

Storytellers at Banks Library Festival brought stories to real life

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whose stories come alive with her form of verbal expression and gestures. The use of instruments and audience involvement grabs the attention of listeners, as was evidenced at the workshop in Banks.

Each guest was individually and warmly greeted by the storytellers, children were met at eye level and asked to get comfortable, including removing their shoes if they desired.

The folk tale stories were native tales, one from Hades, another from India, and the last from North Africa; each narrative taught a life lesson.

The audience joined in by

snapping fingers, clapping hands, and echoing sounds of monkeys and crows. The tales incorporated the use of a marimba, a large xylophone with resonant tubes under the wooden bars, and a pair of bongos. The spectators were mesmerized by the voice inflections, musical instruments, and facial and body expressions of the tandem tellers.

When the tales had concluded, attendees were invited, and excitedly joined in, to play music together. Smiles radiated from the faces of the participants.

This program was brought to the Banks Library as part of Na-

tional Library Week sponsored by the Washington County Cooperative Library Services. It was made possible from grant

monies, as well as support from the Regional Arts & Culture, Glenn & Viola Walters Cultural Arts Center, Ad-Mark Promo-

tional Products, LLC; Prographs Services, Incorporated; and Community Newspapers.

Enter to win Wildfire Home Makeover

While many of us dream of getting a call from the television show, Extreme Makeover: Home Edition, Washington County residents will soon have a chance for a free home-improvement project that could spare their property from wildfire. In May, Wildfire Home Makeover 2007 will select a contestant from the wildland-urban interface of the county for a safety makeover inside

and out aimed at making the home survivable in the event of a wildfire.

As with Extreme Makeover, the improvement work will be videotaped, with Beaverton-based Better TV to air a segment this summer showing the house before, during and after the makeover.

As Oregon's population continues to expand into forested areas, the threat of wildfire de-

stroying homes as well as the forest resource increases. Fire agencies and home insurers see the Wildfire Home Makeover as an opportunity to present fire prevention tips to interface homeowners in an entertaining way.

Conceived by the Oregon Department of Forestry and sponsored by local businesses, the insurance industry and oth-

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Letters

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and Terry Lindauer and family for preparing and setting up the lunch at the Scout Cabin. For putting up and taking down all the tables and chairs, and leaving it spic and span.

Volunteerism can accomplish many things and Vernonia has had a good amount of projects completed by volunteers.

Thanks again, and we'll see you all next year.

DeLoris Webb
Vernonia Pride

Generous community helps the Cub Scouts

To the Editor:

Cub Scout Pack 201 would like to say thank you.

Once again the generosity of our community shines.

We would like to thank all that took the time to bring a vehicle for us to wash.

We appreciate your donations and time out of your day.

The car wash was a success and will help Cubs with summer camp fees.

Once again, thank you.

Lisa Brewer
Cub Scout Pack 201

Bear Creek 10K/5K to benefit Vernonia Cares

To the Editor:

Mark your calendars – August 18, 2007 is the date. Beginning and ending at Anderson Park, this event boasts the

diversity of a 5K Run/Walk encompassing a lap at Vernonia Lake, and a 10K Run that heads south along the Banks/Vernonia Linear Trail. Both routes are flat, fast and wind through tree-lined sections of the trail, providing welcome shade for runners and walkers alike.

This event is a fundraiser for the Vernonia Cares Food Bank – an organization that has supported local families for the past 22 years. Did you know that statistics show that one third of local children benefit consistently from Vernonia Cares? You have heard the saying – it is hard to play when you are hungry. We need the help and support of Vernonia residents in order to be successful at providing for approximately 11 percent of our community. Vernonia Cares is also aided through United Way of

Columbia County. In addition to monthly groceries, Vernonia Cares distributes special Christmas food boxes containing the basic groceries for a Christmas meal.

Registration will begin at 7:45 a.m. with the runs starting at 8:15 and 8:30 a.m. See the following website for more details: <<http://www.signmeup.com/56274>> or contact Race Director Maria Lemay at 503-429-1069. Watch for more local advertising and race registration forms as we finalize on sponsors.

Local businesses have already received letters reaching out for sponsorship and support of this event. The sponsorship total so far is \$1075, which is great, almost half of monies raised in 2006. We appreciate the financial sponsorship we have received in the past four years from businesses, both lo-

cal and outside of Vernonia.

So, how can you help? Volunteer your time to help out on the race day or with preparations for it, or sign up and participate in this event. They say charity begins at home – let's role model that on all levels of support for this event.

It is our hope that the 2007 Vernonia Bear Creek Run will be a memorable event benefiting Vernonia residents. It has the potential to bring visitors and consumers to our beautiful town, generating local revenue plus heightening awareness of our lovely forested trail and parks.

Thank you for supporting Vernonia Cares Food Bank in any way you can.

Maria Lemay
Bear Creek 10K/5K
Race Director

Nominate your favorite volunteer

Oregon ranks eighth in the nation on a new Civic Life index released April 16. Overall, 38.5 percent of people in Oregon

engaged in civic life by volunteering, working with their neighbors, or attending public meetings. Based on data col-

lected by the U.S. Census Bureau, this report presents an overview of formal volunteering.

In every measurement of volunteer involvement, Oregon remains above the national average, ranking fifteenth overall for the second year in a row. In addition, Oregon had the sixth-highest number of volunteer service hours per capita in the country. A complete copy of the report and related information is available online at www.oregonvolunteers.org.

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