

CHECK IT OUT!

- Vol. 19 No. 1
- January–February 2011
- A publication of the Friends and Foundation of the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library

Time for Taxes

The Library has some resources to help you file your taxes.

Free electronic filing with the AARP Tax Aide Volunteers

At the Corvallis Public Library, AARP tax aides will be providing assistance on a drop-in basis February 1–April 15, Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 am–3 pm. Drop-in assistance is also available at the Elks Building, 1400 NW 9th St., Corvallis, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, 11 am–3 pm. Appointment-only sites include Philomath Community Library (Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, 10 am–2 pm), and Chintimini Senior Center (Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, 10 am–2:30 pm, and Thursdays 6–7 pm). Please call 541-766-6704 to make an appointment.

For tax questions, contact the tax aides beginning mid-January at 541-602-5829.

Inside Gearing up for Gardening Kill A Watt Monitors



Tax forms and booklets

Beginning this year, the IRS will not automatically mail any tax packages to households. The Library will not have take-away copies of the Oregon or federal instruction booklets, but will continue to provide *reproducible copies* of federal forms and booklets. You can also print them directly from the IRS Web site (www.irs.gov/formspubs/index.html). Oregon forms can be printed from the Oregon Department of Revenue Web site (www.oregon.gov/DOR/forms.shtml). You can print forms on the Library's public computers for 10¢ a page.

Additional assistance

The Library has a tax page with useful links and information linked from our Research page under Quicklinks at thebestlibrary.net/research.

Make your tax season go smoothly by filing electronically with the tax aides. Call the Reference desk, 541-766-6793, if you have questions.

Message from Library Director Carolyn Rawles-Heiser

The Library is a department of the City of Corvallis, and about two-thirds of our total funding comes from city property taxes, with about one-third coming from the Benton County Library Service District. The City is projecting a budget deficit of about \$3 million over the next fiscal year, and departments have been charged to develop budget-reduction scenarios. It has been recommended that the Library absorb the largest dollar cut of any city service, about a \$1 million reduction. A cut of that magnitude, on top of the nearly \$500,000 already cut from the Library this year, will mean large reductions in Library services. If the cuts are approved as proposed, the Library will lose Monday service (on top of the Sunday cut), eliminate about one-half our total materials budget for books, and reduce outreach services to youth.

Library and City staff are working diligently to reduce our costs and increase revenue, to the extent possible. We have made many improve-

ments in our heating, cooling, and lighting systems, saving thousands in utilities; raised fines and fees; and management staff have already offered a freeze on cost-of-living increases and will absorb more in insurance costs. Discussion with the City's bargaining units has been ongoing in a mutual effort to contain costs for the personnel necessary to provide city services.

The City Council and Budget Commission will meet this winter and spring to decide whether new funding will be sought in the form of a possible levy and to determine the level of cuts to each city service. More information about the City budget may be found on the City's Web site, www.ci.corvallis.or.us.



Gearing up for Gardening 2011

Every new year begins with the Gearing Up for Gardening lectures series at the Library on Tuesdays at 12:10 pm. These lectures are sure to start you thinking about spring! The series is presented by Benton County Extension Master Gardeners, LBCC Benton Center, and the Library.

Jan. 4—Off to a Good Start: Seed Starting Veggies & Flowers. Successful seed starting techniques for vegetables and flowers. *Josh Kirschenbaum, Territorial Seed Co.*

Jan. 11—Raisin' Grapes. Growing grapes in your garden—best varieties and pruning tips. *Bernadine Strik, Ph.D., Professor, OSU Dept. of Horticulture*

Jan. 18—By Any Other Name: Roses. Rose care and selection for Northwest gardens. *Kathleen Baughman, Heirloom Roses, St. Paul, Oregon*

Jan. 25—Up, Up and Away: Vertical Gardening. Plants and design ideas to add vertical interest to the garden. *Darren Morgan, Manager, Shonnard's Nursery & Florist*



Feb. 1—Good to the Last Drop: Water-Thrifty Lawns & Gardens. Water conservation in the garden. *Mark Taratoot, Water Resources Specialist, City of Corvallis, Dept. of Public Works.*

Feb. 8—The Cutting Edge: Growing Flowers for Beautiful Bouquets. Growing plants to use in beautiful bouquets. *Karen Hopson, Oregon Certified Nursery Professional, Garland Nursery*

Feb. 15—The IPM Way to Spray: Sustainable Pest Management. Controlling garden pests using sustainable gardening practices. *Gail Langellotto, Ph.D., OSU Urban & Community Horticulture Specialist*

Feb. 22—Healthy Choices: Selection & Maintenance of Fruit Trees. *Anita Azarenko, Ph.D, Professor & Dept. Head, OSU Dept. of Horticulture*



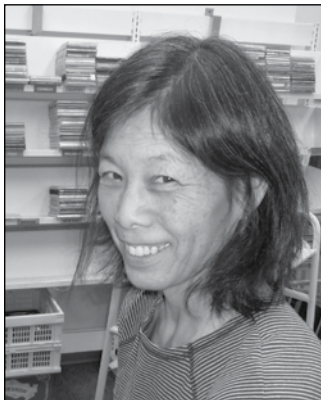
Robert Sullivan

Staff Profile

Robert Sullivan, Shelver

Robert Sullivan is the Library's newest employee. His job as Shelver keeps him busy returning materials to their appropriate locations. He enjoys the work, and he's so busy that the day goes quickly. He works with a "good crew" and feels fortunate to work here. It is quite different from the quiet of the private law school library in Michigan where he worked as a circulation team leader before coming here.

Robert is originally from Iowa; he moved here from Michigan with his girlfriend in September. This aspiring writer has a degree in English and hopes to be accepted for OSU's creative writing graduate program in the fall. Besides writing, Robert is a voracious reader who typically has 20 books checked out at a time. He also runs about three miles a day. Robert used to play guitar and sing in a band, but hasn't gotten back into that in Corvallis...yet!



Chris Niwa

Volunteer Profile

Chris Niwa

Chris Niwa loves volunteering at the Library because it's relaxed and fun, and there is a wide enough variety of volunteer jobs that you can really find what you like. Chris comes in every Monday to check in audiovisual materials and according to staff, "take care of anything that's not nailed down, like a whirlwind!"

Chris joined our ranks in 2008 after retiring as a research entomologist, where she studied insect pheromones and insect diversity in forests, and spent a lot of time with bugs out in the field. She volunteers in the bilingual first-grade classroom at Garfield Elementary every week, which ties in to her other Library interest: doing crafts with kids at our Fiesta de la Biblioteca, and helping with Summer Reading.

This delightful volunteer started out giving about two hours a week to the Library, and has now worked up to four hours or more. Chris is currently wrapping up a few entomology papers and helping her two daughters get through high school and college, after which she might get even more involved with CBCPL!

BIG and Famous Book Sale

February 25-27
Benton County
Fairgrounds

*Thousands of used
books. Come early
for best selection!*

Friday: 5 to 9 pm
Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday: 11 am to 4 pm

Which one of us has not wished at some point for a crystal ball to peer into the future? As I write this article in early December, I have this desire. That's because by the time of publication, significant decisions will have been made affecting the ability of the Library to continue its high level of service.

I hope the mechanism is underway to offer the Corvallis electorate the opportunity to vote on a local option levy to preserve the services that make Corvallis the distinctive community it is. The Friends are all about this mission. Regardless of what happens in 2011, you can count on us to support and advocate for the Library.

For example, the Friends are looking forward to the annual Big Book Sale at

the Benton County Fairgrounds, February 25-27. We anticipate it will be the best yet! Remember, the money we raise goes to the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library as icing on the proverbial taxpayer-supported cake. While we may wish otherwise, this is the most we can do. Our efforts alone just can't generate the type of revenue necessary to staff and operate a modern public library.

If you support the Library, please become a member or offer to actively volunteer with us. Find us on the Web, presently under the Library homepage. We are also on FaceBook, where you can get our latest news. Contact us at our own e-mail address: friends.thebestlibrary@gmail.com. Let us know you are out there and how we can work together.



Kill A Watt Monitors

Whether you're worried about the rising cost of electricity or just wanting to be more sustainable, check out a Kill A Watt monitor from the Library. These small monitors can be used to measure how much energy is used by all of your electric devices at home, such as refrigerators, microwaves, computers, battery chargers, TVs, lamps, iPods, and game consoles. They can even measure the phantom energy consumed when these devices are turned off and left on standby mode!

The Library received Kill A Watt monitors through an Energy Trust of Oregon program that provided monitors to librar-

ies throughout Oregon so that patrons could check them out. They are easy to use and come with instructions and a brochure with advice on how to apply what you learn so you can start saving energy at home.

To check out a monitor, visit the Library's Web site, www.thebestlibrary.net, and search the Library's online catalog for Kill A Watt. You will probably have to place a hold because they are already very popular. For more information about Kill A Watt monitors or other materials about saving energy, call the Reference desk at 541-766-6793.

A New Monroe Library



Find out how you can help:

<http://monroelibraryor.blogspot.com/>



CHECK IT OUT!

The Friends of the Library • 645 NW Monroe • Corvallis, OR 97330

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
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Corvallis, OR 97330
Permit No. 62

Special Happenings – Free – at the Library



Printed with
soy ink on
100% recycled
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HOLIDAYS—Library CLOSED: January 1, New Year Holiday; January 17, Martin Luther King Jr. Day; February 21, Presidents Day

William Stafford Birthday Celebration—January 22, 1 pm. Event features four readers who will read poems by William Stafford, as well as some of their own. The readers (Roger Weaver, Beth Russell, Margarita Donnelly, and Charles Goodrich) will also speak to the question “Can poetry save the world?”

Random Reviews—second Wednesday at 12 noon, Main Meeting Room

January 12—*Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed* by Jared Diamond. Reviewed by David Noakes.

February 9—*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Peace* by William Kamkwamba and Bryan Mealer. Reviewed by Steve Buccola.

Gearing Up for Gardening lecture series—Tuesdays, 12:10 pm, Main Meeting Room. See article on page 2 for details.

Library Book Club—7:30 pm, Library Board Room. Books are provided by the Library four weeks prior to the monthly meeting. Call 541-766-6793 for details.

January 19—*The Witch of Portobello* by Paulo Coelho

February 16—*Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster* by Jon Krakauer

League of Women Voters programs—Main Meeting Room

January 1—“How to Pay for What Citizens Want,” 7 pm

February 5—Legislative Town Hall, 10 am

February 8—“Our Oceans: Coastal Management,” 7 pm

CHECK IT OUT! brings information about the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library to patrons, Friends of the Library, and Foundation donors on a bimonthly basis. Copies are available at the Main Library, branches, and outreach locations. Refer questions and input regarding *CHECK IT OUT!* to Carol Klamkin (541-766-6708). Our World Wide Web address is www.thebestlibrary.net. Special thanks to the Friends of the Library and the Library Foundation for funding this newsletter.



Library Foundation

by Betty McCauley

Suspend, for a while, the admonition to make New Year’s promises to do better next time.

We are instead thinking back and thanking all our loyal Library patrons for their great support during the *past* year. It has been difficult in terms of our regular financial support; you are all aware of cutbacks in the budget and threats for future funding. But you continue your good will in supporting the Library.

You gave generous donations in response to the annual appeal. Memorials and other gifts

came in all year to beautify our Library and enhance the book budget. When the City Council had to make serious decisions in the way scarce funds were distributed, you spoke up in droves to let the Council know how the Library is necessary for the richness of life in Corvallis. So thank you very, very much! Of course, this in no way means that we don’t encourage New Year’s resolutions to continue your generosity! We welcome every gift, and Corvallis never fails us. Happy New Year!

JANUARY

Your Library: Bringing People & Information Together • Thanks to the Friends of the Library and the Library Foundation for funding this newsletter.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Main Library Hours Monday—Thursday 10 am to 8 pm Friday—Saturday 10 am to 6 pm Sunday CLOSED</p>						<p>HOLIDAY— ALL LIBRARIES CLOSED</p>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	4 pm Teen Animanga Book Club ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime	10 am Toddler Storytime 10:30 am Preschool Storytime—Monroe 12:10 pm Gearing Up for Gardening lecture 6 pm Teen Writing Group ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime—Philomath	10 am Infant Storytime 10 am Preschool Storytime—Philomath 3:30 pm My First Book Club ³ 7:30 pm Library Board Meeting	10 am Preschool Storytime		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	5 pm Teen Game Night ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime	10 am Toddler Storytime 10:30 am Preschool Storytime—Monroe 12:10 pm Gearing Up for Gardening lecture 6 pm Teen Writing Group ³ 7 pm Budget: How to Pay for What Citizens Want—LWV 7 pm Bedtime Storytime—Philomath	10 am Infant Storytime 10 am Preschool Storytime—Philomath 12 pm Random Review 3:30 pm First Chapters Book Club ³ 5 pm Teen Library Night—Monroe ²	10 am Preschool Storytime 5 pm Teen Library Night—Philomath ²		11 am Span/Engl Storytime—La fiesta de su biblioteca ³
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	HOLIDAY— ALL LIBRARIES CLOSED	10 am Toddler Storytime 10:30 am Preschool Storytime—Monroe 12:10 pm Gearing Up for Gardening lecture 6 pm Teen Writing Group ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime—Philomath	10 am Infant Storytime 10 am Preschool Storytime—Philomath 4 pm ORCA Book Club ³ 7 pm Book Club ¹	10 am Preschool Storytime		1 pm William Stafford Birthday Celebration ¹
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29
	24: 5 pm Teen Game Night ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime 31: 7 pm Bedtime Storytime	10 am Toddler Storytime 10:30 am Preschool Storytime—Monroe 12:10 pm Gearing Up for Gardening lecture 6 pm Teen Writing Group ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime—Philomath	10 am Infant Storytime 10 am Preschool Storytime—Philomath 4 pm Teen Book Club ³ 5 pm Teen Library Night—Monroe ²	10 am Preschool Storytime 5 pm Teen Library Night—Philomath ²		

¹Call Adult Svcs. 541-766-6793 for info/pre-registration ²Call Library indicated for info ³Call Youth Svcs. 541-766-6794 for info/pre-registration
For the hearing impaired, a sign language interpreter can be provided with 48 hours notice. Please call 541-766-6928 to arrange.

www.thebestlibrary.net

ALSEA COMMUNITY CENTER LIBRARY
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19192 Alsea Hwy.
Alsea, OR 97324
Call for hours

MONROE COMMUNITY LIBRARY
541-847-5174
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Monroe, OR 97456
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PHILOMATH COMMUNITY LIBRARY
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Call for hours

BOOKMOBILE
Call 541-766-6458
for schedule

FEBRUARY

Your Library: Bringing People & Information Together • Thanks to the Friends of the Library and the Library Foundation for funding this newsletter.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		10 am Toddler Storytime 10:30 am Preschool Storytime— Monroe 12:10 pm Gearing Up for Gardening lecture 6 pm Teen Writing Group ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime— Philomath	10 am Infant Storytime 10 am Preschool Story- time—Philomath 3:30 pm My First Book Club ³ 7:30 pm Library Board Meeting	10 am Preschool Storytime		10 am Legislative Town Hall 11 am Man with the Yel- low Hat ³
6	4 pm Teen Animanga Book Club ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime	10 am Toddler Storytime 10:30 am Preschool Storytime— Monroe 12:10 pm Gearing Up for Gardening lecture 6 pm Teen Writing Group ³ 7 pm Our Oceans/Coastal Manage- ment—LWV 7 pm Bedtime Storytime— Philomath	10 am Infant Storytime 10 am Preschool Storytime— Philomath 12 pm Random Review 3:30 pm First Chapters Book Club ³ 5 pm Teen Library Night— Monroe ²	10 am Preschool Storytime 5 pm Teen Library Night—Philomath		
13	5 pm Teen Game Night ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime	10 am Toddler Storytime 10:30 am Preschool Storytime— Monroe 12:10 pm Gearing Up for Gardening lecture 6 pm Teen Writing Group ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime— Philomath	10 am Infant Storytime 10 am Preschool Story- time—Philomath 4 pm ORCA Book Club ³ 7 pm Book Club ¹	10 am Preschool Storytime		11 am Span/Engl Story- time—La fiesta de su biblioteca ³
20	HOLIDAY— ALL LIBRARIES CLOSED	10 am Toddler Storytime 10:30 am Preschool Storytime— Monroe 12:10 pm Gearing Up for Gardening lecture 6 pm Teen Writing Group ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime— Philomath	10 am Infant Storytime 10 am Preschool Story- time—Philomath 4 pm Teen Book Club ³ 5 pm Teen Library Night—Monroe ²	10 am Preschool Storytime 5 pm Teen Library Night—Philomath ²	5 pm Friends of the Li- brary BIG Book Sale at Fairground	10 am Friends of the Li- brary BIG Book Sale at Fairground
27	5 pm Teen Game Night ³ 7 pm Bedtime Storytime	<p align="center">Main Library Hours</p> <p>Monday—Thursday 10 am to 8 pm Friday—Saturday 10 am to 6 pm Sunday CLOSED</p>				
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www.thebestlibrary.net

MAIN LIBRARY
645 NW Monroe
Corvallis, OR 97330

Director & Administration
541-766-6928
Hours, Accounts, Renewals/Holds
541-766-6926

Children's Reference & Programs
541-766-6794
Extension Svcs. & DIAL-A-Book
541-766-6458

Alsea Branch
541-487-5061

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www.thebestlibrary.net

Adult Reference & Programs
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Meeting Room Reservations
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Philomath Branch
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