

Vernonians excel at spelling bee

Vernonia schools sent six participants to this year's Columbia County Spelling Bee, held in St. Helens on April 29. Fifth graders Caton Watts and Emily Bergerson competed in Division I; Dylan Taylor and Madeline O'Leary (Grade 6 and 8) competed in Division II; eleventh graders Souvanny Miller and Parker Roach competed in Division III.

Caton Watts and Souvanny

Miller each took home a first place medal, while Parker Roach brought home a second place medal.

The spelling bee used written words only, with no oral spelling required. Three words the participants (from different divisions) found challenging were "anesthesiologist", "circumlocution" and "augury."

See picture on page 24.


Apply now for 4-H scholarships

The Columbia County 4-H Finance & Investment Scholarship is designed for youth who


are interested in pursuing a degree at Oregon State University. Scholarship applicants must have participated in the Columbia County 4-H program and have some experience in the area of business and finance (examples include: member of FBLA, taken high school personal finance or investments classes). Scholarship recipients must be attending Oregon State University and be majoring in Finance or a closely related field in either the College of Business or the Agricultural and Resource Economics Program. Applications and letters of recommendation must be received by June 1, 2009.

For more information and a copy of the application, call or visit the OSU Extension Service office at: 505 N. Columbia River Highway, St. Helens, OR 97051, 503-397-3462.

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GOOD LUCK AT STATE!

Between the Bookends

By Susan Cackler, Library Assistant
Banks Public Library



The Banks Public Library has an impressive selection of sign language DVDs and books for children and parents. We also are now circulating conventional picture books that include a DVD of a person signing the book. These books can be found by browsing for sign language DVD. Our titles include *Goodnight Moon*, *I Went Walking*, *Grandfather Twilight*, and *Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?* Sign language can help young children express themselves and understand language before they develop the physical capability to speak.

The Friends of the Banks Public Library are expanding and moving their Annual Plant and Book Sale. This year, the sale will include local crafts and garden art, in addition to a broad selection of plants and used books. The sale will be held at Schlegel Hall in Sunset Park on Friday, May 8 from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 9 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This sale is a perfect opportunity for last minute Mother's Day shopping.

Plants are coming from local nurseries and gardeners and will include vegetable starts, annuals, perennials, planters, herbs and trees. All are offered at reasonable prices and the Friends receive a portion of all sales.

Books for all levels of readers will be offered for sale as well as some videos, magazines and other materials. Items for sale will include private donations and withdrawn library materials.

The Art, Plant and Book sale is a major fundraising activity for the Friends of the Banks Public Library. The Friends' funds are used by the library to purchase bestsellers and current titles, CDs, DVDs, equipment and programs for the library throughout the year. The Friends fund a weekly Story Time for preschool children, a summer reading program for early readers through teens, and provide books for the Banks Community Auction.

Join us for craft night and enjoy some lively conversation while you work on your favorite craft. Come and meet some new friends or visit with old ones while using the library's work space and enjoying some light snacks. Join the Friends on Wednesday, May 13 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the community room.

Join us for Preschool story time on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. in the community room of the library. This is designed for children aged three to six, but younger siblings are welcome. This month Miss Cathy will read stories on the following themes:

May 6:	Down on the Farm
May 13:	Mother's Day
May 20:	May Flowers
May 27:	Family Fun

The Friends of the Banks Public Library can always use your support. You can make a tax deductible donation, become a member, or volunteer. Money that the Friends raise helps the li-

brary purchase Cultural Passes, upgrade equipment and purchase books and movies.

Remember that Swatco is no longer offering recycling on the second Saturday of the month.

On the Shelf:

A Homemade Life by Molly Wizenberg, a freelance food writer and creator of the award-winning blog Orangette. This book chronicles how she became a food writer. After her father's death, she found that she was unable to go on with life as usual. She visits Paris, which sparks memories of a childhood trip with her father and the tastes of that trip. Soon, she finds that her heart is in the kitchen, not in studies. This discovery leads to her blog and, eventually, to romance. This book is filled not only with her story, but also with accompanying recipes — truly a book to savor.

The Language of Bees by Laurie R. King, Mary Russell and her husband Sherlock Holmes return in this novel and find their relationship pushed to the breaking point. They are returning to their Sussex Coast home and find a small mystery to solve: the disappearance of a colony of bees. But soon there is a bigger mystery—a search for a man's missing wife and child. Along the way to solving this mystery, they will encounter numerous examples of communal behavior and end up on the trail of a dangerous killer.

Agincourt by Bernard Cornwell. The Battle of Agincourt pitted an underdog English force against a French army determined to keep their crown out of Henry's hands. In this novel, Cornwell resurrects the legend of the battle and the men who fought it on October 25, 1415. The tale follows a commoner, a king, and a nation's entire army on an improbable mission to test the will of God and reclaim what is rightfully theirs. This story of survival and slaughter is both a work of history and a triumph of imagination.

Percy Jackson and the Olympians, the Demigod Files, by Rick Riordan. If you can't wait for the next story in the series, this may help. This book includes the top secret archives of Percy's most perilous adventures, behind-the-scenes interviews with your favorite characters, a map of Camp Half-Blood and more. *The Last Olympian*, the fifth book in the Percy Jackson series, comes out this month.

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Banks Public Library: 111 Market Street.

Hours: Mon., Fri., Sat., 11 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tues., Wed., Thurs., 11 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Preschool Story Time: Wed., 10:15 a.m.

Phone: (503) 324-1382 for information

Internet: www.wcccls.org

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