

Corvallis–Benton County Public Library Board Meeting

AGENDA

**Wednesday
November 5, 2014**

7:30 pm

**Woman's Club
Board Room**

If you are unable to attend the Board Meeting, please notify Library Director Carolyn Rawles by calling (541) 766-6910.

- Call to Order
- Introductions
- Visitors' Propositions
- Approval of October 1, 2014 Board Minutes
- Library Board Packet Questions & Comments
- Library Board Sub-Committees Discussion
- Director's Report
- Division Manager Reports
- Board Reports
 - Friends of the Library Board
 - Foundation Board
- Information Sharing
- Adjournment



Documents for Meeting

- Library Board Minutes – October 1, 2014
- Library Board Report – October 2014
- 1st Quarter FY 2014-15 Statistics Summary

CORVALLIS-BENTON COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES
October 1, 2014

Board Present

Jacque Schreck, Chair
 Jennifer Alexander, Vice-Chair
 Katherine Bremser
 Eric Dickey
 Scott Elmshaeuser
 Paula Krane
 Cheryl Maze
 Linda Modrell
 Jana Kay Slater
 Steve Stephenson
 Sravya Tadepalli
 Rob Welsh

Absent/Excused:
 Hal Brauner

Staff Present

Carolyn Rawles, Library Director
 Andrew Cherbas, Extensions and Technology Mgr.
 Mary Finnegan, Adult and Youth Services Manager
 Linda Hart, Senior Administrative Specialist
 Shaun Hearn, Circulation Supervisor
 Carol Klamkin, Management Assistant
 Felicia Uhden, Access Services Manager

Visitors: None

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Information Only	Action
Call to Order	7:30 pm	
Introductions	x	
Visitors' Propositions		None
Minutes: September 3, 2014		Approved as corrected
Library Board Packet	x	
Committee Reports		None
Director's Report	x	
Division Manager Reports	x	
Council Policy Review – CP 95-4.08 Code of Conduct for All Service Points of the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library		Motion: Approve with edits.
Board Reports ♦Friends of the Library Board ♦Foundation Board	x x	
Information Sharing	x	
Adjournment	8:44 p.m.	

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jacque Schreck at 7:30 p.m.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Board members and staff introduced themselves to Eric Dickey, the new County appointee to the Board.

III. VISITORS' PROPOSITIONS - None

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Katherine Bremser noted two sentences where a word appeared to be missing. Motion: Jennifer Alexander moved and Paula Krane seconded that the minutes be approved as corrected. Motion carried.

V. LIBRARY BOARD PACKET QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

Carolyn Rawles noted the article about the sex offender arrest had nothing to do with the Library or its patrons; it was an arrest that took place in front of the Library.

VI. LIBRARY BOARD SUB-COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

Jacque explained, for the benefit of new Board new members, that last year the Board divided itself into three different subcommittees. The various subcommittees are still in place but are "at rest" at the present time. One committee is putting together the Board's talking points, and they will come back to the Board in November with suggestions. She also explained that this Library Board is an advisory board to the Corvallis City Council.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Carolyn said the contract with OrangeBoy, the consultant who will be involved with survey work and analysis for the long range plan, is nearly finalized. An online patron survey will be first step. She will ask the consultants how much leeway we, as customer, have with the survey in case we want to add specific questions.

She will participate in a council candidate forum on October 2; department directors meet with the candidates to answer questions. There will a meeting after the November election with the new councilors and mayor and Board and Commission chairs.

City Council will have a work session on October 9 to review the recommendations of the Public Participation Task Force (PPTF). PPTF is recommending some changes to board descriptions, but no changes are recommended specifically for Library Board.

The Library will have a grand piano for several months, on loan from OSU and thanks to the efforts of OSU Music Professor Rachelle McCabe. While that piano is here, the Library's current piano will be on loan to the Old Mill School for a few months. Rachelle does a couple of programs for the Library each year.

Senior Administrative Specialist interviews were completed and a job offer made to the top candidate. Human Resources is contacting all of the applicants to advise the position has been filled. Once they have completed the notification, the name of the new hire will be announced. She will start on Monday October 20, 2014.

The Library belongs to a state-wide consortium for the Overdrive e-Books collection. Some publishers won't sell e-Books to libraries and we can't get as wide a variety as we'd like.

The consortium has an opportunity to buy e-Books from Simon & Schuster, but the offer comes with the condition that there would be a button on each Library's e-Books page giving the patron the opportunity to purchase the e-Book. Carolyn said that offering the Kindle format, which the Corvallis Library does, allows people to buy the book as they are returning it, so there is precedent for allowing patrons to purchase. However, Kindle users are already Amazon customers. With Simon & Schuster, this purchase ability would apply to every single book they make available as an e-book. The Library would get a small percentage of the sale; Steve Stephenson opined it would be enough to involve the library in commercial sales. Carolyn said the consensus of managers and adult services librarians was to not buy Simon & Schuster e-Books.

Mary Finnegan said the Library struggles to meet the needs of the patrons, and finds it can be very expensive to keep popular e-Books available. She explained that many e-Books can only be checked out a specified number of times, and then the Library must repurchase that e-Book. She said that most patrons buy some e-Books and borrow other e-Books through the Library. Linda Modrell wondered if it would be possible to have a tab on the web site labeled "Buying e-Books" to separate it from the area where patrons check out e-Books. Carolyn is concerned about taking the Library into the commercial realm. Jacque asked if there can be a disclaimer stating this was only way to get Simon & Schuster e-Books. Jana Kay Slater expressed concern about youth getting access to e-Books for purchase, especially if the credit card information has been saved. Carolyn noted it is a Consortium decision, and that decision will be reached in November.

VIII. DIVISION MANAGER REPORTS

Adult and Youth Services: Mary said the Library will have representatives at the Beaver Fair on Friday. November is National Novel Writing Month.

The time limit on public computers was changed to 90 minutes for the summer as it is slower during the summer months. Staff did some analysis and found most people use just 35 minutes; however, staff also noticed that during September there were often people waiting and many complaints, so the time limit has been dropped back to 60 minutes.

She said Andrew Cherbas is getting the iPads ready for youth and parents to use in the library; they should be available in October. Early Learning Hubs is a new state-wide program focused on early childhood education. LBCC staff will be at the Library next week to meet with youth staff. Story time continues to be very successful, with a record 120 people recently. Staff is monitoring attendance, and considering different options. They don't want to move to the Main Meeting Room because the story time room is more intimate. Paula recalled having to sign up for a specific story time; Mary said staff prefers to keep it as a drop-in activity. Carolyn said the story time schedule has been revamped so infants are on Tuesday; "Wobblers" are on Wednesday, etc. Library staff recently met with the Health Department to explore how the Library can connect with its clients.

Administration: Carol Klamkin said nine candidates were interviewed for the Senior Administrative Specialist position. It was a good pool of applicants, and a person has been selected and will start October 20. Human Resources is still notifying all candidates of the decision, she was not at liberty to identify the individual. Kyra Cardella from Extensions Services will produce the "Check it Out" newsletter for October.

Carol said the Library has been working with Finance for several months on the eCommerce project, which will allow patrons to pay their fines online with a credit card. The last she heard it should be ready to launch within the next couple of weeks. Carolyn noted it is already possible to pay fines with a credit card at the self check machines and at the main desk.

Scott Elmshaeuser asked if people miss the tables that were in the front of the library during Fall Festival; Carol said she gets occasional calls about them. The lawn area, where

those tables used to be located, has been replaced with planting beds. She reported that building maintenance partnered with Master Gardeners to select the new plants for the planting beds. The Denise Thompson Memorial Garden, which is located next to the front door, is under the care of the Master Gardeners. Carolyn explained that the long term goal is to replace all of the lawn with beds for easier maintenance.

Access Services: Felicia Uhden announced that Robert Sullivan has been selected as the new Library Specialist III in Technical Services and started September 22.

A number of Library staff were guests of OSU to attend a virtual conference on the user experience, including web sites, how the customer and library processes interact, how buildings and signage work with the customer, etc. Felicia said the attendees were from all around the country, and it was a very informative conference.

Extension Services: Andrew reported a job offer has been made to one of the candidates for the Courier position. He has hired five new Substitute Clerks. The Bookmobile driver is injured and unable to drive at this time so others are helping out.

Staff are starting now to talk about the Summer Reading Program for 2015; the theme next year is "Every Hero has a Story". Philomath had story time at the Philomath Fire Department on October 1, and Philomath Extensions Librarian Ashley Hall said it was fantastic. Several firefighters read to the kids and gave a tour.

The iPad system is ready to go; he is waiting for a use policy to be finalized. The eCommerce program is ready to go live; he is just waiting for Finance to give the go-ahead.

Andrew said his next task is moving forward on the Maker Movement project, which includes finding a home for the 3D printer. Eric Dickey asked if the 3D printer will move from place to place; Andrew said it will likely not move, in part because the printer settings are very sensitive. In addition, printing a project can take many hours so staff is needed to watch over the process.

Circulation: Shaun Hearn said Circulation will be recruiting for someone to replace Robert Sullivan.

Shaun reported that a typical weekend will see 2,000 to 2,500 people come through the doors; there were about 4,500 people during Fall Festival last weekend.

IX. Code of Conduct Policy Review

Carolyn circulated copies of the policy with changes and recommendations noted in **bold** and *italic* type. She said this policy is posted in several places in the Library and is used every day. A staff group was asked to review the current policy, solicit input in their work groups, and make recommendations. One suggestion, which she chose not to incorporate, was to ban all cell phone use in the Library. Other suggestions not incorporated included requiring shirts and banning shaving.

Much of the policy is geared to how patrons are affected by the actions of others. She said staff has multiple resources to deal with inappropriate behavior, including a card that is handed to the patron asking them to cease certain inappropriate activities or behavior. She said the Library keeps a spreadsheet of people who are banned from the Library, including their history with the Library. The ban on smoking will now follow the City's regulations, and will include a ban on electronic cigarettes and smoking marijuana, should that become legal; the language was recommended by the City Attorney. In addition, eating will be allowed only in specified areas.

In some cases a person who has been banned from the Library may have to meet with staff to understand the specific conditions of returning to the Library. Many conditions can be categorized as annoying behavior. The City Attorney recommended leaving references to weapons as is. Linda asked about "unlawful sexual activity"; Carolyn said the City Attorney recommended leaving the language as is.

Jacque asked if the policy covers the majority of the complaints from the public. Carolyn said the language in the policy is directed at behavior that interferes with others' use of library and with staff's ability to do their job. As an example, she said many people complain about people sleeping in the Library, but staff are often reluctant to wake them. Shaun said staff is very complaint-driven, and the policy is used to respond appropriately to complaints. Linda asked about service animals in the Library. Carolyn said federal law states that the only animals that are classified as service animals are dogs and miniature horses. The Library's problem is that people bring companion animals into the Library. Staff can ask if the animal performs some task, if the person has a disability, etc. to help determine if the animal is indeed a service animal. There are a lot of legitimate things animals can do, such as alert to seizures.

Motion: Paula called for the question. Jacque asked for a voice vote. Motion carried.

Motion: Paula moved and Steve Stephenson seconded to recommend that HSC recommend that Council approve the Policy as edited. Motion carried.

XI. BOARD REPORTS

Friends of the Library: Jacque reported the Friends had a book sale during Fall Festival, but she had no revenue numbers. Friends will have a holiday book sale on December 6. There are three new members: Lynn Grube, David Grube, and Lynda Hohenboken. The next meeting is October 20.

Foundation Board: Steve said the group met on September 29 and elected officers. Steve was reelected president, and Jacque was reelected vice president. The group is working on its annual donations appeal mailing, which will go out in early November. There will be a donor recognition event on October 23 with a speaker and some displays. The group has two new members: Mary Anne Sellers and Laura Edmondston. The next meeting will be November 24.

XI. INFORMATION SHARING

Jacque thanked everyone who attended the potluck and brought the great food. The next meeting will be November 5.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Library Board Report

Presented November 5, 2014

REPORTING PERIOD – October 2014

A. Department Highlights

Administration

- Rachel Denué joined the Administration Division staff as our new Senior Administrative Specialist. She replaces Janelle Cook who moved to Portland at the end of August. Until her arrival on October 20, we were fortunate to have the continued help of Linda Hart from Parks and Recreation Department and Library Specialist II Ros Blair.
- Building Maintenance Supervisor Bob Fenner attended the Library Management Team meeting to discuss upcoming building projects and concerns about our custodial service. Surplus furniture and equipment stored in the garage will be removed soon, shrubs directly in front of the building will be replaced, and stained portions of the carpet in the Main Meeting Room will be replaced with the carpet squares we have on hand.

Library Services

Access Services

- An internal recruitment is underway for a Library Specialist II in Circulation. This is to fill a vacancy created by the promotion of Robert Sullivan to Library Specialist III.
- Access Services Manager Felicia Uhden met with a student in the online Master's in Library and Information Science program at Drexel University. Her assignment was to interview a Technical Services manager about a number of management topics.
- Changes to the Library Circulation policy have been approved by the City Manager and TLC settings have been adjusted to align with the policy.
- The representative from Midwest Tape, our main media supplier, met with Library Specialist III Tammy Rider, our Acquisitions specialist, and with a number of the librarians who select media materials.

Adult & Youth Services

- Jerri Wolfe, from LBCC, presented the history and current status of the recently formed Linn-Benton-Lincoln Early Learning Hub, as part of the Governor's Early Learning Initiatives. The big outcomes for the State's early learning system and hubs include: kindergarten readiness; stable and attached families; and aligned and efficient systems. Early Learning Hubs have five core responsibilities: work across traditional program and sector silos for collective community accountability; find the children in each community that need help the most; work with families to identify their unique and specific needs; link families with services and providers who can best address their needs; and account for outcomes collectively and cost effectively. This is part of the effort of the State to front load our investment in youth to meet the 40-40-20 goal:

- Young adults with BA or more—29% today, 40% by 2025
- Young adults with Associate degree or certificate—18% today, 40% by 2025
- Young adults with a college and career-ready high school diploma—87% today, 100% by 2025 (or the 20% who do not attain the degrees above)
- Youth Services Librarian Kristy Kemper Hodge attended the Oregon Library Association's Children's Services Division (CSD) Fall Workshop in Bend and the CSD Board meeting. She is currently serving as the Summer Reading Chair for CSD. She picked up materials for the 2015 Summer Reading Program and the Youth Services librarians are busy starting to plan next summer's program!
- The first series in a new monthly program in Youth Services began in October. "Wednesday Wonders" offers three programs for kids in grades K-2, 3-5, and 6th grade and older on a different theme each month. These programs will explore books, art, crafts, science, and other activities. October's theme was "Night Fliers" and the participants made a paper owl craft, and owl and bat plushies. The teen group used conductive thread and LED lights to create light-up eyes for their plushies with the help of our volunteer Ken Olsen.
- Family Music Fun had 45 participants this month! This interactive music program for families led by local music instructors continues to be a hit for Saturday programming.
- The first Teen Animanga Book Club of the fall met with a small, but dedicated group of teens, led by Librarian Bonnie Brzozowski.
- Teen Makers, led by volunteer Ken Olsen, met twice in October. Each laptop was busy with young teens learning programming using Arduino and Raspberry Pi.
- R.E.A.D. Dogs are back! They will be visiting the Library on the fourth Wednesday of each month. This month's program was featured on the front page of the October 23rd issue of the Gazette Times! <http://bit.ly/1oC254S>
- Grant Avenue Preschool brought two classes for storytime and a tour of the Youth department.
- Two of LBCC's Live and Learn with Your Baby classes visited the Library for a special infant storytime and informal discussion of early literacy skills with parents.
- Librarian Dana Campbell attended a meeting of Teachers As Readers, a local group of members of the Oregon Reading Association. The teachers expressed interest in the library presenting "the best new youth books" on a regular basis with the group.
- It was spooky family movie afternoon on October 30th! The Library showed "Hotel Transylvania" to provide programming during this no-school day.
- Librarians Ruth Rose Hennessey and Kristy Kemper Hodge from Adult and Youth Services represented the Library at the Latino Festival at Linus Pauling Middle School. With 200 people attending, Ruth Rose and Kristy interacted with about 76 folks.
- Bonnie Brzozowski and Library Specialist III Shasta Barnes from Circulation Division attended OSU's annual Beaver Fair with an interactive booth for the Library (sticker making! magnetic poetry!). They made stickers and chatted up the Library with about 126 students.
- Bonnie Brzozowski and Librarian Carrie Ottow provided information about the Library at the annual staff wellness fair.
- The Two Talking Wolves program with Ted Turner and others was fascinating

and brought out a crowd of 53.

- National Novel Writing Month brought two kick off events to the Library this month: the Plot Planning Party and the Kick Off Party. These have been well attended and the enthusiasm surrounding writing 50,000 words in the month of November is contagious.
- Librarian Lindy Brown attended a training titled Dealing Effectively with the Angry Customer. We look forward to her teaching us what she learned
- Our two book clubs met as usual this month to discuss *March, Book One* by John Lewis and *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich. Fascinating conversation was surely inspired by those two amazing books.

Extension Services

- Alsea Community Library is starting a new Adult program called Alsea Plays Tunes. The program is going to be led by local musicians and will occur the fourth Sunday of each month from 4-6pm. Alsea is doing a great job of brainstorming potential future Adult programming.
- We test drove a replacement Courier van and are getting the specs in order to start the procurement process. The Courier van is up for replacement this year.
- Monroe Community Library held their first Movie Night of the year and had an outstanding turnout of over 60 people. They also held another highly successful Fairy House program that drew approximately 100 participants.
- The Philomath Community Library Teen Maker program continues to be successful and the new Monday Baby Storytime continues to grow.
- Philomath partnered with the local fire department and held storytime at the station. It was a very successful event with outstanding participation from the PFR staff. We will definitely be partnering with them in the future.
- Brian Bucolo started as the new Courier for the Library system on October 16th. Brian has been a long time sub in our system.

B. Other

- Patrons can now pay fines online using the My Account feature in our catalog.
- Staff attended training in procurement procedures presented by Finance Department.
- Library Management Team hosted a staff appreciation event that featured a variety of homemade desserts. Desserts were sent to branch libraries.
- Wellness Fair was held at the Library during the open enrollment period. Staff also had the opportunity to attend presentations on the new health insurance program.
- The Library participated in the earthquake preparedness drill.
- The A/V equipment in the Main Meeting Room is being upgraded. An HDMI connection is being added to our projector, a Blu-Ray player is replacing the standard DVD player, and the receiver for our wireless microphones is being replaced, plus additional wireless mics are being added.



League of Women Voters of Corvallis

Serving Benton County

www.LWV.corvallis.or.us

October 2014

Board of Directors 2014-2015

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Janet Wolf-Eshe
Bulletin Mailing

Nominating Committee
Charlaine Beschta, Annette
Mills, Shelly Murphy,
Tanya Shively, Mary
Youmans (Chair)



Voter Service Forums

In preparation for the November election, the League of Women Voters of Corvallis presents three forums to help you in making informed decisions, as you cast your ballots by November 4th.

These forums are co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters of Corvallis, Corvallis Chamber of Commerce, and Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Corvallis-Benton County Public Library Meeting Room, 7 PM
645 NW Monroe Avenue

These candidates have been invited to speak at the forums:

Tuesday, October 14, 7 PM –

State Senate and House Candidates

Senate District 8 – Betsy L. Close (R/L) and Sara A. Gelser (D/W)

House District 16 – Dan Rayfield (D) and Jacob Vandever (R)

Benton County Commissioner Candidates

Position 1 - Jerry J. Jackson, Sr. (R), Anne Schuster (D), Ed Siener (L)

D – Democratic; L – Libertarian; R – Republican; W – Working Families

Wednesday, October 15, 7 PM – City of Corvallis Candidates

Mayor – Josh W. Gulliver, Biff Traber

City Council

Ward 5 – Mike Beilstein and Judson McClure

Ward 6 – Joel Hirsch and Steve Redman

Ward 7 – Bill Glassmire and Paul Woods

Ward 8 – Frank Hann, Carl Price, and Tracey Yee

These unopposed City Council candidates have been invited to attend:

Ward 1 – Penny York

Ward 2 – Roen Hogg

Ward 3 – Zachariah L. Baker

Ward 4 – Barbara M. Bull

Ward 9 – Hal Brauner

Thursday, October 23, 7 PM – Ballot Measures Overview

Members of the League of Women Voters of Corvallis will present an impartial overview of the Ballot Measures. *FYI: League positions on ballot measures are on page 7.* The League of Women Voters of Oregon's *Voters' Guides* will be available.

There will be plenty of time for questions at all three forums, so come prepared to ask them.

Bring a friend to share what the League does so well – VOTER EDUCATION!

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization

- encourages the informed and active participation of citizens in government,
- works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and
- influences public policy through education and advocacy.



ELECTION INFORMATION YOU NEED

News from Benton County 9/24/14

Benton County city celebrates centennial anniversary

The city of Monroe celebrated its 100th birthday in late August.

Monroe has a long and proud history, originally sprouting up around a small sawmill established by Joseph White in 1852 to form the settlement of White's Mill. Over the years, the area became more populous with another community - Starr Point - forming to the north. In 1857, the two merged to form Monroe, which was incorporated 100 years ago in August.

The city quickly became a center for paddle boat traffic and, at one point, had five gas stations, four grocery stores, three automobile dealers, a pool hall, hotel and several restaurants. Located on the Long Tom River, many new businesses have emerged over the years to supplement the old mainstays of agriculture and timber. Today, the area is ripe with vineyards, wineries, Christmas tree farms and even a distillery.

Monroe High School, built in the 1920s and expanded in the 1950s, as well as the local grade school both are focal points of community pride. When it comes to pride, it's hard to top Monroe. As a community, Monroe has managed year after year to assemble the finest Christmas Light Parade in Benton County.

Monroe is home to a county-operated Community Health Center providing local access to medical care. Community members also have come together in a successful effort to build a new library that



is a crown jewel at the northern entrance to town. All of these things speak highly of Monroe residents' commitment to community. We are proud that the City of Monroe is a part of Benton County and that community spirit persists here today.

The Benton County Board of Commissioners issued a proclamation congratulating the city of Monroe on its 100th birthday as an incorporated city.

9/30/14

Forum set to discuss Measure 88

CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

The Linn Benton Hispanic Advisory Committee is holding a forum on Ballot Measure 88 at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 13, at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library meeting room, 645 N.W. Monroe Ave.

The ballot measure, which is on the Nov. 4 general election ballot, would allow people who demonstrate driving proficiency and pass Oregon's driver test to receive a license to drive legally on Oregon roads.

Although most often mentioned as a way to enable undocumented workers and residents to legally drive, Tammy Skubinna, the Hispanic Advisory Committee co-chairwoman, noted that "These individuals can include refugees, undocumented residents and workers, elderly who never had a birth certificate, veterans, transgendered Oregonians and victims of domestic abuse."

The forum will explain what the ballot measure would - and would not - allow. Handouts will be provided, and panel members will address the measure from their perspective. The panel will answer audience questions. For more information, contact Skubinna at 541-760-4221 or sent email to Skuby1@comcast.net.

PICKLES

9/30/14



New Homes For Books

9/26/14



Coraline Haluzak, 2, right, daughter of Little Libraries auction organizer Erik Haluzak (not pictured), takes a moment to check out one of the new libraries with Amelia Haluzak, 5, left in dress, and artist Lauren Odell Usher Sharpston, far left, Thursday afternoon in Northwest Corvallis. Also pictured are LouAnn Spevacek, executive director of Corvallis Community Children's Center, background in black shirt, and Caleb Haluzak, 5 months.

AMANDA COWAN
CORVALLIS GAZETTE/TIMES

Artists' Little Libraries ready for bids

Small works of art that double as neighborhood lending libraries will be up for auction at Fall Festival

By **THERESA NOVAK**
CORVALLIS GAZETTE/TIME

It took Corvallis artist Lauren Odell Usher Sharpston months to decorate her little library box. Inspired by the novel "To Kill a Mockingbird," it features an embossed bird on a branch, and is covered all over with pages from Harper Lee's acclaimed book.

That book held special meaning to print maker and photographer Odell Usher Sharpston, who moved to Corvallis from the Bay Area about a year ago. She painstakingly sealed the pages and carved all around the bird, then painted the outline in white.

But to 2-year-old Caroline Haluzak, it was a toddler-sized play

house, and it was love at first sight.

One of two daughters of Little Libraries auction organizer Erik Haluzak, Caroline threw her arms around the little library, feeling the texture of its roof and gently opening and closing its glass-fronted door.

Her sister, Amelia Haluzak, 5, SEE **LITTLE LIBRARY** | A5

www.gazettetimes.com

Little Library: Boxes —

Continued from front page

adopted a richly painted little library that looked like a cross between Van Gogh's "The Starry Night" and an illustration from "Around the World in 80 Days," by Corvallis artist Shasha Willems. Methodically, Amelia used her little hand and part of a sleeve to wipe raindrops left by a cloud-burst from the little library's blue roof.

The small structures — which are about the size of large, early microwave ovens — represent a chain of volunteerism, generosity and innovation that will come to fruition when they all 10 are auctioned off Sunday at the conclusion of the Fall Festival.

Materials were donated by Mike's Bargain Center, Corbin Cabinetry Inc., in Philomath, Sprick Roofing Co. in Corvallis ("They custom-bent the roofs!"), and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife personnel helped to assemble them.

Erik's father, Bill, built most of them, and Caroline and Amelia even painted one with flowers and blue sky. And then the identical

IF YOU GO

WHAT: Silent auction of 10 distinct artist-decorated "little library" boxes to benefit the Corvallis Community Children's Centers preschools

WHEN: Review them Saturday at the Fall Festival in Central Park, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The silent auction ends at close of the festival Sunday. Bidders need not be present.

WHY: A fundraiser to benefit the nonprofit childcare centers for children ages six weeks to six years. Winners get a quality wood-and-glass artist-decorated mini-library box.

PREVIEW: A slideshow preview of all the boxes is available at <http://tinyurl.com/jvw99m>.

little lending libraries were turned over to artists, whose creative skills transformed them into very different boxes that will hold books that some people donate and that others borrow to read, and then replace.

"This could double the number of little libraries we have in north Corvallis," Erik joked.

The little libraries will be available for silent bidding



AMANDA COWAN | CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

Eric Haluzak, Little Libraries auction organizer, helps prepare for the upcoming Corvallis Fall Festival on Thursday afternoon.

throughout the Fall Festival, which runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday in and around Central Park in downtown Corvallis. Interested persons can sign up to

bid and to get phoned up-dates on the latest bid. Last year's auction was phone-in only because the festival was cut short by a storm. The highest bid — on a Lorax-themed little li-

brary — brought in \$250. "We're hoping to do better this year," Erik Haluzak said. LouAnn Spevacek, the executive director of the Corvallis Community Chil-

dren's Centers, the nonprofit that is this year's auction beneficiary, checked the weekend forecast on her cell phone. "Seventy degrees and sunny," she said, smiling.

Gazette-Times hosts City Council candidate forum

CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

The first of four candidate forums is tonight at the Linus Pauling Middle School auditorium.

Corvallis City Council Ward 5 and 6 candidates will meet from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Ava Helen Pauling auditorium at 1111 N.W. Cleveland Ave.

Gazette-Times editor Mike McNally will serve as moderator. Candidates each will have time to address the audience, then the remainder of the time is given to answering questions. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

The forums, which result from meetings of our editorial board, are free and open to the public. They will be reported as news stories online and in our print edition. Audience members can submit questions for the candidates by filling in cards.

Ward 5 incumbent Mike Beilstein has confirmed attendance for tonight, but challenger Judson McClure cannot attend, due to a scheduling conflict; Ward 6 incumbent Joel Hirsch and challenger Steve Redman both plan to attend.

Here are the G-T's other candidate forums:

- Thursday, Oct. 2:

Corvallis City Council Ward 7 and 8 candidates, 7 to 8:30 p.m., in the Walnut Community Room, located in the Scott Zimbrick Memorial Fire Station No. 5, at 4950 N.W. Fair Oakes Drive, off Walnut Boulevard. Ward 7 candidate Bill Glassmire plans to attend; Paul Woods cannot. Ward 8 candidates Frank Hann, Carl Price and Tracy Yee all have indicated they will attend.

- Friday, Oct. 3: Candidates for state Representative District 16 and state Senate District 8, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library. District 8 incumbent Betsy Close and challenger Sara Gelser both have accepted, and so have District 16 candidates Dan Rayfield and Jacob Vandever. Arrangements are being made to have this event live-captioned.

- Sunday, Oct. 5: Corvallis mayor's race: 1 to 3 p.m. at the library. Corvallis mayor candidates Biff Traber (current Ward 8 councilor) and challenger Josh Gulliver both have accepted our invitation to attend.

Poet Mary Oliver the subject of library talk

Robin Havenick, who teaches literature and writing at Linn-Benton Community College, will present a review of the poetry of Mary Oliver at noon Wednesday at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library.

Oliver won the National Book Award for New and Selected Poems and the Pulitzer Prize for poetry in 1984 for her collection, "American Primitive."

Oliver is known for her unadorned language and accessible themes, most having close ties to nature. From the Harvard Review: "Mary Oliver is a poet of wisdom and generosity whose vision allows us to look intimately at a world not of our own making. The humbling effect of that perspective is her lasting gift to readers."

Havenick has taught at

LBCC since 1995. For the past 10 years, she has focused on American literature, African-American literature and minority American literature. She advises the LBCC Poetry Club, a group that includes not only students but staff and community members as well.

The event is sponsored by the Friends of the Library's Random Reviews program, and is free to the public. Coffee, tea and cookies will be served. A hearing loop system is available in the main meeting room.

If any member of the public has a disability and needs accommodations to attend this event, call 541-766-6928, allowing 48 hours notice for this service.

Mid-Valley Sunday

Legislative candidates spar at forum

Standing-room-only crowd at library hears from state Senate, House hopefuls

By BENNETT HALL
CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

More than 120 people piled into the meeting room of the Corvallis library Friday night for a Gazette-Times forum with mid-valley legislative candidates, while still more watched from the hallway.

There to state their platforms and answer questions on the issues were the two candidates for the District 8 seat in the state Senate, Republican incumbent Betsy Close and her Democratic challenger, current District 16 Rep. Sara Gelsler, as well as the two



JESSE SKOUBO | CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

State Sen. Betsy Close responds to a question during the state legislative forum Friday evening. Other candidates include, from left, Sara Gelsler, Dan Rayfield, and Jacob Vandever.

contender's for Gelsler's House seat, Corvallis attorney Dan Rayfield and Oregon State University political science major Jacob Vandever.

port for business.

• **Cover Oregon:** All four candidates condemned the rollout of the state's online insurance marketplace as a costly disaster and said they would support greater oversight to keep similar mistakes from happening in the future.

Gelsler said she would vote to dissolve Cover Oregon as an agency but defended the state's record in getting uninsured Oregonians signed up for coverage. Close said the entire health reform program is misguided and chastised Gelsler for supporting it to start with.

Both Rayfield and Vandever said they wanted accountability for the Cover Oregon debacle, with Vandever casting the blame on Democrats in the Legislature and the governor's mansion.

SEE FORUM | A8

UPCOMING FORUM

SUNDAY: Corvallis mayoral candidates Josh Gulliver and Biff Traber, 1 p.m., Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, 645 N.W. Monroe Ave.

Times Editor Mike McInally or submitted by G-T readers and members of the audience, including:

• **Top two legislative priorities:** Education was on the short list for all four candidates, but they differed on their other main goal. Vandever talked about campaign finance reform, Rayfield pushed programs to create family-wage jobs, Close pledged to strengthen laws aimed at curbing sex trafficking involving minors, and Gelsler spoke of an economic strategy that includes vocational training, worker benefits and sup-

Mayoral candidates find points to agree, dispute

Gulliver, Traber differ on OSU collaboration, parking issues

By JAMES DAY
CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

Corvallis mayoral candidates Josh Gulliver and Biff Traber exchanged views for nearly 90 minutes Sunday before a crowd of approximately 45 people at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library.

"I think my experience and record demonstrate that I am the better candidate," said Traber, 64, a retired software executive who is finishing his second term as councilor in Ward 8.

"It is Biff's experience that makes me the better candidate," countered Gulliver, 37, an agricultural researcher making his first run for public office. "I can bring some fresh perspective and restore transparency and trust."

Gulliver and Traber agreed on a host of issues, including programs for the homeless, the need for more firefighters, the potential of South Corvallis and that too many executive sessions were held regarding the riverfront hotel/parking garage project.

But the candidates differed on two hot topics in town, the collaboration project with Oregon State



JESSE SKOUBO | CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

University and the plan for expanded parking districts that is one of the most visible products of the cooperative venture.

University and the plan for expanded parking districts that is one of the most visible products of the cooperative venture. "The key thing is we showed by talking that we could provide solutions," Traber said of the nearly 3-year-old collaboration between the city and OSU that has been tackling livability issues stemming from university enrollment growth.

"We've made progress on several issues," he added, noting efforts to improve student behavior and the parking district plan voters will pass judgment on in November.

"We're being bullied around by OSU," Gulliver said. "City staff has spent countless hours and millions of dollars on this effort, and it hasn't accomplished as much as I would like. We don't have much leverage with OSU except on land-use."

Measure 02-88 on the Nov. 4 ballot is a referendum on the parking districts that was placed there by opponents after the City Council voted unanimously in June to implement the plan.

The system was scheduled to be implemented last month, but the referendum froze those efforts.

"We should vote yes," Traber said. "The new parking

districts are necessary to protect neighborhoods and give residents a chance to park in their neighborhoods.

"It was a long process, and this was the solution the community and City Council came up with. It's not perfect. We thought it was important that it should go into effect this fall (for the start of the school year) and it's unfortunate that it didn't."

"People worked very hard on it. It was a good idea, but this is a bad plan," Gulliver said. "OSU needs to build about 4,000 more parking spaces on campus. This system is not fair to residents."

One other issue discussed by

CANDIDATES' VIEWS:

'The key thing is we showed by talking that we could provide solutions.'

BIFF TRABER

'We're being bullied around by OSU.'

JOSH GULLIVER

the candidates was the controversial Witham Oaks/Campus Crest student housing complex, which councilors backed 5-4 in January after it had been rejected in October by the Planning Commission.

"Regardless of the benefits or negatives," Gulliver said, "the community came forward and said they didn't want it; 90 percent of the people who spoke out were against it."

"I think we should respect that. I would vote no. I would not allow Campus Crest."

Traber voted with the 5-4 majority in January but declined to discuss it because it currently is before the state Land Use Board of Appeals and might be remanded to the city for further hearings.

Contact reporter James Day at jim.day@gazettetimes.com or 541-758-9542. Follow at Twitter.com/jameshday or gazettetimes.com/blogs/jim-day.

IN BRIEF

10/7/14

Motto engraved on library lost in translation

MOORESTOWN, N.J. — The Latin motto engraved on the wall of a new library in southern New Jersey got lost in translation. Officials had thought the phrase “Nos Secundus Coniecto Omnia” meant “we confirm all things twice.” But it actually means “we second-guess all.”

Moorestown architect Rick Ragan tells the Burlington County Times he learned of the problem from residents who translated it online. Ragan says he'll pay a stone cutter to change the phrase to “We encourage all.” He'll also have the Roman numerals fixed to reflect the proper year.

10/27/14

Local 'climate action plan' set for Oct. 29

A forum for community members interested in climate and energy challenges and the development of a Corvallis community climate action plan is scheduled for 7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 29, at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, 645 N.W. Monroe Ave.

The meeting, dubbed “Corvallis Climate Action Plan: Public Input and Information Forum,” is being organized by the Climate Action Plan Task Force, a group of civic volunteers interested in developing a climate action plan for Corvallis. The task force is encouraging the Corvallis City Council to follow up the community greenhouse gas inventory that the city completed in 2014 with a climate action plan that sets significant greenhouse gas reduction goals and identifies strategies and actions to move the city toward those goals.

The event is co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters, Corvallis Sustainability Coalition, 350 Corvallis, the Marys Peak Group of the Sierra Club, and the First United Methodist Church Natural Step Ministry.

For more information, see www.corvalliscap.org. To make arrangements for the hard of hearing, call 541-766-6793.

HALLOWEEN EVENTS

10/28/14

WEDNESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY

Bring items for “Ofrendas, Marigolds and Sugar Skulls,” noon to 5 p.m., The Arts Center, 700 S.W. Madison Ave., Corvallis. El Día de los Muertos (the Day of the Dead) is a time to remember loved ones who have died. They can be remembered by photographs on altars, as well as food and beverages they liked, or small objects they used or that represent them. Local residents can bring items to place on the ofrendas (community altars). Foods and beverages should be nonperishable or artificial. The items can be picked up next month. The center will have a small number of sugar skulls available to be picked up and decorated, then placed on the altars.

WEDNESDAY

Halloween Sale, noon to 3 p.m., OSU Used Store, 644 S.W. 13th St., Corvallis. Information: <http://fa.oregonstate.edu/surplus/special-sale>.

THURSDAY

Haunted house, 4 to 10 p.m., American Legion Post 184, 339 N. Main St., Brownsville. For all ages. Admission: \$2 per person, or two cans of food. Proceeds will help fund legion activities, and benefits for veterans and seniors. Information: 541-401-0675.

Haunted house, 7 to 10 p.m., Morningstar Grange, 38794 Morningstar Road N.E., Millersburg. Cost: \$4 per person, or three

nonperishable food items. Proceeds benefit the Jefferson Fire Department Christmas Food Basket Program and the grange. Information: 541-905-4113.

FRIDAY

Music à la Carte, noon, lounge, Memorial Union, 2501 S.W. Jefferson Way, Corvallis. Oregon State University Voice Studios recital of macabre songs.

Downtown trick-or-treating, noon to 6 p.m., downtown Corvallis. Children are invited to bring an adult and head downtown for trick-or-treating at participating businesses displaying orange “Trick or Treat Here” window signs. Information: Corvallis Downtown Association, 541-754-6624, www.downtowncorvallis.org.

Corvallis Parks and Recreation Department All-City Children's Costume Party, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., parking garage, Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, 645 N.W. Monroe Ave. Children ages 3 to 11 are invited to take part in games, activities and healthful treats. Costumes encouraged. To volunteer at the party, contact Keeley Naughton at 541-766-6467 or keeley.naughton@corvallisoregon.gov.

Haunted house, 4 to 7 p.m., Calapooia Middle School, 830 24th Ave. S.E., Albany. Cost: \$1 per person; proceeds will go towards student activities and clubs. Those under 10 must have an accompanying adult.

Howl-o-Ween Party, 4 to 6 p.m., SafeHaven Humane Society, 32220 Old Highway 34, Tangent. The agency's first-ever party for children, parents and pets. The event is free and will feature costume contests for kids, adults and pets; arts and crafts; a scavenger hunt and trick or treating for the kids. The costume contests get under way at 4:15 p.m. Information: 541-926-2924.

SATURDAY

Annual Dollar\$, Not Decay Campaign, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Kurt S. Black, Timberhill Dental, 2356 N.W. Professional Drive, Corvallis. For every pound of Halloween candy children bring in, they will receive \$2 (amounts less than a pound will be rounded up), plus a toothbrush. Dr. Black will give a matching cash donation to the Johnson Dental Clinic at the Corvallis Boys & Girls Club. Information: 541-754-0144 or www.timberhilldental.com.

NOV. 6

“Ofrendas, Marigolds and Sugar Skulls” celebration, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., The Arts Center, 700 S.W. Madison Ave., Corvallis. Party for el Día de los Muertos (the Day of the Dead). Children's activities, face-painting, dancing by women of Casa Latinos Unidos de Benton County, recital of poetry, flute music, pan de muerto (“bread of the dead” sweet rolls) and Mexican hot chocolate. An exhibit of ofrendas (community altars displaying remembrances of lost loved ones) can be viewed.



ANDY CRIFE | CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

Seven-year-old Gabe Becerra reads 'I'll Teach My Dog 100 Words' to Dustee, a 10-year-old whippet, and Jacquie Barrington on Wednesday at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library.

Dogged effort helps kids with reading

By ANTHONY RIMEL
CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

Gabe Becerra's audience for his reading of Michael Firth's "I'll Teach My Dog 100 Words" was decidedly appropriate: a whippet and certified therapy dog named Dustee.

Gabe, 7, read to the dog as a part of the Reading Education Assistance Dogs pro-

gram at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library on Wednesday afternoon, a monthly opportunity for kids to practice their reading with a very supportive, if wet-nosed, audience.

"I think it was kind of fun because you get to pet the dog and at the end you get to give it a treat," he said.

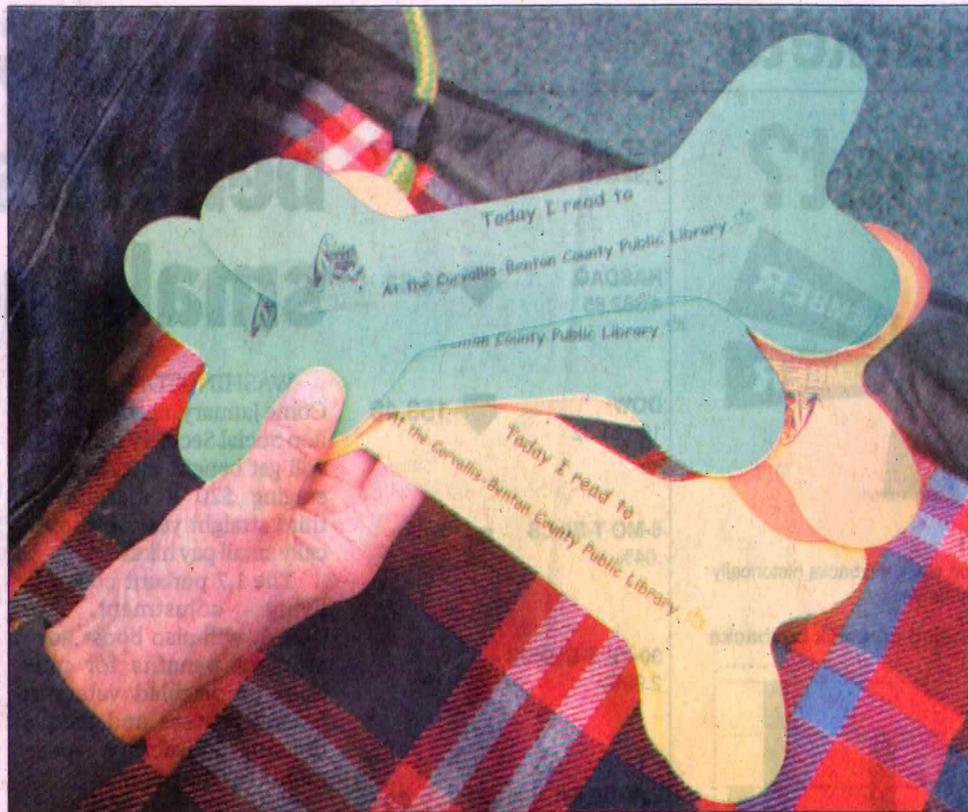
Becerra, a first-grader at Garfield Ele-

mentary School, said he doesn't get nervous reading and he's doing well at reading in school, but he does think dogs are easier to read to than people.

"It doesn't talk, so you don't get interrupted by it," he said.

Staff member Dana Campbell said the library has been hosting the Reading

SEE READING | A5



ANDY CRIFE | CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

Participants received a bookmark after reading a book to a dog during the reading program on Wednesday afternoon.

Reading: Kids practice with dogs

Continued from front page

Education Assistance Dogs for more than a decade as a way to help youngsters practice reading in a way that takes the stress out of the experience.

"The whole idea is to build the child's confidence," she said.

Campbell said the library hosts the events because it supports literacy.

"It turned out to be a very positive, easy thing for us to do," she said.

The Welcome Waggers, a Corvallis-based volunteer therapy dog group, has provided the dogs for the program throughout its history, and initially approached the library with the idea.

"It started as something small and has gotten much bigger," Campbell said.

Campbell said that the program's target age is 4 to 9, but they try to accommodate other ages if there are enough dogs.

The educational assistance dogs program began in Utah in 1999 and now extends across the U.S. and into nine other nations. Certifying

organization Intermountain Therapy Animals said more than 3,000 dogs and human partners have been trained to assist kids with reading.

Jacque Barrington, the volunteer coordinator for the local program and Duster's owner, said the program can have an amazing impact on children.

"It improves their reading because they relax around the dogs," she said.

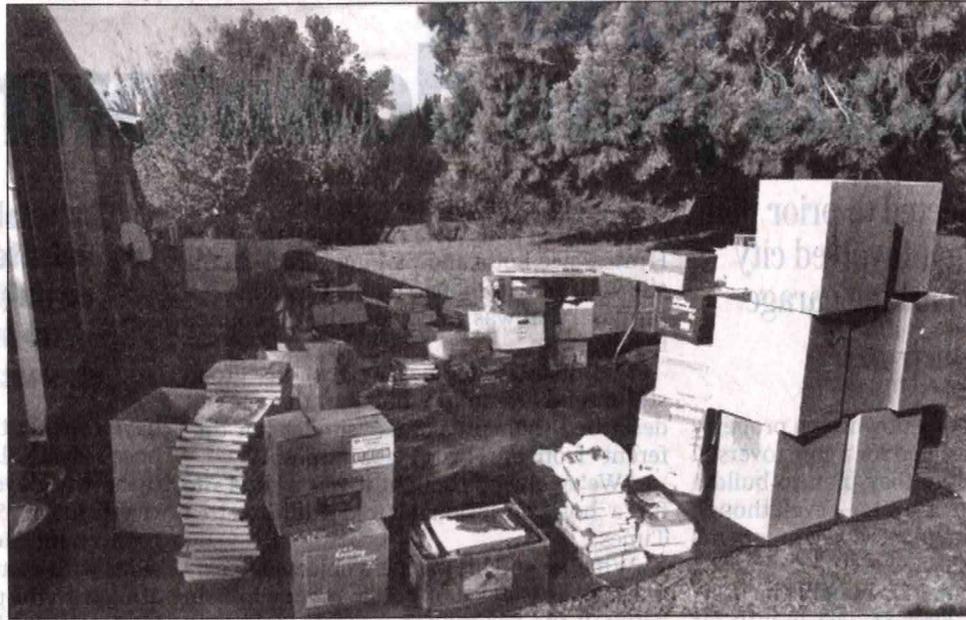
Barrington added that she's a retired teacher and she likes getting to keep working with kids through the Welcome Waggers, which also does programs in schools.

The group steps up its vol-

unteerism during the summer, when kids often have a "summer slide" if they aren't practicing reading, for a program called the Dog Days of August. During August, volunteers are at the library three days a week.

Throughout the year, kids have a chance to read to dogs at the downtown Corvallis branch of the library every fourth Wednesday of the month from 3:30 to 5 p.m. A signed parent permission form is required, but no advance registration is necessary.

10/23/14



CORVALLIS-GONDAR SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION | CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteers worked Oct. 25 to box up donated books to ship to Gondar, Ethiopia, early next year.

10/29/14

Corvallis group headed to Ethiopia on sister city visit

CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

A group of eight Corvallis residents is leaving Monday for a visit to Gondar, Ethiopia, one of Corvallis' two sister cities. (The other is Uzhhorod, Ukraine.)

Corvallis has been assisting Gondar since 2005, with the main focus being projects that increase access to clean water and improve education.

"This year, our trip is rather unique in that we are bringing so many volunteers deeply skilled and talented in the projects to which they are directing, from nursing to teaching to water engineering," said Maxine Prickel, who heads the project's education work group.

Corvallis volunteers will be shepherding projects on well drilling and tree plant-

ing, personal hygiene, water sanitation and carpentry training.

In addition, Don Prickel, a board member of the sister city group, will be assessing needs for books, educational materials and other learning supplies.

A group of volunteers got together Oct. 25 and began boxing books in preparation for a planned shipment to Gondar in February.

1st Quarter YTD Statistics Summary

	FY 14/15	FY 13/14	% Change
Circulation			
Main	354,354	366,685	-3.36%
Extensions	56,963	58,032	-1.84%
Library2Go	20,970	17,560	19.42%
Total	432,287	442,277	-2.26%
Registered Borrowers	47,130	48,842	-3.51%
Hold			
Placed	70,058	71,857	-2.50%
Filled	75,968	76,993	-1.33%
Billing Notices Processed	630	819	-23.08%
Fines Collected	\$23,391	\$22,282	4.98%
Net Lost & Paid	\$3,476	\$3,180	9.31%
New Out of County Cards			
Paid	7	2	250.00%
Free	46	40	15.00%
Total	53	42	26.19%
Visits			
Door Count	174,886	177,479	-1.46%
Remote Usage	165,845	269,789	-38.53%
I-tiva	1,881	1,768	6.39%
Total	342,612	449,036	-23.70%
Staff Public Interactions			
Ref/Info Questions	71,331	69,199	3.08%
Directional Questions	9,464	10,686	-11.44%
Meeting Room	166	216	-23.15%
Number of Volunteers YTD	213	204	4.41%
Volunteer Hours	3,823.00	3,556.00	7.51%
Items Added	7,462	8,099	-7.87%
Items Mended	3,820	4,946	-22.77%
Items Discarded	3,865	5,284	-26.85%
Total Items in Collection	373,552	366,547	1.91%