

## Between the Bookends

By Sheila Davis for Cecelia Sadtler  
Banks Library Volunteer

Sign-ups continue for the Summer Reading Program at the Banks Public Library. Participation in the program is open to all kids, even pre-readers are eligible and may partner with parents or older siblings. After August 1, all kids who meet the reading goals they set for themselves can turn in their reading records and choose an award book. The Summer Reading Program provides an excellent opportunity for developing and maintaining good reading skills over the summer vacation.

Henny Penny's Trip to the Moon will be the featured performances on Thursday, July 6, at 2:00 p.m. in the Library Community Room. Puppeteer Celeste Rose returns with a new show that guaranteed to entertain young audiences. Watch this column for future announcements of performances or stop by the Library to pick up your summer schedule.

Now that the days are getting warmer, it's nice to get out your lawn chair, kick back and read. C.J. Cherryh's *Fortress of Dragons* completes the tale of two friends, sovereign and sorcerer, begun in *Fortress in the Eye of Time* and

continued in *Fortress of Owls*. This high fantasy epic from the award-winning author is set in a world tangled with magic, dark with violence and filled with wonder and awe.

After reading the new offerings from the Banks Library, you can dig into Martha Stewart's *Favorite Comfort Foods*. What could be better than tomato soup made from scratch and grilled cheese sandwiches, or chocolate bread pudding?

Don't forget recycle Saturday July 8, sponsored by the Friends of the Library and staffed by loyal volunteers. Hours of operation are 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the SWATCO Service Yard on Sellers Road.

Remember, Library books may be renewed by calling 324-1381. Those with Internet access can reserve materials by clicking on to <[www.WILnet.wccls.lib.or.us](http://www.WILnet.wccls.lib.or.us)>

**Banks Public Library:** 111 Market Street.  
**Hours:** Tues., Wed., Thurs., 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.;  
Fri. and Sat. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
**Preschool Story Time, Weds., 10:15 a.m.**  
**Phone:** (503) 324-1382  
**Internet:** [www.WILnet.wccls.lib.or.us](http://www.WILnet.wccls.lib.or.us).

## Ike Says . . .

From page 2

of the Salmonberry River. We put in at the concrete bridge just downstream from Humbug Creek's confluence with the Nehalem. This trip put us by Spruce Run Park and over the little falls about a mile below the park. We made the trip on a Saturday, and it was amazing to see the number of people that use this lower stretch of the Nehalem River. The river was around the four foot mark at Foss, and this was a good level for us beginners to tackle this section of river. You sure could feel the power in the river, and the rapids were some of the best we have seen

so far. It took us about three-and-a-half hours to go the 12-13 miles. The scenery is very spectacular in this section of the river and the girls in their bikinis made for interesting wildlife viewing. Next up, the Salmonberry falls and then more class II and class III water!

**Izaak Walton League Nehalem Valley Chapter meetings** are on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The public is welcome.  
For meeting location, call (503) 429-7193.

# 2000 Independence Day Parade



The marching may not have been quite as precise as a military Color Guard, but the sentiment was the same as Cub Scouts from Vernonia Pack 201 carried the colors for the annual July Fourth Children's Parade.

Uncle Sam (and a lot of parents) watched over the young participants, and spectators lined the sidewalks to cheer the youngsters on.

The costumed participant, above, walked the parade route with a purpose, raising money for the fireworks display.

Vernonia Pride sponsors the annual July Fourth activities.



## Letters to the Editor:

### Potential problem at City swimming pool? Coach says thanks for a great year

To the Editor:

Mothers Beware

There may be something in the Vernonia Public Swimming Pool water that could be making your children sick. My son swam at the pool June 18 and that evening, developed a tiny rash on his chest, tummy and back. I gave him Benadryl and the rash subsided. I had a hunch that maybe the sunblock I slathered on him was the culprit. The next day, Monday, I decided to let him and my daughter swim in the pool, this time, no sunblock. That evening, my son developed the same tiny rash. The next morning, Tuesday, to my horror, my daughter had hives all over her chest, stomach and back, the inside of her arms and the inside of her legs. She thought they were bug bites, but there was no way a myriad of bugs could have bitten her on the spots where she had hives. She said they itched like crazy. I gave her Benadryl and the hives subsided, but did not totally go away.

I remembered last year, my son got the same tiny rash on his tummy, back and chest every time I let him swim in the public pool. He did not receive this rash when he swam in any other creek. So, I called the water department, and spoke with Robin. She denied that anything could possibly be in the water that may have been causing this problem, and suggested that I take my children to the doctor. I asked if it would be possible to take a sampling of the water. She refused to do any sample testing. I spoke with our City Administrator. I was the only complaint he received, and he felt that water testing was not in order. I have since talked with several mothers, and have found that my children are not the only ones who are getting this allergic rash from the public swimming pool in Vernonia.

I ask all mothers whose children are getting this allergic type rash to contact the Vernonia City Administrator and request a sampling of the water that our children are swimming in. Keep in mind that there is a public works depot 1/4 mile upriver. It is our duty to know that the water our children are swimming in is safe.

Mrs. W. Sears  
Concerned mother  
Vernonia

To The Editor:

I want to thank West Oregon Electric and Vernonia Realty and Insurance for their sponsorship of this summer's Junior National Boys Baseball team

I want to thank the Junior National Boys baseball team for their hard work and dedication. They were able to compete in the Banks Invitation Tournament on June 24 & 25, and came home the champs of their division. That is not the reason I want to congratulate them though. The reason I am so proud of them is that they play together as a team and have excellent sportsmanship. Only 10 of them were able to make the tournament, but it took all 14 to be champions. They have all worked hard and have improved with each game. They all want to learn and improve. It is a true pleasure to be able to coach them. Thanks to Jerry DeWitt, as well, for helping to coach. If you have a chance, come watch these guys play. We have two more home games, July 11 and July 18. If you see any of these guys around, congratulate them and encourage them to keep working hard.

Now I want to get on my soapbox for a minute and challenge any of you that can to work with the youth of this community. There are many, many boys and girls of all ages participating in the baseball program. They all need your support. The coaches need your help. If you can volunteer your time, I promise you will come away feeling really good about helping out. I especially challenge those that do not have children and have coached in the past. These boys and girls want and need to learn from your experience. Throughout the year there are so many opportunities to volunteer with the youth of this area. Please take the time and the whole area will benefit.

Those on the team are Cody Davis, Colton DeWitt, Blu Garrymore, Cody Gwin, Tim Hein, Corey Hooker, Like Johnston, Brandon McMahan, Paul Ogden, Jeff Paleck, Jacob Rice, Ben Schorzman, Dustin Smith and Brent Thompson.

Thank you guys for being such a fun group to coach.

Dave Rice  
Vernonia

## POLICY ON LETTERS

The INDEPENDENT welcomes readers' letters and will publish as many as possible. All letters must be signed and include a verifiable address and telephone number, although the address and phone number will not be printed except at the writer's request. Unsigned letters will not be published. The INDEPENDENT reserves the right to edit submissions for brevity or clarity.