

Between the Bookends

Due to some unanticipated events, neither Cecelia Sadtler nor Sheila Davis was able to put together the Banks Library column for this issue. It will resume in October.

Preschool Story Time started today at the Banks Public Library, and will continue throughout the school year with the popular Miss Kathy. If you have preschool age children, this is a great way to get them interested in books and reading. Mark your calendar for Preschool Story Time, every Wednesday at 10:15 a.m.

The final count on participation in the Banks Library Summer Reading Program is quite gratifying: 145 children were involved in the summer activities.

Remember Recycle Saturday, the ongoing

fund-raiser sponsored by the Friends of the Banks Library and staffed by volunteers, raises much-needed funds for the library. On the second Saturday of each month, take your recyclables to the SWATCO service yard on Sellers Road, between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. You can get it out of your way and help the library at the same time!

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.wccis.lib.or.us.

In lieu of the library column, which usually fills this space and emphasizes reading, here is a little information on writing. Just don't take it too seriously.

How To WRITE GOOD

(AND AVOID USING ADJECTIVES AS ADVERBS)

Here are several very important but often forgotten rules of English:

1. Always avoid alliteration.
2. Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.
3. Avoid clichés like the plague. (They're old hat.)
4. Utilize the vernacular.
5. Eschew ampersands & abbreviations, etc.
6. Parenthetical remarks (however relevant) are unnecessary.
7. It is wrong to ever split an infinitive.
8. Contractions aren't necessary.
9. Foreign words and phrases are not apropos, though they do add a certain *je ne sais quoi*.
10. One should never generalize.
11. Eliminate quotations. As Ralph Waldo Emerson once said: "I hate quotations. Tell me what you know."
12. Comparisons are as bad as clichés.
13. Don't be redundant; don't use more words than necessary; it's highly superfluous.
14. Be more or less specific.
15. Understatement might help.
16. Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.
17. One-word sentences! Eliminate.
18. Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake.
19. The passive voice is to be avoided.
20. Go around the barn at high noon to avoid colloquialisms.
21. Even if a mixed metaphor sings, it should be derailed.
22. Who needs rhetorical questions?
23. While a transcendent vocabulary is laudable, one must nevertheless keep incessant surveillance against such loquacious, effusive, voluble verbosity that the calculated objective of communication becomes ensconced in obscurity.
24. In a sentence, the nouns has to agree with the verbs.
25. Don't use no double negatives.
26. In writing, few things are, so to speak, more infuriating, than, say, commas, at least when there are too many of them, or when they should be, say, semicolons.
27. Proofread your work, so you don't leave some out or forget to finish
28. Run-on sentences are really bad because the reader saturates and what you really should be doing is using commas and semicolons and even periods to break the sentence up into more digestible chunks.
29. To have been using excessively complex verb constructions, is to have been bopping the literary baloney.
30. A friend I spoken with recently told me he been forgetting his helping verbs.

Ilko Says . . .

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my intention. I do not blame the sportsmen; they are only doing what ODF&W says is okay. But it is time for you to realize that you are being used as a pawn in the destruction of a very successful hunting unit. People also must know that every time they call ODF&W to complain about deer and elk damage, they are inadvertently signing more death warrants for female deer and elk, even if you live in the city limits of Vernonia and these animals cannot be addressed through hunting.

It has become readily apparent to me that ODF&W has conceded to private landowners who want to exterminate this long-term animal population. ODF&W also knows that you, the

hunter, will continue to buy tags and hunt when there are a lot fewer animals in the field to harvest. It's time we all wake up and stop being short-changed by the employees that we have hired to manage our game populations. We are the boss. We just have to start acting like it!

Oh, by the way, the bull elk that Tom Cieloha took last elk season was eight years. And they say there are no older bulls in the herd!

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.

Letters to the Editor:

Benches not meant to be moved

To the Editor:

The City of Vernonia and Vernonia Pride have placed benches downtown for everyone's use. Some of the benches placed in front of businesses were purchased by the business. They are not meant to be moved to another location.

We had allowed a couple of the benches to be moved to another location, under the big trees by the bridge, a lovely, cool place to sit. Unfortunately, it has become necessary to ask that the benches not be moved after one of the benches was destroyed while in that location.

In the near future, we have plans to place a larger, stronger bench in that location. Please give us some time and there should be a bench in your favorite spot. In the meantime, please leave the benches in the locations where they have been placed.

Enid Parrow
Vernonia Pride

Candidate thanks petition signers

To the Editor:

I want to thank the many registered voters who took time to sign a petition to place my name on the ballot for Columbia County Commissioner Position 1, as an Independent, and the many friends who helped solicit those signatures.

As we begin the 60-day countdown to the November general election, I'd like to challenge my opponents for Columbia County Commissioner to debate the issues that the commissioners can impact, such as jobs, fiscal management, land use, economic development, health care and others. I hope that each community in the county will provide a venue for a debate on the issues so that citizens can judge for themselves who is the most qualified candidate. I welcome opportunities throughout the county to speak, debate or answer questions in person or on my website at the Columbia Technology Center <columbia-center.org/pulliam>.

Paul Pulliam, Independent
for Columbia County
Commissioner
St. Helens

United Way says "Thanks to You"

To the Editor:

United Way of Columbia County would like to thank Precision Engraving, Inc. of Scappoose for the donation of four magnetic signs. These signs say, "Support your local United Way" and will be used by staff and volunteers on their cars during the campaign.

We hope to raise the aware-

ness of the general public to United Way and remind them that it is their dollars that help support services in Columbia County. We really appreciate the support of local businesses in our efforts to raise money for the United Way.

Kathye Beck,
Executive Director
United Way of
Columbia County
Rainier

Efforts of others is a key to providing food

To the Editor:

Vernonia Cares would like to give a sincere thank you to the number of groups and community members that put forth so much effort to help us during the Jamboree weekend. We were so very blessed with all the time and energy that Mike and Ellen Hayes and their children put into the synchronized swim held at Cedar Ridge. If you did not have a chance to see this event, you missed out. It is definitely a show worth seeing. They put a lot of effort into a float this year and even sold items at the swim. All proceeds were donated to Vernonia Cares Food Bank and we were able to purchase food for needy families because of all they have done.

Rose City Motorcycle Club also participated in the parade with a nice float and numerous bikers. They have taken time for the past years to help us with a food drive of their own. Again, they put forth a large amount of effort and we thank them.

Larry Steele and Cedar Ridge deserve a big thank you for setting up Johnny Limbo and the Lugnuts and accepting food donations. Their efforts are greatly appreciated.

My devoted volunteers - I have to say a special thanks to all of you, even though you do not expect it. I witness so much hard work and time put in on a daily basis. I often wonder how the few seem to always have such energy and devotion without a paycheck. I couldn't do it without you. Thank you.

Lastly, there was a big surprise [donation] for us all. On Monday morning after Jamboree, an envelope of money was handed to me from Dan and Heidi Brown [Grey Dawn Gallery] and Chris and Ruth Burkett [Westwind Arts], who donated all proceeds from raffling one of Chris' posters. Not only were we surprised, but very thankful.

All efforts, even the smallest, are greatly appreciated at the food bank. We are helping many Vernonia community members get by with groceries that they would have had to go without. Thank you all so much for continuous efforts for such a good cause.

Lisa Edgar,
Director
Vernonia Cares

Policy on Letters

All letters accepted for publication by *The INDEPENDENT* must be signed and have a verifiable address.