

CITY OF CORVALLIS
LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA

7:30 pm, Wednesday, November 2, 2016
Board Room

- I. Community Comments
Opportunity for public input on matters of interest to the Library Advisory Board.

- II. October 5, 2016 Minutes Review

- III. Library Advisory Board Packet Questions & Comments

- IV. Annual Report of the Library Advisory Board

- V. Director's Report

- VI. Division Manager Reports

- VII. Board Reports
 - Friends of the Library Board
 - Foundation Board

- VIII. Information Sharing

- IX. Adjournment

If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please call 541.766.6928 (for TTY services, dial 7-1-1). Notification at least two business days prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting. (In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, 28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I and ORS 192.630(5)).

LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
October 5, 2016

Board Present

Katherine Bremser, Chair
Jennifer Alexander
Mike Beilstein
Karen Clevering
Eric Dickey
Paula Krane
Cheryl Maze
Anne Schuster
Steve Stephenson, Vice-Chair

Staff Present

Carolyn Rawles, Library Director
Andrew Cherbas, Deputy Director
Rachel Denué, Senior Administrative Specialist
Shaun Hearn, Circulation Supervisor
Mary Nevin, Extensions Supervisor
Felicia Uhden, Deputy Director

Absent/Excused:

Diane Cygan
Scott Elmshaeuser
Jacque Schreck

Visitors: Mark Shepard

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Agenda Item	Information Only	Action
Call to Order	7:30 pm	
Community Comments	X	
Mark Shepard – Discuss Library Director Recruitment	X	
Brainstorming Questions for Library Director Candidates	X	
Minutes: September 7, 2016		Approved.
Library Advisory Board Packet	X	
Old Business: Review Circulation Policy Discuss Children's Fines		Approved.
Director's Report	X	
Division Manager Reports	X	
Board Reports ♦Friends of the Library Board ♦Foundation Board	X X	
Information Sharing	X	
Adjournment	8:54 pm	

CONTENT OF DISCUSSION

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Katherine Bremser at 7:30 pm. Went around the room with introductions.

II. COMMUNITY COMMENTS

None.

III. LIBRARY DIRECTOR RECRUITMENT – MARK SHEPARD

Mark Shepard thanked the Board for inviting him to the meeting. He wants to make it clear that they are replacing and are actively recruiting for the Library Director position. The application deadline was October 3. They have screened the applicants and there are 11 people they will be conducting Skype interviews with. Assuming they will have a pool of four or five candidates after the Skype interviews, they will set up in-person interviews and a public Meet and Greet. There will be several interview panels. Hopefully there will be good candidates to move forward with. He stated that sometimes it takes two rounds of job searching, but he's not afraid to go back out if we don't get a candidate he feels is a good fit.

Steve Stephenson stated that he believes a number of the Board members are going to be on the interview panels. Carolyn Rawles being here for 18 years will be a tough act to follow and he knows she has served the Library and the community very well. Mark asked the Board what they feel or if they have ideas for the process of recruitment. Eric Dickey replied that his observation is that he really likes how Carolyn values the staff and their input on decision making, etc. Steve added that it has been a collaborative sort of style, the staff is used to having a Director who is involved. He feels that the Library is a group of creative, hardworking staff right now and what he feels they need is someone who can lead the staff. He feels the person needs to have fiscal knowledge as well. Paula Krane stated she feels that we need someone who is qualified as a Librarian; someone who knows Corvallis and understands that it is a highly educated community; someone who is well read and that can work with patrons and communicate on several levels; someone who can speak well and communicate their ideas to the public and to staff. Besides leading the Library, they have to sell the Library to the community and the City Council.

Karen Clevering stated that there are many situations with mental illness issues, we want to make sure the person appreciates the Library, how it is changing, how different people are using the Library for different reasons, and to keep that in mind to keep it community friendly. Mike stated that there has to be awareness that the Library does more than provide resources, it is a safe and welcoming place for the community. Knowing those challenges and how you creatively address them to make everyone safe and comfortable in the space is important. Mark stated that he thinks it will be interesting to see if any of the candidates will know what is happening with the Strategic Plan. Steve added that it is important to him that we have someone familiar with rural service, as we deal with meeting the needs of patrons in rural areas. Cheryl Maze stated that the Vision is very important, looking forward to libraries and what will become of us. She feels the person needs to be the leader of the staff and needs to see the big picture. Katherine stated that in terms of the Vision, they need to have an understanding of the importance of it and standing back and letting staff be creative and supporting them. They need to understand that our libraries are here for everybody. We are going to have facility challenges in the next few years; we are hearing from staff we need bigger and more flexible facilities here and in Philomath as well. Steve stated that is a good example for leadership challenges, Philomath is run by the City, but has to work with the Library as well. We need someone who can understand that and lead, but lead from behind when needed. Communication with Boards is important as well, with the knowledge of what's going on and with timely communication among all Boards. Anne added that appreciating all three Boards is very important, they are active and they bring a lot to the Library, volunteers, funding, etc. Anne added that partnerships are critical and important as well. Jennifer Alexander added innovation is important, knowing what is going on with the future of libraries and being connected professionally. Eric stated that he agrees, knowing the demographics of the City and the County and it would be interesting to see if any of the candidates will know how our demographics will be estimated to change.

Jennifer asked if part of the in-person interviews will be the candidates presenting a scenario or exercise. Mark replied that no, they will just be giving a brief presentation at the Meet and Greet of who they are and why they are a good candidate.

Steve stated that it's important to have knowledge of public libraries, because they are different than other libraries. Katherine stated that, in history, this Library has been influential in being involved with professional organizations. Steve asked what the City's commitment is to professional development. Mark responded that there has been significant paring back in that investment, and there will be continuing financial issues for the City. He values investing in our current employees, it's about having the right people in the right place, engaged and empowered. It has to be balanced with fiscal realities, but if we don't invest in our people, we will lose them and service levels will drop, etc. Continued investment is important. Steve agreed that professional development at all levels is very important and does a lot for efficiency, moral and creativity.

Mark stated that he can almost guarantee that they will not find anyone that has experience with three rural branches, etc. Experience is important, but traits and characteristics are very important as well. They can successfully grow into this job, so he is hopeful the candidates will show very well. He has high standards for them to reach. He is looking for several of the things that have been mentioned: leadership, being able to identify with issues, inspire and empower staff, fiscally creative, a good communicator, someone that this isn't just a job for, but a passion. Anne added that she would like to know what the candidates' favorite books are or the most recent book they have read.

Mark stated that if this round of candidates and interviews are successful, they will be looking at early next year for a start date.

Eric mentioned that serving as a Board member for this Library is probably one of the most rewarding things he does.

Paula added that the Library Board has had City Liaisons for many years and she feels that they are very important to the functioning of the Boards. Mark replied that there was a wide range of discussion on this subject, yes it was on the table to eliminate the liaisons, but nothing was decided, and he feels that there will be further discussion on that in the future.

Katherine asked if everyone got enough from this discussion. Cheryl stated that if anyone thinks of anything else, please email Cheryl and Karen, as they will be on the interview board.

IV. BRAINSTORMING QUESTIONS FOR LIBRARY DIRECTOR CANDIDATES

See above.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Steve Stephenson moved to approve the September 7, 2016 meeting minutes. Seconded by Cheryl Maze and the motion carried.

VI. LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD PACKET QUESTIONS & COMMENTS

Steve stated that he liked the article in the packet about the importance of libraries.

Anne stated that at the last meeting the Board talked about the consultant the County is using. It didn't work out for him to attend this meeting, as he wants to have 45 minutes. Do we want to include that in future meetings or make a separate meeting for just that topic? It was decided to discuss this and decide what to do at the next meeting.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

REVIEW CIRCULATION POLICY

Carolyn stated that in the packet was the updated Circulation Policy and the main changes are in the appendix. Those changes include to have the loan period on all items three weeks, to eliminate fines

on children's and young adult materials and adding the new things like the Lucky Day Collection and the STEAM kits. Felicia Uhden noticed that the date on Appendix A is incorrect, so that will be one more change.

Steve asked what the Library staff's recommendations are on these matters. Carolyn replied that they feel that these changes are good and needed. She heard discussion of families not checking things out due to fines. It wouldn't have a huge financial impact on the Library and she feels it would be helpful for the community and use of the children's collection. Patrons will still be responsible for the items. Mike stated that he can see the value of eliminating fines, but how will that change usage, will people tend to change their habits. Carolyn replied that other libraries do this now and it hasn't changed the rate of returning items. She believes we will hear from the public that we are not teaching responsibility, etc. Steve replied that they still have to be responsible, just in a different way. Even if we lose some books, it's important to serve the entire community. Mike stated that he feels this is an appropriate thing to do and glad to hear there has been discussion. Paula asked if someone can still be blocked. Carolyn replied, that yes, they will still get blocked.

Steve moved to accept the staff's recommendations on changes on the Circulation Policy. Seconded by Karen and motion passes.

Carolyn added that this still has to be approved by the City Manager.

DISCUSS CHILDREN'S MATERIAL FINES
See above.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Carolyn reported that the Strategic Plan was approved by the City Council. The plan is on the Library's website with a message that it was approved and there will be an article in the next Check it Out! newsletter.

Carolyn recommended the Board have a way to keep track of the plan and where we are with it. Karen asked if there should be a schedule to do that. Jennifer recommended reviewing things quarterly. Katherine added that she would like to have brief discussion in December and then come back with an official review in January.

Carolyn stated that Heather Maisel is the new Supervising Librarian and will be starting in January.

Carolyn reported that management has been participating in some training. Anne asked if there are any other safety trainings other than the Great Shakeout. Carolyn replied that the Library also practices fire drills. Eric stated that LBCC did active shooter drills. Carolyn added that the Library has covered that subject at In-Service days as well. This year, In-Service is going to be on mental health issues.

We have figured out with the reorganization of the Library, that we may have enough money to have at least one casual Security Guard.

Carolyn thanked the Board for the cake at the potluck earlier.

IX. DIVISION MANAGER REPORTS

Extension Services: Andrew Cherbas reported that in addition to the Great Oregon Shakeout on 10/20/16, they are closing the public computers for the entire day for updating.

They are starting the book box deliveries next week to the schools.

They are in the beginning stages of planning the winter reading program. Mary Nevin, Ashley Folgate and Elizabeth Johnson will be in charge of that. They will be starting to plan for summer reading as well.

Mary stated that branches are in full swing of their Fall programs and everything has been going well.

Technical Services: Felicia reported that software upgrades have been something she has been working on this month. Baker & Taylor software is being updated and seems to be going smoothly so far.

Later this month she will be attending the TLCU Conference in Tempe, Arizona. They too are contemplating changes to our cataloging and serials modules.

Circulation: Shaun Hearn reported that new recruits are doing well and have already been sent out to the Beaver Fair.

They have updated the Library's security cameras to a better system with more cameras that cover more areas. The old system was failing and needed to be updated. Jennifer asked if the cameras are used for real time or just past time. Shaun replied that it is mainly for the past, as we don't have someone that sits and watches them daily.

Steve asked how long everyone will be out of the building after evacuating for the Great Shakeout. Shaun replied that it's five or ten minutes max to sweep and clear the building and shut the alarms off.

X. BOARD REPORTS

Friends of the Library – Carolyn reported that FOL had a very successful Fall Festival Book Sale, the best they've had so far.

Library Foundation – Steve reported that they will be meeting in November.

XI. INFORMATION SHARING

Paula thanked Carolyn for putting the article of her son in the Board packet.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be on November 2, 2016 at 7:30 pm. The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Sustainability Coalition to meet Tuesday

9-30-16

Local sustainability efforts will be highlighted at the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition's next quarterly gathering on Tuesday, from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, 645 N.W. Monroe Ave.

The gathering will feature brief presentations by

three coalition partners and one coalition action team. The public is invited.

Presentations by April and Craig Hall Cutting of Wild Yeast Bakery, Benjamin Wolk of Zoetic Architecture, and Robert White of the Marys Peak Group of the Sierra Club

will highlight what their organizations are doing to help create a sustainable community.

There will also be a presentation by Kevin Grant of the Coalition's Transportation Action Team, which has just completed two projects.

The Sustainability Coalition

is a network of 350 organizations and hundreds of volunteers. The mission of the group is to promote an ecologically, socially, and economically healthy city and county.

For more information, call 541-230-1237 or email info@sustainablecorvallis.org.

Ivan Doig's final novel to be reviewed

Carol Mason to discuss book at library

CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

"Last Bus to Wisdom," a novel by Ivan Doig, will be reviewed by Carol Mason at noon Wednesday at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library as part of the Random Review program.

Last Bus to Wisdom, Doig's final novel before his death in 2015, is classic Doig and a fitting capstone to his remarkable literary career. Doig tells the story of 11-year-old Montanan, Donal Cameron's 1950's solo road trip 'riding the dog' - the Greyhound Bus.

Donal embarks on the greatest adventure of his



Carol Mason

young life with his autobiography book at the ready and \$200 pinned inside his shirt. Doig, a National Book Award finalist and many-time winner of the Pacific Northwest Booksellers Award for Literary Excellence, achieves

the top of his form in this enchanting travel tale.

Mason is a lifelong bibliophile. She retired 10 years ago after serving for 15 years as the assistant to OSU's president's wife. She currently works as a

IF YOU GO 10-9-16

Random Review sessions run from noon to 1 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, 645 N.W. Monroe Ave. The free events are sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Coffee, tea and cookies are served. Participants are welcome to bring a lunch. A hearing loop system is available. If any member of the public has a disability and needs accommodations to attend, call 541-766-6928 at least 48 hours in advance. To listen to podcasts and view other materials related to current or past programs go to <http://cbcpubliclibrary.net/random-reviews/>

writer's assistant to Kathleen Dean Moore and has been a special assistant to John Byrne, OSU president emeritus, since his retirement. Carol is active on the Corvallis-OSU Symphony board, and volunteers at Benton Hospice Service and the Corvallis library, where she says her assignment - shelving new books - is like being a kid

in a candy store, except it doesn't cause weight gain or cavities. She also enjoys gardening, singing in the OSU Chorale, and playing the piano.

Up next: Next month's program, on Nov. 9, will feature Sam Quinones' "Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic." It will be reviewed by Steve Gallon

Candidates to discuss health care

10-12-16

CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

Several local advocacy groups are sponsoring a forum to sound out mid-valley legislative candidates on their positions regarding health care.

The event will take place at 7 p.m. today at the Cor-

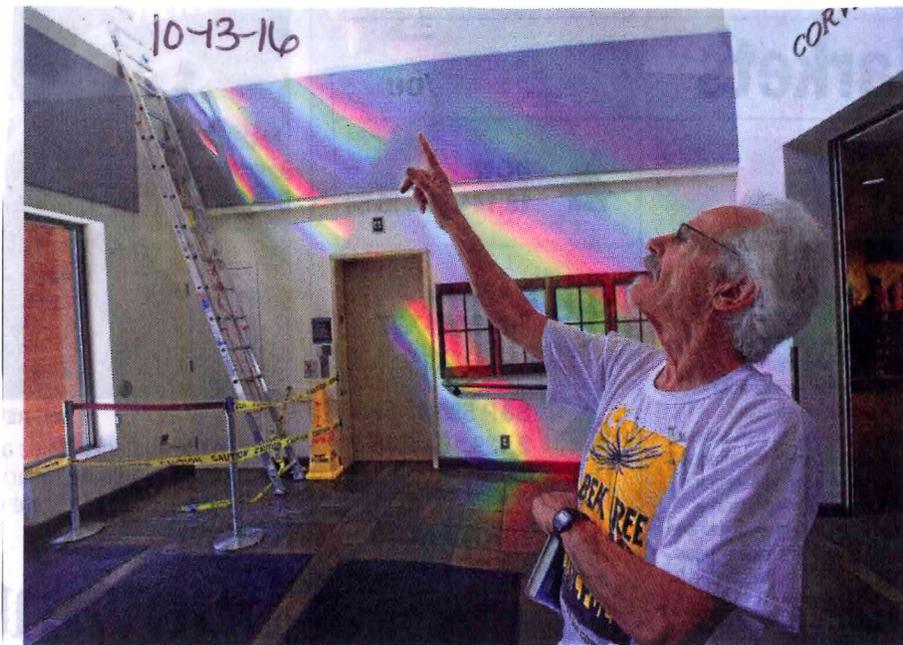
vallis-Benton County Public Library, 645 N.W. Monroe Ave.

Scheduled speakers include candidates for Oregon Senate District 12 and House Districts 15, 16 and 23.

Tim Roach will be the moderator, and Spanish

translation will be available.

The forum is sponsored by Mid-valley Health Care Advocates, the Linn-Benton Health Equity Alliance and local chapters of Health Care for All-Oregon and Physicians for a National Health Program.



ANDY CRIPE, CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES FILE

Corvallis artist Peter Erskine points out how the rainbow effect created by his artwork moves across the lobby of the main branch of the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library as the angle of the sun changes. Erskine will discuss his work at a pair of upcoming events at the library.

Solar artist in library events

CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

Local artist Peter Erskine, who unveiled a sun-inspired work of public art in August at the Corvallis-Benton County Library, will discuss and showcase his work at a pair of events in the coming days.

Friday, Erskine will discuss the “why” and “how” of his Solar Spectrum Environmental Artwork at 12:15 p.m. at the library, 645 N.W. Monroe Ave.

The following Friday, Oct. 21, a 70-minute documentary film on Erskine,

his art and the solar work will be shown at 7 p.m. at the library.

The free events are co-sponsored by the library, the Corvallis Sustainability Coalition, 350.org/Corvallis and Seeds for the Sol.

ShakeOut offers chance to prepare

10-19-16

The annual Great Oregon ShakeOut is coming up on Thursday at 10:20 a.m., and the exercise gives you a terrific opportunity to remind yourself about some quake safety basics.

It could serve as a useful opportunity to brush up on your other efforts to prepare for an earthquake, or any other natural disaster, for that matter.

First, though, a couple of words about the Thursday ShakeOut: This annual event is held around the world on the third Thursday of October. (The time varies by a few minutes each year, because it's keyed to the date of the month: That's why the event this year will take place at 10:20 a.m. on Oct. 20.)

Here's the drill on Thursday, if you're participating in the ShakeOut: At 10:20 a.m., you'll drop, wherever you are, to your hands and knees. The position protects you from being knocked down and also allows you to stay low and crawl to shelter if nearby.

Your next step is to cover your head and neck with one arm and hand. If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl underneath it for shelter. If no shelter is nearby, crawl next to an interior wall, away from windows.

Then, hold on until the shaking stops. If you're under some kind of shelter, hold onto it with one hand and be ready to move

with your shelter until the shaking stops. If you haven't made it to shelter, hold onto your head and neck with both arms and hands.

Experts say this "drop, cover and hold on" technique is the best way to reduce the risk of injury during an earthquake.

Do not take cover under a doorway; there is no evidence that door frames are safer than anywhere else during an earthquake, and they offer no protection against flying objects. Also, during an earthquake, don't race outside: Because the ground is moving, it's easy to fall or to be injured by falling debris such as glass or bricks.

The "drop, cover and hold on" technique won't take more than a minute or so to practice on Thursday morning, and that's why nearly 500,000 Oregon residents, including students and staff at Oregon State University, already have registered to participate in the ShakeOut. You can register at this website: www.shakeout.org/oregon/

It's easy to fall into the fatalistic mindset that there's nothing you can do to adequately prepare for a major disaster like an earthquake, or to be overwhelmed by the potential magnitude of the event. But you don't have to tackle it all at once. And here's a case where even a small step or two is way better than none.

Statewide earthquake drill today

10-20-16

Residents to join with agencies in Great Shake Out

ANTHONY RIMEL
Corvallis Gazette-Times

Do you know what to do if you feel an earthquake?

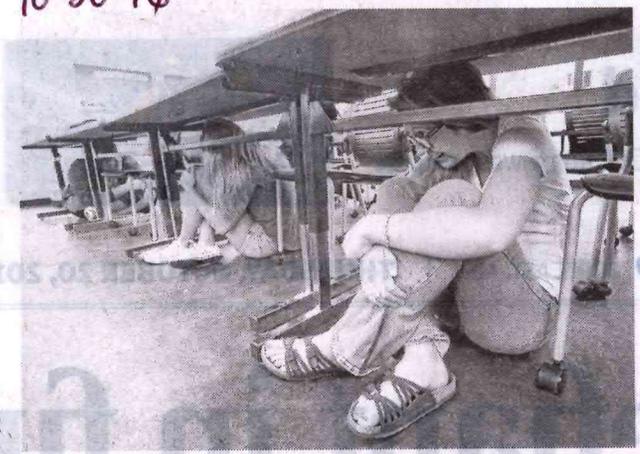
Drop to your hands and knees to reduce the chances you will be knocked over and injured in a fall.

Cover your head and neck with one arm and hand. If you can, stay low and crawl under a sturdy table or desk. If you can't do that, move to an interior wall away from windows, which are a risk to shatter.

Hold on until shaking stops. If you've taken shelter under something, hold onto it as it may move away from you in the shaking. If you aren't under shelter, use your other arm to cover your neck and head with both hands.

After the shaking has stopped, people are supposed to cautiously exit their buildings and keep a lookout for falling objects.

The "drop, cover, hold" model will be practiced by an estimated half a million Oregonians at today at 10:20 a.m. during the Great Oregon Shake Out, a part of an international earthquake preparedness program. Ac-



ANDY CRIFE, GAZETTE-TIMES

Oregon State University student Veronica Marquez, 18, sits under her desk along with her classmates in Geology 101 during the Great Shake Out earthquake drill in 2015.

According to shakeout.org, more than 20,000 people are expected to participate in Benton County alone through public agencies, Oregon State University and local schools.

Patrick Rollens, public information representative for the city of Corvallis, said the city government is participating in the event for the second year.

"This is just tremendously important because so many of our agencies and employees are going to be called on in the aftermath (of an earthquake)," he said.

Rollens said practicing drilling would help city employees to be able to act to keep them selves safe in

years.

Bamberger said last year the school had around 3,000 students participate, up from 300 the year before. "I am hoping for more than 3,000 this year," he said.

Bamberger said participating in drills like this is a way to build muscle memory for what to do in an earthquake.

"It's helping people be able to protect themselves during the earthquake, and then they'll be a resource to the community afterwards because they protected themselves," he said.

In the Corvallis School District, twelve schools and the district administration building are participating in the Shake Out Drill, although programs at the Harding Center, such as College Hill High School, have not signed up to participate. Many other Benton County schools, both public and private, have registered for the event, including Philomath Elementary School and Ashbrook Independent School.

The Benton County Sheriff's Office and Samaritar Health Services also are participating.

Anthony Rimel can be reached at anthony.rimel@lee.net, 541-758-9526, or via Twitter @anthonyrimel.

10-20-16

Library sets novel writing program

CORVALLIS GAZETTE-TIMES

The Corvallis-Benton County Public Library is participating in the annual novel writing month (NaNoWriMo) event, with activities starting Saturday and extending

through end of November. This Saturday, Oct. 29 and every Saturday in November from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., the library will host events and open writing sessions in the main meeting room. This Sat-

urday is a plot planning event, and a kickoff party is Oct. 29, including release of the publication of Corvallis excerpts from last-year's program.

Every Saturday in November participants can

show up and write, with beverages and snacks available for refueling.

For more on the program, go to www.nanowrimo.org or call the library at 541-766-6793.

10-22-16

Library hosts place conversation

The Corvallis-Benton County Public Library is hosting a conversation event on power, place, home and belonging from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesday at the library, 645 N.W. Monroe Ave.

Bob Daley of Benton Hospice will moderate the "This Place" discussion, which is part of a statewide program sponsored by Oregon Humanities.

Participants are encouraged to explore their relationships to the places they've come from, consider how communities have lost or gained land and power and look at the history of neighbor-

hoods, communities and the state.

Daley works as the transitions and caregiver support program coordinator at Benton Hospice, and he has more than 10 years of facilitation experience. He has a master's in teaching from Oregon State University.

A total of 25 "This Place" conversations are being held in Oregon in September and October.

Corvallis-Benton County Library Director Candidates

Meet & Greet

4:30 to 6 p.m.
Thursday, Oct. 27
Library Main Meeting Room
645 NW Monroe Ave.

Candidate presentations start at 5:15 p.m.
Please join us and meet the library director candidates!



10-23-16

• **ROSES** to Carolyn Rawles, who is retiring Nov. 1 from what she calls the "best job in the city," director of the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library. Her retirement will bring to an end a 34-year career in library administration, including 18 years as the director of the Corvallis library.

Rawles' work over the years has helped the Corvallis library become truly one of the jewels of the community; even in this contentious town, it's hard to find anyone who has a negative word about the library.

So, an extra-big bouquet of roses to Rawles, and our best wishes for happy travels in the years to come.

10-28-16

Expand

http://www.gazettetimes.com/news/local/carolyn-rawles-library-director-set-to-retire/article_90cfbe35-8710-56cd-b74f-bab48180b865.html

TOP STORY

Carolyn Rawles: Library director set to retire

JAMES DAY Corvallis Gazette-Times Updated Oct 25, 2016



Anibal Ortiz photos, Corvallis Gazette-Times

Carolyn Rawles, library director at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, is shown Monday in her office. Rawles has her 34-year career as a library administrator in Corvallis.

Carolyn Rawles says she has been going to libraries “pretty much every day since I was 17 years old. It was hard to keep me away.”

Rawles, who got her start working at a Sacramento, California, library when she was in high school and who has been in library administration for 34 years, is retiring Nov. 1 after more than 18 years as director of the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library.

“It’s been a very satisfying career,” she said Monday. “I’m sad, actually. I really liked being a librarian. I have the best job in the city. I love what I do. It was hard for me to pick a major in college but after working in high school at a library I realized it was the right job for me. I mean, I read the whole encyclopedia.”

The library business has changed dramatically since Rawles got involved professionally after getting her master’s in library science at Indiana University. Computers. Electronic databases. Ebooks. The decline of bookstores.

“Automating the library and getting library circulation systems on line was a huge task,” Rawles said. “And it took longer for it to happen at smaller libraries.”

In the early days of the changeover, computers were all behind the counter and customers had to request online searches in a manner not unlike the way card catalogs were used by students doing research for term papers. But as the computer industry matured, higher speeds and lower costs came, and computers moved out into the middle of the library.

Also in the days before the internet, library personnel would take phone calls from people looking to resolve bar bets. Now, they can look up the population of Corvallis in 1910 on their smartphones. (The answer: 4,552.)

Another issue that has ebbed and flowed has been the patrons challenging library materials as inappropriate. Some years, Rawles said, challenges came in at the rate of one a month. This year there have only been one or two.

"Whether an item is appropriate for children is the most common complaint and that makes sense," Rawles said. Movies produce a surprising number of the complaints, Rawles said.

Rawles said the library never has taken out an item because of complaints, but they have moved materials around, say from a youth section to an adult section.

"I'm glad that people express their views," Rawles said. "That's what we're all about."

Libraries often have been key players in battles over access to information. Rawles recalled that when the Patriot Act passed after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in 2001, librarians were in the front lines, resisting government efforts to gather information on people based on items that they checked out at the library.

"Certain things haven't changed at all," Rawles said. "It's all about access to information and a service orientation."

And it's also all about kids ... and their parents..

"One of the most important things we do is playing a role in the educational process for youth," Rawles said. "We do work with at-risk youths, we have an early literacy coordinator who works with parents and we offer lifelong learning for adults.

"We have three programs a day countywide for kids. There is always something for them to do here. And we like to say that when you go to the library it's the one place you can take your kids in which they won't bug you about buying something. You can take books home for free."

Running the main Corvallis library plus the Bookmobile and branches in Philomath, Alsea and Monroe is a complex task, aided by the joint city-county funding arrangement, Rawles said. She has 58 employees (approximately 43 FTEs) and more than 200 volunteers. Adding support is the Friends of the Library, which works on online book-selling, library book sales, special events and equipment.

The library's foundation, meanwhile, works on fundraising for long-term projects, including the Complete the Block campaign, which raised more than \$600,000 to purchase the law office that occupies the lone parcel of land on the block not occupied by the library itself.

"That is one of our greatest accomplishments since I've been here," Rawles said. "It was a one-time opportunity and it gives the flexibility to expand in the future."

A building consultant will be studying the matter in the new few months. There are two likely options:

- One would be to move administrative and office functions into the law building, opening up more space in the library.
- A second option involves demolishing the law building and adding on to the library.

Option two would be far more costly, said Rawles, who said that a bond measure likely would be required to move forward.

"It's time for someone new to bring some new energy and fresh perspectives," Rawles said. "We've hired a lot of younger librarians lately. They are so smart and so creative. It's so neat that they are interested in a library career."

Rawles, meanwhile, plans to use her retirement to do a lot of traveling. In recent years she has traveled to India, Chile, Australia and Morocco, and she is planning another trip to India as well as a visit to Mexico.

The urge to travel coincides with her reading interests, which she said tend toward travel books and other nonfiction books about "different cultures and different places."

Currently on her nightstand are “The Last Jews of Kerala,” by Edna Fernandes, a book about the Jewish experience in India, and “The New Confessions of an Economic Hitman,” the second volume by John Perkins about his experiences working on economic development in foreign countries.

“It was time,” she said of her retirement. “I’ve been wanting to travel more, and I wanted more flexibility with my schedule. But I won’t stop coming to the library. It’s hard to keep me away.”

Contact reporter James Day at jim.day@gazettetimes.com or 541-758-9542. Follow at [Twitter.com/jameshday](https://twitter.com/jameshday) or gazettetimes.com/blogs/jim-day.

CAROLYN RAWLES

Age: 61

Position: Retiring as Corvallis-Benton County Library director effective Nov. 1.

Previous stops: library director and assistant library director in two towns in Indiana; library director in Douglas County, Nevada

Hometown: Sacramento

Residence: Corvallis

Education: bachelor’s in history/political science from Gonzaga University; master’s in library science at Indiana University

Family: divorced, daughter is a junior at Gonzaga

Hobbies: travel, gardening, hiking

Jim Day (EMP)

Currents



Photos: Indians beat Cubs in first game of World Series



Rawles says she plans to do a lot of international travel once she retires. Two Corvallis men have been charged with assaulting a transi...



Carolyn Rawles, library director at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library, finishes her 18-year tenure Nov. 1.

Annual Report of the Library Advisory Board



January 17, 2016

Members: Katherine Bremser (county), Chair; Steve Stephenson (county), Vice-Chair; Jennifer Alexander (city); Karen Clevering (city); Diane Cygan (city); Eric Dickey (county); Scott Elmshaeuser (county); Paula Krane (city); Cheryl Maze (city); Jacque Schreck (county); Anne Schuster (County Commissioner liaison); high school student, vacant (county).

Staff: Library Director: TBD

Council Liaison: 2016 Mike Beilstein

Purpose/Mission summary

Section 1.16.220 - Library Advisory Board.

1)

A Corvallis Benton County Library Advisory Board is hereby created.

2)

The Advisory Board shall consist of ten voting members. Five shall be appointed by the Mayor. The Benton County Board of Commissioners shall appoint six members to the Advisory Board, one of which shall be a non-voting liaison high school student from Benton County.

3)

The Advisory Board shall advise Council on all matters pertaining to the operation, expansion, and level of service provided by the Library. In addition, the Advisory Board shall have all of the powers and duties authorized by State and City laws.

4)

This Chapter shall not be construed to prevent those members of the Advisory Board appointed by the Board of Commissioners of Benton County, Oregon, from acting simultaneously as the County Library Board under State law.

5)

The Advisory Board shall advise the City Council on all matters related to allocating annual Library Improvement Reserve funds.

([Ord. 2015-11](#) § 2, 06/15/2015; Ord. [2014-16](#) § 6, 11/17/2014; Ord. 2011-08 § 1, 04/18/2011; Ord. 2009-12 § 2, 10/19/2009; Ord. 81-99 § 56, 1981)

Prior Year Report:

Activities and work completed:

Activities and work in progress:

Next Year Proposed Work Plan:

Regular activities and work (ongoing or annual):

Special activities and work for the year:

Resources:

Prior Year:

Needed for the next year:

Feedback about the Annual Report Process:

1st Quarter YTD Statistics Summary

	FY 16/17	FY 15/16	% Change
Circulation			
Main	340,092	350,855	-3.07%
Extensions	52,935	55,321	-4.31%
Library2Go-3M ebooks	26,474	23,727	11.58%
Total	419,501	429,903	-2.42%
Registered Borrowers	47,969	48,472	-1.04%
Holds Filled	73,806	74,516	-0.95%
Billing Notices Processed	723	530	36.42%
Fines Collected	23,192	23,353	-0.69%
Net Lost & Paid	3,684	4,381	-15.91%
New Out of County Cards			
Paid	8	6	33.33%
Free	35	50	-30.00%
Total	43	56	-23.21%
Visits			
Door Count	163,498	169,739	-3.68%
Remote Usage	176,062	174,281	1.02%
I-tiva	1,411	1,731	-18.49%
Total	343,386	345,751	-0.68%
Number of Programs			
Main	245	220	11.36%
Extensions	212	230	-7.83%
Total	457	450	1.56%
Program Attendance			
Main	8,513	9,625	-11.55%
Extensions	5,369	8,720	-38.43%
Total	13,882	18,345	-24.33%
Staff Public Interactions			
Ref/Info Questions	68,627	68,263	0.53%
Directional Questions	12,974	12,233	6.06%
Meeting Room	227	219	3.65%
Number of Volunteers YTD	191	187	2.14%
Volunteer Hours	3,617.85	3,792.75	-4.61%
Items Added	8,140	7,947	2.43%
Items Mended	3,523	2,928	20.32%
Items Discarded	7,378	7,660	-3.68%
Total Items in Collection	357,945	369,392	-3.10%