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Deschutes Public Library Newsletter

From the Director

Our fiscal year ends on June 30th—in a sense July 1st is *New Year's Day* for the Deschutes Public Library. Library resolutions take the form of the approved 2007/2008 Budget. The budget lists the major initiatives for the coming year.

Here are a few of the highlights for 2007/2008:

- Library aficionados will be thrilled that the collection development budget was increased by 17% to \$1,000,000! The increase will fund more books, audio/video titles and online services to improve the diversity of the collection, and will help reduce hold lists to a more manageable level.
- The speed of the network that connects the library branches and the Internet will be increased by over 400%. Online library services will work much more efficiently, as will staff functions such as online training and accounting.
- The Library's website will be redesigned and enhanced. Residents will be able to register for library cards, reserve space at library programs, and pay fines and fees online.
- The Library will complete a test of "books-by-mail" as a delivery system for residents who must travel long distances to reach a branch library.
- The public library/school library partnership that has been tested in three schools will be expanded to nine schools over the next year. Students and faculty at these schools can request public library materials online—with the materials delivered to the school library for check-out. We hope to expand to all public schools over the next few years.

As we enhance and extend library services in the short-term, we continue to plan for future developments. A major focus of the current fiscal year is the completion of the ongoing library planning process. A team of external library consultants and demographers will present an assessment of the status of library services at the October 17th Library Board meeting.

Every year is an exciting *New Year* at the Deschutes Public Library.

Cheers!
Michael Gaston

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