

Between the Bookends

By Cindy Stanley, Library Assistant
Banks Public Library

Many thanks to the Friends of the Banks Public Library for on-going contribution of new books. Our most recent donation from the Friends includes *Black House* by Stephen King and Peter Straub, *Mercy* by Julie Garwood, *The Wild Blue: the Men Who Flew the B-24's Over Germany* by Stephen Ambrose, and *Envy* by Sandra Brown.

Also among our new books is a new title by Nicholas Evans, author of the *Horse Whisperer*. His latest book, *The Smoke Jumper* tells the story of three people's quest for happiness and self-fulfillment, played out against the heroism of fire fighting in the wilderness. This mesmerizing adventure for the spirit is told in the grandest tradition.

Don't miss the next Saturday for recycling is November 10th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is a great time to clear out the garage before the holidays. The Friends of the Banks Public Library continue to need support for monthly recycling Saturday. Volunteers are needed to work two-hour shifts once or twice a year. Interested persons please contact the library!

Fall is a great time to take advantage of the Cultural Pass to Adventure program. This pro-

gram, sponsored by Banks Pharmacy, Banks Chamber of Commerce, Big Horn Logging, Brown Derby Restaurant, City of Banks Tree Board, Gookin Plumbing, the Linus Hermens family, and the North Plains Chamber of Commerce, allows library patrons and to reserve free admittance passes to cultural institutions. Passes are available for the Children's Museum, the Portland Art Museum, the Japanese Garden, the World Forestry Center, the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive Center and the Washington County Museum, the Portland Chinese Garden and the Oregon Historical Society. Registration forms and program guidelines are available at the library. *Please note that this program is available only to Washington County library card holders.*

Remember, library patrons with Internet access at home or work can browse the library resources by clicking on <www.WILnet.wccs.lib.or.us> Materials can be reserved electronically.

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.wccs.lib.or.us.

Letters to the Editor

to us. Thank you, one and all, for being a part of an extraordinary evening.

If you were not able to participate November 17 and would like to have a part in [helping with] her medical costs, please make donations to the Sheri Hiveley Wilson Medical Fund at U. S. Bank.

Thank you and God Bless You All.

**Marci Gwin and
Brooke VanMeter
Vernonia**

Ed. note: Sherri Hively Wilson has been fighting a long, difficult battle with breast cancer.

Ambulance crew really delivered this time!

To the Editor:

We would like to say a special "Thank You" to some very special people in our community who were there when they were needed most and did an excellent job. It was a positive situation, which we know isn't frequent in their line of work.

The event happened Sunday, November 25, early in the morning. Our dear friend's baby girl decided to arrive a bit early and not wait for the drive to St. Vincents. This thank you is for Paramedic Michael Petrusek, who did a great job delivering, with the assistance of EMTs Robin Smith, Christy Brown, Charlotte Davenport and Luke Heckathorn, Firefighter/Driver Norm Brown, Firefighters Jeremy Woodall and Daryl Wolf, and Fire Chief Paul Epler.

Roger and Wendy Pickering of Vernonia are the proud parents of healthy McKenzie Rian Pickering, 6 lbs. 5 oz.

**Tom and Dawn Carr
Vernonia**

Appreciates chance to gather firewood

To the Editor:

I am one of the many who appreciate Olympic Resource Management for their wood permits. Especially now that the rains have set in!

It is bonafide work to get the wood, but it is also so much more. It becomes a rite of seasonal passage. We dress down and put on clunky boots. The thermos is filled, snacks are assembled and our truck is brought out like an old work-horse from the pasture.

The same preparations go into the event every year, but each is a different memory. The children who once needed supervision are now almost running the show! The sore muscles finally abate, but the good laughs we had remain.

Each time I put another piece on the fire, I am grateful for the extra boost in our supply (even if I do have to ask, out-loud, "doesn't anybody fill this wheelbarrow but me?!")

**Janell Johnston
Vernonia**

Committed employee will be missed

To the Editor:

Dianne Croissant has taken another job and will be leaving Columbia County on November 29, 2001. She has managed the youth drug and alcohol prevention and education programs for the past fourteen years for Columbia County Mental Health (CCMH) and will be sorely missed.

She has educated communities on risks and protective factors and the importance of Drug and Alcohol and Drug Prevention/Intervention by developing and managing programs in schools county-wide.

Dianne is open, honest and cares about youth and their families. She worked with many others to implement a county-wide Prevention Relay at Rainier High School. The purpose of the Relay was to raise awareness about drug and alcohol issues and to provide a safe place for people of all ages to come together toward a common goal of drug-free living.

She assisted with development of community coalitions which work to decrease drug and alcohol use. Dianne also worked diligently writing grants herself and worked with others to write grants which brought many thousands of dollars into Columbia County.

Dianne Croissant has enriched our county, our children and their families. We all wish her well in her new job. She will be missed and not easily replaced.

**Darla Knytych, Chair
Sue Ferguson, Co-Chair
Local Alcohol & Drug
Planning Committee
Scappoose**

Letters to the Editor

United Way is about helping neighbors

To the Editor:

The United Way of Columbia County Campaign is underway. United Way has been helping people in the cities of Clatskanie, Rainier, St. Helens, Scappoose and Vernonia, and the surrounding communities for 37 years. Guided by volunteers who are your friends and neighbors, United Way raises money from individuals and businesses to help your neighbors in need. After the money is raised, your donations are allocated by volunteers to organizations that deliver services to the people of Columbia County. There are 24 funded service providers.

Programs funded by United Way often serve as a birth to death safety net for people, just like us, who have reached a crisis in their lives with nowhere else to turn. Programs funded by United Way reach all types of people - families, children, seniors, the poor, disabled, and the ill.

Because United Way is largely volunteer-driven (300 volunteers county-wide), 83 percent of every dollar contributed provides services. A

great value! If all 24 organizations attempted, independently, to raise the money they receive from United Way, their costs per dollar contributed would sky-rocket. Also, giving to United Way ensures donors that their money will help someone right here in Columbia County. Why? Because each United Way is independently run by local volunteers for the benefit of the local community.

Never have the needs been greater in Columbia County. With severe cut backs anticipated in federal and state funding sources, and increased unemployment due to a slow economy, the United Way funded organizations are receiving more and more requests for assistance.

Who can help? You can!

If you are not currently giving, call the United Way office to find out how. If you work out of county and would like to direct your gift back to Columbia County, call and we can tell you how. United Ways work together to honor the donor's wishes. Do you have questions or would you like to just get involved? Great! Again, give us a call. Our number is 503-556-3614.

This year, help change a life by becoming a "Neighbor Help-

ing Neighbor," give to United Way of Columbia County. "Choose to Care!"

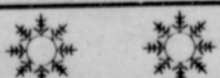
Sincerely,
**Tony Hyde,
County Commissioner
Rick Bigelow,
Fred Meyer Store Manager
Campaign Co-Chairs**

Community shows love with response

To the Editor:

There is no greater time to be a part of the small town of Vernonia than when it comes together with an outpouring of love and generosity as it did on November 17. The benefit to honor Sheri Hiveley Wilson started with two people and the idea grew to so very many more people giving of their time, money and effort. People who graciously baked desserts and made tacos, painted posters, auctioned, sang, refereed, played volleyball, took tickets, donated raffle items and money...the list goes on and on.

I know that the money earned was a phenomenal gift to the Wilson family. However, the participation and love that was shown that night towards Sheri was an exceptional blessing not only to Sheri, but



Keep the Holidays Happy - Please Don't Drink and Drive

