

Letters

Community PTA is for all local schools

To the Editor:

In a recent issue of *The Independent*, published on October 21, an Executive Board Member of the PTA was quoted that the \$5,000.00 (not exact figure) was raised at the PTA carnival to purchase playground equipment for WGS and we need to know where to put it, at the October School Board meeting. This was a misunderstanding.

Portions of the carnival proceeds will be used for the purchase of graphic calculators for VHS, school supplies/books for the Jr. High, and also funding towards a future playground for WGS. I'm sorry for any confusion this may have caused.

The Vernonia Community PTA is not school specific and we service any and all children's groups in Vernonia. Currently we serve WGS K-8, VHS, and Head Start (Head Start joined us in late October). If you'd like your children's group represented in the Vernonia Community PTA, or any-

one who would like their opinion heard or would like to support us in our commitment to Vernonia's youth, please join us.

Our meetings are once a month on the third Thursday, in the WGS library. This month's meeting is on Thursday, December 16, at 6:30 p.m.

Any other questions or concerns regarding the Vernonia Community PTA, please call me, Camrin Eyrrick, President, at 503-429-0470 or e-mail me at <just.mommy@verizon.net>.

Thank you,
Camrin Eyrrick
Vernonia

Holiday Bucks will help local businesses

To the Editor:

This letter is addressed to the citizens of Vernonia and area.

The Holiday Bucks Promotion was set into full swing on Friday, November 26. This promotion encourages all of you to buy in Vernonia during the

Christmas Holiday season. There are 32 local businesses involved and to make this promotion successful they need your support. This is your chance to shop Vernonia and have a chance to win some extra Holiday Bucks. There will be four different drawings; Dec. 4 at Vernonia Inn, Dec. 11 at Bretthauer Vernonia Station (Tom's), Dec. 18 at Country Kitchen. At these drawings a Holiday Bucks Gift Certificate for \$25 will be given away. The last drawing will take place on Thursday, Dec. 23 at True Value Hardware at 12 noon. Those draws will be for \$50, \$75, and \$100 in Holiday Bucks Gift Certificates. These certificates can be used at any participating business before February 14, 2005.

Please look in this paper for our full page ad. It will list the businesses that are in this promotion and a complete list of rules. Watch for the Red Holiday Bucks Cards in the participating businesses.

Last but not least, I would like to personally apologize to

West Oregon Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Seams Sew Easy for misspelling your business name in the original cards and rules that went out. It HAS been corrected. All future information will have the correct spelling for both businesses. Again, I apologize profusely for this mistake.

Janie Wasmann
Holiday Bucks Promotion

Mayor-elect thanks voters, tells goals

To the Editor:

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the voters for selecting me to be your next Mayor. I appreciate the vote of confidence and will do my darndest to do my best.

I also wish to extend kudos to Cindy Ball. I feel she has set Vernonia on the right course and deserves our thanks for her tireless service to the community.

I also want to thank Nancy Dailey, Gina Faber, Darlene Wilcoxon and Brenda Gooch for the wonderful 'Meet the Mayor' Party. There was a wonderful turn out. Good food and good talk was enjoyed by all.

So, what are my goals as Mayor?

#1 on my list is to continue to make this a 'user friendly' city. Anyone with questions will get answers. Anyone with problems will have them addressed.

#2 Promoting the businesses already established and encouraging light industrial.

#3 Continued beautification of the downtown core.

#4 Building bridges within the community so we all work as a team.

I'm so looking forward to serving you.

My door is always open.
My phone is 503-429-8425.

Thanks again for this opportunity.

Most sincerely,
Sally Harrison
Vernonia

Community will miss help of Enid Parrow

To the Editor:

Both the Vernonia Pioneer Museum and Vernonia Pride will miss our dear and wonderful friend Enid Parrow. She was a great asset to us and such a worker and inspiration. Thanks Enid, you will be missed.

The museum will be having a meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 8 at 5:30 pm at the museum. We are looking for a few good volunteers to not only open the museum up on the week ends, but also to fill some vacancies on the board. We need a president, secretary and treasurer. Please come and see what is going on at the museum. Join us and have some fun. Remember your museum is made possible by volunteers like yourself.

Vernonia Pride will be decorating down town for Christmas. We would like to thank Meyer's Tree Farm for the donation of a community Christmas tree. Thanks also to Miss Gingerich's class at Washington Grade School for decorations. We would also like to thank the city's public works department for getting the tree and setting it up for us. There will be a Christmas Tree lighting at City Hall on Dec. 4 at 5:30 pm. Come for hot chocolate, cookies and Mrs. Santa. Following the lighting will be a downtown lighted truck parade and open house at downtown businesses.

Donna Webb, for
Vernonia Pride and
Vernonia Pioneer Museum

Local United Way is reflection of County

To the Editor:

It is amazing that in this world of cynicism and despair, there is a small, community-based organization that can provide so much support to so many people, yet go practically unnoticed. I'm talking about United Way – not the distant United Way on television or the obscure United Way in the newspapers - but rather our very own United Way of Columbia County. Our United Way is run by local people who care about local people. Every penny given to our United Way STAYS in our neighborhoods.

Year after year as we all drive down Highway 30, the thermometers go up, the red rises and traffic continues to flow barely acknowledging what that sign really means. After all, once you know what that sign really stands for, you may never drive by it again without wishing that the red

Please see page 17

Between the Bookends

By Ann Krutsinger, Library Assistant
Banks Public Library



Please make note of changes in hours due to the upcoming holidays. The library will be closed Friday and Saturday, December 24 and 25 for the Christmas holiday, and will also be closed Friday & Saturday, December 31st and January 1st for the New Year's holiday.

Please use the outdoor drop box to return items. Due dates will be modified to reflect the closures.

Want to save 20 percent off the list price of all your holiday gift books? Pre-order and plan to shop at the 3rd Annual Friends of the Banks Public Library Holiday Book Fest! If you are a current Friend of the Library or bought books at last year's sale, you should receive your order form in the mail. If you are neither, but want to save money on your holiday gifts, pick up an order form at the library. Or email annwsk@hotmail.com and receive your form by email. Please turn in your order forms by Thursday, December 2nd. Shop the selection of gift books at the Holiday Book Fest from 3-7:00 p.m. This event is a nice time to browse, enjoy a cookie, and avoid holiday crowds. The proceeds from the Holiday Book Fest help fund the ongoing programs sponsored by the Friends of the Banks Public Library – the Summer Reading Program, Preschool Storytime and the purchase of adult bestsellers.

There are new exciting best selling reads that are on the library shelves or will be soon. The Big Bad Wolf is back in *London Bridges* by James Patterson. The latest Alex Cross thriller has all the current terrorist threats on a worldwide scale. Millions of lives depend on Alex's executive ability as the FBI, CIA and Interpol hunt for the perpetrator of evil.

For the ladies, Janet Evanovich has written *Metro Girl*. This fast-moving mystery is full of Evanovich's fast-paced action and mis-action, but none of the familiar, well-loved characters of her Stephanie Plum series. This quick, funny read where animals never die and bad guys are almost always brought to justice (somehow!) is going to be a must for Evanovich fans.

Diane Mott Davidson writes mouth watering mysteries centered around of all things – food. *Double Shot* is her latest effort. Goldy Schulz's ex-husband has been released from prison. Soon after, Goldy begins to receive repeated threats, rumors and violence. A murder that someone is trying to pin on Goldy and two ardent detectives interferes with the running of her successful catering business.

Banks Public Library: 111 Market Street.
Hours: Tues., Wed., Thurs., 12 - 7:00 p.m.;
Fri. and Sat. 12 - 5 p.m.
Preschool Story Time: Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.
Phone: (503) 324-1382
Internet: www.WILInet.wccls.lib.or.us. to browse library resources or to reserve materials electronically.