

Letters

Thanks to citizens and good wishes to future

To the Editor:

I would like to thank the VOTING citizens of Vernonia for allowing me to serve our fine city these past four years as a city councilor.

It was an exciting and fulfilling experience. And yes, (to be honest), on rare occasions a bit boring. But the efforts put forth, and accomplishments that were realized by the city staff and my fellow councilors, for the good of Vernonia, brightly illuminates in my memory the exciting times, more than anything else.

I know that the folks who remain on the council, and the new people that are coming on board will continue to put forth their best efforts to face the exciting challenges, and

deal with the mundane aspects of helping to guide our wonderful city to a successful and secure future. I wish them all the very best.

Glen Purvee
Vernonia

Remember our troops during the holidays

To the Editor,

The holiday season is rapidly falling upon us, and the hustle and bustle is about to start. I would like to take a moment to remind people to take some time to remember our service members. Whether they are serving here in the states or in another country, be it combat or non-combat, this time of year can be the loneliest.

I know from personal experience because I served one Christ-

mas on the East German border, and then the next Christmas in the Persian Gulf. These people need our support in any form we can give them. Remember, they are doing their jobs, they cannot "opt out" of a particular conflict or war because they may not agree with it. Simple things can be done to let them know we appreciate their sacrifices they are making to defend our freedoms.

There are organizations we can donate money to for care packages and calling cards so they may call home. Many of us have friends/family members or know someone who has friends/family members serving. Ask them how we can help. It's amazing how a simple letter saying "thanks" can help boost moral. If you meet someone who is home for the hol-

iday, shake their hand and tell them "thank you." This is the least we can do for our service members who are giving selflessly of themselves. They deserve our respect and support. Also, "thank" the family members for the sacrifices they have had to make.

Happy Holidays, and God Bless Our Troops.

Mike Orth
Vernonia

Thanks for help with M-B Fall Festival

To the Editor:

We would like to thank all of the merchants and people that so generously donated to the Mist-Birkenfeld Helping Circle Fall Festival. We would like to thank everyone involved in the program. It was great.

We would also like to thank everyone that participated in our dinner in any way.

The auction was a wonderful success and we would like to thank all of you that participated in any way.

It is always a great time to see and visit with our neighbors.

Shirley Kyser, President
Mist-Birkenfeld
Helping Circle

Reason to appreciate caring community

To the Editor:

I'm not sure we always appreciate what a wonderful community we live in. This is such a caring community. When we lost Zack, it seemed like every single person I ran into had known him in some way. The caring and support shown by family, friends and community members was and is wonderful. What is even more amazing is that people still know that we are suffering his loss, and ask how we are doing, or if there is anything that they can do.

To honor Zack's memory, we established the Zack Rumbolz Memorial Scholarship, a tax exempt organization. The scholarship will be given this year to a member of the Class of 2005, Zack's graduating class. We plan to continue with the scholarship after that. To raise money we have held alumni volleyball games, a teen dance during Jamboree, and a taco feed during the donkey basketball game. These have all become annual events.

The 3rd Annual Alumni Volleyball game will be held Friday, Nov. 19, at 7:00 p.m. in the VHS Gym. All proceeds will benefit the scholarship.

Many people have also donated both time and money. I would like to thank Dick, Kathleen, Marcie, Rick, Judi and Darrell Gwin, Shelly and Herb Huson, Cassandra and Jerry Budge, Dana Hyde, Katie Poetter, Bill and Mary Cota, Kala and Chris Cota, Doug Tesdal, Patty Fetherston, Debbie Bergerson, the ARP foundation, Rachel Camp, Randy Parrow, the Vernonia School District, the alumni volleyball players, the dance chaperones, the taco helpers, the classes of 2005 and 2006, and all who are ready to help out with a project.

I would like to again thank my family, friends and community. You have all helped us for the last 3 years. Thank you for your caring and generosity.

Sincerely,
Kathi Fetch
Vernonia

Our President cannot bring nation together

To the Editor:

The Election, As I See It.

Our nation is divided. It was divided before the election it is still divided. President Bush is being called upon to heal the nation and bring the two factions back together, a task he can not do even with his high moral principles.

The president did not divide the nation for it is the age old division between good and evil, between right and wrong, between moral and immorality. No president can bring these two factors together, when one compromises truth with fiction, truth becomes a lie. Good becomes evil, and so on...

Our brave and wise forefathers established this nation as a Christian nation under God, (the only nation, outside the nation Israel to be so established.) We won our freedom against impossible odds. God blessed us and we grew into a mighty nation until 1948 when we unwisely become a part of the United Nations. We were formed a sovereignty, we lost that sovereignty when we became a part of the U.N. (One can not have sovereignty and

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Between the Bookends

By Nancy Burch, Librarian
Vernonia Public Library



Our community has lost another of its hardest-working and most-loved citizens, Enid Parrow. Enid was actively involved in many efforts to make Vernonia a better place to live and to preserve its past. We would like to extend our condolences to

her family and to let them know that a memorial fund with The Friends of the Library has been established in her memory. Books purchased from this fund to date include: *Columbia County Neighborhood Cookbook*, *Savor Oregon Cookbook*, *The Oregon Trail—A Photographic Journey*, *The Old Farmer's 2005 Almanac*, and *Scenic Driving Oregon*. The last mentioned of these includes a loop through Sherman County with an article about Dufur and its log cabin museum, its Balch Hotel and City Park. We will not forget Enid with her sense of humor, her willingness to help and, hopefully, someone will carry on her tradition of bringing brownies as refreshments for attendees to enjoy at library programs.

For those lucky enough to have been at the last Chautauqua program and heard Jeni Foster sing and relate the plight of Irish emigrants, thanks for attending and wasn't it great! Two of the books, *The Famine Ships: The Irish Exodus to America* and *Out of Ireland: the Story of Irish Emigration to America*, that Ms. Foster recommended have been added to the library's collection.

My recommendations for the month are by authors Chris Bohjalian and Justin Cronin. Bohjalian chooses controversial topics such as holistic medicine, water witching, midwifery, and in his latest offering—animal rights and gun control. *Before You Know Kindness* begins with two EMTs leaning over animal-rights activist Spencer McCullough's gushing shotgun wound. The weapon is owned by his brother-in-law and has been fired by his 12-year-old daughter, Char-

lotte—who becomes the center of attention and media frenzy led by Spencer's employer, FERAL (Federation for Animal Liberation). This novel takes the reader through the ordinary days leading up to the accident, and forward again as Spencer's family come to terms with the aftermath of the incident. Bohjalian is a gifted author that I highly recommend. Cronin's novel, *The Summer Guest*, is a wonderfully written love story. It revolves around rich financier Harry Wainwright who has returned to a Maine fishing camp for one last day of fishing before he dies of terminal cancer. Cronin artfully weaves Joe and Lucy Crosby, the camp's owners; their daughter Kate; and Jordan, the camp's guide; into a complex web of family drama. The reader is led through World War I and Vietnam, with the story reaching its climax on a late summer day in 1994. I tend to think that, in general, male authors write a more believable, complex love story than women authors, with this novel being an example of that belief.

Once again in preparation for the holiday season, a selection of books will be available for individuals to purchase as gifts for the library at 20% off of their retail value. These books will be displayed in the library through the month of December and have been obtained through the St. Helens Bookshop.

Attention Parents!

Tonight, Thursday, November 18th at 7:00 p.m., you and your children are invited to hear some great bedtime stories at the library. Dress in your pajamas and come on down to enjoy this time with Camrin Eyrick. (I heard she even made cookies last month.

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, 10:30 a.m., when school is in session.
Phone: (503) 429-1818