

Between the Bookends

By Susan Cackler, Library Assistant
Banks Public Library



The Friends of the Banks Public Library are gearing up for their Annual Plant, Book and Art Sale. 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 11, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 12, 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. The Friends always strive to have some unusual varieties available. 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 and other materials. Items for sale will include private donations and withdrawn library materials.

If you wish to donate plants or books for the sale, please contact the Banks Public Library at 503-324-1382.

Burnt-Ends Barbecue will be participating in the sale again this year. Order forms will be available at the library to preorder meals to pick up from 12 noon to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 12. Sliced beef brisket, beef ribs, pork ribs and chicken will be available, along with a selection of sides. Items can be ordered as a meal or a la carte. Burnt Ends will also have BBQ sandwiches and sides available for lunch on Saturday.

The Plant, Book and Art 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.

After months of planning, a start date has been set for the renovation of the Banks Public Library. Work will begin April 16, and should take about six weeks to complete. The first weeks of construction will cause some disruption to normal library traffic, but the library will remain open and the bulk of the collection will be available for checkout. For the last weeks of construction, the library will close to allow for the most efficient renovation. During the closure period, patrons are encouraged to have their holds sent to the next most convenient library. For many, this will be Forest Grove. North Plains and Hillsboro Main are also good options. Patrons who don't want to travel to another library should make their holds inactive.

The renovation will result in an expansion of the library into the existing community room, and construction of a new lobby. This expansion will provide room for our ever-expanding library collection, additional seating for patrons to read or access library Wi-Fi with their laptops, and increased staff work space.

The City of Banks is providing the funding for the renovation portion of this two-phase project. The second phase, construction of new space to allow for future growth of the library and to reinstate a community room for public meeting use, will be financed through various funding sources, including grants and donations. The Friends of the Library and a group of interested citizens will spearhead the fundraising campaign. To prepare for this effort, the Library Expansion Team is undergoing training provided through a grant from the Ford Family Foundations.

Washington County Cooperative Library Services is hosting the 8th Annual Hearing Voices Storytelling Festival as part of National Library Week April 7-14. Events are planned at most of the cooperative's libraries. Banks Library is co-hosting an event on Saturday, April 14, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club. This event will feature four different storytellers and is free of charge.

Join us for craft night Wednesday, April 11 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the community room. We may be surrounded by boxes, but we should be able to find enough room to craft.

Banks Public Library: 111 Market Street.
Hours: Mon., Fri., Sat., 11 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Tue., Wed., Thur., 11 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Preschool Story Time: Wednesdays, 10:15 a.m.
Phone: (503) 324-1382 for information
Internet: www.wccls.org Browse library resources, reserve or renew materials online.
Call for information.

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. You may find knitters, scrapbookers, quilters and maybe even a tatter or two. If you would like to be on an e-mail reminder list for craft night, call the library with your name and e-mail. Craft night will be canceled if road conditions are bad.

Come to the library for story time on Wednesdays and let your kids enjoy some great stories. Our reader, Miss Cathy, picks a few stories around a theme each week and shares these stories with the children in an entertaining, engaging way. Join us for Preschool Story Time on Wednesdays at 10:15 a.m. in the community room of the library. Story Time is designed for children aged three to six, but younger siblings are welcome.

The themes for April are:

- April 4 : Season of Bunnies and Chickens
- April 11: Tummy Yummies
- April 18: Hopping Mad
- April 25: Web-footed Quackers

On the Shelf:

The Brothers of Baker Street by Michael Robertson. When brothers Reggie and Nigel Heath chose 221B Baker Street as the location for their law office, they did not expect that their new office space would come with one huge stipulation – answering the letters sent to Sherlock Holmes, the most famous resident of that address. In this book, the second in the series, Reggie is working on a new case involving one of London's Black Cab drivers who is accused of murdering two American tourists. Meanwhile, the letters to Sherlock Holmes are piling up. There's even one from someone who claims to be a descendant of Professor James Moriarty. These books are light-hearted and witty mysteries.

The Beginner's Goodbye by Anne Tyler. Tyler has traditionally written novels that are an intimate look into the lives of a few ordinary people. In this novel, she explores the life of a middle-aged man whose wife has died. From time to time, his dead wife reappears to talk with him and he finds himself gradually healing and moving on with his life.

Mushrooming Without Fear: The Beginner's Guide to Collecting Safe and Delicious Mushrooms by Alexander Schwab. While many mushroom books try to be comprehensive, this book instead focuses on narrowing the field. The book opens with explaining some simple mushroom-hunting rules which are emphasized throughout the text. It then outlines how to identify a few common edible mushrooms. The pictures and text are a clear and concise introduction to a complicated subject.

The Just Bento Cookbook by Makiko Itoh. If you've been thinking about joining the bento box trend for lunch, this is the book to get you started.

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