

CHAPTERS

Deschutes Public Library Newsletter

Message From the Director

If our public library system were a state highway, we would have posted the “please excuse our progress” signs during the fall months. Several major projects have recently been completed or are underway which represent significant improvements in library services.

The branch libraries in Bend, La Pine, Redmond, Sisters, and the Sunriver Area completed a complex process of moving to a new automation system. This is a once a decade “migration” that libraries approach with trepidation. The new advanced system is a significant improvement over the 1970s technology that it replaced. The system contains a record for each of the 350,000 items in the collection and for each of 60,000 local residents who have active library cards. The system also contains all the transaction records—and the District circulates more than 4,000 items daily.

The new system is the same system used by the University of Oregon, Oregon State University, and larger regional public libraries such as Multnomah County Library and King County Library.

We recently completed the remodel of the Bend children’s area and large meeting room. The meeting room is now twice the size, and the children’s area is much more attractive and better organized.

The next big challenge will be the replacement of the carpet on the second floor of the Bend Public Library, which will begin on October 1st and take one month to complete. More than 150,000 books, as well as all the furniture, needs to be moved several times. With the exception of the computer room, the second floor will be closed to the public.

Every effort has been made to minimize the impact while the second floor is closed. While the Bend fiction collection will be unavailable, staff will be available at an improvised public access desk to retrieve non-fiction items. Popular titles, including new fiction, music, and DVDs, will be available in the large meeting room. Internet access will be available in the computer classroom on the second floor.

October might be a good time for adult library users to visit one of our other branch libraries located in La Pine, Redmond, Sisters, and the Sunriver Area!

We thank you in advance for your patience and support as we complete these important projects.

Michael K. Gaston, Library Director

Fall 2005

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Deschutes Public Library staff successfully implemented a new electronic catalog system that offers exciting new options for library customers.

“Deschutes Public Libraries boast the same catalog system as Multnomah County Library, the University Of Oregon, and Oregon State University,” said Library Director Michael Gaston. “This is a great benefit to our community to have such a highly sophisticated and quality product for our local libraries. Other national libraries that use the Innovative system are Brooklyn Public Library in New York and King County Library in Seattle.”

According to Gaston, the catalog provides numerous benefits for library customers:

“We selected Innovative because it represents the best technology for our strategic technology plans to meet our customers’ information needs and expectations—anytime, anyplace,” said Gaston. “The new catalog allows us to deliver impressive and sophisticated services to the desktop of our patrons, whether they are in the library, a college dorm, at the office, in the classroom, or sitting on the couch at home.”

Deschutes Public Library plans to take full advantage of the bevy of choices Innovative offers.

“Integrating our

real-time virtual references services, expanding our patron self services with Patron Self Registration and Express Checkout, delivering wireless catalog access, even to PDA's, and allowing our customers to do business over the web using eCommerce are all areas we see ourselves moving rapidly on in next year,” said Gaston. “The offerings are endless.”



NEW SYSTEM BeNeFiTS

- Anywhere, anytime access
- Real-time reference
- ExpressCheckout

DoWN The RoAd

- Wireless Internet access
- PDA compatibility
- eCommerce



Child Literacy

The Magic of Early Reading

Many parents are eager to help their young children learn how to read. Unfortunately, some parents think that means flash cards and alphabet drills. However, experts recommend that what a parent should do is prepare their child to learn how to read, and make books fun.

Early literacy is not about teaching a child to read, but *it is* about the skills and development a child needs in order to be ready to read. The children's librarians at all Deschutes Public Libraries can assist parents in many ways with those skills and to help make reading enjoyable.

Story Times at the library are designed to promote the basic skills necessary for getting young children ready to learn how to read. Children's librarians are trained in "Early Words" and "Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library," two national programs that target early literacy.

Children's librarians can recommend books just right for babies, toddlers, or preschoolers. Each library has book lists to help you choose books, including a series entitled "You Asked For It," featuring subjects parents frequently request. Our librarians are available to speak to adult groups about "The Magic of Early Reading." This workshop focuses on what caregivers can do to guide young children toward a lifelong habit of learning and reading.

So contact the children's librarian at your local branch to schedule a workshop, find out about *Story Times*, or get a recommendation for a good book. It's what we do, and we do it well!

Heather McNeil, Bend Branch Co-Manager



ReSouRCeS FoR PaReNTS

- Book lists appropriate for your child's age group.
- Wonderful *Story Times*
- Books on parenting.
- Parent & caregiver early literacy workshops.
 - Movies, magazines, puppets, literacy kits, recorded books, and books for you & your child to use—*free*.
 - Computers with games for the young child.
 - Spine labels that quickly identify which book is right for your child.
- For babies: cardboard books that are easy to handle and can tolerate a bit of chewing.
- Expert child librarians to help you & your child through each phase of development.

Redmond Book Contest

4th Graders: Write & Illustrate Your Own Book!

This contest is open to all 4th grade students (and homeschool equivalent students) throughout the Redmond area. You are invited to write and illustrate your own book! The Redmond Public Library is hosting a writing and an art workshop to help you polish off your project.

The deadline is **Wednesday, November 23, 2005**. Bring your entry to Redmond Public Library or turn it in at your school where your book will be collected. The winner and runner-up get to see their books in print and do a book signing at a library reception.

This project is a cooperative venture between the Redmond Public Library, Redmond Writers, High Desert Society for the Arts, and the Redmond Rotary.

If you have any questions, please call the Redmond Public Library at 312-1050.

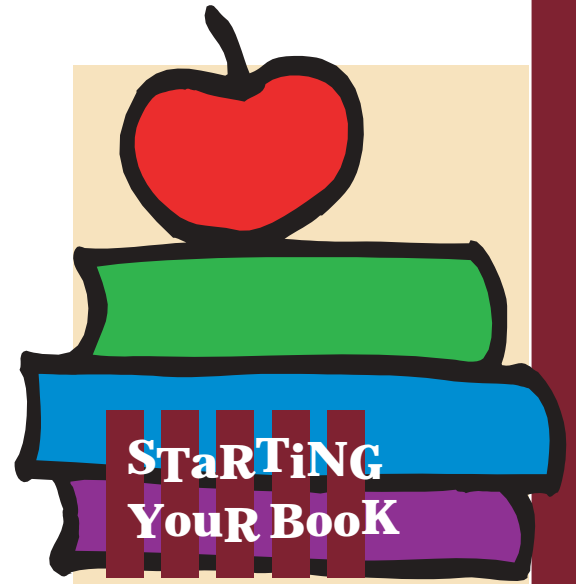
Kathy Duffy, Redmond Public Library

La Pine & Sunriver Area Libraries

New Teen Librarian

Look out teens—here she comes! The La Pine and Sunriver Area Public Libraries have a new teen librarian serving their communities.

April Witteveen, a graduate of the University of Michigan's School of Information, comes to the Deschutes Public Libraries after working in both the Ann Arbor District Library in Michigan and, most recently, the Fern Ridge Library in Veneta, Oregon. The La Pine and Sunriver communities are excited about her arrival on October 17. Stop in and welcome April to our communities!



Sometimes the beginning is the toughest part—so get a pen and some paper and write down all the ideas for a book that come into your mind.

Areas to explore:

- An event that happened to you, your family, or a friend.
- A daydream.
- Poems you've written.
- Your favorite animal or place to visit.
- Use your imagination! You can go anywhere in a book (especially when you're the author!).

La Pine

Late Start Wednesdays

In an effort to assist the La Pine schools with their late start Wednesdays, the La Pine Public Library is offering the program *Stories and Studies*. Wednesdays at 10:00am the story begins for school-aged children. Afterward, the staff can assist the students with their library needs—finding a book for a report, using the library’s numerous databases, or finding a good book to read. A responsible caregiver over the age of 16 years must accompany children under 10 years of age.

Anniversaries

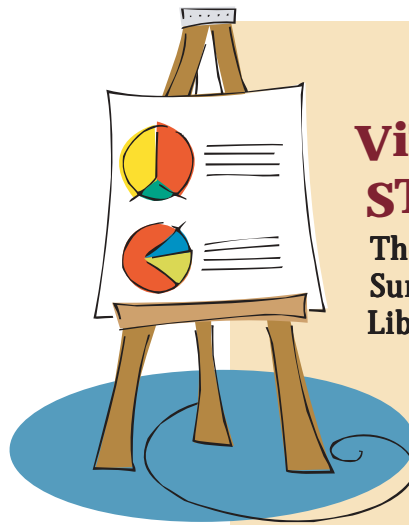
The La Pine Public Library celebrated the 15-year anniversary of **Sharon Hildebrand** this past August. **Donna Hurlburt** will celebrate her 5-year anniversary on October 23. Congratulations to both of them on their dedication to the Deschutes Public Library and to the La Pine community!

Sisters

New Building to Open in December

The new Sisters Public Library is getting closer to completion. According to Facilities Manager Tom Hogstad, the building will open in December.

“We are pouring the sidewalks and completing the interior finish work, such as painting and tiling, this month,” said Hogstad. “The new design promises the community of Sisters a very open, attractive, and warm building that truly captures the spirit of this special community.”



ViTaL STaTiSTiCS

The Friends of the Sunriver Area Library raised \$6,000 from a summer book sale. This doubles their book sale earnings from the previous year.

These funds go directly to projects and items that benefit the Sunriver Area Library.

Kudos to the Sunriver Area Friends!

The children and teens of **La Pine** spent more time reading this summer than last, thanks to the library’s Summer Reading Program.

- 50% more children under 12 participated, and
- 15% more teens.

Anyway you read it, this news is good.