

## Between the Bookends

By Ann Krutsinger, Library Assistant  
Banks Public Library



Help us celebrate "Pooh Day" on Saturday, November 16, from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. There will be games, crafts, snacks and a drawing. It will be "pooh"fectly fun! Come in soon to pick up a coloring contest entry form; all entries will be due by November 13th. Sign-ups for Pooh day are welcome.

If you like tales of the Old West, you have probably already heard of Larry McMurtry. McMurtry, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction for *Lonesome Dove*, has written a new book — *Sin Killer*. Set in the 1830s, *Sin Killer* is the first of a four-volume series chronicling the travels of Lord and Lady Berrybender and their three children. The Berrybenders are English aristocrats who incongruously journey to the American west for an unforgettable and wildly dangerous experience exploring up the Missouri River. Accompa-

nying them and along the way they meet Indians, fur trappers, mountain men, explorers and pioneers. Tasmin, their independent young daughter, develops a romantic relationship with Jim Snow, a frontiersman, Indian fighter and sometime preacher who is called "Sin Killer" by everyone up and down the Missouri River. This is a spellbinding, classic adventure story with richly drawn characters, as only Larry McMurtry knows how to write.

Recycle Saturday, sponsored by the Friends of the Banks Library, is held from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on the second Saturday of each month at the SWATCO yard on Sellers Road.

**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:** Wednesdays, 10:15  
a.m., when school is in session.  
**Phone:** (503) 324-1382  
**Internet:** www.WILnet.wccs.lib.or.us.  
to browse library resources or to  
reserve materials electronically.

## Ike Says continued

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probably steer clear of this mess.

Stimson — The parcel of ground which they bought last year that is bordered by Rock Creek road, Crooked Creek mainline and Fibre's mainline, will be managed the same as Olympic Resources Managements land. I am assuming the Kauppi and Crooked Creek gates will give access to this land. Be cautioned, though, this land is in the process of being sold, and may have been by the time this article is published. The prospective purchaser is Weyerhaeuser and I do not know what their gate policy will be.

There are several other blocks of land, formerly part of Crown Zellerbach, with gating policies that are fairly well established and I have no knowledge of any changes.

One subject that I have always hoped would not rear its ugly head is land leasing. The investment group that owns the Story burn road area in the Wilson Unit has decided to try leasing their 13,000 acres of land. They were either unsuccessful or decided not to lease it this year, but this land is off limits to all hunters this year and probably into the future. Olympic Resource Management manages these lands and all comments should be directed to them, attention Dave Fitch.

I am opposed to land leasing that involves hunting or fishing because I believe it violates laws regarding the selling of wildlife. This issue has never, to my knowledge, been adjudicated in a court of law. While lessees defend their actions on the basis that they are only leasing the ground, in truth they are also leasing access to wildlife. If ODF&W were to close all hunting on leased grounds there would be no incentive to lease. A secondary consideration is that the public owns property on these private lands, since all wildlife belongs to the State of Oregon. Is it not reasonable to give access to public property? I believe in private property rights, but do not think corporate lands should have the same protection as a person's home and yard. Corporate lands are not used for personal dwellings and recreation; they are used to generate income. In-

ternational Paper tried land leasing in this area in the past; it was not successful because it is extremely hard to defend corporate lands from outside intrusion due to the very nature of the land and mixed ownership. I suspect that this will be the case in the Story burn area.

The reason corporations want to lease these lands is to exclude the general public and reduce the number of hunters and, in doing so, they create a negative financial impact upon the counties with leased lands. There may be avenues for economic mitigation of land leasing as hunter numbers dwindle, such as impaction fees and a change in the tax structure, since these lands are not used solely for timber production. The initiative process would probably be the only avenue to success on these aspects because of corporate funding of our state representatives. While corporate timber may be King in regard to money, it no longer has the foothold with voters that it once had. Hunting, fishing and wildlife watching was a \$110 billion dollar industry in the United States during 2001.

The Chinook salmon run this year was about average. I noticed many people watching the salmon in Rock Creek from the downtown bridge. This year's run was constrained due to low water flows. I have been told that the runs did not get as far upstream as in years past and probably no tributary spawning occurred. Tributary spawning was thought to never occur with Chinook salmon, but due to some good legwork by Maggie Peyton, director of the Upper Nehalem Watershed Council, it has been discovered that Chinook do indeed spawn in tributaries when water conditions permit.

I had a good salmon season again this year and topped it off with a 35-pound Chinook on my last trip. Now that was a fight!

Good luck hunting, and be safe.

**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

### Bake sale will raise money for fireworks

To the Editor:

Vernonia Pride will hold a bake sale on Saturday, November 23, at Sentry market from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 pm. to help pay the \$400 deficit for the fireworks display held this past July 4th. If you cannot purchase an item, how about donating an item for the bake sale?

Please come on down and buy some goodies for your Thanksgiving celebration or just because you want something delicious to eat. As always, we look forward to seeing your smiling faces.

Call 429-5201 for more information on the bake sale or about Vernonia Pride.

**Donna Webb**  
Vernonia

### Community responds to help feed people

To the Editor:

We want to thank everyone who helped make this year's Fall Canned Food Drive successful.

Special thanks to Cub Scout Troop 201, who sponsored the event, and to the Boy Scouts, All Creatures Great and Small 4-H Club, Nehalem Valley Christian Home Schoolers and many others who helped, plus Tara Roberts and Angie Taylor, who coordinated the door-to-door drive.

The on-site volunteers who helped sort donations included Debby VanSant, Dorothy Howard, Susan Johnson, Janie Wasmann, Nic Welch, Candy Olson, Alley Minton, Eric and Dylan Taklor, Julie Cameron, D'Lisa and Amanda Watts, Billi Avila, Sheryl Newbury, Kimberly Stringfield, Debra Curtis and Aaron Taylor. Thanks also to the businesses that accepted donations through the food barrels scattered around town.

Most certainly, the food bank owes a tremendous thanks to all the people who contributed food. Through all these efforts, Vernonia Cares Food Bank gained 2,527 pounds and \$132 in donations to help feed hungry people in the Vernonia area. Wow!!

As one might expect, the use of the food bank has increased steadily this year. In the month of October, Cares served a record high number of clients — 289 people. Thank

you, people of Vernonia, for truly showing that *Vernonia Cares!*

**Sandy Welch**  
Executive Director  
Vernonia Cares

### You killed a family dog, not a coyote

To the Editor:

Coyote? Huh! No, it was a German police and chow, golden brown and about 70 pounds. He was playing in his own field when you took it upon yourself to kill. Poor thinking.

Who gave you the right to pull the trigger? You killed him, you did. Hit him right in the chest.

Did you have a really good reason to kill? Probably not. But you have caused a lot of sorrow and disbelief because of this stupidity. So why don't you clean your scope and gun and put a governor on your trigger.

So, please don't shoot the coyote unless you have a good cause.

**Dewayne Holland**  
Vernonia

P.S. There is such a thing as the Game Commission.

### Successful propane tank roundup

To the Editor:

I would like to thank the residents who participated in the 2002 Propane Tank Round-Up Events by turning in their outdated propane cylinders. Two propane tank collections took place Oct. 12-13 in St. Helens and Clatskanie and Nov. 2-3 in Clatskanie and Vernonia, with 2,626 outdated propane cylinders turned in.

The Propane Tank Round-Up events dramatically reduced the number of outdated propane cylinders that were in Columbia County, which is important in reducing the number of potential injuries associated with those cylinders. In addition to promoting safety, this event played an important role in reducing the amount of waste going to our landfills. Events such as these are invaluable in promoting proper waste reduction in our community. It is wonderful residents took advantage of the opportunity! Thank you, again, Columbia County residents!

**Tara Hurm, coordinator**  
Solid Waste Program  
Columbia County