

Between the Bookends

By Ann Krutsinger, Library Assistant
Banks Public Library



Now that the heat of the summer has passed, it is a good time to consider using a "Cultural Pass to Adventure." Anyone who has a Washington County Library card and is in good standing (no excessive overdue, lost books, etc.) can check out a pass for

any one of the passes that the Banks Library possesses. And the list is of participants is impressive:

- * CM2 - The Children's Museum
- * Japanese Garden
- * Oregon Garden, located in Silverton

OR

- * Pittock Mansion
- * Portland Art Museum
- * Portland Classical Chinese Garden
- * Washington County Historical Museum
- * Oregon Historical Society

If you haven't registered with the library as a "Cultural Pass" user, call or come in and fill out the small form that is at the desk. After that, you can reserve any of the passes ahead of time! So when company comes from out of town, you can

explore the many sights of Portland's finest cultural venues.

If travel is in your future, the library is always buying new travel guides. We try to stock guides for the most common destinations for our patrons.

A new Frommer's series that we've bought is "The Irreverent Guide" series, which The New York Times says is "...like being taken around by a savvy local." Currently, the library has three guides in the series - Washington, D.C., London, and San Francisco. How irreverent are they? The publisher, Michael Spring, has this to say: "What the 'Irreverents' give you is the low-down, the inside story. They have nothing to sell but the truth, which includes a balance of good and bad. They praise, they trash, they weigh, and leave the final decisions up to you. No tourist board, no chamber of commerce will ever recommend them."

Banks Public Library: 111 Market Street.

Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs., 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.;
Fri. and Sat. 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Preschool Story Time: Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m., through July.

Phone: (503) 324-1382

Internet: www.WILnet.wccils.lib.or.us
to browse library resources or to
reserve materials electronically.

Saturday workshop on art of writing short stories

Gina Ochsner, award-winning author of *The Necessary Grace to Fall*, will conduct a writing workshop at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, October 4, in the St. Helens-Scappoose Chamber of Commerce building, 2194 Columbia Blvd., St. Helens. The cost for the 1.5-2 hour work-

shop will be \$15.00.

The workshop will be a hands-on instructive session on the art and craft of the short story, from idea generation and story inception to a discussion of story architecture and the ingredients necessary to such architecture. The workshop will

be fun and informative.

Participants need to bring writing instruments and paper or journal. A Question and Answer session will discuss stories, how to publish, etc.

To reserve your spot, call St. Helens Book Shop, 503-397-4917, or e-mail <bookshop@colcenter.org>.

If anyone has work that they would like Ochsner to critique, she will be available after the workshop. Extra fees will apply and a reservation is necessary. Notify St. Helens Book Shop, if interested, for details.

"Letters to the Front" contest for youth

A writing contest, "Letters to the Front," is being sponsored by the Military Officers Association of America through Veterans Day on Nov. 11. Prizes will be awarded for the best letters written to an unspecified armed forces member who is presently stationed overseas. The letters should be 100 to 200 words in length and need to be applicable to a service member regardless of assignment location, branch of service or gender.

A \$3,000 scholarship will be awarded to the winning entries in two age groups - 12-and-under, and 12-to-18. A computer

system valued at \$3,000 will be awarded to the winner in the age 19-and-over category. Entry forms can be downloaded from the website <www.letters-from-the-front.com>.

Washington County Fair Complex site of Halloween light show event

Finishing touches are being put in place for a new Halloween event at the Washington County Fair Complex in Hillsboro that will light up the night. Bi-Mart Frite Lites, presented by Columbia Community Bank, is a walk-through, animated light show featuring scenes of Halloween and the Fall season.

The concept and design of the show comes from Lake Oswego-based Lights for All Seasons, Inc., which is known for creating the larger-than-life animated light displays at the Winter Wonderland light show each December at the Portland International Raceway. Their latest concept is this Halloween/Fall light show, which is making its North American debut in Hillsboro this year. Visitors will see a witch flying to the moon on her broom, bats flying through the sky, ghosts and goblins, and many other surprises. "Our goal is to give to the community a new, family-oriented event for Halloween that everybody from youngsters on up to Senior Citizens can attend and enjoy," said Don Hillman, Executive Director for the Washington County Fair Complex, which is producing the event.

Ten percent of tickets sold will go to benefit Doernbecher Children's Hospital on all nights except Sundays, when that same percentage of the ticket sales will go to the Bonnie L. Hays Small Animal Shelter as part of a promotion called "Dog Boo," where visitors are invited to bring their dogs on leashes to the event. A special treat will

be given to the first 100 dogs through the gate each Sunday night, and a dog costume contest will be held at 7:00 p.m. There will also be safe Trick-or-Treat activities for kids on Halloween night.

The event will be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday in October, and every night October 24th through October 31st. It will open each night at dusk, close at 10 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 9:00 p.m. all other nights. Admission will be \$5.00 for Adults, and \$2.50 for Youngsters ages 6 to 12. Children 5 and under are free. Complete details are available at www.faircomplex.com.

The event's Founding Sponsors are Tuality Healthcare and the Washington County Fair Boosters.

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