

As the baby boom bubble races through U.S. industries and services, many professional organizations are calling on their members to grow their own. Our professional library associations are no different. In the coming years, there will be a shortage of Masters of Library Science (MLS) degreed professionals to fill the shoes of retiring librarians. The library district has met this challenge with a couple of successful programs.

Five years ago, we initiated a tuition assistance program available to any library employee who was interested in pursuing a MLS degree. We are proud to say that library staff person Linda Olson has successfully completed a Masters of Library Science degree from Emporia State's MLS extension program.

This last July, we initiated an internship program that provides interested employees with valuable experience in upper-level positions. Linda Olson, Redmond library assistant, has worked as a librarian intern in the Bend Reference department this current fiscal year. This has been an incredible opportunity for her to gain first hand experience in her profession of choice.

These programs, and others like it, are a win-win for the district. Linda Olson has proven to be a very talented and skilled librarian. Without these opportunities, we may never have been able to see Linda's potential realized. Hats off to Linda and the district's "grow your own" philosophy. *(Kevin Barclay - Bend Library Co-manager)*

LA PINE

The La Pine Library has several interesting programs planned for spring:

Call for artists for a judged exhibit entitled "Storms" showing May 2 - July 10. Artwork should be delivered on Saturday, May 1, Noon - 4:00 pm.

Book-a-Lunch Book Club, 2nd Thursday of each month, Noon - 1:00 pm: Bring your lunch and discuss a delicious book with other book gourmets. April's title is "The River Why" by David James Duncan.

(Carla Hopkins - La Pine Library Manager)

OUTREACH

We Deliver, Deschutes Public Library's homebound program, provides free mail delivery of most library materials to homebound Deschutes County residents.

We Deliver patrons complete a reader's profile of their reading interests. Books are then mailed directly to We Deliver patrons free of charge. Return mail postage is also included in this service. Additionally, library materials are delivered monthly to several assisted living facilities around Deschutes County, as well as the Bend Senior Center.

A great group of volunteers assist Deschutes Public Library staff with this program. Joan Smith-Anable has been coordinating for the We Deliver program for 20 years.

Joan's excellent customer service and her willingness to go that extra mile has made her extremely valued by all our We Deliver patrons and volunteers.

For more information, please contact Joan at 617-7042.

(Jo Caisse - Outreach Manager)