Volunteer View

Volunteer Services Newsletter

Coming Soon: Spark Space!
By Kristin Anderson

The Spark Space will be opening in Central Point on Saturday, September 29! Thanks to a large bequest made to JCLF for the benefit of the Central Point Branch, the Spark Space will provide a substantially upgraded experience for all of our young patrons, but especially our teens. The entire building will be reconfigured to provide more dedicated space to the Central Point’s youth.

In the Spark Space students will find:

- Computers with enhanced abilities that will allow them to learn early coding skills, Photoshop, and more!
- Robotics products like Finch, Makey Makey, and Blue Bot
- Free Homework Help
- A trained staff person to help students navigate the space

In the enhanced “Little Sparks” children’s space our young patrons will find:

- A new manipulatives table featuring Lego, trains, and a light table
- Furniture more compatible with how the space is used
- KIBO and other early tech literacy toys

To prepare for this opening, the Central Point Branch will be closed for a week to transform itself. Closing will happen at end of business, 4:00, on Saturday, September 22. The building will reopen with a special Grand Opening Celebration at noon on Saturday, September 29. All are welcome!

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We are going to need lots of volunteer help with the launch of our new Spark Space! Homework Help will be especially needed so if you or someone you know has a passion to help kids succeed in school, email Jessica Arenas jarenas@jcls.org or call 541.774.6422.
## September Anniversaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One Year</th>
<th>Five Years</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bob Hoesch (Ashland)</td>
<td>Gerlinde Smith (Ashland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frank Zderic (Ashland)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Smith (Medford)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Two Years</strong></td>
<td><strong>Six Years</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celia Lynd (Rogue River)</td>
<td>Helen Jones (Ashland)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lilli Morrish (Ashland)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Three Years</strong></td>
<td><strong>Seven Years</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeannie Croff (White City)</td>
<td>Leann Green (Medford)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alice Migliore (Ruch)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Siana Yohai (Ruch)</td>
<td><strong>Thirteen Years</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dale Villalobos (White City)</td>
<td>Peggy Kroger (Shady Cove)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audrey Sakamoto (Phoenix)</td>
<td><strong>Fourteen Years</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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Our amazing volunteers gave over 1,303 hours in the month of July!
**Name:** Kari May  
**Position:** Library Director  
**Describe yourself in five words:** Engaged, passionate library leader & connector.  
**Name of a book you have read more than once?** *Possession* by AS Byatt. Also the complete Trixie Belden series.  
**Who or what inspires you?** Connecting people to the resources they need, whether it is in a book, a person, or a community group.  
**Best present you ever received as a child?** A dollhouse.  
**What is the most useful advice you were ever given?** Be true to yourself.  
**What is an interesting fact about yourself that someone might not know?** I swam competitively from age 5 through graduate school.  
**What title would you give your autobiography?** My Success Story  
**One thing you wish people knew about the library?** The library truly has something for everyone – come check us out!  

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**Staff Spotlight**

**Fast Facts: Banned Books Week**

The week of September 23-29, 2018 celebrates the freedom to read by showcasing books that have been challenged across the country in schools, libraries, and bookstores. What is a challenge? According to the American Library Association, a challenge is an “attempt to remove or restrict materials, based on objections from a person/group.” Challenges are most often lodged by parents, library patrons and school boards/administrations for reasons such as offensive language, sexually explicit content or pervasive violence. According to the American Library Association, the following classic books, which are often on school required reading lists, have historically been among the most frequently challenged in the United States. These are listed in no particular order.

- **To Kill a Mockingbird** by Harper Lee. Reasons for challenges: profanity, racial slurs and adult themes.
- **The Color Purple** by Alice Walker. Reasons for challenges: sexually explicit content, incest and violence.
- **Beloved** by Toni Morrison. Reasons for challenges: racism, violence, and sexually explicit content.
- **Of Mice and Men** by John Steinbeck: Reasons for challenges: profanity, racism and violence.
- **Slaughterhouse Five** by Kurt Vonnegut. Reasons for challenges: excessive profanity, violence and sexually explicit content.
- **Native Son** by Richard Wright. Reasons for challenges: sexually explicit, violence and pervasive profanity.
- **Animal Farm** by George Orwell. Reasons for challenges: political theories and disturbing themes.
September is Library Card Sign-up Month!

Now is a great time to remind your friends and family that a library card is their ticket to knowledge and fun!

This month, ask your friends, family, neighbors, or even your mail carrier if they have a JCLS library card. Make it a personal challenge to share the joys of having a library card and to be a part of the great things happening here at JCLS!

Fast Facts: Public Education

△ The Boston Latin School was the first public school to open in the United States in 1635. To this day it remains the oldest public school in the nation.

△ After the American Revolution Thomas Jefferson suggested that our new nation needed educated citizens. He proposed the development of public schools the government would pay for with tax dollars. This suggestion was not well received, however, and the idea of government-funded public schools did not catch on until the mid-1800s.

△ Early public schools taught subjects like family, religion, and community rather than academic subjects such as reading and mathematics.

△ Throughout most of the 19th and the early part of the 20th century, most schools were the “one-room schoolhouse” model. The building was usually long and rectangular with a pot-bellied stove in the middle with boys seated on one side and girls on the other. One teacher taught grades 1-8 and the parents provided the teacher with a salary and lodging. The last one-room schoolhouse closed its doors in 1967.

△ Massachusetts passed the first compulsory school laws in 1852. New York followed the next year, and by 1918, all American children were required to attend at least elementary school.

△ Although the law required “all” children to attend school, this did not include African Americans. It took over 100 years for equality in education to become a reality with the 1954 landmark Supreme Court ruling in the case of Brown vs. the Board of Education. This ruling established that state laws requiring African American children to attend separate schools from those of their white counterparts to be a violation of their constitutional rights.