

## Between the Bookends

By Nancy Burch, Librarian  
Vernonia Public Library



Don't let the winter doldrums get you down. There are many things at the library to help revitalize your mind and spirit. **Family movie night** will be Friday, February 23 at 6:30, with **Nanny McPhee** as the featured movie. It's a pleasant way to spend

an evening with family, friends and free popcorn. Monday, February 26 at 5:30, Fannie Flagg's novel, *Welcome to the World, Baby Girl*, will be discussed. Flagg not only serves another dose of southern humor, but keeps the reader guessing with the collection of amazing characters and events in this novel. Even if you don't choose to join the discussion of this book, it should help in adding a little oomph to your life.

The next Chautauqua presentation will be Monday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m. This program, **Night of a Thousand Stars and Other Portraits of Iraq**, will feature slides and stories offering an intimate portrait of Iraqis at home, work and worship. It is a program encouraging us to consider our cultural similarities and shared human experiences, and should be a huge contrast to the pictures and stories of war that are usually the images we see from that county. The presenter is Joel Preston Smith, a photojournalist from Portland who lived in Iraq for four months in 2003. This is another free program with refreshments provided by the Friends of the Library and the library board members.

The Friends of the Library will be holding their Spring Book Sale on Saturday, March 17 from 10-4. Anyone having books to donate may leave them at the library during regular hours. There is quite a nice selection at present, including

videos and books for both children and adults. Reasonable prices will once again be the rule of the day for this sale.

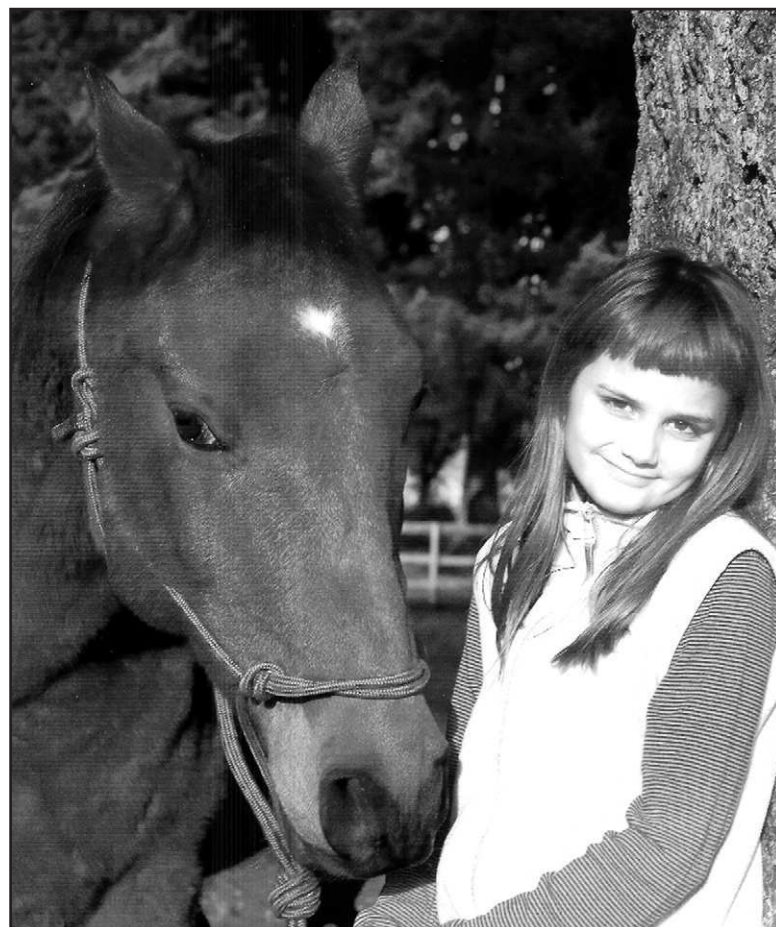
Barbara Delinsky's newest novel, *Family Tree*, adds some thought-provoking concerns about race in America when a beautiful baby with African American traits is born to an illustrious New England family. James Patterson, *Step on a Crack*, is a tear jerker/thriller. *Forever in Blue* is the fourth and final in The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants series for teens (and adults) by Ann Brashares. *The Audacity of Hope* presents Barack Obama's "Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream." How's this for a variety of topics to stimulate and entertain?

Don't forget the regular programs for children—Preschool at 10:30 on Mondays, After school at 3:30 on Mondays, Chess at 2:30 on Fridays. Arts & Crafts meet on the 2nd Thursday at 1:00 and would love to have new members. They usually work on individual craft projects as they conduct their meeting and visit.

Making the news quite regularly are instances where youngsters have been contacted by "not very nice" people they have met via the Internet. Parents who have given their youngsters written permission to use the Internet in the library might want to discuss, again, the dangers of giving personal information to strangers over the Internet. If you have forgotten the library's policy regarding Internet use, you are welcome to reread and reaffirm that you and your children understand and agree to this policy.

**Vernonia Public Library:** 701 Weed Ave.  
**Hours:** Mon., Wed., Fri. 10 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Tues., Thur. 1:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Sat. 10 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
**Preschool Story Time:** Mondays, 10:30 a.m., when school is in session.  
**Phone:** 503-429-1818

## Illoria, and others, seek families



Illoria is waiting for a home. Those who know Illoria are impressed with her resilience. After many changes and losses in her life, Illoria's spirit is still vibrant and her heart remains warm. This beautiful little girl has shining brown eyes and a soft, shy smile that reveal the sweetness she has been able to retain. Illoria is easy to adore!

Active and coordinated, Illoria

thrives on physical challenges such as running, biking, swimming or jumping on the trampoline. Her energetic, outdoor play is balanced with quiet indoor activities such as art projects. Illoria is bright and enthusiastic, and does relatively well in school. Her self-esteem still needs a strong boost, and she will thrive in a home where she is fully doted upon. Illoria also has siblings with whom she is close and will ideally maintain some contact.

Loving, patient adoptive parents who can provide a stimulating, yet secure, environment will be the lucky recipients of Illoria's trust.

This child is one of approximately 300 Oregon children available for adoption through the state. For more information on the availability of this child, or on how to become a foster or adoptive parent, contact the Special Needs Adoption Coalition at 503-542-2392 or DHS at 1-800-331-0503.

## Healthy Start program receives two funding grants

Healthy Start of Columbia County, a program of Commu-

nity Action Team, has been awarded two grants in the amount of \$8,400.00. This program is funded by the Columbia County Commission on Children and Families.

During the 2005-2007 biennium funding cycle, Oregon legislators incorporated into budget notes, a new expectation that all Healthy Start Programs would be required to seek a five percent cash match for the amount of Oregon general fund dollars that programs receive. Healthy Start of Columbia County was able to reach this goal with the following two grants: *The Oregonian* readers in this year's Season of Sharing contributed \$8,000.00 to be used by the organization to help Healthy Start's home visit clients meet basic needs. The second grant of \$400.00 was provided by Columbia

County Citizens for Human Dignity. This grant allows Healthy Start to provide necessary health and safety items for clients not covered by other resources.

### Pet of the Month

Columbia Humane Society in St. Helens has a variety of wonderful pets available for adoption. Find the pet that's right for you in the shelter at 2084 Oregon St. Monday through Saturday, 11 am. to 5 pm. 503-397-4353



Sadie is a young Chocolate Labrador Retriever Mix. A very playful, loving dog. She is friendly and would make a great fishing buddy. Sadie knows how to sit pretty and is eager to please. Please come visit Sadie today.

The Columbia Humane Society is a No-Kill non-profit shelter dedicated to helping friends find each other since 1985.

The Pet of the Month is Sponsored by:

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