

Between the Bookends

by Nancy Burch, Librarian
Vernonia Public Library



Summer is fast approaching and plans are being finalized for an action-packed summer for youngsters and adults. Crafts and stories reflecting the theme of "One World, Many Stories" will take place at the library on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. beginning June 28 and ending July 26. Special events, including presentations by the Knights of Veritas, Hart's Reptile World, Washington County Historical Society and storyteller Chris Leebrick, will help make this an eventful summer for youngsters. Complete schedules and registration information will soon be available in the library.

Adults will be exploring a few of Vernonia's businesses, learning some its history and touring the water plant. A theme of "Novel Destinations" will lead participants to France and Australia, via movies filmed in these countries. During planning for these events, discussion led to the realization that it would be enjoyable to visit some places of interest outside of Vernonia, including the Tillamook State Forest Center, Valley Art Gallery in Forest Grove and The Rice Rock Museum. These excursions would be extras, with the goal being to simply enjoy the outings as a group. Any legal or personal responsibility, including transportation, fees, food, etc., would necessarily be placed on participating individuals. The first outing will be to the Tillamook Forest Center and will take place on Wednesday, June 1st. Anyone wishing to join the group for this trip needs to leave a name and contact information in the library to ensure that they will receive information regarding the outing.

Both the after school program and the preschool story time will cease at the end of May so youngsters can take part in the summer reading program, and to allow for family vacations. Both programs will resume after the start of school in the fall.

New acquisitions for your summer reading enjoyment include *The Bride's House* by Sandra Dallas, *44 Charles Street* by Danielle Steel, *The Peach Keeper* by Sarah Addison Allen, *Dead Reckoning* by Charlaine Harris, *The Wedding Shawl* by Sally Goldenbaum, *A Turn in the Road* by Debbie Macomber, *Buried Prey* by John Sandford, *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks, and *Those in Peril* by Wilbur Smith. For the reader who prefers reality, a remarkable memoir of the Holocaust entitled *The Seamstress* by Sara Bernstein, and a chronicle of wild Alaskan life in the first half of the last century entitled *On the Edge of Nowhere* by Eliott Huntington, are available.

A recommendation by Robin Cody prompted the purchase of Sam McKinney's book, *Reach of Tide Ring of History*. McKinney was Cody's boatbuilder friend who gave him "The Turtle", the flat-bottomed wooden boat on which he wrote most of the reflections he recounted in *Another Way the River Has* — Vernonia's Community Reads for 2011. McKinney has written a "big short" book about what a river is — how life on the Columbia River has changed since Lewis & Clark, how it hasn't changed and how it is still alive with possibilities. If you enjoyed Robin Cody's book, be sure to read this one by Sam McKinney.

Youngsters and young adults will also find that bright, exciting

new books await them as they visit the library. Young adult readers will enjoy *Behemoth* (second in the *Leviathan* trilogy) by Scott Westerfeld, and *The Scorch Trials* (sequel to *The Maze Runner*) by James Dashner. New picture books, including *Three Hens and a Peacock* and *It's a Book*, should delight even the youngest children.

Remember, the library is here for you. Keep that in mind as summer approaches and you are looking for entertainment for your family. All of the programs and materials are selected with the goal of bringing both pleasure and information to our community.

Vernonia Public Library: 701 Weed Avenue

Hours: Mon., Wed., Fri. 10 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tues., Thu. 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

New invasive species database

After two years of surveying scientists and land managers, and engaging the help of partners across the United States, Oregon has launched iMapInvasives (<http://www.imapinvasives.org/orimi/map/>), an online, GIS-based invasive species reporting and querying tool. iMapInvasives, developed through a partnership between The Nature Conservancy, NatureServe, the New York Natural Heritage Program, Florida Natural Areas Inventory, and the Oregon Biodiversity Information Center, will help land managers, regional planners, and others who are working to prevent, control or manage invasive species to accurately and quickly record and track where all types of invasive plants, animals, fish, and diseases are found.

"This is a huge step forward for Oregon," said Northwest Weed Management Partnership Coordinator and Oregon Invasive Species Council member, Vern Holm. "There are other tools that provide important functions for organizations such as ours, but iMapInvasives provides a very comprehensive package to meet the needs of public and private land managers and citizen scientists, and it's exciting that Oregon is one of the first western states to use the program."

iMapInvasives provides trained users with their own interactive GIS data base, where they can enter and retrieve site information, share data with partnering organizations, and plan for future activities. In the future, iMapInvasives will also allow users to record and re-

trieve treatment data.

The initial list of species included in iMapInvasives was developed from the Oregon Department of Agriculture's "A" and "B" noxious weed lists, the Oregon Invasive Species Council's 100 Worst Invaders, noxious weeds listed in neighboring states, and any species that partner agencies are tracking. The tool has launched with over 85,000 observations of invasive species, and the list will continue to grow as species are recommended. The Oregon Biodiversity Information Center is managing iMapInvasives for the Oregon Invasive Species Council. The Center will review each species before adding to the list to ensure the species is invasive and its taxonomy aligns with NatureServe's standards.

One of the greatest benefits to iMapInvasives is that, while an organization can upload large batches of information at once, anyone with data entry access can add observations at any time.

"One of the reasons our organization provided financial support to iMapInvasives is because of the many functions it can provide," said Sam Leininger, WeedWise Program Manager at the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District. "...instead of using fifty-plus databases to manage invasives, we now have one central location [to] input data, share data with partners, and have access to real-time information."

iMapInvasives leverages the utility of the Oregon Invasive Species Hotline ([\[invasiveshotline.org/\]\(http://invasiveshotline.org/\)\), the go-to place for questions about species people are seeing that they think might be invasive, or for those who have an observation to report but do not want or need an iMapInvasives account. When a suspected invasive is reported, Hotline experts for each county review reports in their area to determine if the observation is indeed an invasive species. Confirmed observations from the hotline will be downloaded twice yearly to iMapInvasives.](http://orego-</p>
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The public will be able to view general distribution data of invasive species, while those who request an account will be able to see point observation data, as well as detailed assessment/treatment polygons when this feature is added later this year.

We're... "pleased to have played an important role in initiating a fundraising effort, and doing the legwork to offer a great product," said Rian Hooff of the Oregon Invasive Species Council. "We look forward to continued strong partnerships with groups throughout Oregon that manage invasive species."

iMapInvasives will complement WeedMapper (<http://www.weedmapper.org/>), a collection of information managed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture, on the distribution of noxious weeds in the state. Weed-Mapper facilitates identification, reporting, verification and early detection and rapid response for noxious weeds. An updated version of Weedmapper will be available the first week of May.

For more information about how to use iMapInvasives, visit Portland State University's Oregon Biodiversity Information Website at <http://orbic.pdx.edu/invasives.html>. The site contains background information, frequently asked questions, and training videos.

The Oregon Invasive Species Council was established by the Oregon Legislature in 2002. Its mission is to conduct a coordinated and comprehensive effort to keep invasive species out of Oregon and to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate the impacts of invasive species already established in Oregon. Members of the council include both public and private organizations.

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