

Between the Bookends

By Nancy Burch, Librarian
Vernonia Public Library

Except for the awarding of certificates to youngsters who will have read at least ten books before the end of August and the attendance at the State Fair by ten diligent readers, the library's R.A.D. summer reading program has drawn to a close. The presentations by Mary Hart of Hart's Reptile World of Canby and by Bill White Eagle Wilson of Salem's Native American Cultural Center were exceptionally well done. Attendance, overall, was great. There were a total of sixty different children attending at least one of the seven programs or participating in the library's entry in the parade. Most attended several of the programs and two attended all seven.

The goal of the summer program was to encourage reading by youngsters (Reading), to provide some activities that are stimulating to body and mind (Adventures), and to guide them in new discoveries (Discoveries). We hope this summer's programs met these goals and that those who participated had a really good time. Once again the program could not have succeeded without the assistance of several important people and I would like to thank them. Gene Baska and Claudia Ryan provided instruction and obstacle course guidance for the bicycle safety event. Shelley Clines was in charge of making the garbage monsters and the rain gauges on the garbage pick up day. Heidi and Jeff Burch helped with everything that was needed (riding with the bicyclists, decorating the float, helping with crafts, and polishing the tires of our float). Lori Longoria was the creative mind behind the theme, the activities and the float; she also drew all the book covers. Dick Titus loaned us the trailer for the float and School District 47J donated the butcher paper and paints.

Sentry Market provided the candy for the youngsters to throw from the float as well as miscellaneous items that were used for crafts. Thanks to all of you.

This was the first year that the Summer Reading Program has been a line item on the library's budget. This made possible the presentations of Bill White Eagle Wilson and Mary Hart, some of the treats (root beer floats and hot dogs), materials (t-shirts, etc.), and a nice selection of new books for young readers. These include *Crafts for Kids Who Are Wild About Insects*, *Draw Dinosaurs*, *Simple Puppets*, and several nature books about snakes, caterpillars, seashells, etc.

New books for adults include Patricia Cornwell's *Point of Origin*, Ridley Pearson's *The Pied Piper*, Barbara Delinsky's *Coast Road*, and J.A. Jance's *Rattlesnake Crossing*. Cornwell's medical examiner, Kay Scarpetta, returns to match wits against her old nemesis, Carrie Grethen, in *Point of Origin* while Jance's Joanna Brady, Sheriff of Cochise County, returns for the sixth time in *Rattlesnake Crossing* and Seattle detective, Lou Boldt, returns in Pearson's *The Pied Piper*. All three of these novels of suspense are real attention grabbers and hard to put aside to attend to other matters. I hope you have also found at least one book that you can hardly bear to put down this summer. Keep reading and **just look at the work being done on the site for the new library. Isn't that exciting!**

Vernonia Library 919 Bridge Street.
Hours: Mon. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Wed. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Fri. 1-5 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Phone: (503) 429-1818

Ike Says . . .

By Dale Webb, member
Izaak Walton League, Nehalem Valley Chapter

Watch out for those deer! The deer population in our area seems to be on the increase and vehicle-deer collisions have been on the increase also.

Here is some advice on avoiding deer collisions:

First, drive at a reasonable speed. People who act like race car drivers are driving on borrowed time. Some day a deer is going to be just around that corner.

Notice where the deer are most active, then pay extra attention and reduce your speed in these areas. Deer seem to cross at certain spots and these are high risk areas.

If you encounter a deer in your path **DO NOT SWERVE**, or at least not until you have reduced your speed under 30 mph. More people are killed every year because they swerved to miss

a deer, than are people that hit deer.

When you encounter a deer on the roadway, put on the brakes without going into an uncontrolled skid. If your speed is still high, go ahead and hit the deer and be ready for the car to react to the collision.

Swerving is an option only if your speed has been reduced below 30 mph and there is no oncoming traffic. It doesn't do much good to swerve while trying to miss a deer just to become another bug on a log truck's bumper.

If you do hit a deer, pull off the road in a safe location and make sure your vehicle is safe to drive. If you can safely pull the deer off the roadway, do so.

From page 2

home video, and I actually made a profit. For those who have slammed my film, I always just smile and say "show me YOUR film, then we'll talk..."

A belated but heartfelt "thank you" for all of the Vernonians who put their heart and soul into *The Vernonia Incident*.

Ray Etheridge
Director of Photography
Telemundo Network
Miami, Florida

Exchange year helps growth, understanding

To the Editor:

At this time (early August), I have been back in America for a little under three weeks. I must say that after spending

almost a year in Slovakia, America, and Oregon especially, takes a lot of getting used to. I was not able to comprehend how different Slovakia and Oregon really are until I returned to Vernonia.

Over the last eleven months, I learned to speak, act, and even think in a very different fashion than I did while I lived in Vernonia. While I have changed greatly, some others also seem to have changed drastically, but in truth, they have not. My own perceptions have changed so much that what was once familiar and everyday seem slightly unusual or even unbelievable. This is not only true for aspects of life in Oregon, but aspects of the life that I had in Slovakia. I am having trouble readjusting to the idea of living six miles outside of a town of slightly over

two thousand people, instead of living within a city of half-a-million people. I also have to adjust to the idea of speaking only English, not Slovak-English, or "Slenglish," as my friends and I called it. There are also a plethora of much smaller issues, such as the style of eating, the difference in coffee, and a seemingly infinite collection of other, near-insignificant items that, when combined, can make even Vernonia, the town where I have lived for my entire life, seem almost alien.

I would not forget the last year of my life for anything. It has changed me to the point that I can hardly remember who I was before I went to Slovakia. Some of these changes were less than easy, some were even less than good, but combined, they have changed

Letters to the Editor

me in such a way that I am much more comfortable with myself than I ever was before. I would be challenged to name another experience in my life that was even half as beneficial. I would not say that this last year was the best year of my life, but it was almost certainly the most important. I feel better about not only myself, but about my place in the world and about other people. I am much more able to interact with others and to be comfortable in adverse situations. To me, these changes are more important and valuable than any material gain could ever be. While I was in Slovakia, I spoke to many other travelers, and we all agreed that it is almost vital to a person's mental growth to spend time in a different country. It changes a person, and it helps that person better understand who they are. Not to be overly lyrical, it truly is a voyage of self-discovery. In a few short weeks, I will be making another major change in my life, when I leave for Reed College on the 24th of August. Hopefully, this change will go a little easier on my body than the last one.

Finally, I would like to extend a greeting toward the community of Vernonia, and I look forward to meeting you all again.

Rian Ragsdale
Vernonia

Thanks for support of Scout Cabin booth

To the Editor:

The Friends of the Scout Cabin would like to thank everyone who helped and supported our food booth during Jamboree. It was a success.

A special thanks to Randy Parrow and Mario Leonetti for your support.

Shirlee Daughtry, Pres.
Friends of the Scout Cabin

Movie, ordinances have mixed message

To the Editor:

The movie people blew up my electricity last night, I guess it was them, I got that from the neighbor lady who talked to somebody who lives down there, while he was buying a paper. They say Vernonia was chosen 'cause, to their way of thinking, it doesn't show any signs of the buffeting it's taken from corporate interests for most of a century. From the big picture spread in *The INDEPENDENT*, I gather a certain local aspiration to stardom has been piqued. I haven't quite figured out the thesis of Schenk's effort, I rarely can for cinematic art, but so far it really doesn't sound that wholesome. (Is Vernonia getting typecast as a setting for juvenile delinquency?) Anyway, the City Council's gonna be ready with a new ordinance, if it gives any of our youngsters ideas.

I'm still confused how the experience of community intimacy here always seems to find political expression in authoritarian stricture. Kierkegaard tells us to seek truth in paradox. I reckon he means watch out for our foibles.

Thank You,
Wayne Acton
Vernonia

Cruise-in was great, thanks to all of you

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Nehalem Valley Speed & Beauty Car Club, we would like to extend a gracious thank you to all the participants, sponsors, family members, friends and public for the success of the Sixth Annual Jamboree Cruise-in on Aug. 8. A special thanks to the Bouncing Baby Boomer Band and the Legendary Boomettes for a fabulous repeat performance for 325 entrants to our show. This event would not be possible without all of your generous support and participation.

Sincerely,
Glenda DeLemos
Jack Sweeney
Nehalem Valley Speed &
Beauty Car Club

Vernonia Lions say thanks for the help

To the Editor:

This letter of appreciation is to the following people and businesses who, again, let the Vernonia Lions Club use their facilities for the Jamboree barbecue:

Chuck Hendryx and Gofdon Smith, who own Vernonia Sentry, and their manager, Randy Parrow, for allowing us to use their meat cutting facility.

Mrs. Chong Cradit, who allowed us to use her walk-in cooler at the Loggers' Cafe.

Randall Holce, manager of Vernonia Federal Credit Union, for allowing us to put our cooking and eating area on their property and also providing the electricity.

Gina Faber, for allowing us to store our supplies in The Hair Parlour.

The Lions have never lost sight of the fact that, without your help, we would not have enjoyed our success.

Thank you also to the following volunteers: Pat Mueller and her son, James; Tony and Mindy Lewis, El Donna Williams, Janet Normand, Nancy Aultman and Fran Fletcher.

Thank you all ever so much. If I have omitted anyone, please forgive me.

Respectfully,
Larry Doppke, P.R.
Vernonia Lions

Your voice is heard when
you speak from the ballot
box, so please
Register and Vote