and suggestions, we would not have experienced the success that we have enjoyed this year. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Mr. Durbin's efforts and to say thank you. We look forward to working with him in the coming years.

Vernonia Boosters

Great town; great day; great youth!

To the Editor:

It is 4:38 p.m. on April 18th, as I type this letter. I am tired and want to get this done before I forget the details.

On my way home I noticed how wonderful my town looks. I realized that while I was focusing on my own actions today (Vernonia clean-up day), others were accomplishing beautiful improvements in Vernonia. I could see these immediately as I drove home. I also realized that what I had been working on would be invisible to most of us.

At 9:00 a.m., I met with thirty-four individuals (if you count Scooter, the turtle) who chose to perform random acts of kindness in our community—specifically for senior citizens who requested help after it was offered. I got nervous at 9:30 a.m., when I knew that we needed to have forty-seven students to start all the homes and had only twenty-three.

After sending out six crews with three or four students each, I made some phone calls and asked those seniors who were going to have to wait, to please be patient. We could only do our best and they agreed. For the next five hours, crews returned and then left again to make sure all the homes would get the help they wanted. Some went out a third time.

We had also planned a car wash to benefit The Senior Center if we had a surplus of students but, since we did not, I planned to cancel. At 10:30 a.m., I was speaking with Guy Hardwick and told him how

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Letters to the Editor

Tobacco settlement will harm children

To the Editor:

Let's step back one moment and take a real look at the

Tobacco Industry's recent balk at a sweetheart settlement. What are they buying, and what is the American Public selling? Here's a short list:

1. Immunity: The multi-billion dollar industry that has lied

to us for decades, and encouraged our children to smoke is getting immunity. Immunity is protection from being held accountable. Everyday citizens do not get to buy their way out of being responsible, but these corporations do.

2. Profit: This immunity makes for a good profit. Right after this proposed deal was worked out, tobacco stock prices sky rocketed. Why? Simple. It allows this industry to make millions making people ill, all the while knowing that taxpayers will flip the bill as their profits mount.

3. Responsibility: Big Tobacco wants to keep the smoking gun. Reams of documents, just now discovered, show us Big Tobacco knew it was making us sick, but instead of being responsible, it rolled right along, targeting not only adults, but our kids.

The bottom line is this: These companies are trying to buy the right to keep on killing our children with an addictive drug. We should not allow anyone to buy the right to kill for profit.

Very truly yours,
Joe Di Bartolomeo
Astoria

Mothers come first

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