Thank You!

During the week of April 15-21, 2018, Jackson County Library Services will be joining organizations across the nation to honor our incredible volunteers for National Volunteer Week!

Day after day, our volunteers provide support that enables our staff to provide excellent service to our patrons. As a volunteer, you are a critical component of our libraries, and have a daily impact on the services we provide. Although it is easy to evaluate volunteer contributions in terms of numbers and hours served, the value of what you as a volunteer give to our libraries cannot be quantified. Your passion, commitment and dedication are made evident not only by the sheer number of hours you donate, but by the quality of assistance that you give.

On behalf of the staff of Jackson County Library Services, I sincerely thank you for your contribution to achieving our mission to “connect everyone to information, ideas, and each other.”

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Name: Susan Bloom
Position: Assistant Library Director – Administrative Services
How long have you worked with JCLS? – 3 years
Describe yourself in five words: Optimistic, Explorer, Quiet, Listener, Resilient
Name of a book you have read more than once? *The Great Gatsby* is a classic book with themes about the American Experience and the writing makes me melt. “He smiled understandingly—much more than understandingly. It was one of those rare smiles with a quality of eternal reassurance in it, that you may come across four or five times in life. It faced—or seemed to face—the whole eternal world for an instant, and then concentrated on you with an irresistible prejudice in your favor. It understood you just as far as you wanted to be understood, believed in you as you would like to believe in yourself, and assured you that it had precisely the impression of you that, at your best, you hoped to convey.” — F. Scott Fitzgerald, *The Great Gatsby*

Who or what inspires you? My older sister Margaret – She can do a French Knot better than me - using only one hand.

Best present you ever received as a child? I still remember getting my bike – I was ten.

What is the most useful advice you were ever given? When I finished library school I asked two people I respected how I should present myself. They both said to focus on my ability to get things done and the fact that I could look at things from a fresh perspective.

What is an interesting fact about yourself that someone might not know? I have made over a dozen quilts and I hand quilted each.

What title would you give your autobiography? 21st Century Information Explorer

One thing you wish people knew about the library? The library is a place to help you build your confidence to try new things.

The History of National Library Week

In the mid-1950s, studies showed that a mere 17% of Americans polled were currently reading a book. Alarmed by the data, the National Book Committee and the American Library Association joined forces to sponsor the very first “National Library Week” in 1958 with the slogan “Wake Up and Read!” The group’s efforts focused on promoting literacy: not only for self-improvement, but as a means to improve the nation as well. They also celebrated libraries and their role in making materials available to everyone in the general public.
### April Anniversaries

#### One Year
- Paul Jacobsen (Medford)
- Alan Hubbard (Ashland)
- Peyton Hadley (Medford)

#### Three Years
- Nick Blair (Medford)
- Linda Blair (Medford)
- Charles Noble (Ashland)

#### Nine Years
- Paula Hefter (Gold Hill)

#### Fourteen Years
- Rey Guevara (Medford)

#### Twenty-one Years
- Kitsy Wikkerink (Shady Cove)

### Welcome New Volunteers
- René Whyte (Ashland)
- Patty Armanini (Medford)
- Christine Norton (Ashland)
- Trinity Varley (Eagle Point)
- Christian Barnett (Medford)
- Daniel Muela (Central Point)
- Lydia Shockey (Ruch)

Our volunteers gave over 1,350 hours of their time in the month of February!
Volunteers Needed

We are still recruiting volunteers for our bigger and better Medford Comic Con! This year, our Comic Con will be held on two days, April 28th and 29th, so lots of volunteer help is needed! If you are interested in helping out, please email Marian Barker at mbarker@jcls.org or Laura Kimberly at lkimberly@jcls.org. Or you can attend a volunteer orientation on Sunday, April 8th, 2018 at 2-4 p.m. at the Medford library. We would be delighted to have you there! For more information, check out the Comic Con website at jcls.org.

April is National Poetry Month!

Enjoy William Shakespeare’s Sonnet 98

(in modern text for the novices)

I was away from you during the spring, when splendid April in all its finery made everything feel so young that even Saturn, the god of old age and gloominess, laughed and leaped along with it. But neither the songs of birds nor the sweet smell of all the various flowers could make me feel like it was summer or inspire me to go flower picking. I wasn’t amazed by how white the lily was, nor did I praise the deep red of the roses. They were only sweet, only pictures of delight, drawn in imitation of you, the archetype of spring. It seemed like it was still winter and, with you away, I played with these flowers as if I were playing with your reflection.