

## Between the Bookends

By Nancy Burch, Librarian  
Vernonia Public Library

This past Friday had to have been one of the most rewarding days that a librarian could ever have had. A training session for those who will be working with the new library automation software was held. In attendance were ten ladies, L.V. Schoonover, and John Smith, the software representative. A few of us were already somewhat familiar with the program, but the majority had not yet seen it. What a pleasure it was to see that they, too, were impressed with the way items may be added by staff and volunteers and accessed by library patrons. Mr. Smith demonstrated, answered questions, and encouraged hands-on use by those in attendance. The consensus, was, as we had hoped, that the program is just wonderful. It is capable of doing anything and everything that Vernonia's library will require and does it in a user-friendly manner. How rewarding it is to know that there are so many excited volunteers ready to start the process of entering library materials into this system and to know that, with their help, library patrons will soon be able to utilize this wonderful new library tool.

Because the Internet will be used to download much of the information, those patrons wishing to use the Internet would be wise to call first to make sure it will be available. A schedule for Internet use will be kept in the library. If someone has an urgent need or must meet a deadline for a project, priority will be given to that, but it must be pre-arranged. Otherwise priority will be given to those working on the automation process.

Another rewarding experience took place Friday afternoon, as Orissa Burghard conducted her 3:00 p.m. story/activity session for youngsters. This is now a regular happening on Friday afternoons. Mark your calendar and come share the fun. Travis Baker, a fifth grader, has indicated a desire to volunteer in the library and was on hand to help with the Friday activities.

Volunteers have become so important to the library and will continue to be needed as the automation proceeds and as the annual Summer Reading Program fast approaches. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact the library. A use will be found for your talent.

Summer Reading sessions will be held on Wednesday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. this summer. They will begin on June 28, take place through July and end with the Jamboree parade on August 5th. The theme this summer is "Ticket to Tomorrow" and will feature delightful stories

and activities relating to space. Plan on taking part in these sessions, which will be held in the library this summer. A complete schedule will be available shortly.

Special presentations and activities are held throughout the year. The next of these will be Wednesday, May 24, when the Vernonia Study Club will revive a tradition that began in the early 1920s. The Study Club is an organization that was instrumental in the establishment of, and the raising of money for the library in its early years. It has contributed to the library in various ways throughout the years and has decided to once again host a Silver Tea. Refreshments will be served in the library from 2-4:00 p.m. on that afternoon and donations to benefit the library will be accepted during that time. Study Club members will determine a library need and use these donations to fill that need. Keep that date open. Come in, meet these ladies, have some refreshments, and contribute to the library if you wish.

Wednesday, May 31, beginning at 3:30 p.m., Doug Tesdal will present a water color demonstration. Mr. Tesdal teaches art in the Vernonia schools and samples of his students' work have been displayed for public enjoyment from time to time. I can well imagine that the teacher capable of inspiring such remarkable projects will present a demonstration that will be awe-inspiring. The public is encouraged to attend this event also.

Recent library acquisitions include *Before I Say Good-Bye* by Mary Higgins Clark, *The Patient* by Michael Palmer, *Standoff* by Sandra Brown, *Midnight Come Again* by Dana Stabenow and *Easy Prey* by John Sandford. The audio collection continues to grow, mostly due to donations, for which we are very grateful. If you haven't been in the new library yet, come in and get acquainted. Materials include a wide range of periodicals, videos and audio tapes for children and adults, and a nice selection of fiction and non-fiction for all ages. Regular services include Internet access (Be sure to read the purpose and guidelines.), use of the microfilm reader, copier privileges, access to computers for educational games and word processing, Monday morning storytime and Friday afternoon story/activity time.

**Vernonia Library** 701 Weed Avenue  
**Hours:** Mon., Wed., Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.  
Tues., Thur. 2 p.m.-7 p.m.  
Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Preschool Story Time, Mondays, 10:30 a.m.  
**Phone:** (503) 429-1818

## Library Activities



Top: Charlotte and Katie Burghard were engrossed in a story being read while they worked on crafts during a recent Friday activity period at the Vernonia Public Library.

Above: Courtney Fennel isn't yet ready to sit still too long, but she has fun with animals on a flannel board during activity time.

## Letters to the Editor

line last issue, as I wanted to express thanks to the volunteers for their contribution to this year's hunt.

We met at Leonetti's for a "volunteers" breakfast. Everyone enjoyed great pancakes, scrambled eggs and fruit cups. We ate our fill and got to the park with time to spare. Thank You, Mario for donating the meals.

The Easter Bunny hid 1440 colored eggs for the kids, donated again by the friendly folks of Vernonia Sentry. The sunshine held until just after the last bag of candy was handed out.

We had a little trouble with the mail, and getting the notices out to our volunteers, but they called when they had not been contacted, and made sure that we knew they would help out. It is truly a great feeling to be working with such dedicated people who make it fun. In addition to the 17 breakfasts, Mario also donated several pizzas for the egg hunters.

Our volunteers stepped up with enthusiasm and did a terrific job. Mary Cota and granddaughter Kristen came to breakfast. Arnie and Mary Tolonen, Mary Ann Shaw, Darlene McLeod, Jerry Keenon, Alaena Guinn, Bob and Diane Waltrip, Ray and Shelly Cota, Shandi Cota, Nancy Dailey, and Brenda Gooch (with Fluffy the bunny) all showed up to make this year's project a success.

Special thanks to Katie Poetter, Sharon Parrow, Schann Nelson and family, all the girls at West Oregon Electric, Curt

Poetter, Shelly Cota, Nancy and Don Dailey, and Brenda Gooch for boiling and dyeing the 1,440 eggs. Keenon Land Services crew and families, Don, Kim, Natilie and Samantha Wallace, the Matt and Pam Monnin family, Vance, Marci, Jeff, Jennifer and Rachael Boren all met for pizza, then gathered at the office to decorate eggs. A great thanks to Sally Scott, Jerry's sister, for sewing our new and improved designer bunny suit.

We have a growing list of volunteers, and we will certainly call on them again next year. I hear the EMT volunteers are considering an evening to decorate eggs next spring. DeDe Webb is right, the good people in this town far outweigh the bad. There are good folks who continually step forward to lend a hand. You are so vital to the great things happening in our "Little Pocket in the Woods."

Sincerely,  
**Dolly Keenon**  
Vernonia Area  
Chamber of Commerce

## Healthy activities help prevent teen pregnancies

To the Editor:

Over the past several years, teen pregnancy has been a growing concern among many of Columbia County's community leaders. Since 1994, the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Team, under the auspices of

Please see page 14

## Letters to the Editor

### Help needed to keep flags flying downtown

To the Editor:

I have missed the flags flying in our town since all our downtown construction started. Have you?

It's time to start putting them out again, only there is a problem. Art and I are no longer able to do the task.

I am seeking a group or an individual to take over. If you are interested in doing this, please let us know.

Thank You  
**Enid Parrow**  
Vernonia

Commerce, the merchants, Vernonia Pride and SOLV all joined forces to "Make Vernonia Shine." Thanks so much to everyone who contributed in any way. What was accomplished was truly wonderful!

For those unable to be there, we hope you enjoy the results and that everyone will continue to help with the efforts being made by so many to make Vernonia, our little "Pocket in the Woods," the cleanest, prettiest, most livable town around.

**Genny Fisher**  
for Vernonia Pride

### Thanks for your votes and your hospitality

To the Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who supported me in my run for County Commissioner. Debi and I much enjoyed your hospitality and candor. Our County has a good deal to offer and an abundance of untapped individual talent.

I will be out collecting my

yard signs as soon as possible and look forward to seeing you again soon. Please feel free to call us if you think we have overlooked one or if you should happen to see one cast aside.

Once again, thank you for your support.

**Joe Corsiglia**  
St. Helens

### Volunteers are key to Easter Egg Hunt

To Vernonia:

This year's Vernonia Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg Hunt was better than ever. We even had an official Easter Hat in the crowd (Could that be an event for future years' festivities?).

Debbie and Joe Corsiglia, of St. Helens, were staying at Anderson park, while campaigning in Vernonia for county commissioner, and were quite impressed with our community event. Seems that St. Helens didn't have an organized city wide hunt this year.

I'm sorry I missed the dead-

### Cleanup was a result of community spirit

To the Editor:

Isn't it wonderful to live where people truly care about their community! That was demonstrated once again during the year's Clean-Up Day when over 200 volunteers of all ages, the City of Vernonia, the Vernonia Area Chamber of