

## Jamboree seeks theme and design

Have you marked your calendars for the 51st Annual Friendship Jamboree, August 3-5, 2007? The Jamboree Committee has done a tremendous amount of planning to date and is now looking to the community to create the theme and design for the event t-shirts.

The individual/group winner will receive their choice of a \$100 U.S. Savings Bond or an equal-value pizza party. Please keep in mind the group could be any local non-profit organization, for instance, Vernonia PTA, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Senior Center, school class, etc.

The committee will be deciding the winner of the theme competition on Thursday, April 26. Submit all ideas by Monday, April 23, via the website at

vernoniachamber.org "Contact Us", or by mail to Jamboree Committee, 1001 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064.

Among the lighthearted activities planned for the Jamboree weekend are Riding Lawn Mower Races, Podunk Races, Big Maple Leaf contest, Mini-log Float Races, and Dunk Tank.

The Jamboree Committee is still looking for volunteers from the community to help with the planning and execution of this year's event. The committee meets on the fourth Thursday of the month. The next meeting is Thursday, March 22, at 7:00 p.m., at Vernonia City Hall. If you have any questions, contact Helen Hudson at 503-429-1902 or hajohnston55@earthlink.net, or Randy Parrow at 503-429-3811.

## Night of a Thousand Stars at Library

Night of a Thousand Stars and Other Portraits of Iraq is the title of the next Chautauqua program scheduled at the Vernonia Library on Monday, March 12, starting at 6:30 p.m.

journalism in Iraq has focused on political analysis and violence, Smith's work provides another dimension by introducing Iraqis and U.S. soldiers as human beings.

Smith's slides and stories offer an intimate portrait of Iraqis at home, work and worship. Viewing images of a nurse caring for pediatric cancer patients, a professor teaching *Romeo and Juliet* at the University of Baghdad and musicians playing for a wedding helps us question how racism, xenophobia and media bias may play a role in prejudging Middle Eastern societies. When the enemy appears like a loving father with his daughter or children delighting in a water fight, we may be encouraged to consider our cultural similarities and shared human experiences.

Smith is a freelance writer, photographer and artist in Portland. He served as a photojournalist in the U.S. Army. As a civilian, Smith served on hu-

## Bits & Bites

By Jacqueline Ramsay



Hello, Spring has sprung. A couple of days anyhow. How do I know?

Lots of dogs walking their companions at the lake. Several boats on the lake and people on the fishing docks. Some folks just letting their dogs run, no leashes in evidence. Another bit of pet information, seen on Animal Planet. They have re-figured a dog age. Used to be seven years for one of dog life. Now it's 50 years for each of the first two years. Then for all other years add four each. So, Shadow used to be 42 years old, refigured she is 116.

I admit she sometimes acts it, but then she catches a scent and is off on the trail of who knows what?

I received a new 'gimmick' in the mail last week. A post card from "Lifesystems Institute." send them eight \$1 or \$3 plus a 39¢ stamp and they will tell you how to get up to \$100,000.00 and never have to pay it back – ever. OH?????

Here's another thing to ponder. How many men have not become president since you were born. Do you remember who they were?

Oh, Clark, where were you and your camera or camcorder at 5:00 p.m. on February 22? I was feeding the ducks when BAM, every duck and bird in the place took off squawking

and trying to hide. The pair of eagles were on the hunt. Soaring, diving and missing two lone ducklings (last spring's) alone on the water. The ducklings were diving under, coming up and trying to head for shore. The eagles made about five passes before giving up and perching on the tall posts in the lake. Oh, what a show.

Another show at the lake this past week (21st). Have you heard of the movie "The Birds" (years ago)? At feeding time again for the ducks – the crows came swooping in 30 or a few less – diving and swooping trying to spook the ducks to leave the feed to them. Kudos to the ducks, they didn't give.

The Donkey Basketball was fun again this year.

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Photojournalist Joel Preston Smith lived in Iraq for four months in 2003, documenting Iraqis' daily lives, rituals and struggle to survive – both before and after the U.S. invasion. While the preponderance of

manitarian aid missions to Rwanda, Honduras, Palestine and Iraq. Smith is the author of a book of essays and photographs, also titled *Night of a Thousand Stars and Other Portraits of Iraq*.

The Vernonia Library, in conjunction with the Friends of the Library presents this program, which is made possible by funding from the Oregon Council for the Humanities. Overnight accommodations are provided by the Friends of the Library and the Vernonia Inn Bed and Breakfast. Refreshments will follow the program.

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## Welcome Addition

### Elliott Thomas LaPointe

Pearcia and Eric LaPointe of Vancouver, Washington, welcomed their first child, February 23, 2007. Elliott Thomas LaPointe weighed 7 pounds, 1 oz. and was 19.75 inches long.

Pearcia Blum LaPointe graduated from Vernonia High School in 1998.

Grandparents are Jeff and Michelle Blum; great-grandmothers are Isabelle McDaniel and Marilyn Blum.

