

Between the Bookends

by Nancy Burch, Librarian
Vernonia Public Library



The "good ol' summer time" has finally arrived, bringing

with it memories of delightful experiences of past summers — running through sprinklers, roasting marshmallows over a campfire, playing flashlight tag, jumping into a chilly river or lake, listening for the bell of the ice cream man, or watching "shooting stars" on a cloudless night. Depending on our age, the locale in which we grew up, or in which we vacationed, the images conjured in our minds will vary but, as the days grow warm, the cloudless skies become filled with stars, and the smell of newly mown hay wafts through the air we seem to be rejuvenated as we think on past summers and look forward to making the most of the one that is now at hand.

Your local library offers many activities and materials to help you enjoy the summer to the utmost. Programs for youngsters and adults, including movies, a juggler, a presentation of live reptiles, crafts and stories, visits to local places of interest, and a scavenger hunt

are just some of the activities that will be offered free to the public this summer. (A full schedule of activities is available in the library and on the city website.)

The library has a total of 214 items pertaining to summer for your reading, listening or viewing pleasure. Current magazines including *Reminisce*, *Family Fun*, *simple & delicious*, *Northwest Travel*, and *Country* offer ideas to add to your enjoyment of summer.

If you are gardening, you might wish to check out two new arrivals — *Fresh Food from Small Spaces* and *Small-Plot, High-Yield Gardening*, or if you are in the mood to create while relaxing, we have a new knitting book containing patterns for 20 hats, 20 scarves, and 20 mittens. Other new acquisitions include *Trader of Secrets* by Steve Martini, *Miles to Go* by Richard Paul Evans, *Children and Fire* by Ursula Hegi, *The Jefferson Key* by Steve Berry, *Hell is Empty* by Craig Johnson, and *Misery Bay* by Steve Hamilton.

Now is the perfect time to look through the books you own but no longer read, and donate them to the Friends of the Library for their upcoming book sale. Donations will be accepted any time the library is open. Please do not leave them outside, and please do NOT donate encyclopedias, Reader's Digest Condensed Books, textbooks, or books in poor condition.

Book discussion will take place Monday, June 27 at 5:30 p.m., with satirist George Orwell's novel of an imaginary future totalitarian world—*1984*, being the topic.

Be sure to look at the schedule of summer events offered through the library, and take advantage of those that are of interest and will allow you to take full advantage of this upcoming summer.

As James Dent said, "A perfect summer day is when the sun is shining, the breeze is blowing, the birds are singing and the lawn mower is broken."

Enjoy! Summer is truly a special time.

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

OCF announces education grants

The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF), on June 1, announced \$1.4 million in grants through the Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative, a multi-year initiative to enhance parenting education programs across Oregon. The Parenting Education Collaborative helps communities build stronger, more coordinated parenting education services.

Community Action Team, Inc. is leading development of a Northwest Oregon Regional Parenting Education and Support Hub, along with a diverse group of collaborators including school districts in both Clatsop and Columbia counties, family courts, state and county social service agencies, Head Start, child care centers, libraries, the Columbia County Women's Resource Center, and United Way. Grant funds will support a parenting education coordinator, training for facilitators, home visits, and delivery of classes and workshops in a variety of settings and locations.

"Research continues to show that support for parenting education is one of the most important investments we can make in our children's futures as well as our society's longer-term economic health," said Mary Louise McClintock, OCF's Early Childhood Program Director.

A recent report by Oregon State University found that unstable funding undermines the availability and consistency of Oregon's parenting programs and that rural areas are frequently underserved. The Parenting Education Collaborative takes aim at these issues, providing grants of \$80,000 to \$90,000 per year to support regional parenting education "hubs."

In addition to the Columbia/Clatsop hub, four other hubs will be launched in July with the help of initiative grant support. They will serve Lane, Lincoln, Polk, and Umatilla/Morrow counties. Hubs serving Coos/Curry, Deschutes/Crook/Jefferson, Douglas, Hood River/Wasco, Linn/Benton and Wallowa/Baker counties received second-year renewal grants. The hubs will be funded for at least three years.

This initiative is a partnership of several of the state's largest foundations, including OCF, the Meyer Memorial Trust, The Ford Family Foundation and the Collins Foundation. The Whipple Fund and Crane Creek Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation are contributing to the initiative, and Oregon State University is also a partner.

For a full listing of grants, please visit www.oregoncf.org.

Host a foreign exchange student

Be part of the solution! World Heritage International is now looking for American families to host high school students from Eurasia. All these students have received scholarships through the U.S. State Department sponsored Future Leaders Exchange Program (FLEX) Program and will spend an academic year in the U.S. This historic program seeks to foster democracy and values inherent in a free market economy. Your support of these students and this program reinforces the United States' commitment to education and opportunity.

World Heritage International is currently seeking host families for well-qualified, bright, motivated and well-screened students coming from Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, Armenia,

Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan. By living with local host families and attending local high schools, FLEX scholarship students acquire an understanding of American values and build on leadership skills. From the beginning of this program, FLEX scholarship students work together after returning home to share what they have learned while in America and are making a significant difference in their home countries!

If you, or someone you know, are interested in learning more about our programs and how to become involved, please call 1(800) 888-9040 or go online at www.world-heritage.org.

Vernonia Veterinary Clinic

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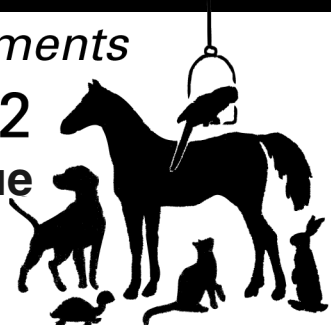
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