



AGENDA FOR LIBRARY BOARD ANNUAL RETREAT

DATE: Saturday, September, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.
LOCATION: *In Person Only.* Battle Ground Community Library,
1207 SE 8th Way
Battle Ground, WA 98604

The Board Retreat is an open public meeting. Limited seating will be available. No action will be taken at the Board Retreat. The regular monthly Board Meeting follows at 4 p.m. with zoom available.

- 9:00 a.m.** Welcome - Kristy Morgan and Jennifer Giltrop
- 9:15 a.m.** FVRL Overview and Priorities – Jennifer Giltrop
- 10:00 a.m.** District Debt/Financing Options – Duncan Brown PFM Financial Advisors
- 10:45 a.m.** *Break*
- 11:00 a.m.** 5-year Financial Projections – Catrina Galicz
- 12:00 p.m.** Levy Lid-Lift Overview, Options, Discussion – Jennifer Giltrop
- 3:00 p.m.** Board Roundtable – Board Roles/Expectations, Q&A
- 3:45 p.m.** *15-minute break prior to regular board meeting*

AGENDA FOR LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

DATE: Saturday, September, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.
LOCATION: In Person: Battle Ground Community Library,
1207 SE 8th Way
Battle Ground, WA 98604
Virtual: Zoom Link - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3852820936>
Meeting ID: 385 282 0936 Passcode: 070150

- 1. **Call to Order**
- 2. **Agenda Approval** ACTION
- 3. **Chair Announcements** INFORMATION
- 4. **Public Comments (limit 2 minutes each person)**
- 5. **Consent Agenda** ACTION
 - a. Approval of August 19, 2024 regular meeting minutes
 - b. Approval of Claims – August 2024

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Library locations: Battle Ground, Cascade Park, Goldendale, La Center, North Bonneville, Ridgefield, Stevenson, Three Creeks, Vancouver, Vancouver Mall, Washougal, White Salmon Valley, Woodland, Yacolt, Yale



6. Reports

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 6.1 FVRL Organizational Report: Jennifer Giltrop & Alicia Gomori | INFORMATION |
| 6.2 Battle Ground Community Library Report: Holland Christie | INFORMATION |
| 6.3 Financial Statements – July 2024: Catrina Galicz | INFORMATION |

7. Business

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 7.1 Facilities and Finance Committee | |
| a. Woodland Community Library Project Update | INFORMATION |
| 7.2 Policy and Nominating Committee | |
| a. Election of Vice-Chair (currently vacant) | ACTION |
| b. Board Reimbursement Policy (2nd Reading) | ACTION |
| c. Public Records Request Policy (2nd Reading) | ACTION |
| d. Resolution 2024-08 Public Disclosure Indexing (2nd Reading) | ACTION |

8. Executive Session RE: Real Estate - RCW 42.30.110(1)(c)

9. Resolution 2024-09 Surplus and Sale of Land

9. Board Comments

10. Next Regular Meeting: Monday, October 21, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the
Ridgefield Community Library and Zoom

11. Adjournment



Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
8/19/2024 – 6:00 PM Regular Meeting
Goldendale Community Library
131 West Burgen St, Goldendale, WA 98620
Sprint/Baker Gallery
Hybrid/In-Person

Kristy Morgan, *Chair*, Clark County At-Large
Penny Love-Henslee, *Vice Chair*, Clark County At-Large
Marie Coffey, *Secretary*, Clark County At-Large
Mary Ann Duncan-Cole, Skamania County
Olga Hodges, Klickitat County
Mary Williams, City of Vancouver
Vacant Seat, City of Vancouver

Present Board: Kristy Morgan, Marie Coffey, Mary Ann Duncan-Cole, Mary Williams (Virtual), Olga Hodges, Penny Love-Henslee

Absent:

Present Staff: Jennifer Giltrop, Executive Director; Alicia Gomori, Deputy Director; Justin Keeler, Outreach and Community Partnerships Director; Terra McLeod, Branch Manager; Catrina Galicz (Virtual), Finance Director; Mike Smetana, IT Specialist; Lucien Kress, IT Manager; Lynne Caldwell, Collections and Technology Services Director; Dave Josephson, Facilities and Fleet Director; Andrea Scherer, Human Resources Director

Remote Access: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3852820936> • Meeting ID: 385 282 0936 • Passcode: 070150

Fort Vancouver Regional Library Business Meeting Minutes

AGENDA:

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** - Chair Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.
- 2. AGENDA APPROVAL** – At 6:02 p.m., Mary Ann Duncan-Cole made a motion to approve the agenda. Penny Love-Henslee seconded. Motion approved with 6 out of 6 votes.
- 3. CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Vikram Kotwani, City of Vancouver appointee has resigned his Board seat. We thank him for his service to the Board.
- 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS** – At 6:04 p.m. public comments began with the following speakers:
Katherine Gardner of Vancouver made a public comment about intellectual freedom.
Emily Lowness of Vancouver made a public comment about equity and diversity.
Jennifer Pauletto from Washington Gorge Action Programs made a public comment supporting the Goldendale Library and all the service areas that they partner with.
Isaac Colyar of Goldendale made a public comment about LGBTQ materials in the Goldendale Library.
Marsha Anderson of Goldendale made a public comment in support of the Goldendale Library.
Sandra Choate of Goldendale made a public comment about banned books.
Brent Boykin Hicks of Goldendale made a public comment about intellectual freedom.
Quill Onset of Portland made a public comment about Drag Queen Storytime.
Sarah Wu of Goldendale made a public comment that the library is very important and a safe place to meet.
Gary Wilson of Clark County made a public comment thank board for their service and that Children are important.
Jude Jacobs of Vancouver made a public comment about equity and diversity.
Rachel Leader of Goldendale made a public comment about displays at the library.
Jane Watson of Goldendale made a public comment about a children’s book, but appreciate Spanish books.
Judy Grover of Goldendale made a public comment about activities for everybody.
Daphne Todd of Goldendale made a public comment about changes in libraries during her homeschooling years and her lack of trust of libraries.

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5. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS– At 6:27 p.m. Penny Love-Henslee made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mary Ann Duncan-Cole seconded. Motion approved with 6 out of 6 votes.

6. REPORTS

6.1. ORGANIZATIONAL REPORT – At 6:28 p.m. Alicia Gomori and Jennifer Giltrop provided the following highlights:

- Alicia Gomori started on July 1st, and in the last six weeks she has had the opportunity to visit all of the FVRL locations and meet with Branch Managers and staff. My plans are to visit every branch monthly.
- Cascade Park is hosting YES interns again this summer. YES, is designed to improve employment outcomes by providing work readiness training, career related learning experiences, and internships. This is a great opportunity for our youth.
- The Washington Gorge Action Programs (WAGAP), provided cooling kits during the extreme heat event that have been distributed at the Stevenson Community Library.
- The Summer Lunch Program at the Vancouver Library provided over 900 lunches to kids and teens in the month of July! This was in partnership with Share Vancouver to help combat food insecurity in Clark County.
- Staff and Clark County Poet Laureate, Susan Dingle, hosted a Zine making workshop this month at the Washougal Community Library.
- The Vancouver Business Journal has awarded FVRL the Top Innovation Award for a government building and the Community Catalyst Award for our Woodland Community Library that will open in October 2024. Alicia Gomori and Dave Josephson accepted the awards on behalf of FVRL.
- On page 22 of the packet, the current cardholder rate is 28% of the 550,000 served over 4,200 square miles. The month of September is library cards sign up month, and FVRL will be promoting library cards at events and in the media, while targeting areas in the service area with the lowest cardholder rates. Our goal is to increase the cardholder rate by 3% by December 31st.
- Also, on page 22 of the packet, the WIFI count shows a sharp decrease in use year-over-year. This is due to a change that was made in 2024 to more accurately count the use of WIFI. It used to be that once you connected to the WIFI on your device, every time you entered the library your device would connect and count as a WIFI use even if you didn't actually use the internet. Now, the count is only those devices actually connecting and using the internet in our locations.
- On page 25 of the packet, the growth in digital checkouts continues to be strong and helps to maintain and grow circulation. It represents 56.4% in July first time check outs are in digital format. However, we must continue to be mindful of the need for physical materials as well for areas that do not have access to stable internet.

Mary Ann Duncan-Cole asked what the costs are for physical versus digital collections. Jennifer Giltrop stated that FVRL should prepare a collection presentation soon to update the Board on the state of library collections. Physical materials remain more cost effective per item than digital. However, from a staff handling standpoint, digital is more effective as we do not need to process, catalog and move items among locations. Digital materials need to be licensed and are not owned by FVRL. When we license a digital item that an individual may pay \$9.99, the library may pay \$79.99

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due to the license agreements and how publisher try to price these items like physical items. Libraries do not have access to every title on the market digitally, as it is up to publishers. Physical item stays in the collection until it is no longer usable.

Olga Hodges asked how the balance of digital and physical collections is being considered in communities like Goldendale which does not have as great of access to the internet. Jennifer Giltrop stated that digital use of collections is tracked by the system as a hole, where physical collections are tracked by location. FVRL uses Collection HQ analytics tool and has a floating collection (the collection moves to where people want it), we also use a matrix for distribution of new materials. If we are buying the right physical items, they are immediately going to a patron on hold, versus put on a shelf. Again, Giltrop said it is time to do a deeper Collection Overview for the Board at a future meeting.

6.2 FVRL FOUNDATION REPORT: At 6:42 p.m. Rick Smithrud, Executive Director of FVRL Foundation, presented an update of Foundation happenings. Rick stated the Foundation is nearing the end of the fundraising efforts for the Woodland Library. Thank you to Goldendale Friends Group for all they do. The Foundation is currently working on our annual audit which includes all of the Friends of the Library groups as well. Rick has just announced his retirement after 23 years with the Foundation. Rick has appreciated his work with the Friends, the Board, and the donors. Rick states he is leaving a fantastic staff team and Foundation Board. Rick appreciates the opportunity to work with Jennifer Giltrop for the last nine months, and she is easy to work with. I would like to ask the Foundation Board Chair, Debbie Jennerjohn to come up. Debbie highlighted the upcoming Authors and Illustrators fundraiser with author Laura Dave on October 17th at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale now. Help is needed filling tables, which can be purchased from the Foundation's website or by calling the office 360-906-4700 for help. The Foundation is working with a professional recruiter to hire a replacement for Rick. The Board thanked Rick for all he has done and his dedication, as well as wished him well in his retirement.

6.3 BRANCH REPORT: GOLDENDALE COMMUNITY LIBRARY – At 6:51 p.m. of the recording Terra McLeod provided an update on library activities at the Goldendale Community Library. Terra provided an overview of the staff who are proactive, creative and amazing people. The Goldendale library was started by the Goldendale Women's Association. The library moved to the Carnegie Building 1915 as a city library, and in 1973 joined FVRL, and the first Bookmobile was added. Terra provided an overview of programs, partnerships and outreach. The Goldendale Community Library and bookmobile has over 1,500 square miles of service area. The Bookmobile makes regular visits to 12 communities and 6 school districts, as well as participated in 33 outreach events this year. The community provides a lot of positive comments about our services. The library building and grounds have received several updates this year, including new HVAC unit for one side of the building, updates to the front garden, and repair of the reading deck. The Friends of the Library provided a week of baked goods for staff, which was appreciated. The Friends Annual Ice Cream social (started by Goldendale Women's Association) was very popular again this year, which is the 50th anniversary of the Friends of Goldendale.

6.4 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS – At 7:00 p.m. Catrina Galicz provided highlights for the month ending June 2024. There was a budget amendment in July, but those won't be reflected until next month's financials review for July 2024.

June Statement of Cash: The year-to-date revenue received is \$18.6 million and the year-to-date expenditures are \$17.2 million. The year-to-date increase in cash is about \$1.4 million. This is a decrease from last month of



about \$2.6 million. The operational reserve target is at approximately 120 days, which is above the 60-90 target.

June Statement of Revenue: Operating revenues are on target at 57% for the year. Property taxes represent 87% of District revenue which is received in April and November each year. The intergovernmental revenue is meeting our expectations, but have known timing issues. Charges for services are exceeding our expectations. For Miscellaneous income, is on target. FVRL has received almost 74% of the Woodland Library grant budget, and the remaining amount will be received in July. Additional reimbursement for the Woodland Library will be received in the 3rd and 4th quarter. The e-rate revenue will also be received in the 3rd quarter.

June Statement of Expenses: The operating revenues are expected to have about 50% left to be expended. Personnel is just under 50% due to vacancies and offset by payouts of leave upon terminations. Supplies is under budget at 32.6%. Library Books and Materials is trending close to budget. Other Services/charges are trending underbudget at 38.99%, and increased over may by \$315,000. Overall, the operating expenditures thru June have 45.12% spent. The majority of the capital expenditures have been for the Woodland Library Project, spending \$3.8 million thru June from the grant and reserves.

RECEIVE AND FILE JUNE 2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – At 7:07 p.m. Penny Love-Henslee made a motion to approve receiving and filing the June financial statements. Mary Ann Duncan-Cole seconded. Motion approved with 6 out of 6 votes.

7 BUSINESS

7.1 FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

a. **Port of Woodland – Tax Increment Finance Area Proposed:** At 7:08 p.m. Jennifer Giltrop shared notice from the Port of Woodland who is considering a new TIF Area. This would be the 4th TIF area impacting FVRL (Port of Vancouver, Port of Ridgefield, City of Ridgefield, Port of Woodland). They are still calculating the financial impact of this proposed TIF, and public hearings will be held in 2025. Junior Taxing District do not have the ability to opt-in or opt-out. TIF impacts for FVRL are a serious concern as we already know that FVRL will be impacted by about \$10.8 million over the next 25 years due to the approved TIF areas. We will continue to monitor and talk with legislators about this impact to junior taxing district.

7.2 POLICY AND NOMINATING COMMITTEE

At 7:12 p.m. Jennifer Giltrop discussed the following policy changes for consideration.

- a. **Purchase Card Policy (2nd reading):** Includes changes to address timing of receipts and compliance with RCWs and best practices. Mary Ann Duncan-Cole asked what the limit is for the cards. The limit is \$100,000 for FVRL as a whole with individuals having much smaller credit limits such as \$5,000 for the Director. An average, FVRL only spend a third of its credit capacity. Olga Hodges made a motion to approve the Policy as stated. Penny Love-Henslee seconded. Motion approved unanimously with 6 out of 6 votes.
- b. **Purchase Card Policy Attachment A: Purchase Card Agreement (2nd reading):** Includes changes to align with the Purchase Card Policy revisions. This is a procedural document that does not require board action.
- c. **Purchasing and Procurement Policy (2nd reading):** Includes changes to ensure compliance with the RCW, Washington Administrative Code, and updating definitions. Marie Coffey made a motion to approve the Policy as stated. Olga Hodges seconded. Motion approved unanimously with 6 out of 6 votes.
- d. **Resolution 2024-06 MRSC Rosters (2nd reading):** supports the changes to the Purchasing and Procurement Policy and provides FVRL the ability to use the MRSC rosters for purchasing. This



resolution would replace the prior resolution for using MRSC Rosters and be in compliance with current laws. Mary Ann Duncan-Cole made a motion to approve the Policy as stated. Penny Love-Henslee seconded. Motion approved unanimously with 6 out of 6 votes.

- e. **Board Reimbursement Policy (1st Reading):** This is a proposed new policy that provides written guidance, in addition to the direction in the current Travel and Subsistence Policy, regarding reimbursement standards for the Board of Trustees.
 - f. **Public Records Policy (1st Reading):** This is a proposed replacement of the current policy that updates practices and information to be in compliance with the law.
 - g. **Resolution 2024-08 Public Disclosure Indexing (1st Reading):** This resolution is required by RCW 42.56.070 to declare FVRL exempt from public disclosure indexing due to it being unduly burdensome.
8. **BOARD COMMENTS** - at 7:25 p.m. Penny Love-Henslee announced that she was resigning her board seat for personal reasons effective Tuesday, August 20th. Penny thanked Jennifer for all the work she has done in the short amount of time that she has been here, as well as my fellow Board members. Penny also thanked the staff for everything they do. Olga Hodges thanked Penny for warmth, wisdom, generosity, who made it very pleasant, intense situations with charm. Mary Ann Duncan-Cole and Marie Coffey thanked Penny. Kristy Morgan thanked Penny for her calm peacemaking attitude and that she is going to be missed. Jennifer Giltrop told Penny she appreciated working with her and the wisdom provided, including being a librarian. Penny has a sense of humor and we will miss you. There are now two board vacancies, and we should not expect them to be filled until the November meeting.

Olga Hodges thanked the Goldendale Library for hosting the meeting and to all people who expressed their comments. Goldendale is growing and homeschool community is getting more involved, and there are more programs being offered.

- 9. **NEXT REGULAR MEETING:** Saturday, September 21, 2024 at 4 p.m. at the Battle Ground Community Library. It will be a hybrid (in-person/online) meeting. NOTE: This regular meeting is at an alternate time as it will follow the Annual Board Retreat on the same day and at the same place from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- 10. **ADJOURNMENT** – At 7:30 p.m. moved by Penny Love-Henslee and seconded by Mary Ann Duncan-Cole. Motion to adjourn.

FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

Approval of Claims

As of

September 21, 2024

As required by RCW 42.24.080 and RCW 42.24.090, vouchers audited and certified by the Auditing Officer of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District and those expense reimbursement claims which have been certified as required, have been recorded on a list and made available to the Board of Directors for approval.

As of this date, September 21, 2024 The Board of Directors, by a vote does approve for payment the following vouchers, warrants, voids, and electronic transfers issued

	<u>August 1, 2024</u>	through	<u>August 31, 2024</u>	
Accounts Payable Warrants Issued		Numbers	<u>120196</u> Through <u>120352</u>	\$ 1,505,461.82
Accounts Payable EFT Payments			<u>EFT02181</u> Through <u>EFT02219</u>	\$ 49,356.58
Accounts Payable Voids		Numbers	<u>Warrant 120307</u>	\$ (16,512.84)
Subtotal FVRL General Fund Warrants, EFTS, Voids				\$ 1,538,305.56
Payroll Electronic Fund Transfers		Numbers	<u>20240809</u> Through <u>20240823</u>	\$ 1,132,976.15
Other Electronic Fund Transfers (Manual Payments) Completed				
<i>Vendor</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Amount</i>		
ADP Payroll Fees	8/23/2024	\$ 4,657.23		
Kaiser HSA	8/28/2024	\$ 16,512.34		
Kaiser HSA Fees	8/28/2024	\$ 61.75		
FNBO Visa	8/2/2024	\$ 16,100.36		
WA DOR Sales/Use Tax	8/23/2024	\$ 1,489.39		
WA DRS - DCP	8/9/2024	\$ 5,158.03		
WA DRS - DCP	8/23/2024	\$ 5,085.23		
WA DRS - PERS	8/12/2024	\$ 91,693.18		
WA DRS - PERS	8/27/2024	\$ 85,737.06		
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT	8/26/2024	\$ 10,674.20		
				\$ 237,168.77
Total Transactions for Approval				\$ 2,908,450.48

Total Transactions for Approval

\$ 2,908,450.48



 DISTRICT LIBRARY - EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



 DISTRICT LIBRARY - BOARD PRESIDENT

Vendor ID	Document Type	Document Date	Document Number	Vendor Name	Document Amount
ACTI0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120196	ACTION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS	\$ 325.78
ALLY0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120197	ALLYNS BUILDING CENTER	\$ 25.41
AT&T0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120198	AT & T	\$ 475.99
BAKE0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120199	BAKER & TAYLOR	\$ 11,794.43
BATT0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120200	CITY OF BATTLE GROUND	\$ 847.23
BHPH0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120201	B&H Video Pro Audio	\$ 454.18
BREM0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120202	BREMIK CONSTRUCTION INC	\$ 885,509.24
CDWG0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120203	CDW GOVERNMENT INC	\$ 5,936.67
CHUN0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120204	ALTON CHUNG	\$ 700.00
CITG0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120205	CIT GROUP- DW LEASE	\$ 17,446.55
CLAR0004	Payment	8/9/2024	120206	CLARK PUD	\$ 15,860.15
CLAR0026	Payment	8/9/2024	120207	CLARK REG WASTEWTR	\$ 53.26
CLEA0007	Payment	8/9/2024	120208	CLEAN WORLD MAINT-WS	\$ 945.54
COLU0003	Payment	8/9/2024	120209	COLUMBIA RESOURCE COMPANY	\$ 21.59
COLU0032	Payment	8/9/2024	120210	COLUMBIA RIVER DISPOSAL	\$ 86.62
COMC0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120211	COMCAST INSTITUTIONAL NETWORKS	\$ 10,216.25
EATO0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120212	EATON CORPORATION	\$ 3,327.80
EDNE0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120213	EDNETICS INC	\$ 20,597.79
EMBA0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120214	CENTURYLINK formerly Embarq	\$ 421.21
ENTA0003	Payment	8/9/2024	120215	ENTAIKO	\$ 2,250.00
FIRE0003	Payment	8/9/2024	120216	FIRE SYSTEMS WEST, INC.	\$ 2,278.36
GBMA0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120217	GB MANCHESTER CORPORATION	\$ 2,216.56
GOLD0003	Payment	8/9/2024	120218	CITY OF GOLDENDALE	\$ 537.81
GROO0003	Payment	8/9/2024	120219	GRO OUTDOOR LIVING	\$ 2,387.49
GROV0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120220	GROVER ELECTRIC AND PLUMBING	\$ 91.70
HARR0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120221	HARRYS KEY SERVICE, INC.	\$ 21.19
HOME0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120222	HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICES	\$ 1,060.24
ICMA0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120223	ICMA RETIREMENT CORPORATION	\$ 7,373.60
INGR0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120224	INGRAM	\$ 8,067.29
KETE0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120225	KETER ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES INC	\$ 101.63
KLIC0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120226	KLICKITAT COUNTY PUD	\$ 1,497.69
LESS0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120227	LES SCHWAB TIRE CENTER	\$ 1,559.66
MACD0003	Payment	8/9/2024	120228	MACDONALD-MILLER	\$ 1,487.54
MIDW0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120229	MIDWEST LIBRARY SERVICE	\$ 276.72
MIDW0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120230	MIDWEST TAPE	\$ 1,181.80
MKSO0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120231	MK SOLUTIONS, INC.	\$ 497.39

NASH0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120232	NASHCO PHOTOGRAPHY LLC	\$	5,000.00
NEOP0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120233	QUADIENT, INC	\$	542.04
NORT0005	Payment	8/9/2024	120234	NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY	\$	192.05
OCLC0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120235	OCLC INC - RSC SHRG/MTDT/CTLG	\$	9,380.66
OFFI0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120236	OFFICE DEPOT CARD PLAN	\$	1,767.63
OFFI0009	Payment	8/9/2024	120237	OFFICE PRODUCTS NORTHWEST	\$	1,141.35
OREG0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120238	OREGON EQUIPMENT COMPANY, INC	\$	330.56
OTIS0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120239	OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY	\$	2,030.75
OVER0004	Payment	8/9/2024	120240	OVERDRIVE	\$	33,906.38
PACI0010	Payment	8/9/2024	120241	PACIFIC POWER GROUP, LLC	\$	769.74
PARK0008	Payment	8/9/2024	120242	PARKROSE HARDWARE/BLUE TARP	\$	40.50
REPU0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120243	REPUBLIC SERVICES #487	\$	140.40
SCHO0004	Payment	8/9/2024	120244	SCHOLASTIC INC	\$	14,283.40
SKAM0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120245	SKAMANIA COUNTY PUD #1	\$	471.04
SOFT0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120246	SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP was Software Intl	\$	11,241.97
SOLA0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120247	SOLARWINDS	\$	1,190.27
STAM0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120248	STAMP-CONNECTION.COM	\$	52.30
STEV0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120249	CITY OF STEVENSON	\$	373.04
SWIN0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120250	SWINGRUBER, JURINDA	\$	19.43
THYS0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120251	THYSSENKRUPP ELEVATOR CORP	\$	2,583.43
TOWN0007	Payment	8/9/2024	120252	THE TOWN OF YACOLT	\$	200.00
TOYO0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120253	VANCOUVER TOYOTA	\$	68.04
ULIN0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120254	ULINE	\$	604.48
USAM0002	Payment	8/9/2024	120255	USA MECHANICAL	\$	600.02
VANC0025	Payment	8/9/2024	120256	CITY OF VANCOUVER- FINANCIAL SERVICES	\$	114.00
VANC0026	Payment	8/9/2024	120257	VANCOUVER FAMILY MAGAZINE	\$	309.00
WALT0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120258	WALTER E NELSON COMPANY	\$	1,187.01
WAPI0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120259	WAPITI NW, LLC	\$	188.08
WAST0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120260	WASTE CONNECTIONS INC	\$	4,872.39
WAVE0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120261	ASTOUND BROADBAND POWERED BY WAVE	\$	16,255.89
WHEE0006	Payment	8/9/2024	120262	WHEELERCREEK STUDIO INC.	\$	30.00
WHIT0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120263	CITY OF WHITE SALMON	\$	180.70
WOOD0001	Payment	8/9/2024	120264	CITY OF WOODLAND	\$	1,154.19
ABBI0001	Payment	8/15/2024	120265	MARILYN ABBINK	\$	680.44
NATI0032	Payment	8/15/2024	120266	NATIONWIDE PREMIUM HOLDING	\$	283.62
AAFI0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120267	AAF INTERNATIONAL	\$	5,721.70
ALLS0002	Payment	8/23/2024	120268	ALLSTREAM	\$	10,710.22

AVNO0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120269	AV NOW INC	\$	4,458.69
BAKE0002	Payment	8/23/2024	120270	BAKER & TAYLOR	\$	16,552.18
CARP0002	Payment	8/23/2024	120271	CARPENTER MEDIA GROUP OREGON	\$	2,775.97
CBMS0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120272	CBM SYSTEMS LLC - LC	\$	399.11
CBMS0002	Payment	8/23/2024	120273	CBM SYSTEMS LLC - RI	\$	1,896.17
CBMS0003	Payment	8/23/2024	120274	CBM SYSTEMS LLC - ST	\$	1,072.14
CBMS0004	Payment	8/23/2024	120275	CBM SYSTEMS LLC - VM	\$	1,387.14
CBMS0005	Payment	8/23/2024	120276	CBM SYSTEMS LLC - YAC	\$	377.03
CBMS0006	Payment	8/23/2024	120277	CBM SYSTEMS LLC - YAL	\$	628.75
CDWG0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120278	CDW GOVERNMENT INC	\$	766.80
CENT0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120279	CENTER POINT PUBLISHING	\$	438.66
CENT0009	Payment	8/23/2024	120280	CENTURY LINK	\$	70.55
CENT0010	Payment	8/23/2024	120281	CENTER POINTE SIGNS, INC	\$	3,719.45
CITY0005	Payment	8/23/2024	120282	CITY OF NORTH BONNEVILLE	\$	1,680.00
CLAR0004	Payment	8/23/2024	120283	CLARK PUD	\$	3,134.74
CLEA0007	Payment	8/23/2024	120284	CLEAN WORLD MAINT-WS	\$	1,943.61
CLEA0009	Payment	8/23/2024	120285	CLEAN WORLD MAINT- WD	\$	390.37
CLEA0010	Payment	8/23/2024	120286	CLEAN WORLD MAINT-WA	\$	326.51
CLEA0011	Payment	8/23/2024	120287	CLEAN WORLD MAINT-BG	\$	4,635.00
CLEA0013	Payment	8/23/2024	120288	CLEAN WORLD MAINT - HQ	\$	4,386.77
CLEA0017	Payment	8/23/2024	120289	CLEAN WORLD MAINT - TC	\$	2,832.50
CLEA0018	Payment	8/23/2024	120290	CLEAN WORLD MAINT - VA	\$	34,636.84
CLEA0020	Payment	8/23/2024	120291	CLEAN WORLD MAIN - CP	\$	5,307.18
COLU0024	Payment	8/23/2024	120292	COLUMBIA LANGUAGE SERVICES	\$	495.00
CONT0005	Payment	8/23/2024	120293	CONTRACT FLOORING & INTERIORS	\$	1,569.50
COWL0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120294	COWLITZ COUNTY PUD	\$	646.20
DELL0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120295	DELL MARKETING LP	\$	60,317.22
EATO0002	Payment	8/23/2024	120296	EATON CORPORATION	\$	3,327.80
EMBA0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120297	CENTURYLINK formerly Embarq	\$	881.06
FIND0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120298	PLAYAWAY PRODUCTS, LLC	\$	5,889.47
FORS0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120299	FORSTER, ROBERT	\$	300.27
GALE0002	Payment	8/23/2024	120300	GALE GROUP	\$	1,956.12
GORG0011	Payment	8/23/2024	120301	GORGE AUTO PARTS	\$	79.08
H2OR0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120302	H2OREGON	\$	64.42
HAM0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120303	HAM, BETH	\$	22.78
INFO0004	Payment	8/23/2024	120304	INFORMATION TODAY INC	\$	333.03
INGR0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120305	INGRAM	\$	34,176.52

JRTM0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120306	JRT MECHANICAL, INC	\$	978.30
KANO0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120307	KANOPY LLC	\$	16,512.84
KLIC005	Payment	8/23/2024	120308	KLICKITAT COUNTY ER&R DEPT.	\$	546.33
LABO0003	Payment	8/23/2024	120309	DEPT OF LABOR & INDUSTRIES	\$	59.80
LACE0003	Payment	8/23/2024	120310	CITY OF LA CENTER	\$	76.60
LAZE0004	Payment	8/23/2024	120311	GISI MARKETING GROUP	\$	451.11
LESS0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120312	LES SCHWAB TIRE CENTER	\$	2,025.14
MACD0003	Payment	8/23/2024	120313	MACDONALD-MILLER	\$	994.07
MANG0002	Payment	8/23/2024	120314	MANGO LANGUAGES	\$	27,598.87
MIDW0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120315	MIDWEST LIBRARY SERVICE	\$	259.24
MIDW0002	Payment	8/23/2024	120316	MIDWEST TAPE	\$	8,526.20
NEWY0004	Payment	8/23/2024	120317	NEW YORK TIMES	\$	2,080.00
NORT0005	Payment	8/23/2024	120318	NORTHWEST NATURAL GAS COMPANY	\$	1,409.53
OFFI0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120319	OFFICE DEPOT CARD PLAN	\$	786.25
OREG0002	Payment	8/23/2024	120320	OREGON EQUIPMENT COMPANY, INC	\$	979.33
OTIS0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120321	OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY	\$	2,936.90
OVER0004	Payment	8/23/2024	120322	OVERDRIVE	\$	41,462.59
PACI0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120323	PACIFIC OFFICE AUTOMATION	\$	5,891.38
PARK0008	Payment	8/23/2024	120324	PARKROSE HARDWARE/BLUE TARP	\$	52.90
PLAT0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120325	PLATT ELECTRIC SUPPLY	\$	79.51
PROQ0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120326	PROQUEST	\$	5,521.61
QWES0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120327	CENTURY LINK formerly Qwest	\$	2,282.31
ROBE0013	Payment	8/23/2024	120328	ROBERT HALF FINANCE & ACCOUNTING	\$	4,719.75
SAMS0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120329	SAMS TECHNICAL PUBLISHING	\$	1,494.00
SCHO0004	Payment	8/23/2024	120330	SCHOLASTIC INC	\$	222.40
SIMP0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120331	JOHNSON CONTROLS	\$	1,672.42
SMAR0005	Payment	8/23/2024	120332	SMARSH	\$	30.85
TDST0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120333	TDS TELECOM	\$	249.00
TECT0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120334	ENAVATE MANAGED SERVICES, INC	\$	489.15
TODA0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120335	TODAY'S BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, INC.	\$	22,304.20
TOYO0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120336	VANCOUVER TOYOTA	\$	117.93
TUMB0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120337	TUMBLEWEED PRESS INC	\$	7,150.00
ULIN0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120338	ULINE	\$	3,067.27
VERI0004	Payment	8/23/2024	120339	STERLING VOLUNTEERS	\$	336.42
WALT0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120340	WALTER E NELSON COMPANY	\$	674.89
WAPI0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120341	WAPITI NW, LLC	\$	444.07
WOLF0006	Payment	8/23/2024	120342	WOLF HAVEN INTERNATIONAL	\$	100.00

ZIPL0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120343	ZIPLY FIBER	\$	239.95
ZZZZ0440	Payment	8/23/2024	120344	KENDRA HAINES	\$	35.00
ZZZZ0441	Payment	8/23/2024	120345	ERIN OLSEN	\$	10.00
ZZZZ0442	Payment	8/23/2024	120346	ADAM LORTS	\$	15.00
ZZZZ0443	Payment	8/23/2024	120347	ELIZAVETA VAKHROUCHEVA	\$	15.00
ZZZZ0444	Payment	8/23/2024	120348	TONY KEAST	\$	15.00
ZZZZ0445	Payment	8/23/2024	120349	SUMMER KERR	\$	35.00
ZZZZ0446	Payment	8/23/2024	120350	KACI LEIGH SCHMITT	\$	25.00
ZZZZ0447	Payment	8/23/2024	120351	PEARL LIAO	\$	20.00
ZZZZ0448	Payment	8/23/2024	120352	AURORA JO CHAMBERS	\$	45.00
Subtotal Warrants					\$	1,505,461.82

Vendor ID	Document Type	Document Date	Document Number	Vendor Name		Document Amount
BOTH0002	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02181	HENRIK BOTHE	\$	1,100.00
CLAR0036	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02182	CLARK, LAURA	\$	6.03
CLOU0001	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02183	66 DEGREES, LLC	\$	65.22
GELL0003	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02184	GELLIS, DAVID	\$	81.74
GETP0001	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02185	GET PROGRAM	\$	472.32
GOMO0001	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02186	GOMORI, ALICIA	\$	2,500.00
GREE0011	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02187	GREEN, MARIA VICTORIA	\$	1,700.00
LITT0001	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02188	LITTLE, JACLYN	\$	26.59
MART0015	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02189	MARTIN, ELIZABETH	\$	6.03
MINT0005	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02190	MINTZ, KATHLEEN	\$	10.72
NELS0007	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02191	SARAH NELSEN YOGA THERAPY LLC	\$	750.00
NORT0056	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02192	NORTH PACIFIC MANAGEMENT	\$	12,155.00
OCAS0001	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02193	ANGEL OCASIO'S COMEDY	\$	2,325.00
ONEI0002	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02194	O'NEILL, LEA ANNA	\$	388.00
REYE0001	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02195	REYES GARCIA, NELDA EUNICE	\$	476.00
ROVE0002	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02196	ROVING HORSE HENNA LLC	\$	375.00
ROWE0001	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02197	VICTORIA ROWE	\$	3,000.00
SMIT0043	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02198	SMITH, KESTREL A	\$	514.60
TAKO0001	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02199	TAKOHACHI, INC	\$	800.00
THOM0010	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02200	UP FOR GRABS, INC	\$	1,540.00
VARG0002	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02201	SAVANNAH VARGAS	\$	243.50
WPEA0001	Payment	8/9/2024	EFT02202	WPEA	\$	3,308.06
CASC0010	Payment	8/16/2024	EFT02203	CANOPY	\$	1,058.00
CHAN0007	Payment	8/21/2024	EFT02204	LISA CHANG	\$	1,150.00

CLOU0001	Payment	8/21/2024	EFT02205	66 DEGREES, LLC	\$	244.58
GRAH0005	Payment	8/21/2024	EFT02206	GRAHAM, PAMELA	\$	54.94
KLEM0001	Payment	8/21/2024	EFT02207	KLEMENT, SETH	\$	8.37
KRES0001	Payment	8/21/2024	EFT02208	KRESS, LUCIEN	\$	30.00
MART0015	Payment	8/21/2024	EFT02209	MARTIN, ELIZABETH	\$	387.08
PARA0003	Payment	8/21/2024	EFT02210	PARADISE OF SAMOA	\$	500.00
SCIE0002	Payment	8/21/2024	EFT02211	TALEWISE	\$	400.00
TDJC0001	Payment	8/21/2024	EFT02212	TERESA D. JOHNSON CPA, INC.	\$	560.88
WEXB0001	Payment	8/21/2024	EFT02213	WEX BANK	\$	4,641.96
ALLE0011	Payment	8/30/2024	EFT02214	ALLEGIANCE BENEFIT PLAN MGMT - CONTR	\$	2,839.18
ALLE0014	Payment	8/30/2024	EFT02215	ALLEGIANCE BENEFIT PLAN MGMT - FEES	\$	106.25
ALLE0015	Payment	8/30/2024	EFT02216	ALLEGIANCE COBRA SERVICES INC	\$	75.00
GETP0001	Payment	8/30/2024	EFT02217	GET PROGRAM	\$	472.32
WPEA0001	Payment	8/30/2024	EFT02218	WPEA	\$	2,915.05
WPEA0003	Payment	8/30/2024	EFT02219	WPEA UFCW	\$	2,069.16
Subtotal EFT's					\$	49,356.58

Vendor ID	Document Type	Void Date	Document Number	Vendor Name	Document Amount
KANO0001	Payment	8/23/2024	120307	KANOPY LLC	\$ (16,512.84)
Subtotal Void Transactions					\$ (16,512.84)

Vendor ID	Document Type	Document Date	Document Number	Vendor Name	Document Amount
ADP0001	Payment	8/31/2024	0000000000114345	ADP	\$ 4,657.23
EMPL002	Payment	8/31/2024	0000000000114349	EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT	\$ 10,674.20
KAIS0005	Payment	8/31/2024	0000000000114346	KAISER HSA	\$ 16,574.09
VISA0002	Payment	8/31/2024	0000000000114350	FNBO Visa	\$ 16,100.36
WASH0007	Payment	8/31/2024	0000000000114348	WASHINGTON DEPT OF REVENUE	\$ 1,489.39
WASH0013	Payment	8/31/2024	0000000000114347	WASH DEPT OF RETIREMENT SYSTEM	\$ 187,673.50
Subtotal Other ACH Debit Transactions					\$ 237,168.77

Vendor ID	Document Type	Document Date	Document Number	Vendor Name	Document Amount
ADP0001	Payment	8/9/2024	Payroll 8/9/24	ADP - Net Payroll Wages	\$ 420,043.35
ADP0001	Payment	8/9/2024	Payroll 8/9/24	ADP - Federal Payroll Taxes	\$ 142,562.88
ADP0001	Payment	8/9/2024	Payroll 8/9/24	ADP - OR State Payroll Taxes	\$ 3,647.82
ADP0001	Payment	8/9/2024	Payroll 8/9/24	ADP - PFML Taxes	\$ 4,465.68
ADP0001	Payment	8/9/2024	Payroll 8/9/24	ADP - WA Cares Fund Taxes	\$ 3,277.44
ADP0001	Payment	8/9/2024	Payroll 8/9/24	ADP - Garnishment	\$ 512.98
ADP0001	Payment	8/9/2024	Payroll 8/9/24	ADP - Transit Tax	\$ 53.48
Subtotal - 1st Pay Period					\$ 574,563.63
ADP0001	Payment	8/23/2024	Payroll 8/23/24	ADP - Net Payroll Wages	\$ 406,822.50
ADP0001	Payment	8/23/2024	Payroll 8/23/24	ADP - Federal Payroll Taxes	\$ 139,920.79
ADP0001	Payment	8/23/2024	Payroll 8/23/24	ADP - OR State Payroll Taxes	\$ 3,665.05
ADP0001	Payment	8/23/2024	Payroll 8/23/24	ADP - PFML Taxes	\$ 4,311.35
ADP0001	Payment	8/23/2024	Payroll 8/23/24	ADP - WA Cares Fund Taxes	\$ 3,165.55
ADP0001	Payment	8/9/2024	Payroll 8/23/24	ADP - Garnishment	\$ 472.72
ADP0001	Payment	8/23/2024	Payroll 8/23/24	ADP - Transit Tax	\$ 54.56
Subtotal - 2nd Pay Period					\$ 558,412.52
Total Payroll for August					\$ 1,132,976.15
Total Disbursements					\$ 2,908,450.48



August 2024 Organizational Report:

Battle Ground Community Library

Preschool Storytime's brought in 71 participants over two weeks. To say thank you at the end of summer, Genevieve's activity was bubbles. Even though it started to rain during Storytime, they brought everything inside to keep blowing and popping those wonderful sudsy delights! The room was filled with bubbles and giggles - what a way to end the summer.



Staff attended Battle Ground Public School's Multicultural Night. They showcased books from our World Language collection and handed out flyers for upcoming events and programs relating to bilingual patrons. They were able to issue library cards to several families. The school provided two translators who were integral to the success of the evening.

Cascade Park Community Library

The back-to-school clothing swap continues to be a well-attended event with 67 people coming and most of them bringing clothes to swap. Thank you to staff for organizing this event to help community members with financial constraints to have the ability to get new clothes for their kids starting school this fall.

The Teen Council met and is working on plans for the Teen Film Festival. More information to come.



Staff are wrapping up work with the YES interns. It has been busy and successful.

2018 Grand Blvd, Vancouver Washington 98661 • 360-906-5000 • fvrl.org

Library locations: Battle Ground, Cascade Park, Goldendale, La Center, North Bonneville, Ridgefield, Stevenson, Three Creeks, Vancouver, Vancouver Mall, Washougal, White Salmon Valley, Woodland, Yacolt, Yale



Goldendale Community Library (BKK)

The Senior Services Advisory Board created a committee to better understand the accessibility of parks in the county. We discovered that the WA State Parks has a free pass for seniors on a limited income, as well as for those with a disability.



The Klickitat County Fair & Rodeo is always a crowd pleaser for all ages. Bravo to Adrienne for making such great use of the space outside of the BKK!

La Center Community Library

We had the Vancouver Community Jazz Band back this month for a family concert on the Lawn. There was a great turnout with lots of folks just relaxing, enjoying the music and some family time with dinner outside. We have plans to continue this next summer.



Staff at La Center has been very active and staff have attended National Night Out, where the button making machine was a huge success. Free School Supply Distribution Night where we took some free books and talked to families about library resources. We also helped out the Kiwanis Farmer's Market Outreach.

Ridgefield Community Library

We continued to staff a table at the YMCA lunch taking place at Davis Park on Wednesday from noon until 1:00 PM. We brought craft supplies and shared information, primarily about programs. YMCA staff reported that on August 6 they served 144 lunches.

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On August 7, Ridgefield hosted a Community Resource Fair organized by Sherry Braga and other partners. 15 organizations participated from The Ridgefield Gleaners and Compassion 360 to WorkSource and NEXT. We had approximately 80 people attendees.

Stevenson Community Library (North Bonneville & BKS)

Skamania County Bookmobile wrapped up its 2024 summer routes, with several traveling kits at the Rhine Village Apartments in White Salmon, an affordable housing complex. Access for tribal members continues through the summer, weekly, at Bonneville and White Salmon sites, and our stop at Glenwood moves to the General Store which is also on Yakama Nation land.

Stevenson Carson School District was nominated for the Rural Library Project by David Wyatt (FVRL Branch Manager), after coordinating with their superintendent. It is a WLA program attached to the PNBA (Pacific Northwest Bookseller Association) fall trade show which awards books to rural libraries. The nomination focused on helping build the Wind River Middle School library which has been empty since they moved back into their current building a few years ago.

Walking Man Brewing hosted one of the Humanities Washington events, *How Beer Might Save Democracy*. It was a great event!

Three Creeks Community

The Teen Escape Room was a great success. Teens enjoyed testing their skills against the clock as they tried to solve the puzzles. While they were waiting for their turn, teens were able to join together in playing video games, creating art, and socializing.

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Rebecca Lexa led Mushroom Foraging for Beginners Class which was very educational and entertaining. Participants enjoyed her presentation style and the methods she used to teach.

Vancouver Community Library



On August 24, we had a program in the Columbia room with two Mini horses, Mystic and Pearl! It was a popular program and 147 people attended.

Staff love utilizing their creativity to showcase our materials in all of our displays!



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Vancouver Mall Community Library



This month, we had Angel Ocasio. The program was great, and the crowd had an enjoyable time with him. Once again, it was an excellent opportunity to team up with the mall to utilize its space and natural draw to bring a program to people who may not seek a library event.

We held our last SAYL program by doing the stamp-making program. It was fun making stamps. Most of the participants just happened to be walking around the mall, which helped to bring some people into the library.

Washougal Community Library

Kids and families enjoyed getting to see what their stuffies were up to at the stuffie sleepover at the library. Staff worked to put together a fun slideshow for Storytime the next day of all the “after hours” antics.



Staff attended outreach for National Night Out and talked to over 200 people. Friends member, Brett Tarnet, came out to help and talk about the new library project.



White Salmon Valley Community Library



Some staff attended the *Friends of the Library Ice Cream Social*, providing several activities and giving out free books to ice cream lovers of all ages. There were over 200 attendees, our Friends were very pleased, as this was a huge undertaking, requiring many hours of planning and working. The Friends have been discussing making this an annual event, using it as the kick off for the Community Reads.

Our Adult Book Group read and discussed. *All My Rage*, the story of an extended Pakistani family struggling with poverty, racism, abuse, loss, and drug addiction in southern California. This book provided the framework for a very successful discussion. The book introduced most of us to new ideas about family and religion as well as addressing many issues that immigrants and first-generation Americans deal with on a daily basis. This is the perfect forum for us to engage with “own voices.”

Woodland Community Library

We finished out the summer with the last two Hot Summer Nights and National Night Out at Horseshoe Lake Park. What a great way to talk with the community members. The most frequently asked question was about the opening of the new library.

The building continues to progress. Everyday there is another part that is completed. We are excited about the Grand Opening plans, and looking forward to celebrating.

The Yacolt Express Library



The Wednesday and Friday craft workshops continue to be a big hit, and this month our theme was the “Dog Days of Summer.” Families made ice cream cones, yellow processed art, DIY Kaleidoscopes and picture frames. 165 people participated this month.

On August 6th, staff attended National Night Out and set up a DIY Catapult Activity for families to make. They were able to connect with a lot of familiar faces and met many new neighbors as well.

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Library locations: Battle Ground, Cascade Park, Goldendale, La Center, North Bonneville, Ridgefield, Stevenson, Three Creeks, Vancouver, Vancouver Mall, Washougal, White Salmon Valley, Woodland, Yacolt, Yale



Yale Valley Community Library

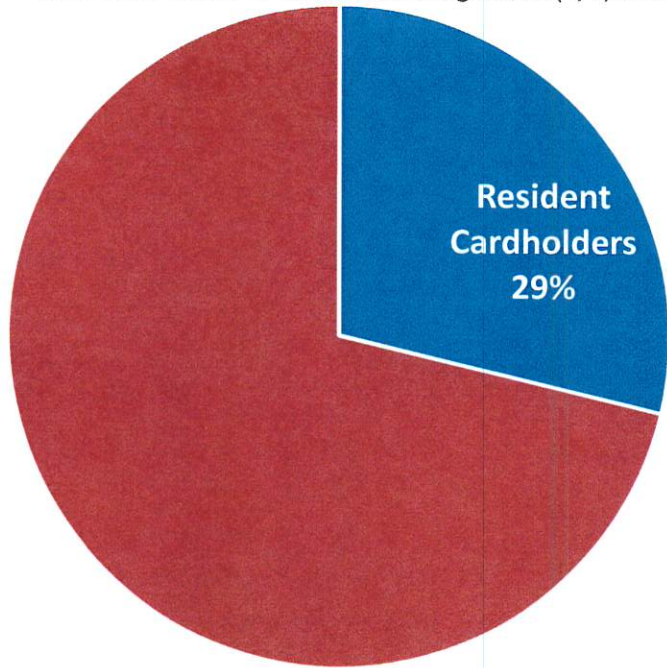
On August 3rd the Yale Valley Friends group held an Ice Cream Social Event at the library and it was very well attended.

On August 8th Sherry Braga toured the district with her group of FVRL interns and they stopped in at Yale Valley to use the community room for their lunch break. It was great to visit with them and hear about their branch visits.

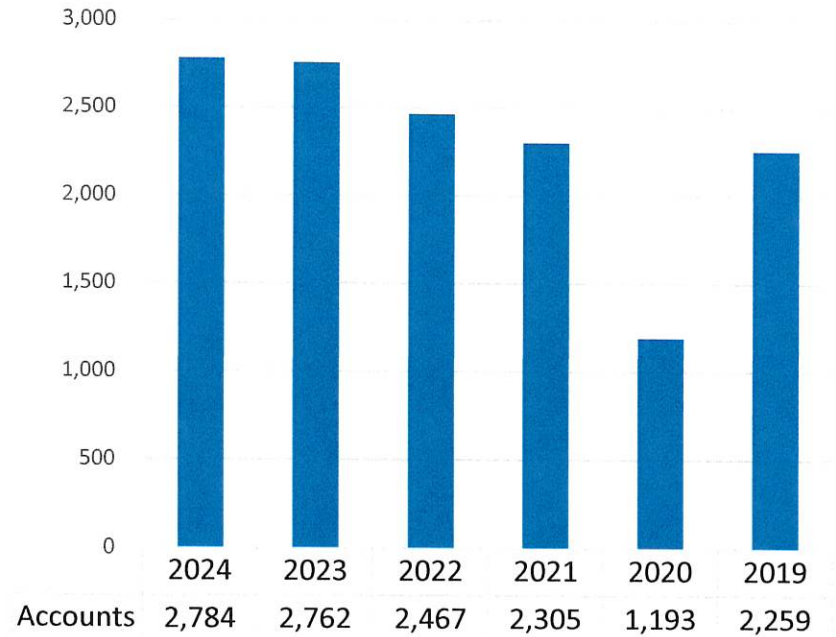
On August 15th we had two families attend the Family Craft Workshop. We are looking forward to promoting this event and hope to get even more participation in the coming months.

August 2024-Cardholders, Programs, and Technology Use

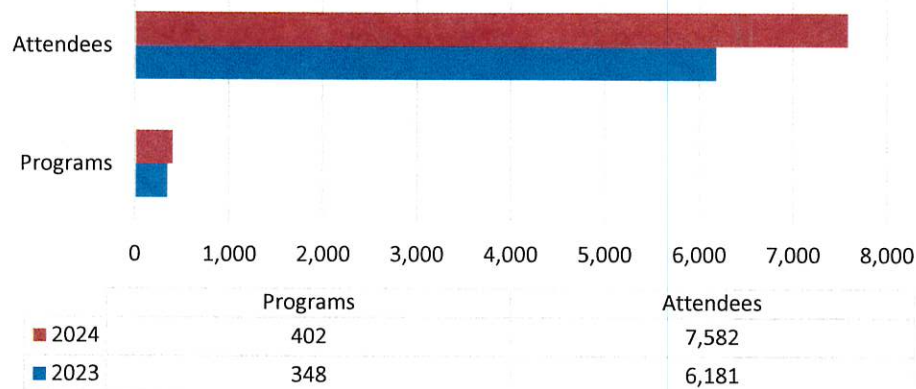
Population Served - 550,655
Washington State Office of Financial Management (4/1/2024)



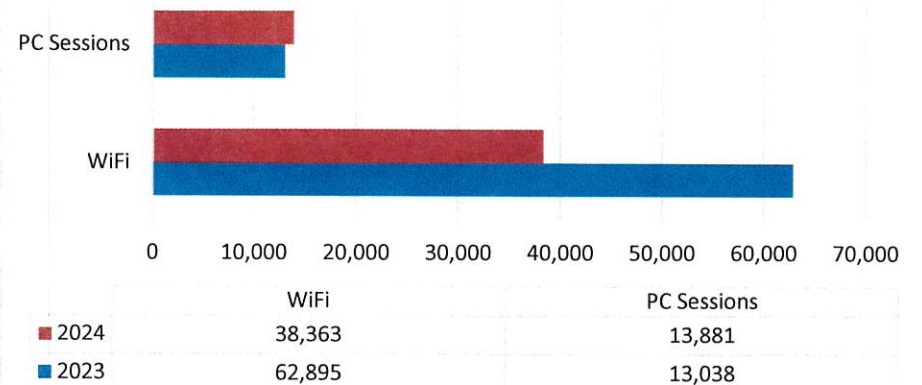
New Accounts Added in August



Programs

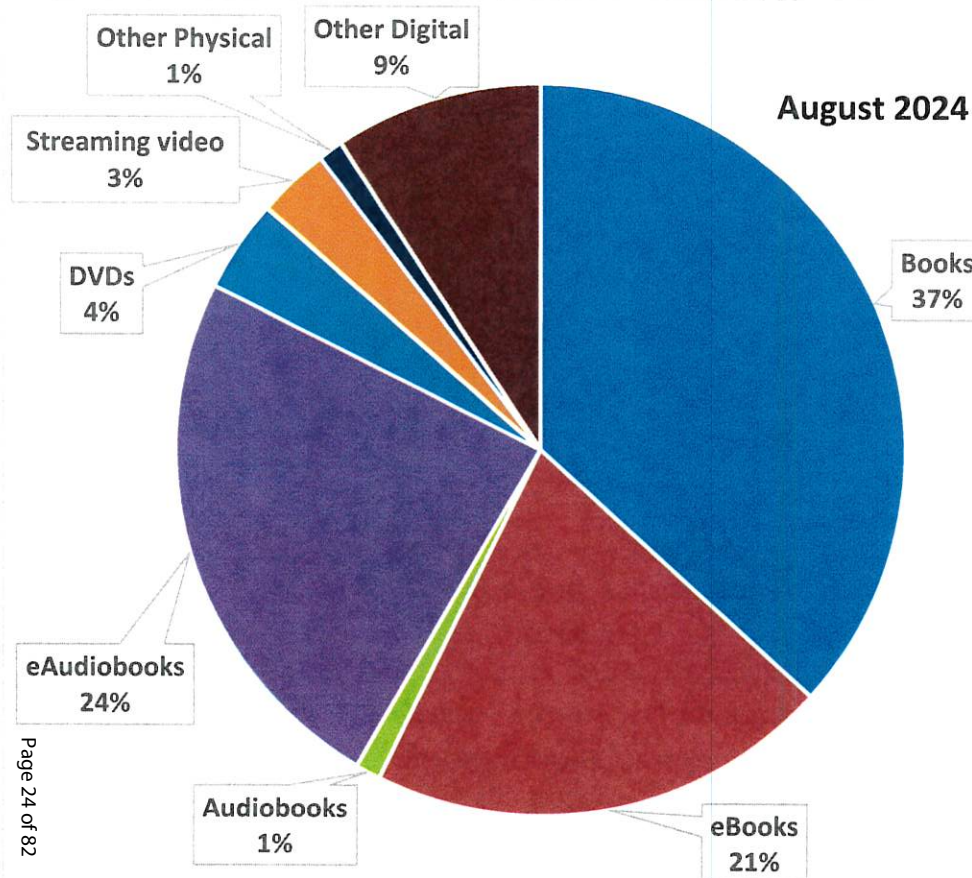


Computer and WiFi Use

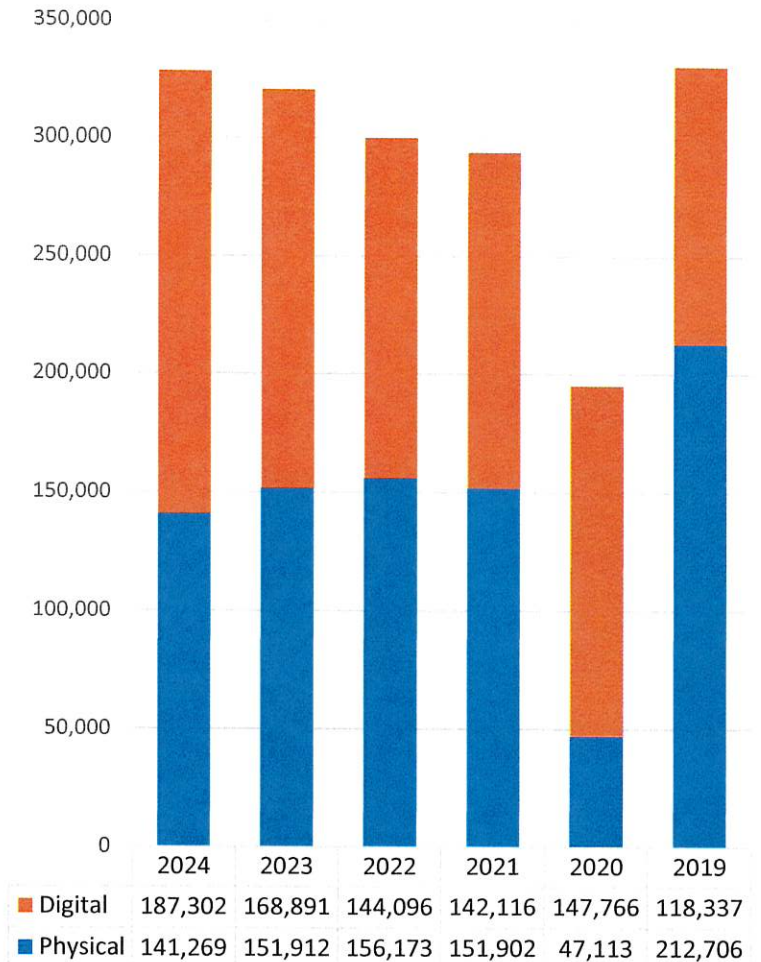


Collection Use – August 2024 Checkouts by Item Format

Categories	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Books	120,652	128,825	131,855	126,513	39,173	162,617
eBooks	67,575	65,196	57,689	56,698	66,965	47,905
Audiobooks	3,622	4,067	4,686	4,720	1,759	8,794
eAudiobooks	78,911	69,518	58,320	52,754	47,124	41,060
DVDs	13,416	15,190	15,641	16,316	5,501	34,835
Streaming video	10,470	10,506	8,434	10,071	9,388	5,636
Other Physical	3,579	3,830	3,991	4,353	680	6,460
Other Digital	30,346	23,671	19,653	22,593	24,289	23,736
Totals	328,571	320,803	300,269	294,018	194,879	331,043



Physical & Digital Collection Checkouts 2019-2024

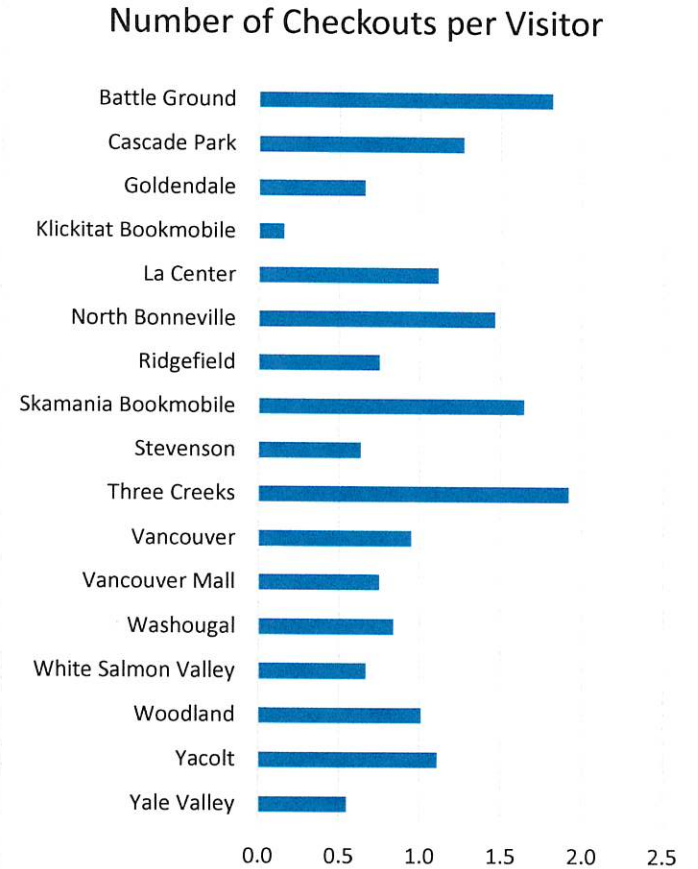


Other Physical includes magazines, games, kits, music, Chromebooks, and miscellaneous items.

Other Digital includes magazines and streaming music.

August 2024 – Total Circulation and Visitors

Location	August 2024		August 2023		Change	
	Total Circ	Visitors	Total Circ	Visitors	Total Circ	Visitors
Battle Ground	42,486	11,954	47,074	11,158	-9.75%	7.13%
Cascade Park	63,572	24,267	68,233	26,457	-6.83%	-8.28%
Goldendale	5,891	4,577	6,695	3,867	-12.01%	18.36%
Klickitat Bookmobile	401	78	517	92	-22.44%	-15.22%
La Center	6,158	2,840	6,317	2,604	-2.52%	9.06%
North Bonneville	239	71	350	74	-31.71%	-4.05%
Ridgefield	11,955	8,031	12,563	7,359	-4.84%	9.13%
Skamania Bookmobile	717	218	619	515	15.83%	-57.67%
Stevenson	4,143	3,722	4,403	3,716	-5.91%	0.16%
Three Creeks	48,956	12,924	50,450	13,449	-2.96%	-3.90%
Vancouver	66,200	29,823	68,433	28,079	-3.26%	6.21%
Vancouver Mall	10,218	6,045	11,773	6,592	-13.21%	-8.30%
Washougal	7,728	4,688	8,638	5,123	-10.53%	-8.49%
Woodland	4,910	2,491	5,940	2,875	-17.34%	-13.36%
White Salmon Valley	8,834	7,144	9,768	6,734	-9.56%	6.09%
Yacolt	5,540	2,991	5,584	2,924	-0.79%	2.29%
Yale Valley	933	865	906	635	2.98%	36.22%
Green Mountain	34	No Visitors	67	No Visitors	-49.25%	No Visitors
Books by Mail	991	No Visitors	1,404	No Visitors	-29.42%	No Visitors
Operations Center/ILL	328	No Visitors	383	No Visitors	-14.36%	No Visitors
Location Total	290,234	122,729	310,117	122,253	-6.41%	0.39%
Digital Collections	187,302		168,891		10.90%	
Grand Total	477,536		479,008		-0.31%	

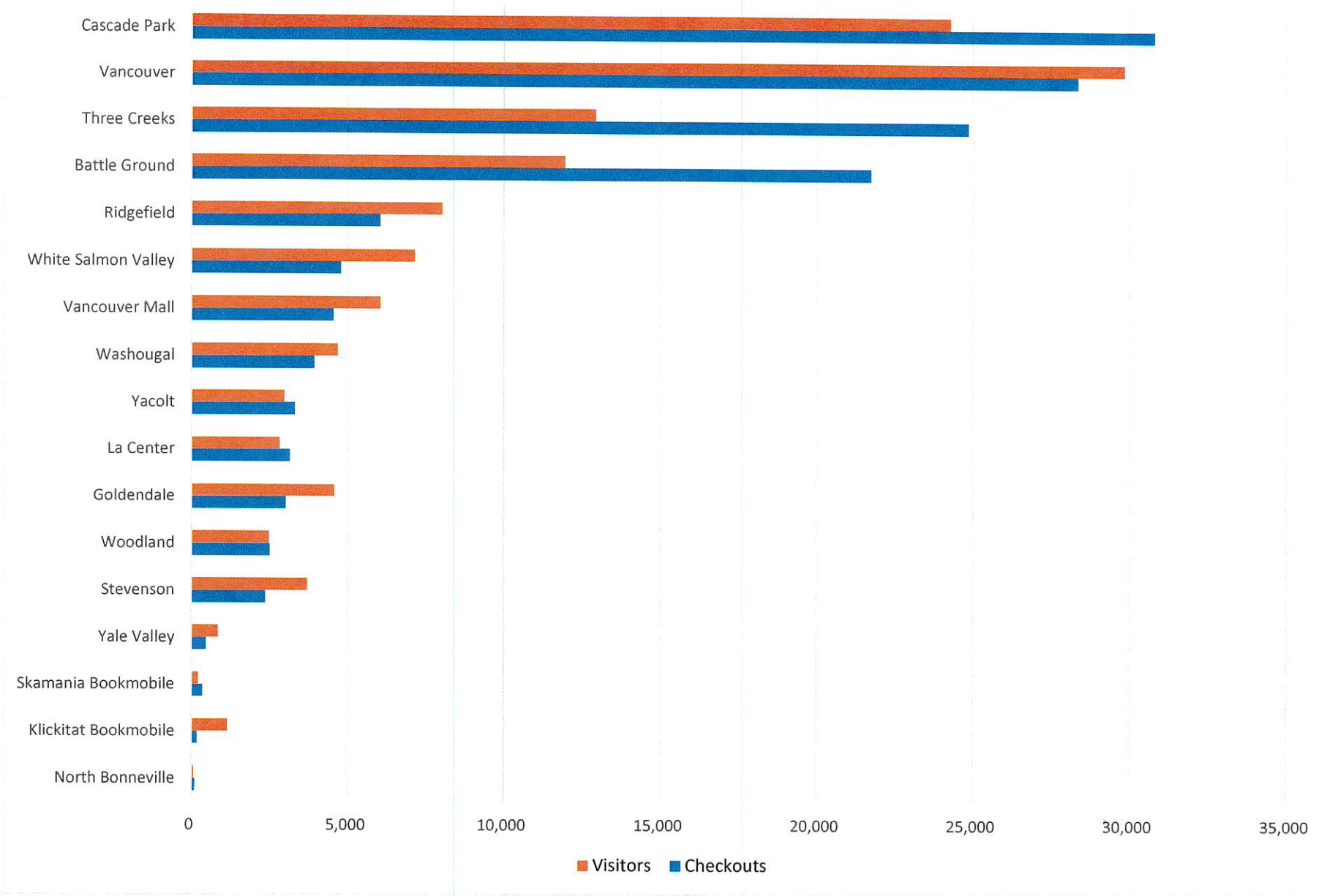


TOTAL CIRCULATION

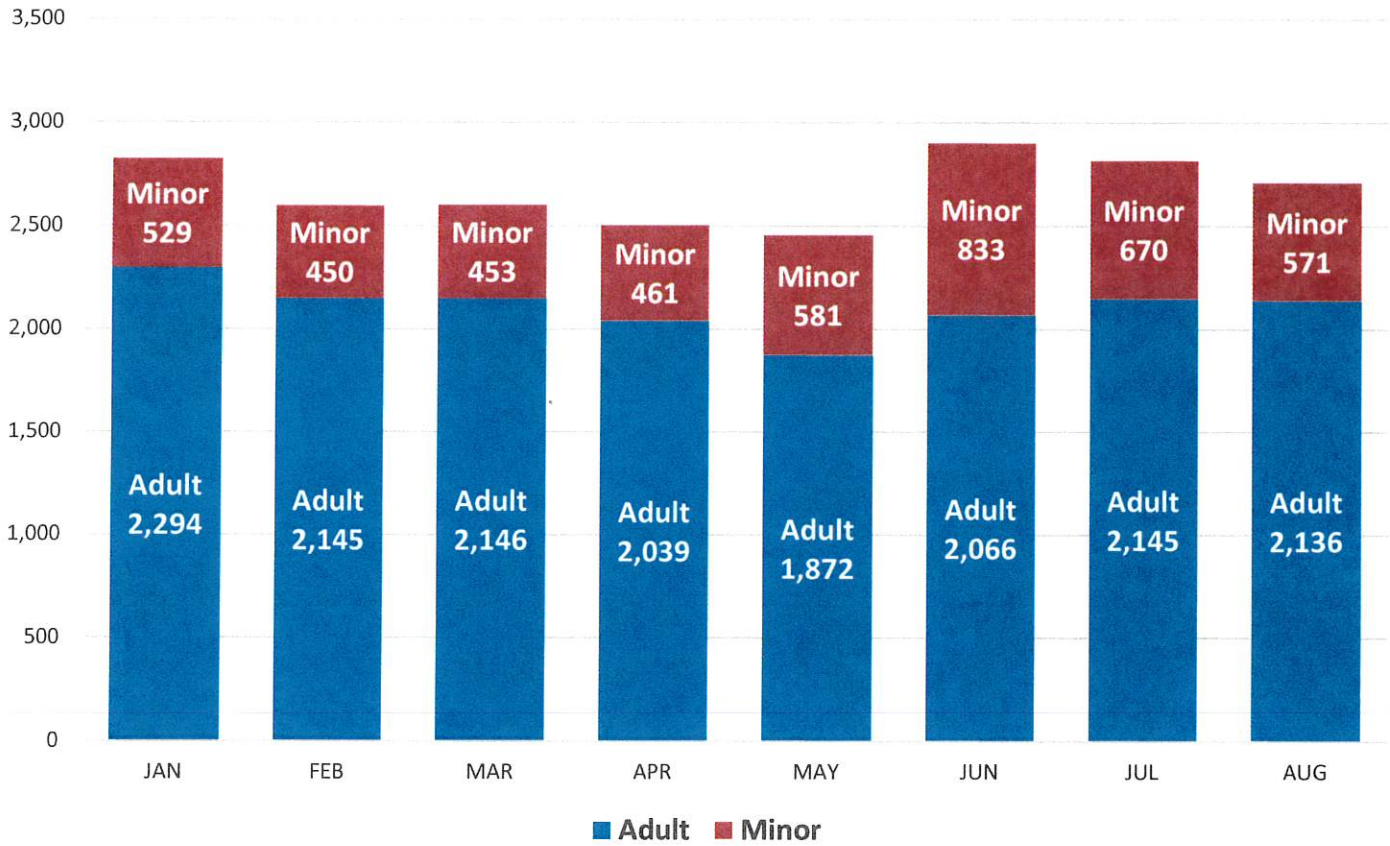


August 2024 – Library Activity: Checkouts and Visitors by Library

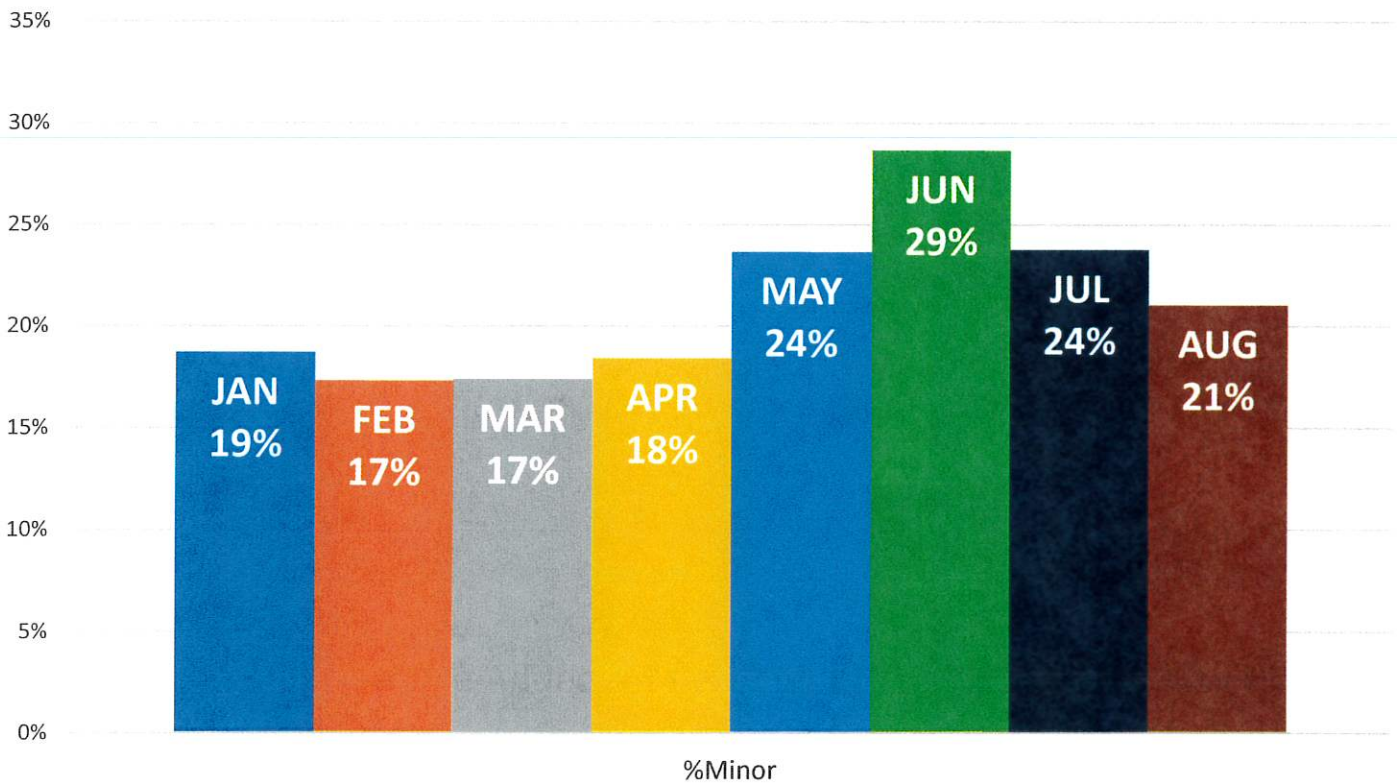
August 2024



Number of Accounts Added



Percentage Added for Cardholders Under Age 18



August 2024 – Total Circulation

	Aug 2024			Aug 2023			Change		
	Checkout	Renew	Total Circ	Checkout	Renew	Total Circ	Checkout	Renew	Total Circ
Battle Ground	21,740	20,746	42,486	23,324	23,750	47,074	-6.8%	-12.6%	-9.7%
Klickitat Bookmobile	186	215	401	271	246	517	-31.4%	-12.6%	-22.4%
Skamania Bookmobile	359	358	717	340	279	619	5.6%	28.3%	15.8%
Cascade Park	30,790	32,782	63,572	32,648	35,585	68,233	-5.7%	-7.9%	-6.8%
Goldendale	3,022	2,869	5,891	3,593	3,102	6,695	-15.9%	-7.5%	-12.0%
Green Mountain		34	34		67	67	0.0%	-49.3%	-49.3%
La Center	3,161	2,997	6,158	3,175	3,142	6,317	-0.4%	-4.6%	-2.5%
North Bonneville	104	135	239	140	210	350	-25.7%	-35.7%	-31.7%
Ridgefield	6,039	5,916	11,955	6,431	6,132	12,563	-6.1%	-3.5%	-4.8%
Stevenson	2,374	1,769	4,143	2,406	1,997	4,403	-1.3%	-11.4%	-5.9%
Three Creeks	24,847	24,109	48,956	26,539	23,911	50,450	-6.4%	0.8%	-3.0%
Vancouver	28,343	37,857	66,200	30,219	38,214	68,433	-6.2%	-0.9%	-3.3%
Vancouver Mall	4,550	5,668	10,218	5,485	6,288	11,773	-17.0%	-9.9%	-13.2%
Washougal	3,937	3,791	7,728	4,383	4,255	8,638	-10.2%	-10.9%	-10.5%
Woodland	2,519	2,391	4,910	3,189	2,751	5,940	-21.0%	-13.1%	-17.3%
White Salmon Valley	4,784	4,050	8,834	5,237	4,531	9,768	-8.6%	-10.6%	-9.6%
Yacolt	3,317	2,223	5,540	3,114	2,470	5,584	6.5%	-10.0%	-0.8%
Yale	477	456	933	513	393	906	-7.0%	16.0%	3.0%
Books by Mail	643	348	991	901	503	1,404	-28.6%	-30.8%	-29.4%
Operations Center/ILL	221	107	328	262	121	383	-15.6%	-11.6%	-14.4%
Total - Physical	141,413	148,821	290,234	152,170	157,947	310,117	-7.1%	-5.8%	-6.4%
Digital Collections	187,302	0	187,302	168,891	0	168,891	10.9%		10.9%
Grand Total	328,715	148,821	477,536	321,061	157,947	479,008	2.4%	-5.8%	-0.3%

■ Physical checkouts ■ Physical renewals ■ Digital checkouts





Foundation Update

Authors & Illustrators
2024 DINNER AND AUCTION

Laura Dave
FUNDRAISER | OCTOBER 17, 5:30–9:30 pm

Purchase tickets at fvrlfoundation.org! **TICKETS: \$120**
Tables of 10: \$1,200

Tickets are still available for the Authors & Illustrators Dinner & Silent Auction

Join us at the Hilton Vancouver for an evening with Laura Dave, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Last Thing He Told Me*, *Eight Hundred Grapes*; *Hello, Sunshine*; and other novels. Her books have been published in thirty-eight countries and have appeared on numerous best-of lists. *The Last Thing He Told Me* was a previous Goodreads' Mystery and Thriller of the Year and is a limited series on Apple TV+. Tickets are available at fvrlfoundation.org. We'll see you there!

Great News!

- The Foundation received a \$5,554 memorial gift for Goldendale Community Library for an children's gravity wonder wall and a visit from the OMSI Science Bus.
- The Foundation's partnership with ThriftBooks generated \$2,534.71 in revenue in August from online sales of used books.

Big News!

As Rick Smithrud will be retiring, FVRL Foundation has hired Nonprofit Professionals Now to lead the search for a new Executive Director and the process is underway.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, September 21

FVRL Trustee Meeting

Hybrid: Battle Ground Community Library and Zoom
4:00pm–6:00pm

**Follows the all-day Trustee Retreat.*

Monday, September 23

Woodland Library Permanently Closed

The existing Woodland Library will close as of this date for the move into the new library building.

Thursday, September 26

FVRL Foundation Board Meeting

FVRL Foundation Office
3:00pm–4:00pm

Saturday, September 28

Friends of La Center Book Sale

La Center Community Library
10:00am–2:00pm

Saturday, October 5

Friends of Ridgefield Book Sale

Ridgefield Community Library
9:00am–3:00pm

Monday, October 21

FVRL Trustee Meeting

Hybrid: Ridgefield Community Library and Zoom
6:00pm–8:00pm

Building Campaigns and Cornerstone Pledges

Washougal has 47 Cornerstones, 2 Stepping Stones, 3 Keystones, 2 Capstones, and 1 naming opportunity.

Woodland has 39 Cornerstones, 6 Stepping Stones, 9 Keystones, 4 Capstones, and 28 naming opportunities.

**Please note: some Cornerstones have graduated to Stepping Stones, which is why some Cornerstone totals have decreased.*

How Board Members Can Help

–Spread the word about the Fred Meyer Rewards program:

fredmeyer.com/li/community/community-rewards

The New Woodland Community Library Opens October 12!



The celebration runs from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the new location at 411 Lakeshore Drive in Woodland. There will be a ribbon cutting, speakers, entertainment, refreshments, special activities for kids, and more.

Pumpkin Bash Fundraiser for the Washougal Library



The Friends of Washougal Library will be hosting Pumpkin Bash on October 19 at the Get To-Gather Farm in Washougal from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. Tickets are \$40 each for this 21-and-over event. Visit washougallibraryfriends.org/fundraisers for more details.

FVRLibraries

Battle Ground Community Library & Yacolt Library Express

Holland Christie
Branch Manager
September 21st, 2024



Our Team



Our Team



Battle Ground Community Library History

1941: Battle Ground served by bookmobile.

1944: First Battle Ground Library, a branch of Clark County Library, opened.

1959: Battle Ground Library opened on Main Street.

1981: City of Battle Ground annexed to FVRLibraries.

2009: New library opened in Battle Ground Village on May 15.

2019: The library closed for a few weeks in April for a refresh: new carpet, new paint, furniture reupholstery, rearranging of the children's area, and new sound panels.



FVRLibraries
FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARIES

Battle Ground by the numbers:

Population: 22,470

Battle Ground Cardholders: 7,513 (33%)

Number of Programs (2023): 293

Number of Visitors (2023): 124,227

Number of Checkouts (2023): 248,603



Yacolt Library Express

Yacolt Library Express opened in 2012, following the retirement of the Clark County bookmobile.

The historic building has been home to many of the town of Yacolt's services over the years. Three jail cells still line the passageway along the east wall of the building. The cells, which still have bars for doors, were used up until the mid-1970s—so there may be some people around town who remember spending a night there (or know someone who did).

In the early years of Yacolt, the town had a hotel, a hospital, and seven saloons. The saloons helped keep the jail cells operational for decades as a place where people would “sleep it off” after a wild night. Besides housing a jail, the building was also used as the town hall.

It is open 7 days a week as a self-serve location. Staff are on-site 24 hours per week.



Yacolt by the numbers

Population: 1,670

Yacolt Cardholders: 797 (48%)

Number of Programs (2023): 110

Number of Visitors (2023): 29,365

Number of Checkouts (2023): 33,295



Summer at Your Library

Battle Ground: 1558 Registered
Yacolt: 227 Registered



Summer at Your Library



Connections & Partnerships



Average storytime attendance:

Preschool: 55

Babies: 19

Toddlers: 52



Connections and Partnerships



Connections & Partnerships



Connections & Partnerships



Connections & Partnerships





Organizational Culture



Organizational Culture



Organizational Culture



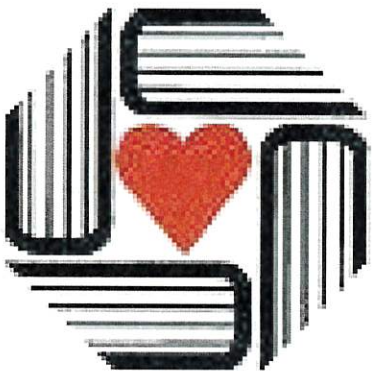
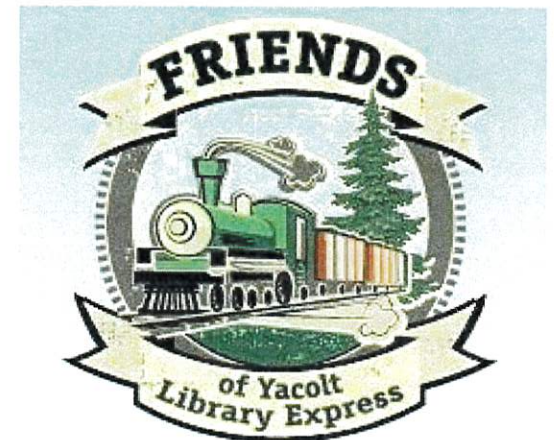
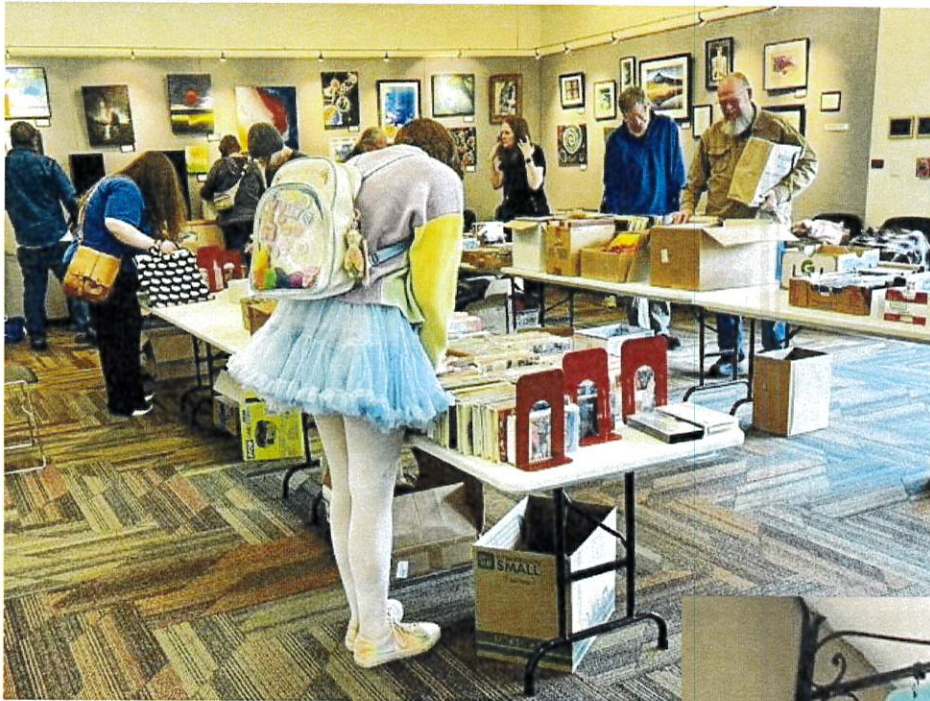
Outreach

- ★ Columbia Kids
- ★ Battle Ground EOCF
- ★ Yacolt Head Start
- ★ Battle Ground ECEAP
- ★ Battle Ground Parks & Rec
- ★ Hockinson Book Swap
- ★ Hockinson Back to School Night
- ★ National Night Out
- ★ Pomeroy Farms Farm Days
- ★ Battle Ground High School
- ★ Battle Ground Pride
- ★ Various Primary Schools
- ★ QYRC Historical Museum Takeover
- ★ Battle Ground Education Foundation
- ★ Battle Ground Multicultural Night
- ★ and more!



FVRLibraries
FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARIES

Friends



Thank you



Fort Vancouver Regional Library District
Statement of Cash
For the Month Ending July 2024 (With year-to-date totals)

December 31, 2023 Ending Cash Balance	19,056,296
Year-to-date Revenue Received	19,435,164
Year-to-date Expenditures	(21,041,331)
Adjustment for accrued expenditures	760,113
Cash Balance July 31, 2024	<u><u>\$ 18,210,242</u></u>

	Operational Reserves as of July 1, 2024	Net Operational Activity July 2024	Year-to-Date Totals thru July 2024	Operational Reserves as of July 31, 2024
Operational Reserve (Unassigned)	<u>\$ 8,715,870</u>	<u>(3,249,359)</u>	<u>(846,054)</u>	<u>\$ 11,368,888</u>
<small>Target: Operational Fund > 60 to 90 days of annual operational budget</small>				

	Reserves as of July 1, 2024	July 2024 Expenditures	Year-to-Date Totals thru July 2024	Cash Reserves at July 31, 2024
Obj 1 - Capital repairs and maintenance	\$ 1,000,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000,000
Obj 2 - Replacement Vehicles	148,380	-	-	148,380
Obj 3 - Capital Projects				
Washougal	4,092,678	-	-	4,092,678
Woodland	4,021,932	(1,565,503)	(3,499,072)	522,860
Grand Blvd Remodel	-	-	-	-
Brush Prairie	-	-	-	-
Unassigned Capital	677,436	-	-	677,436
Obj 4 - Innovation	400,000	-	-	400,000
Obj 5 - Budget Stabilization Fund	-	-	-	-
Cash Reserve Fund Expense Total	<u>\$ 10,340,426</u>	<u>\$ (1,565,503)</u>	<u>\$ (3,499,072)</u>	<u>\$ 6,841,354</u>

	Beginning January 1, 2024	Ending July 31, 2024
Overall Cash Balance	<u><u>\$ 19,056,296</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 18,210,242</u></u>

Fort Vancouver Regional Library District

Statement Of Revenue - Calendar Year 2024
For the Month Ending July 2024 (With year-to-date totals)

	2024 Amended Budget (Adopted 7/2024)	July 2024 Revenues	Year-to-Date Totals thru July 2024	Year - to - Date Annual Budget Percent
Property Taxes				
Property Taxes - Clark	26,086,950	67,631	14,623,726	56.06%
Property Taxes - Skamania	714,643	7,863	439,049	61.44%
Property Taxes - Klickitat	1,359,320	26,766	983,301	72.34%
Property Taxes - Cowlitz	316,875	3,159	188,613	59.52%
Total Property Taxes	28,477,788	105,419	16,234,689	57.01%
Other Taxes				
Other General Tax	75,000	-	37,318	49.76%
Leasehold Excise Tax	115,000	190	86,313	75.05%
Total Other Taxes	190,000	190	123,631	65.07%
Intergovernmental, Grants & Contracts				
Federal in-lieu of Taxes	45,000	914	1,431	3.18%
Grants through ESD 112	6,000	6,703	8,674	0.00%
State Forest Boards	40,000	2,310	14,186	35.47%
Yale Valley Library Dist	165,000	-	72,500	43.94%
Total Intergovernmental, Grants & Contracts	256,000	9,926	96,791	37.81%
Charges for Services				
Equipment Use Fees	40,000	3,433	26,118	65.30%
Non-Resident Borrower Fee	8,000	731	6,738	84.22%
Lost / Damaged Material Fee	32,000	3,926	27,539	86.06%
Total Charges for Services	80,000	8,090	60,396	75.49%
Miscellaneous				
Investment Interest	475,000	61,643	386,739	81.42%
Rental Income	2,000	1,000	4,426	221.28%
Gifts/Contributions	-	15	586	100.00%
Library Friends Groups' Reimbursements	20,000	2,869	16,270	81.35%
Woodland Friends Reimbursements - Project	655,000	-	-	0.00%
Library Foundation Reimbursements	35,450	14,698	51,620	145.61%
Foundation Reimbursements (Grants)	2,449,550	641,429	2,449,550	100.00%
Foundation Reimbursements (Other Project)	175,000	-	-	0.00%
Insurance Reimbursements	2,500	(13,572)	(0)	0.00%
Miscellaneous	2,500	107	4,309	172.37%
Other Miscellaneous - E-Rate	120,000	-	-	0.00%
Sale of Assets	10,000	2,850	6,159	61.59%
Total Miscellaneous	3,947,000	711,039	2,919,658	73.97%
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 32,950,788	834,665	19,435,164	58.98%
Use of Reserves to Balance Operating Budget	\$400,000			
Use of Reserves to Balance Capital Budget	\$4,021,932	1,565,503	3,499,072	
Use of Cash Reserves	\$ 4,421,932	1,565,503	3,499,072	79.13%
Total Revenues and Use of Cash Reserves	\$37,372,720	2,400,168	22,934,236	61%

Jan.-Dec. 2024 Fiscal Year

July is the 7th month of the fiscal year.
Year-to-date budget percentages should
be at 58%, representing 7/12 months.

Fort Vancouver Regional Library District

Statement of Expenses - Calendar Year 2024
For the Month Ended July 2024

	2024 Amended Budget (Adopted 7/2024)	July 2024 Expenditures	Year-to-Date Totals thru July 2024	Year to Date Annual Budget Percentage
Operating Expenditures:				
Personnel				
Wages	\$ 14,383,607	\$ 1,045,451	\$ 7,485,534	52.04%
Benefit - Medical	3,171,347	197,601	1,385,187	43.68%
Benefit - Dental	217,986	19,892	140,019	64.23%
Benefit - Life, LTD, AD&D	169,439	13,121	87,608	51.70%
Benefit - PERS	1,334,799	94,796	693,184	51.93%
Benefit - FICA	1,100,346	78,497	561,502	51.03%
Benefit - L & I - Workers Compensation	113,263	5,754	43,682	38.57%
Benefit - PFML	30,410	2,211	15,830	52.05%
Unemployment Expense	10,000	-	1,740	17.40%
Personnel Subtotal:	20,531,197	1,457,323	10,414,286	50.72%
Supplies				
Supplies	452,650	41,128	228,196	50.41%
Small Equipment (FF&E)	78,500	1,141	20,187	25.72%
Technology	411,000	59,597	189,148	46.02%
Professional Collection / Tech	316,000	17,193	161,382	51.07%
Supplies & Small Equipmt/Tech Subtotal:	1,258,150	119,059	598,913	47.60%
Library Books / Materials				
Library Books & Materials	1,823,500	130,085	869,607	47.69%
Electronic Resources	1,896,500	143,837	1,086,457	57.29%
Library Materials Subtotal:	3,720,000	273,921	1,956,065	52.58%
Other Services / Charges				
Professional Services	1,599,636	116,545	785,314	49.09%
Communications	372,371	20,161	185,059	49.70%
Training / Travel	107,000	16,475	78,633	73.49%
Advertising	26,000	2,595	9,480	36.46%
Rentals / Leases	582,275	58,887	332,523	57.11%
Insurance	262,700	207,041	264,452	100.67%
Utilities	479,000	34,827	245,262	51.20%
Repairs & Maintenance	978,739	47,629	466,071	47.62%
Misc / Dues / Printing / Other	149,425	9,351	96,443	64.54%
Intergovernmental Services	3,676	22	461	12.53%
Other Charges & Services Subtotal:	4,560,822	513,532	2,463,697	54.02%
Total Operating Expenditures:	30,070,169	2,363,835	15,432,961	51.32%
Capital Outlay:				
Buildings / Non-Owned	70,000	3,908	19,285	27.55%
Buildings / Owned	160,000	19,602	51,488	32.18%
Woodland (FVRL Reserves)	4,021,932	1,565,503	3,499,072	87.00%
Woodland (Grant Reimbursed)	2,038,525	131,176	2,038,525	100.00%
Woodland (Other Reimbursements)	971,694	-	-	0.00%
Yale	40,400	-	-	0.00%
Capital Outlay Subtotal:	7,302,551	1,720,189	5,608,370	76.80%
Grand Total All Expenditures:	\$ 37,372,720	\$ 4,084,024	\$21,041,331	56.30%

Jan.-Dec. 2024 Fiscal Year

July is the 7th month of the fiscal year.
Year-to-date budget percentages should
be at 58%, representing 7/12 months.

**Fort Vancouver Regional Library District
Staff Report 2024-09
Election of Vice Chair**

To: Board of Trustees
From: Nominating Committee
Date: September 21, 2024
Subject: Election of Officers

Summary:

Per Article III of the FVRL Board of Trustees Bylaws, the Board's officers shall be a Chair, a Vice-Chair, and a Secretary elected from among the appointed trustees no later than January of the year of appointment. FVRL's practice has been to appoint a Nominating Committee to recruit a slate of officers for the following year in October, and announce those names at the November meeting. This gives other interested candidates the opportunity to put their name forward at that time. A final slate is voted on at the December meeting to name officers for the following year. All Board members are eligible to serve as officers.

There is a current vacancy of Vice-Chair to fill.

Key Points

Terms: Officers shall serve a term of one year, from January through December.

Duties: The Board Chair presides at all meetings of the Board, authorizes calls for special meetings, appoints all committees, executes all documents authorized by the Board, and performs all other duties associated with that office. The Board Chair meets with the Executive Director in advance of the monthly meeting to approve the agenda and discuss any concerns.

The Vice-Chair, in the event of the absence of the Chair, assumes and performs the duties and functions of the Chair.

The Secretary assures that a true and accurate record is maintained of all meetings of the Board, and in the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair, shall preside at a meeting of the Board.

Vacancies: Any vacancy occurring in any elected office shall be filled at the next regular meeting of the Board.

Action Requested: Appointed of Vice-Chair to serve through December 31, 2024 for the Board of Trustees.



Board of Trustees Reimbursement Policy

Fort Vancouver Regional Library (FVRL) has a seven (7) member appointed Board of Trustees responsible for providing and maintaining quality library services for the citizens of the regional library district as set forth in [RCW 27.12](#) and any other applicable laws.

A library trustee shall not receive a salary or other compensation for services as trustee, but may be reimbursed from FVRL funds for expenses incurred while fulfilling the necessary functions of the office.

- Library trustees are eligible to receive **mileage reimbursement** at the approved IRS mileage rate. Mileage will be calculated as actual miles traveled and should be reported on a monthly basis.
- Library trustees are eligible for **lodging expense reimbursement** related to attending FVRL board meetings when the mileage to the meeting location requires the board member to travel more than 150 miles round trip to attend, or when inclement weather would prevent a return home after a board meeting. Applicable reimbursable lodging expenses require:
 1. The cost of moderate accommodations as defined by the IRS per diem rates, within the destination area, will be used as the benchmark for the cost of reasonably priced lodging
 2. Actual cost of hotel, motel or rental property accommodations, including lodging taxes and parking fees included in any hotel or motel bill, shall be paid. Receipts are required for all hotel/motel/rental stays will be submitted to the Executive Director's Office within one week of the expense being incurred.
- **Meals** may be reimbursed at the per diem rate for an overnight stay. Meals may also be reimbursed for Board Members when travel time and FVRL meeting time exceeds four (4) hours combined. See the [Travel and Subsistence Policy](#) for further details about meal reimbursement.

2018 Grand Blvd, Vancouver Washington 98661 • 360-906-5000 • fvrl.org

Library locations: Battle Ground, Cascade Park, Goldendale, La Center, North Bonneville, Ridgefield, Stevenson, Three Creeks, Vancouver, Vancouver Mall, Washougal, White Salmon Valley, Woodland, Yacolt, Yale



- Library trustees are eligible for pre-authorized library related **training and conferences**. See the [Travel and Subsistence Policy](#) for details.

Any personal expenses or entertainment expenses are strictly prohibited.

Approved by Board of Trustees: Original Policy September 21, 2024.



Public Records Requests Policy

It is the policy of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District (“FVRL”) to release public records in compliance with the Washington State Public Records Act, set forth in Chapter 42.56 of the Revised Code of Washington (“RCW”), and any other applicable provisions of federal or state law. The Public Records Policy (“Policy”) applies to library system records created and retained by staff, administrators, the Board of Trustees, and any third-party records in FVRL’s possession to the extent not exempt from disclosure pursuant to state law or any applicable law.

Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to comply with Chapter 42.56 RCW, the Public Records Act. This document provides guidance to public records requesters, as well as FVRL employees who respond to such requests.

Public Records Officer

FVRL has designated the Communications and Marketing Director as the official Public Records Officer (“PRO”) for the FVRL. While the individual serving as the PRO may change over-time, requestors can find current contact information for the PRO on the FVRL website. The PRO is responsible for managing the disclosure of public records to ensure compliance with the law, responding to and tracking requests or designating another individual to respond, and serves as the principal contact with any requester making a public records request. Any person wishing to request, inspect, or seek assistance regarding FVRL’s public records should contact the PRO as follows:

Public Records Officer
Fort Vancouver Regional Library District
2018 Grand Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98661
Telephone: 360-906-5010
Email: public_records@fvrl.org

Types and Availability of Records

FVRL makes certain public records available on its website including, but not limited to FVRL board meeting agendas, board meeting minutes, financial reports, and budget documents. FVRL complies with applicable public records retention and disclosure laws and strives to follow best practices in implementing the Policy.

Pursuant to RCW 42.56.070(4), FVRL finds that it is not required to maintain a current index of public records because the requirement is unduly burdensome and would interfere with FVRL operations as stated in the Board Resolution No. 2024-08 adopted by the Board of Trustees on September 21, 2024.

Public records are available for inspection and copying at FVRL's Operations Center in Vancouver, WA, from 9:00am-5:00pm, Monday-Friday.

Submitting Requests

All requests either for inspection or for copies (paper or electronic) of public records should be in writing addressed to the Public Records Officer and may be sent by mail, e-mail to public_records@fvrl.org or fax or delivered in person to the FVRL Operations Center or any branch library.

Any person wishing to inspect or receive copies of public records of FVRL should include the following information in the public records request:

1. Name of requestor, the date and time of the request;
2. A means of communicating to the requester, such as mailing address, telephone number, and email address;
3. Description of the public records requested with details of the records being sought and date ranges that are adequate for the PRO to do a reasonable search to identify and locate the public records; and
4. Whether the requester is seeking to inspect the record(s) or if copies are being requested.

FVRL will respond to all Public Records Act requests within five (5) business days in compliance with RCW 42.56.520. The FVRL response to the requester may include:

- a. Notifying the requester that the documents are available for inspection or copying;
- b. Acknowledging the request was received in writing and providing a reasonable estimate of the time the FVRL will require to provide a first installment or complete the request;
- c. Seeking clarification from the requester;
- d. Identifying the physical location or internet site where the documents are available to the public; or
- e. Denying the public records request.

Processing Requests

The PRO will process requests in an order that allows requests to be processed most efficiently. When FVRL receives a public record request or at any time while processing a public record request, the PRO will determine a reasonable time estimate within which FVRL can respond to the request that will factor in the nature, volume, and availability of the requested records; the amount of time necessary to respond to a particular request and its effect on the amount of staff time that can be devoted to responding to the requests of other requesters; and the impact on other essential FVRL functions.

Specific factors that may affect the response time estimate include, but are not limited to:

- a. Number of pending requests from the same requester;
- b. Volume of records requested;
- c. Complexity or ambiguity of the request;
- d. Access to database or electronic system records;
- e. Information Technology (IT) staff involvement;
- f. Records not easily identified, located, and/or accessible;
- g. Current staffing, including any amount of time needed by District staff who are not primarily responsible for public record processing;
- h. Third-party notice;

- i. Complex review to determine if content is exempt;
- j. Extensive and complicated electronic redaction;
- k. Legal review;
- l. Resolving issues related to retention of responsive records; and/or
- m. Grouped requests.

To provide fullest assistance to all requesters and prevent excessive interference with other essential FVRL functions, FVRL may allocate specific amounts of time and resources to responding to a request. This may include, but is not limited to, allocating a specific number of hours per week or per month to be spent by public records staff or employees for whom responding to record requests is not among their primary assigned duties. The amount of time shall be based on the factors outlined above.

When a request is complicated or for a large volume of records, FVRL may elect to provide records on an installment basis. If a requester does not contact the PRO within thirty (30) days to arrange for the review of the installment, FVRL may deem the request abandoned and stop fulfilling the remainder of the request.

Denial and Appeal

FVRL reserves the right to deny requests for public records under provisions of the Public Records Act, RCW Ch. 42.56, and will provide a written statement of the specific exemption authorizing the withholding of the record (or part) and a brief explanation of how the exemption applies to the record withheld.

FVRL is not required to accept certain automated or bot requests. FVRL may deny multiple automated or bot requests from a requester in a 24-hour period. FVRL does not accept voice mail record requests or requests through social media platforms, because social media and voicemails are not monitored daily.

FVRL has an appeal process and encourages any requester who believes a public record has been wrongfully withheld or redacted (in whole or in part), to submit the appeal in writing to the PRO stating the reasons for the appeal. Requesters are also encouraged to meet and confer with the PRO prior to seeking secondary review.

Exemptions

FVRL applies exemptions for public records requests in compliance with the exemptions provided under the Washington Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW. Some records are exempt from disclosure, in whole or in part. If FVRL believes that a record is exempt from disclosure and should be withheld, the PRO will state the specific exemption and provide a brief explanation of why the record or a portion of the record is being withheld. If only a portion of a record is exempt from disclosure, but the remainder is not exempt, the PRO will redact the exempt portions, provide the non-exempt portions, and inform the requester why portions of the record are redacted.

For informational purposes, under the Washington Public Records Act, Chapter 42.56 RCW, the records exempt from disclosure include, but are not limited to:

Library Records of Individual Users. Any library record subject to RCW 42.56.310, as interpreted by FVRL's Confidentiality of Patron and Circulation Records Policy, is exempt from disclosure and will not be released under the Public Records Act.

Public Records Act Exemptions. The Public Records Act exempts several categories of documents and records from disclosure under RCW 42.56.210 et seq. Documents falling into any of these categories may be withheld from disclosure under the Public Records Act.

Commercial Purposes. FVRL is prohibited from disclosing lists of individuals for commercial purposes as provided in RCW 42.56.070. If a request includes a list of individuals, FVRL shall require that the requestor provide information necessary to determine if disclosure of the list of individuals is permitted or prohibited by RCW 42.56.070(8).

Address Confidentiality for Victims of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking. Any employee's name and other personally identifying information if they or a dependent are survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, sexual abuse, stalking, or harassment, or if they participate in the address confidential program under chapter 40.24 RCW (RCW 42.56.250(1)(i)).

Other Exemptions

In addition to the exemptions provided under the Public Records Act, Washington provides several additional exemptions that are not listed in the Public Records Act. A non-exclusive list of these exemptions is available at: [Public Records Act for Washington Cities, Counties, and Special Purpose Districts \(mrsc.org\)](http://mrsc.org). Documents falling into any exemption recognized by Washington statute, or otherwise under local, state, or federal law, may be withheld.

Third-Party Rights

Prior to releasing a record, FVRL may, at its sole discretion, provide notice to an individual or organization named in a public record or to whom the record specifically pertains (unless notice is required by law) to allow the third-party to seek relief pursuant to RCW 42.56.540. FVRL may take into account any such third-party notification, including the time necessary for any request for injunction or other relief under RCW 42.56.540 to be resolved, in providing an estimate for when the records will be available. Nothing in this Policy is intended to create any third-party right to notice of Public Records Act requests.

Fees

RCW 42.56.120 allows for a reasonable charge for printed copies to be imposed for producing copies of public records including the actual costs directly incident to such copying, including customized service charge when a staff member's expertise is required to locate and fill the request.

All copies of public records with the exceptions noted above, will incur a charge of 15¢ per page (subject to change) to reproduce and cover the postage cost, if mailed. Public records provided electronically will generally be provided without charge.

At their discretion, the PRO may elect to waive these fees. Fees may generally be waived when the expense of billing exceeds the cost of copying and postage.

If charges related to copying have not been paid by the requester, the PRO may withhold the relevant documents from disclosure until outstanding fees are paid by the requester.

Law Enforcement Requests

FVRL may consult with legal counsel before the release of information to law enforcement. Law enforcement will receive access to confidential library records upon receipt of process, order, or subpoena in proper form and with a showing of good cause for its issuance.

Delivery of Records

Documents are available for inspection by appointment at FVRL's Operations Center in Vancouver, WA, during Monday through Friday, 9:00am – 5:00pm, excluding legal holidays or upon official closure of FVRL. Arrangements for inspection and/or copying must be made in advance. To schedule an appointment, email public_records@fvrl.org or contact the Public Records Officer at 360-906-5010.

Inspection of public records must occur in a non-disruptive manner. No member of the public may remove public records from the viewing area or disassemble, destroy or alter any public record. The requester shall indicate which records they wish to have copied using a mutually agreed upon non-permanent method of marking the desired record.

On request, physical or electronic copies may be made available to the requester. FVRL may determine the method of production for electronic records at its own discretion if the electronic files are too large to be shared via email. FVRL will not provide records on portable media (e.g. thumb drives) provided by a requester or by uploading to a private file-sharing site.

Failure to Respond

FVRL will deem a request abandoned in the following circumstances:

1. If a requester fails to respond to a FVLR request to clarify, whether individual or grouped, within thirty (30) days of the request for clarification, and the entire request is unclear;
2. If a requester has elected to inspect records, the request, whether individual or grouped, may be deemed abandoned:
 - a. If the requester fails to contact the PRO to arrange for the review of the installment within thirty (30) days of making arrangements to inspect the records in person.
 - b. If the requester misses an appointment to inspect responsive records or any installment of records and fails to contact the PRO to arrange another appointment to inspect within 30 days of the original request.
3. If a requester has elected to receive copies of records, a request, whether individual or grouped, may be deemed abandoned:
 - a. If the requester fails to open and download within thirty (30) days copies of responsive records or any installment of records provided to the requester electronically.
 - b. If the requester fails to pick up hard copies of responsive records or any installment of records within thirty (30) days of the date on which such copies are made available for pickup.
 - c. If the requester fails to pay for copies of any records or any installment of records within thirty (30) days of receiving an invoice for those records.

Closing the Request

Once all copies of requested records have been provided to the requester, the requester has reviewed the requested records, or thirty (30) days have passed since the requester was notified that the records were available and the requester has failed to contact the PRO to arrange for the review of those records or for payment for copies, the PRO shall close the records request.

Disclaimer of Liability

Neither the FVRL nor any employee, official, trustee or custodian shall be held personally liable, nor shall a cause of action exist, for any loss or damage, if the release of records was based upon a good faith attempt to implement the Policy outlined in this document and in accordance with the Washington Public Records Act.

Implementation

This Policy will be implemented by the Public Records Officer, as delegated by the Library Executive Director. The PRO is expected to make every effort to apply these rules in a fair, consistent, reasonable, and positive manner.

Any person requesting public records who questions the way this Policy has been applied, may use the appeal process established by the Appeal Rights of Patrons Policy.

Board Approved

This Policy fully supersedes and replaces all previous Public Records Policy documents for FVRL.

Adopted: September 21, 2024

**FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NUMBER (2024-08)
A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE PUBLIC DISCLOSURE INDEXING AS UNDULY BURDENSOME AS
REQUIRED BY RCW 42.56.070**

The regular meeting of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District (FVRL) Board of Trustees was held on September 21, 2024 at the Battle Ground Community Library, attended by a quorum of the Board for the conduct of such business; and, after due consideration and deliberation, the following resolution was duly passed by a majority vote of all Trustees then attending.

WHEREAS, RCW 42.56.070 requires all public agencies to maintain and make available a current index of public records; and,

WHEREAS, RCW 42.56.070(4) provides that a local agency may opt-out of maintaining such an index if it would be unduly burdensome or interfere with agency operations, and an agency must issue and publish a formal order specifying the reasons why compliance would be unduly burdensome; and,

WHEREAS, RCW 42.56.070 further provides that all indexes currently in existence and maintained by FVRL must be made available to the public for public inspection; and,

WHEREAS, FVRL did not budget for and lacks revenue to hire additional staff members for the sole purpose of processing public records requests and/or creating and maintaining such comprehensive indexes of public records; and,

WHEREAS, the creation and maintenance of an index would be extremely costly and would provide little benefit to the public when compared to the expenses and impact on agency operations of creating and maintaining such a comprehensive index; and,

WHEREAS, FVRL's records are diverse, complex, and stored in multiple computer systems, formats, and/or databases, making it difficult if not impossible to maintain an accurate, all-inclusive index; and

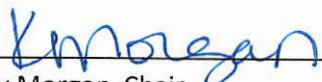
WHEREAS, FVRL recently updated its Public Records Act Policy to provide the fullest assistance possible to the public who request public records and set forth policy and procedures that strive to follow best practices in complying with the Washington State Public Records Act, RCW Ch. 42.56;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that based on the findings set forth above and pursuant to RCW 42.56.070(4), the Board of Trustees of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District do hereby order and direct that:


- 1) FVRL is not required to maintain a current index of public records due to the above findings that the requirement is unduly burdensome and impacts agency operations due to high costs and diversion of staff resources from essential tasks, and that such an index would be difficult, if not impossible, to maintain; and,
- 2) FVRL shall make available for public inspection and/or copying all public records and any indexes of public records currently in existence and maintained by FVRL pursuant to RCW 42.56.070.

ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the FVRL Board of Trustees this 21st day of September, 2024.

Approved:



Kristy Morgan, Chair



Marie Coffey, Secretary

FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

RESOLUTION: 2024-09

**RESOLUTION OF THE FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY
DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
TO SURPLUS AND SELL REAL PROPERTY**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District (the “District”) was held on September 21, 2024 attended by a quorum of the Board of Trustees for the conduct of such business; and, after due consideration and deliberation, the following resolution was duly passed by a majority vote of all Trustees attending.

WHEREAS, the Fort Vancouver Regional Library owns vacant real property located in Clark County - Tax Lot 62, Sections 27, Township 3 North, Range 2 East (Parcel No. 986028134) (the“Property”), and

WHEREAS, the District has determined that the Property is not needed for District purposes and desires to sell the Property and use the sale proceeds for District purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Property is hereby declared surplus to District needs and no longer needed for District purposes.
2. The Executive Director of the District is hereby authorized to take all necessary steps and to execute all documents necessary to accomplish the sale of the Property for not less than fair market value in accordance with state law including, without limitation, hiring a professional real estate broker to determine the fair market value of the Property, negotiating and executing a purchase and sale agreement, and executing a deed and all other closing documents.

Adopted this 21st day of September.

Approved: 
Kristy Morgan, Chair

Attested: 
Marie Coffey, Secretary

Line dancing? Check. Sewing? Sure. Live music? Absolutely: FVRLibraries offer more than books

[columbian.com/news/2024/jul/13/line-dancing-check-sewing-sure-live-music-absolutely-fvrlibraries-offer-more-than-books](https://www.columbian.com/news/2024/jul/13/line-dancing-check-sewing-sure-live-music-absolutely-fvrlibraries-offer-more-than-books)

Monika Spykerman



Vancouver resident Shyi-Hwang Shyu, foreground, keeps in step with other participants in a line dancing class at Cascade Park Community Library. Local libraries offer a treasure trove of fun, interesting and free things to do this summer. (Photos by Amanda Cowan/The Columbian) [Photo Gallery](#)

If you're casting around for things to do this summer that won't make a dent in your wallet, the best place to look might be the place you least expect: your local library.

Dancing? Check. Sewing or 3D printing? Check and check. Live music? Yup. Art exhibits? Certainly. Tech support? Affirmative. Open mic nights, knitting groups and stitchery circles? Yes, yes and yes.

The icing on the cake is that it's all free. But if you prefer pizza to cake, you can even learn how to build a solar pizza oven on Aug. 28 at the Ridgefield Community Library.

"There's so much more available than just books," said Rachel Ries, branch manager at Cascade Park Community Library, which recently hosted a line dancing class in its community room.

Of course, book groups at the library are a good place to start, Ries said. But one glance at the FVRLibraries' chock-a-block calendar of events shows just how broad the library's offerings are. Click on the "Events" tab at fvrl.org, then click on "Summer at Your Library."

You'll find a list of events and classes at every library branch through Aug. 15, such as a hammer dulcimer concert today at 11 a.m. at the Vancouver Community Library downtown; Asian folk tales with storyteller Alton Takiyama-Chung at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Three Creeks Community Library; hula dancing for all ages at 10 a.m. July 31 at the La Center Community Library; or mushroom foraging for beginners from 4 to 6 p.m. Aug. 7, also in La Center.

During summer's hottest days when getting outside isn't an option, try an online chair yoga and meditation class for adults and seniors or a gentle yoga class for teens, adults and seniors. Both classes meet Tuesday afternoons. If you just want to scoot your boots, learn line dancing from 2 to 4 p.m. every Monday at the Cascade Park Library.

If you're having trouble setting up your new phone, laptop or tablet, visit the Cascade Park Community Library any Thursday from 10 to 11 a.m. A tech expert will answer questions and guide people through the maze of operating instructions. If you can't make it to Cascade Park on Thursdays, Ries said, schedule an hour of one-on-one help with a librarian at any library branch.

You might be surprised to learn that the Cascade Park library has a sewing machine. You can get certified to use the machine, then reserve time to work on personal projects and stitch to your heart's content.

You can also get certified to use the Cascade Park library's 3D printer to print three-dimensional objects, such as game pieces for the many teens' Dungeons & Dragons groups, both in person and online, at several local libraries.

If you seek a different form of enchantment, try the all-ages "Magic: The Gathering" card-swapping meetup from 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesdays at Cascade Park Community Library.

If words are your preferred medium, join the local branch of the prestigious Willamette Writers group, which meets at the Three Creeks Community Library to write and discuss works in progress.

If poetry pleases you, get pointers from Clark County Poet Laureate Susan Dingle from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. today at the Cascade Park Community library. Share your masterpieces at the Writers' Open Mic, 4:30 to 6 p.m. Aug. 1 at the Ridgefield Community Library.

Some libraries also double as mini art galleries. Library branches in downtown Vancouver, Battle Ground and Stevenson host a changing array of art exhibits.

The Cascade Park Community Library is currently showcasing art by members of the Southwest Washington Watercolor Society, Ries said. In the Cascade Park library's teen area, guests can see award-winning photographs from the Columbia Gorge Refuge

Stewards photo contest.

Not all the displays showcase fine art; for example, the Cascade Park Community Library's January exhibit showcased a local woman's collection of 344 toy ponies. (To exhibit your own interesting collection, visit fvrl.org/exhibit-form or simply talk to the branch manager.) Your local library is also a gateway to the cultural and historical richness of Northwest history and art. Go to fvrl.org/experience-pass to find a link where, using your library account number and PIN, you can reserve free Experience Passes to museums and attractions like the Clark County Historical Museum, Lan Su Chinese Garden, Pittock Mansion, Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center and Maryhill Museum of Art.

If you're amazed by the library's vast array of free classes and activities, show your support by volunteering with a "Friends of the Library" fundraising group. Visit fvrlfoundation.org/friends-of-the-library-groups/ to learn more. Last but not least, you can help by giving blood during Red Cross blood drives in August at the Cascade Park and Stevenson libraries.

Ries said that people come to the library for all kinds of reasons, and only some of them are related to books. Community groups use library meeting rooms, students come to study, parents bring their children, and some folks simply sit by the window and read the newspaper.

Everything is free, everyone is welcome and it's a cool, air-conditioned refuge from summer heat.

"It's still true that libraries are an anchor in a community," Ries said. "They're the heart of the community."

A Fort Vancouver grad lost her cherished class ring in 1982; 42 years later it was returned to her

[columbian.com/news/2024/aug/17/a-fort-vancouver-grad-lost-her-cherished-class-ring-in-1982-42-years-later-it-was-returned-to-her](https://www.columbian.com/news/2024/aug/17/a-fort-vancouver-grad-lost-her-cherished-class-ring-in-1982-42-years-later-it-was-returned-to-her)

Monika Spykerman

4 Photos



Metal detectorist Craig Nichols, left, and Barbara James, Fort Vancouver High School Class of 1981, look over her class ring at Wintler Park last week. Nichols recovered and returned the ring that had been missing for 42 years.

(Amanda Cowan/The Columbian) [Photo Gallery](#)



Barbara James, a member of the Fort Vancouver High School class of 1981, holds her recovered class ring that has her maiden name, Pederson, inscribed on it.
(Amanda Cowan/The Columbian) [Photo](#)

Forty-two years ago, Fort Vancouver High School graduate Barbara Pederson spent a day on the beach at Wintler Park. Before sunbathing, she took off her class ring — a precious graduation present from her parents — and put it in her bag. She didn't want an unsightly tan line on her finger when her boyfriend, Jeff James, popped the question.

When she got home that summer day in 1982, she reached into the bag for the ring but came up empty. That's when she remembered: At the end of the day, she'd turned her bag upside down to shake out the sand. She must have dumped the ring out with the sand. She returned to Wintler Park several times over the next three weeks, she said, desperately searching for a glint of silver or a twinkle from the ring's garnet.

"Finally, I had to tell my mom and dad. I felt horrible," said James. "My parents were middle class; \$200 was a big deal."

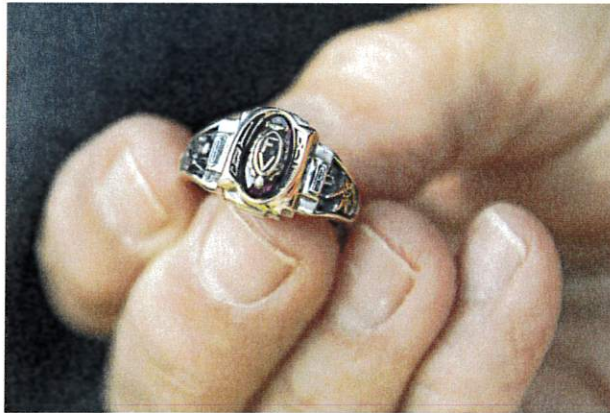
Soon enough, gold replaced silver: An engagement ring, followed by a wedding ring. She married Jeff James and is still married to him over four decades later. Barbara James, 61, a retired nurse and former director of women's and children's services at PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center, said she's lived her whole life in Vancouver. She's been to Wintler Park many times, she said, but her ring remained stubbornly hidden beneath shifting sands and an undulating water line.

It's a sad tale that might have been lost to the sands of time, if not for one man and his trusty metal detector.

Craig Nichols, 66, of Orchards, took up metal detecting about five years ago, he said, after watching YouTube videos. He's searched for metallic treasures all over Clark County but regularly wades out into the Columbia River's waves at Wintler Park, a popular gathering spot for generations of high school students.

"I've always loved finding things. That's a big part of it for me," Nichols said. "I'm not really interested in the value of the things I find. I've found gold rings and all kinds of crazy things. I look at them for a few days, toss them on the dresser and go find another one."

Nichols, a graduate of Portland's David Douglas High School who's lived in Vancouver for 40 years, has found several interesting items buried under topsoil and tucked into underbrush. He's returned at least one other piece of jewelry to its owner, a pendant with a baby's picture, name and birth date.



Barbara James, Fort Vancouver High School Class of 1981, holds her recovered class ring at Wintler Park last week. It had been missing for 42 years. (Amanda Cowan/The Columbian) Photo

Wintler Park has yielded a few out-of-the-ordinary discoveries, like a pistol that had been tossed into the water and two parking meters hidden beneath bushes. In both cases, he called the police.

"You find all kinds of crazy things from fingernail clippers to everything you can imagine, just all kinds of weird stuff," Nichols said. "Most of the time it's junk — bottle caps and beer tabs."

Nichols said he doesn't know when he found James' ring. It could have been a couple years ago or it could have been five years ago. Whenever it was, Nichols said the piece was so tarnished that he didn't recognize it as being anything valuable.

He threw it into a sandwich bag with all the other "junk jewelry," as he calls it, that he's unearthed over the years. His grandkids love to sort through the bag whenever they come to visit, Nichols said. The old ring would have stayed in the bag if his granddaughter hadn't picked it out a few weeks ago.

"As soon as she held it up, I said, 'What the heck? Where did this come from?'" Nichols said. "This is a silver ring. This doesn't belong here with the junk jewelry."

He decided to clean it up so he and his wife, Tina Nichols, could see the markings more clearly. The "FV" became visible first, so they knew it was a Fort Vancouver High School ring. Then they found a year: 1981. Then they found a name, Pederson. It was an unusual spelling, said Tina Nichols. Maybe there was a chance the ring's owner could be found.

Tina Nichols sprang into action. First, she called Fort Vancouver High School to see if they had any old yearbooks. They didn't. She Googled local Pedersons and called a few phone numbers, but none of them were the owners. Then she called Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries, wondering if they kept old yearbooks. They don't — but the name Pederson rang a bell with Senior Public Services Librarian Monica Garcia, who answered Tina Nichols' call. Garcia wondered if her colleague, Wendy Pederson, might be any relation to the ring's original owner. Garcia notified Pederson, who said her husband had a cousin named Barbara who might have graduated from Fort Vancouver High School in 1981. Pederson reached out to Barbara James via Facebook and asked if she'd lost her school ring.

"I laughed I said, 'Yeah, 42 years ago. What are the chances?'" James said.

James called Craig and Tina Nichols, who asked her to describe the ring. James did, down to the cheerleading symbol on the ring's side. The three of them arranged to meet in the parking lot of the Orchards Fred Meyer.

"I was so excited," James said. "I'm holding it and of course it dropped onto the ground. The FV symbol on the top popped off. We found it and put it back in the baggie."


James said she took the ring to Erik Runyan Jewelers to be cleaned and have the "FV" reset atop the garnet. James is grateful to Garcia for connecting the dots. Garcia said she's "so blown away" to help solve a 42-year-old mystery. But then, it's all part of her job, she said.

"Often times, when people call, they have in their mind what they think they need," Garcia said. "It's a librarian's job to step back and say, 'What are they really asking for?'"

When Garcia asked Tina Nichols why she wanted the yearbooks, Tina Nichols told her the whole tale. Garcia said she's delighted at the library's supporting role in this story. Maybe it's a bit of sheer luck, but it's also a sweet reminder about the library's role in community life, Garcia said. It's a place to connect people with information. It just so happens that Garcia was able to connect the two threads of this story.

"So the ring found me," James said. "It's twice as special. I just think it's an absolutely wonderful story."

Take a journey through this area's rich history

 thereflector.com/stories/take-a-journey-through-this-areas-rich-history,360693

The Reflector



Posted Tuesday, August 27, 2024 1:02 am

The Reflector

Enjoy snapshots of local history written in past issues of the Reflector from 30, 20 and 10 years ago, respectively.

A look back at August, 30 years ago

- On Aug. 11, 1994, an electrical fire burned down a large portion of St. Andrew Lutheran Church on Gher Road in Orchards. Despite this, around 600 members attended a congregation held outside of the smoldered building on Aug. 14. The ruined building was valued at \$500,000 at the time, and lost at least \$100,000 in contents. The church's organ could not be salvaged, and a replacement was estimated to cost \$50,000. The Sunday offering was taken in Kentucky Fried Chicken buckets that day. According to officials, the fire was caused by books and boxes stacked too close to a baseboard heater.
- On Aug. 15, Battle Ground's City Council discussed possibly removing three feet of the Little League's playing area at Fairgrounds Park due to encroachment on private residential property. Earlier that year, property owner Sharon Overbay threatened to sue the city if it did not move the fence back three feet toward the ballfield. A crowd of over 70 people, many of whom were Little League supporters, protested the decision. Little League supporters said then-Mayor Marvin Brothers made a compromise that failed the city and its youth. The council ultimately voted to send the discussion to the Building and Parks Committee to reach an agreement, though no meeting date was set.

A look back at August, 20 years ago

- In August 2004, then-Ridgefield Community Development Director Kevin Snyder estimated the city's population would double by 2009. He noted that 1,051 residential units were in various stages of development. The city's population in 2004 was estimated to be 2,200. It was estimated that the population would rise to 4,617 in five years. Additionally, The Reflector reported a new subdivision, Cedar Ridge, was slated for development, which would include 213 attached townhouses along Pioneer Street. According to current census data, the population reached 4,763 in 2010. As of 2020, Ridgefield's population was 10,319.

- On Aug. 10, 2004, officials from the Fort Vancouver Regional Library celebrated a donation of nearly \$115,000 for the establishment of a new Woodland Community Library building. The donation came from the estate of Margaret "Maggie" R. McQuarrie, a Woodland resident who passed away in March 2004. Family members recalled she loved to read and frequently visited the community library. Locals noted the 2,000-square-foot building, which was established in 1920 as a school building, struggled to accommodate the growing community. Members of the Friends of the Woodland Community Library, a group integral to the establishment of a new building, estimated it may take five to seven years to raise enough funds for a new facility. The new building would replace tennis courts near the existing library.

A look back at August, 10 years ago

- On Aug. 13, 2014, the La Center City Council debated whether to extend its moratorium on marijuana operations, which was set to expire in September, following the legalization of marijuana in Washington state in July. Chris Marr, a member of the Washington state Liquor Control Board, informed the council that the two newly opened marijuana retail stores in Vancouver had significantly outperformed other outlets across the state in sales. Although La Center had not yet received any applications for a retail marijuana store, Mayor Jim Irish mentioned that one operator had expressed interest. Marr highlighted that the sales success could boost state revenue, attract tourism to La Center, and create funding opportunities for marijuana research at the University of Washington. The council had not reached a consensus at that time.
- In August 2014, the Washington state Department of Transportation announced that its project to paint two bridges on Interstate 5 near Woodland was one-third finished after a year of work, with an expected completion date in fall 2016. The project involved removing rust and old paint before applying a new protective coat designed to last 20 years. The project, funded by the state, had a budget of over \$15 million. Drivers experienced partial lane closures and a speed limit of 60 mph near the two bridges. A similar process may take place in the early 2030s.

Pacific Power Foundation donates over \$240,000 to support education and stem programs

[applevalleynewsnow.com/news/pacific-power-foundation-donates-over-240-000-to-support-education-and-stem-programs/article_6bf7d8d4-661f-11ef-a26f-a711783b031d.html](https://www.applevalleynewsnow.com/news/pacific-power-foundation-donates-over-240-000-to-support-education-and-stem-programs/article_6bf7d8d4-661f-11ef-a26f-a711783b031d.html)

Morgan Huff

August 29, 2024



YAKIMA, Wash. -- Oregon, Washington and California nonprofits and community organizations will be receiving more than \$240,000 from the Pacific Power Foundation to promote education, and enhance science, technology, engineering and math learning opportunities.

Pacific Power said this funding is to create opportunities for the present and the future by helping programs that support young people through education and skill development.

"We are privileged to support our local organizations in preparing both children and adults to thrive and succeed on their own terms through these educational, STEM and workforce development opportunities," said Ryan Flynn, director of the Pacific Power Foundation and president of Pacific Power. "We are truly inspired by the innovative approaches our communities are taking to nurture young minds for the future."

Pacific Power offers education and STEM grants through four grant cycles each year which will support a range of organizations in the community.

Washington Grants:

- **Clark College Foundation** to support their STEM camp for high school students, which provides opportunities to excel and help them take on careers in STEM fields.
- **Fort Vancouver Regional Library Foundation** to expand and enhance the library district's collection of STEM-related equipment and materials.
- **GESA Power House Theatre** to purchase equipment necessary for daily operations, including microphones and a new speaker system in the theater's auditorium.
- **National Inventors Hall of Fame** to support their STEM program for underserved children in Walla Walla County, which includes Camp Invention, an experience that brings STEM to life for children in grades K-6 while providing impactful professional development for local teachers who implement the program.
- **Tri-State Steelheaders** to support the Salmon in School program and help purchase a tank and the necessary equipment to maintain water quality and a healthy environment for salmon.
- **Walla Walla Community College Foundation** to offer scholarships that help meet the critical need for STEM student financial assistance and those who identify as low-income, first-generation or come from other systemically non-dominant populations.
- **First Tee Central Washington** for their local program focused on engaging under-resourced youth in sports and providing mentoring opportunities.
- **FIRST Washington** for their Robotics Team Retention and Mentorships in Yakima County, designed to bring STEM equity to diverse communities.
- **InvestED** to support their Yakima program, which is focused on addressing students' needs in order to improve their attendance and engagement.
- **Pacific Science Center** to support PacSci Pre-K-12 Science Outreach Programs to deliver hands-on science education to Yakima County students through Digital Discovery Workshops and in-person Science on Wheels visits, helping to bring equity to STEM learning opportunities.
- **Perry Technical Foundation** to purchase five meters that will facilitate small group training exercises, increasing the number of lab situations where students would gain increased understanding and experience using the tool.
- **The Mockingbird Society** to support youth who are in foster care or are experiencing homelessness, helping them develop leadership skills, heal from trauma and feel empowered to fight for change.
- **Yakima County Fire District #3** to purchase a drone to be used for search and rescue purposes in their area and that of their auto-aid partner fire district.

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Top 10 Baby Play Spaces in Clark County

 vancouverfamilymagazine.com/top-10-baby-play-spaces-in-clark-county

Emily Cruz

September 1, 2024

Finding the perfect toddler and baby play spaces in Clark County, especially when the weather turns cold, can be a delightful challenge for parents. The great news is that Clark County has many play spaces that offer fun, educational and engaging activities for babies and toddlers. From interactive storytimes at local libraries to whimsical indoor play spaces, our area has something to suit every family's interests, needs and budget. Whether you're looking for a place to burn off energy, stimulate creativity, or foster an early love for learning, these destinations provide a wealth of opportunities for children to play, learn and grow.

Photo by Lisa Cernius



Baby & Family Storytimes at FVRLibraries Branches

Location: All library locations throughout Southwest Washington.

Excerpt to show FVRL highlights

Website: fvrl.org/grow-reader

Phone Number: 360- 906-5000

Description: Fort Vancouver Regional Libraries branches offer wonderful baby and family storytimes perfect for introducing little ones to the joys of reading. These storytime sessions are designed to engage infants, toddlers, and preschoolers with age-appropriate stories, songs and activities. It's a great way to foster a love for books and reading in a fun and interactive setting. A convenient events calendar helps caregivers find the right storytime and location and time.

Cost: Free

Photo courtesy FVRLibraries

Downtown Vancouver Library Grow a Reader Exploration Center

Location: 901 C St, Vancouver, WA 98660

Website: fvrl.org

Phone Number: (360) 906-5000

Description: The Grow a Reader Exploration Center (formerly the Early Learning Center) at the Downtown Vancouver Library is so cool, it deserves its very own spot on our list of top spots for babies and toddlers. This dedicated area offers a variety of educational toys, games, exhibits and activities that promote early literacy and learning. The center also hosts regular educational programs and workshops to support children's development.

Days/times: Opens with the library, and closes at 5 pm, 7 days a week.

Cost: Free

Photo courtesy FVRLibraries

Some Goldendale Library content has virtually no interest

[goldendalesentinel.com/news/some-goldendale-library-content-has-virtually-no-interest/article_fa212226-64c8-11ef-b8ff-87ab42c9f6a7.html](https://www.goldendalesentinel.com/news/some-goldendale-library-content-has-virtually-no-interest/article_fa212226-64c8-11ef-b8ff-87ab42c9f6a7.html)

Jordan Mayberry For The Sentinel

August 28, 2024



A two-year private project has focused on ascertaining how content comes into the Fort Vancouver Regional Library (FVRL) system, with conclusions that have caused concern among many frequenting the Goldendale Library.

The Goldendale homeschooling community in particular has made active pushes to regulate books it deems inappropriate for young children. The discussion has not just focused on the suitability of this material to their target audience, but even more so on how this material appeared in the Goldendale Library in the first place. Under the FVRL system, volumes and media are circulated within the system, with material for each individual location throughout the FVRL libraries dictated by the board, headquartered in Vancouver, Washington. While the Goldendale Library has seen much benefit from its participation in the regional library system, not limited to funding, facility upgrades, and increases in social programs, it has seen criticism from many who feel unrepresented when it comes to some volumes, especially those that contain explicit sexual content. One local resident speaking on condition of anonymity created a project that would verify how in demand new stock was to local readership, a project that lasted two years.

“The start of my project began by accident,” the person explains. “In 2022 I was at the library with my younger siblings and noticed multiple pro-LGBTQ children’s books, multiple with explicit content not fit for children to be reading. In an effort to temporarily remove these books from the shelves, I checked them out. Because of Fort Vancouver’s automatic renewal policy, I actually held them for quite some time, and I eventually had to return them after a number of months when a couple of the books had been placed on hold by another library patron. The amount of time that I was able to hold onto the books interested me, since I normally could not keep a book that I was interested in reading, such as any sort of classic literature, for more than two renewal cycles before the book was requested from me.

“After this initial stint I decided to seek out these types of books and see how long I could check them out before any other user found enough interest to place the books on hold for themselves. In the interest of time, I’ll just recap the most recent example of this. At the beginning of this year, I checked out 12 books from the Goldendale Library that were

classified under the library's catalog as being 'pro-LGBTQ,' a majority of which were from the juvenile section. I then observed as eight months went by until just recently when the single adult fictional novel from this batch was ordered by a library patron, forcing me to return the book. I then drove all 12 of the books out to White Salmon library, where only two of the 12 made their way back to Goldendale in the last month—and also where almost none of them actually remained in White Salmon, instead going further west towards larger libraries where this content is more popular.

"I have run this same test just over five times in the last two years, and pulling data from those trials, I have found that around 90% of these books were never placed on hold by anyone close enough to the Goldendale Library to require me to return them within a time frame of 4 to 8 months, and only around 13% of the total books get recirculated back up to Goldendale once returned at a different location.

"This data has led me to make the following conclusion: the community surrounding the Goldendale Library has no interest in material concerning LGBTQ education. There is, in fact, extremely little demand for this material when it is not blatantly put on display, in which case it is more likely that a child innocently picks it out than a parent. Very few actually miss these books when they are gone, and the library completely and unequivocally determines the flow of these books into our library despite the overwhelming lack of patron demand. I hope that the board will put this data to good use and will make appropriate changes to better serve the desires of this community."

A condensed version of this documentation was presented as a public comment to the FVRL Board in the most recent annual Library Board Meeting, held on August 19. The report did not meet with unanimous agreement among commenters at the meeting, some of which expressed their opinion to retain these materials in the Goldendale Library in order to preserve an openness to ideas. Some added that control of what is deemed explicit content and children's exposure to it should be parents' responsibility, and not the libraries.

As one public commenter put it, "Public libraries are, by their very definition of the phrase, public. They should remain public. We should retain full access, no censorship, no banned books, and leave the onus of what is right or not right for our children to read up to the individual parent." Regardless of opinion, the data overwhelmingly suggests that the volumes are not in demand in Goldendale. Irrespective of that finding, there remains a belief among some that demand should not be a key determinant in providing content.

LETTERS FROM THE COMMUNITY

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Disappointing

I was disappointed in the front page article on August 28 by Jordan Mayberry regarding our library. I'm not sure if Mr. Mayberry actually attended the library board meeting on August 19, where his anonymous source first told the story of his "project," or if he was fed the story afterwards.

The "experiment" Mr. Anonymous performed showed an astounding lack of scientific method, which I suppose is to be expected when a science-denier sets out to do a scientist's job. Even more shocking is that in order to do his project, he stole several books from the library with the express intent of keeping them from public view. He then concluded that because nobody requested those titles, they must have no value. He doesn't take into consideration that many, if not most books, are chosen by browsing the library shelves in person, especially in the children's section. How could one request a book they didn't know existed?

This is ironic considering that browsing the bookshelves in person is exactly how Mr. Anonymous found the books he stole in the first place. His conclusions are not logical, as his experiment was unscientific and nothing more than a weak attempt at civil disobedience. Jordan Mayberry should never have tried to pass this story off as legitimate journalism. Do better. Support our public library as it is a precious treasure for all of us.

Sandra Choate
Goldendale

Change your bracelet

The time has come for the followers of Trumpism who wear bracelets engraved with the letters "WWTD"

to cast them aside and put on bracelets engraved with "WWJD" (What would Jesus do?).

Janet Holen
White Salmon

It's started

Some would say that evil is beginning to cast its dark shadow across Yakima County, as Christian nationalism is establishing its anti-Christian and anti-American presence there. It's like a test case on a county scale similar to what DeSantis is doing in Florida on a state scale. The test is to determine whether American citizens care enough about their rights and freedoms to stop Project 2025 and Christian nationalism.

Here's investigative reporting on this terrible development in Yakima County: <https://bit.ly/3X1qofn>.

Project 2025 and Christian nationalism are entwined—a complementary union. Briefly, Christian nationalism is the power grab, and Project 2025 is the power conduit. Christian nationalism has nothing to do with Christianity; it's just in the name apparently to dupe the uninformed.

If Trump is elected, this union will become a deadly cancer, metastasize fast, and kill our democratic republic and our freedom.

Stop Project 2025. Save our democracy and freedom. Vote for Harris-Walz and Democrats, state and federal, up and down ballot.

Steve Heitmann
White Salmon

Consider the consequences

I am an elder and concerned about the new regime planned by the MAGA Republican Party.

Their idea of preserving Social Security is to keep funding as it is and cut benefits and delay their start. The Democrats want to fund benefits much as they are now with taxes on those making \$400,000 or more. The Republican platform of Washington State has said they are done with democracy, and nationally the Supreme Court has paved the way for a dictatorship by saying the president is above the law. This is to avoid prosecution of a person who has used international interference to get elected in the first place.

The extreme Republican goal in the national platform is to gut the civil service and military of expertise and give the president power to appoint loyalists who may not have the requisite knowledge to actually do the jobs. The MAGA Republicans, while spouting about elites, want to turn the country's resources over to big business for maximum extraction and short-term gain at the expense of our children's future survival. They claim they will deport illegal immigrants, save jobs for Americans and save America for Americans—but we are already a nation strong in diversity and our economy is thriving.

The Democrats here are playing a longer game of international diplomacy to create international solutions to immigration (like applying from the home country). I personally want to live in a nation that is building toward a better future for all and not under a self-serving leader with no checks and balances in place in this important election. With the extremist agenda of the hijacked Republican party, it might be time to consider the consequences of habitual loyalty in this important election.

Kalama Reuter
White Salmon