

Community

Between the Bookends

By Nancy Burch, Librarian
Vernonia Public Library



National Library Week ended Saturday, April 12, with a special visit by Susan Blackaby, the author of *Rembrandt's Hat*. After telling the youngsters about the inspiration for her book and the process that took place before her book

was finally published (an 8-year time span), Ms. Blackaby read from her book and allowed each youngster to make his/her own hat. At the conclusion of these activities, prizes were awarded to each youngster who entered the coloring contest and the winners of the guessing game were announced. Other activities of the week included a story time with Clark McGaugh and a visit by Muggins the Clown.

With this week of fun for youngsters barely concluded, another event (for adults this time) will be taking place Saturday, April 26, with a visit from author Whitney Otto. Ms. Otto is best known for her novel, *How to Make an American Quilt*. She will be signing copies of this book as well as of her newer book, *A Collection of Beauties at the Height of Their Popularity*, for anyone who wishes personal copies. In talking with Luanne Kreutzer, owner of the St. Helens Bookshop, where Ms. Otto recently did a book signing, it appears that all in attendance will be in for a very entertaining afternoon. This will be at 2:00 p.m. in the library. Scheduling, by accident, has this event taking place on the same day as Vernonia's Clean-Up Day. There is no dress code at these events, so come as you are after clean-up and lunch and complete a day of work and fun in Vernonia.

The month of May will bring the third annual Silver Tea sponsored by The Vernonia Study Club, with all donations being used to benefit the library. This will take place on Wednesday, May 14 from 2:30-4:30 and will feature refreshments, visiting and entertainment by Madeleine Gendron's musicians.

The latter part of June will feature Vernonia's very first Chautauqua presentation with Pat Gold's program on The Chinookan Nation. Tentative date is June 28 at 2:00 p.m. The latter part of June will also be the beginning of the annual Summer Reading Program, with this year's theme of **READ! DISCOVER! EXPLORE!**

It's wonderful that these varied activities are taking place in the library. While most of the funding for the library's materials and for basic services is provided by the citizens of Vernonia

through City taxes, these special activities would not be taking place without the efforts of numerous individuals and organizations. A small Children's Services Grant from the Oregon State Library supplements funding each year. The after-school Reading Enrichment Program (which will extend to help with Summer Reading) is a grant received by Columbia County's Children and Family Commission through the State of Oregon. Fred Meyer has provided a gift certificate to help with Summer Reading supplies while Unified Western Grocers, which includes Sentry Markets, provided other materials this year. The Friends of the Library provided prizes for National Library Week, as well as sponsorship of at least one of the special presentations that will take place during Summer Reading. This year this organization has also provided funding for children's books, for the family pass to the Children's Museum, for books in CD format and for the beginning of a DVD collection. Their members are invaluable in providing support for any and all activities/needs of the library. (Be saving your books for their annual book sale to be held on Saturday of Jamboree weekend. Membership forms are available in the library for anyone wishing to support the library through this organization.) Study Club members provide flower arrangements, displays and refreshments for the Silver Tea, with donations from last year's event purchasing a speaker system for use in the library. Oregon Chautauqua programs are sponsored by the Oregon Council for the Humanities, a nonprofit organization supported by donations from individuals, corporations, and foundations. Don't forget, when you attend these activities, to thank the individuals who make them possible and to support and encourage similar programs.

Of course, the main object of a library is to provide books, and some great new acquisitions are now available. These include *Picture Perfect* by Jodi Picoult, *A Ship Made of Paper* by Scott Spencer, *Birthright* by Nora Roberts, *Miss Julia Hits the Road* by Ann B. Ross, *The Guardian* by Nicholas Sparks, *Armageddon* by Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins, *Plant Life* by Pamela Duncan, and *Twelve Times Blessed* by Jacquelyn Mitchard.

Keep reading and enjoy the special presentations that will be coming to the library.

Vernonia Public Library: 701 Weed Ave.
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, 10:00 a.m., when school is in session.
Phone: (503) 429-1818

Senior News

By Karen Miller



Well, there were a few who threw their names in the ring to guess who the beautiful, suitcase toting blonde running to the train was in our *Ring of Fire* photo contest, held here at the center April 9. So, when I asked that "beautiful blonde" to stand up, there were some surprised people to see Vernonia's own Margaret Berndt come forward to claim her original suitcase, which she has held onto since that production year of 1961! That is, everyone was surprised except the lone winner, Margaret Oliver, who guessed correctly! Missed out on seeing the picture, starring the Fugitive, David Jansen? Join us Tuesday, April 22, after lunch. Plenty of seats and plenty of

popcorn.

Why is it when we asked our parents how to spell a word, they always told us to "go look it up"? So, how were we supposed to look it up, I've always wondered, when we couldn't spell it in the first place? For those smarty kids who did their homework, you can probably display your intelligence level at our third annual Senior Spelling Bee contest here at the center, June 7.

It's hard to believe May will be here soon—is snow season really ending now? Come in to see our thrift area for spring and summer clothes beginning to appear. Maybe we'll hang onto some coats...just in case!

Remember, for your senior needs and questions, call me at the Senior Advocate office here at the center.

INFORMATION NUMBERS

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Senior Center..... 429-3912

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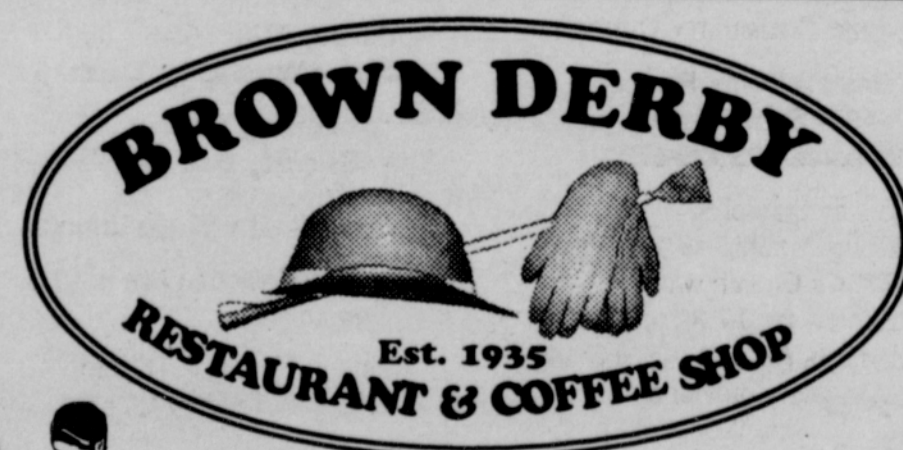
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