Time Capsule at West Linn Library



100-year time capsule to be buried near new library's flagpole Thursday, January 31, 1991

WEST LINN – If the legend of the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles fails to survive the next century, future residents of West Linn will know, nevertheless, of their existence.

The city's Heritage Committee on Saturday will bury a 100-year time capsule next to the new library, in hopes that their descendants will have some interest in present-day artifacts.

The group will gather at the library at 7:30 a.m. to bury the stainless-steel capsule near the flagpole at the library, 1595 Burns St. The project, including laying a concrete marker on the spot, should take most of the morning, said Alan Lewis, a Heritage Committee member who has helped coordinate the event.

The committee began putting together the time capsule two years ago as a way to commemorate the opening of the new library. The capsule, which was to have been included as a cornerstone of the building, somehow was left out of construction plans. The library opened last year.

"It's all taken a little bit longer than anticipated," Lewis said.

If people can wait 100 years to open the capsule, then can wait a couple of years to put it together.

Items in the capsule include letters, photographs, newspapers, a telephone book, a \$1 bill, a pen and pencil, maps and aerial photographs, street scenes of West Linn, postage stamps, a bottle of correction fluid, a Bart Simpson doll, an Oregon lottery ticket (non-winner), a West Linn water bill (paid), crayons, videotapes of the library construction, and Kate Ingram's third-grade class talent show from Sunset Elementary School, a vacuum-packed Top Shelf meal, a fortune cookie, a paperback novel, a floppy disk, a history book of West Linn and many other objects of everyday life.

And of course, a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle figure.

The capsule is to be opened on Jan. 1, 2091.

The Oregonian

BART WHO? Marcia VanOrman is hoping folks advance a little in 100 years Thursday, January 31, 1991

VanOrman, chairwoman of the West Linn Heritage Committee, was one of several who oversaw the collection of items for the city's time capsule that was sealed late last year and is to be installed in the city library. Among the items to be revealed in 100 years on the capsule's opening: A time-lapsed videotape of construction work at West Linn High School, an infrared photograph of the city, a copy of VanOrman's book, "History of The Religions in West Linn," a peace statement from the Bahais of West Linn, and a Bart Simpson button.

Said VanOrman of television's most famous underachiever: "They won't have any idea what that button is -- I hope!"