

Director's Report July 2024

Special Highlights

BHAG

Despite the valiant efforts of JCLS staff, the thermometer measuring June checkouts stopped just shy of the 125,000 goal. Still, there is plenty to be proud of. 106,525 items were checked out during the month, including items in the Library of Things. This is a is a 5% increase in circulation when compared to June of 2023, and statistics may also have been impacted by the Eagle Point branch having to close for HVAC installation during the first week. Staff were creative in ways to engage patrons to check out more materials, including creating mystery bags for patrons to check out. These bags contained multiple items relating to a certain theme, and their barcodes are printed on the front for easy checkouts. Vibrant displays for the Summer Reading Program were installed, and staff discussed reader's advisory ideas for beach reads, chapter

Public Services

similar themes.

Summer Reading Program

Summer Reading got off to a fine start in June, and patrons across the district are reading books, renewing skills, and repeating visits to their local branches. At the close out of the month, 1,429 people in Jackson County have registered for the program. So far, they have collectively logged 138,555 minutes (which translates to about 2 and a half months) and 10,829 books, with A Court of Wings and Ruin by Sarah J Maas being the most popular read book so far. The Teen walking challenge continues to attract participants, and since the beginning of June, they have nearly 1.5 million steps together — 639 miles! The challenge involves a walking tour of

books for young kids who are strong readers, and comparison books with

historic landmarks across the United States.

Many branches held Summer Reading kickoff parties in early June, and Butte Falls and Prospect played host to a very special guest. To the delight of all, Smokey Bear made an appearance thanks to staff coordinating with the local forestry office. He was there to help kick off summer reading in style, offer important fire safety tips, and celebrate his 80th birthday. Party

attendees took photos with the celebrity guest and wished him well with cupcakes (no need for candles, of course!)

June 2024 BHAG

Let's get to 125,000 checkouts!



Data as of 6/30/2024: 106,525





Ashland Children's Librarian Lyn Heerema was busy the last week of May with class visits and programs, making sure that students knew about what the library offers as the school year wrapped up. On the very first day of the Summer Reading Program, Heerema's efforts were rewarded as the branch saw a surge of families ready to sign up. Many families attributed their child's excitement to Heerema's visits to the schools. One child was particularly voracious – they returned the next day to hand in their reading log and claim their prize book.

On June 11, the Ashland Library hosted their annual Summer Reading Kickoff Party. This event was held in the children's area, and the space was packed with happy patrons. With help from the Circulation Department, multiple children signed up for the program, library cards were issued, and prize books were given away. The team received lots of positive feedback about the excitement and energy generated by library staff, the decorations in the department, and the quality of the programs offered.

The White City Library hosted five different 3rd grade classes at the start of June to kick off the Summer Reading Program. Staff ensured each student was registered for a library card and checked out books. One young patron told staff that she would be back, and she kept her promise. She was a frequent visitor to the branch during June to read books at the library and made sure that she was well-stocked before leaving on her family trip.



There were plenty of programs for all ages in June. For adults, author and journalist Dan Shryock visited branches and told patrons stories from his new book *Cycling Across Oregon*. In preparing for this book, Shryock cycled every one of Oregon's Scenic Bikeways. His book is a collection of things he saw and experienced in his adventures. Patrons were very interested to learn about new trails to cycle around Oregon.

At Central Point, Medford, Talent, and Rogue River, Wildlife Safari educators taught packed rooms about a variety of insects, mammals, and reptiles. Families learned all about these creatures, how they live, and the ways Wildlife Safari supports these animals in the community.



Butte Falls, Eagle Point, Gold Hill, Medford, Shady Cove, and White City had the Jackson County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Team join the branches to give instruction on water and boat safety. Kids were also given materials to make a beautiful tie dye towel. Parents talked about how happy they were to know this information and how valuable it was for their kids to learn. Popsicles were handed out at the end of the program as a refreshing treat.

A special shout-out goes to the "Cultivating Companions: Growing Connections Through Plants" program. Cultivating Companions is a free seven-week program hosted by the Jackson County Master Gardener Association that brings older adults together to learn how to grow indoor plants, use them for art and cooking, and make new friends. Programs Coordinator Brystan Strong has had the privilege of helping facilitate the Medford branch program and has witnessed all those things in action. The patrons attending this program look forward to seeing each other (and the instructors) every week. This program was also repeated at Butte Falls and Shady Cove where it has also been successful - attendees return each week with enthusiasm.

Pride Month Programs and Displays

Patrons from late teens to older adults joined in for a Pride month special edition of the Queer Coffee House in Medford. Attendees gathered to chat, community build, and make themed crafts like friendship bracelets and beaded keychains. Two attendees were new participants. Adult Services Librarian Spencer Ellis helped one of them on the computers upstairs the next day, and they told Ellis that Queer Coffee House was the first time they had been to the library in years. They said that the event made them feel welcome and excited to come back in general.

The Medford Children's Department kicked off the summer season with a series of special Rainbow Storytimes and crafts in celebration of Pride Month. During the Storytimes, kids learned about all the different ways a family can exist, and how everyone's individual differences make them special. The rainbow craft encouraged kids and families to explore and express how rainbows are personally important to them and what they can represent in their lives.

The White City Branch was decorated to celebrate Pride. Patrons commented enjoying seeing the decorations and learning the meaning behind the flags hung in the library. The White City team also hosted a Pride Bingo with 15 participants learning and having fun during the event.



Bear Creek

Ashland

Local children's author Bobbie Peyton came to the branch to offer a Filipino Cultural day. Peyton read from her book *Dancing the Tinikling* and introduced participants to Filipino instruments, music, dances and food. The children's team offered Ube snacks for folks to sample and a chance to create their own Tinikling sticks to practice the rhythm of the dance.



A visit from the YMCA Camp brought a rush of energy to the library in late $\,$

June. The kids toured the library before settling down for a storytime. Afterwards, staff helped people who had not already registered for SRP get signed up, and everyone had fun with a paper airplane activity. Most importantly, all the children left the department with a new book.

Teen Librarian Katie Fischer and Teen Specialist Miki Hocker worked with presenter Kami Sorrenta to conduct the first of three workshop sessions teaching teens songwriting skills. Teens will learn the fundamentals of songwriting in a supportive and nonjudgemental environment while also being given free rein to express themselves through music.

The Folded Book Art program on June 20th was a good demonstration of the ways that library programs can be meaningful in different ways for different patrons. Eight people attended: four were a family, with two parents and two children. They each created their own piece of book art, chatting the whole time. Two were grandmothers who said they were there to learn how to do this type of craft so they could do it with their grandchildren at home. The last two participants were an adult who came in with her elderly mother, who was experiencing cognitive decline but could participate with assistance. Everyone who came to the program left with a unique piece of art and each had partaken in the program in their own unique way.

Phoenix

With the support of Outreach and Community Resources, the Phoenix Library celebrated Menstrual Hygiene Day on May 28 by offering free packets filled with necessary products, and bilingual menstruation information sheets and book displays about menstruation and reproductive health for tweens, teens and adults. Phoenix Branch Manager Jody Fleming knew that period poverty exists everywhere, including Phoenix. Period poverty is defined as the "lack of access to safe and hygienic menstrual products during monthly periods" (National Institute of Health). Oregon schools must provide free period products, but this option is not available during the summer months. JCLS offers free period products in their public restrooms, and this spurred Fleming to investigate what other libraries have offered regarding period poverty. This effort was successful, and all 40 packets were taken in a week and a half.

The Phoenix branch had a special unicorn story time in June. Fleming spoke with two moms who said that they had forgotten about the library until they had kids, and now that they were bringing their kids to the library, they were reading all the time themselves.

Talent

In honor of June being National Pollinator Month, the Talent Library held a Pollinator Celebration. Library Associate Erica Rische-Baird curated the day's events, which included a storytime with an accompanying craft of homemade pollinator puppets. This activity was followed by a scavenger hunt inside the library that used an assortment of images and objects celebrating bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, moths, and other pollinators to

lead participants to collect and learn over 20 different kinds of pollinator-attracting flowers. The whole branch was filled with energy as kids buzzed around the library, seeking the items listed on their sheets. Adults could join in the fun, too, and every library patron who attended the event received a bouquet of flowers, packets of pollinator-attracting flower seeds, and stickers. At the Lego table, guests could plan their gardens in miniature before placing them on display for others to admire. The feedback was very positive, and many families expressed their excitement for future events coming up later this summer at the Talent Library.

The Lego gardens are just one of the handcrafted displays at the branch showcasing local talents. In June, the Outdoor Discovery Class at Talent Elementary presented reports on animal habitats using dioramas they painstakingly created. One wall is adorned with superbly creative self-portraits supplied by a local 4th grade class. Many of these young artists have been coming into the branch to proudly show off their work on display to their friends, parents, and loved ones, and everyone in the library is happy to see their smiling faces, and to congratulate them, too.



Central Area

Central Point

After learning that children's and teen books are in high demand in local Little Free Libraries, Crater High School seniors Emmett Stouder and Jose Rangel-Gomez held a book drive for their senior project. Thanks to their efforts, they collected 163 children's and teen books and donated them to the Central Point Friends of the Library for distribution. Their efforts are appreciated, and these books are sure to be a big hit in the community.

One busy day, Library Associate Dayna Kestel witnessed a heartwarming interaction between one of their regular patrons and a family who were brand new to the branch. They had signed up for library cards earlier in the day, and after browsing the shelves, they were ready with a pile of materials to take home. Staff were busy helping other patrons, and Kestel noticed that the older gentleman went up to the dad and his kids at the self-check machine and walked them through the steps to use it. A small gesture of kindness often goes a long way, and staff are glad to know that their patrons help each other feel welcome, too.

Medford

After several months of preparation, the Medford Seed Library is open. Located at the reference desk upstairs, patrons can browse the seed packets organized in the repurposed card catalog and select up to five per month. The aim is to ensure all

repurposed card catalog and select up to five per month. The aim is to ensure all seeds available through the seed library are non-GMO, heirloom, organic, and suitable for the local climate. Growers are also encouraged to save and donate their own. Seed libraries have been established at other JCLS branches such as Shady Cove and Ruch and have been enormously successful. Wanting to follow their example, Librarians Elanna Erhardt and Jonathan Ulrich worked together to bring one to Medford. Excitement has been building, and staff and patrons alike are looking forward to the seed library growing and developing over the







seasons. In addition to seeds, staff have been curating displays of relevant library materials, programs, and resources that will be helpful to patrons who are looking to learn more about gardening, seed saving, and other horticultural topics.

Author Kimila Kay visited the Medford Library in June. Kay discussed her *Stoneybrook Mystery* series and talked about how to write a good whodunit. Attendees entered a drawing, with winning patrons receiving one of her books - *Redneck Ranch*, *Five Golden Rings*, or *Willow's Woods* - which were paired with themed bags featuring patterns of

flamingos, cowboy boots, and chickens.

Teen Specialist Sydney Salisburg hosted a program called, "Quit Bugging Me!" and taught participants how to make a natural bug spray out of essential oils. It proved to be a popular program, and the variety of oils used had the department smelling very fresh indeed for quite a while afterward.

Lower Rogue

Gold Hill

Regency fans donned their elegant attire and flocked to the Gold Hill branch to celebrate the new season of Bridgerton with a delightful afternoon tea party. While nibbling on dainty snacks, they tested their knowledge with a trivia game about the series. Friends stayed for a while chatting and gossiping happily about their favorite characters, and everyone agreed that they'd had a wonderful time.

Continuing a long community tradition, the Gold Hill Friends of the Library marched in the annual Gold Dust Days parade on June 1. The DART Van joined in the fun as well, and plenty of folks made sure to stop and say hi afterwards.

Jacksonville

The Jacksonville Library was delighted to welcome the Rogue Valley Pollinator Project back to the branch for a fascinating story-filled program about native plants and the insects who love them. Children swarmed the craft table afterwards to create an artwork bee to take home.



To celebrate the theme for Summer Reading, the Jacksonville staff created a "Read, Renew, Repeat" bulletin board showing a 'reading washing machine.' Kids are encouraged to personalize a paper sock and hang it on the line to show their participation in this summer event.

Rogue River

Siskiyou Lacemakers Guild, regular users of the branch, installed a new display for the public to admire featuring a variety of hand-tatted lace. While in the branch, patrons could pick up a variety of Take and Makes, from materials that would equip a box fan with a DIY smoke filter, to butterfly feeders for kids to decorate with their families to attract pollinators to their yards.

Ruch

End-of-the-school year library visits from the Ruch Outdoor Community School (ROCS) were used to promote summer reading and events and encouraged students to stay engaged with the library through the summer months. Staff are looking forward to class visits resuming in the new school year, but in the meantime, it is time for a different kind of library fun.

Upper Rogue

White City

Competition has been fierce in the White City Spark Space lately. Teams of kids have been working with specialized blocks to build intricate architectural towers that are stable enough to support Cheesemouse, the Spark Space's unofficial superhero mouse mascot. Team "Cheesewheel" now holds the record at the Cheesemouse Challenge, elevating the cheeky puppet to an impressive height of 82 inches. Team "Idunno" came in second place at 62 inches.

The White City Team has been working with the local Department of Human Services and their Child Protective Department to provide a bright spot in what can often be a tough day. When youth books are withdrawn but are still in good condition, staff have been saving them and recently donated a box to the Medford Department office. Their staff then offer them to children they work with, who are free to take the books with them when they leave. The CPD team lead sent in this message about how thankful the staff were to receive these books:

"My staff just freaked out in appreciation of the books. I have a wonderful receptionist who says he is down to the last few from your last delivery and he is so happy and surprised at how quickly they are taken. He says he always encourages kids to make sure they pick one or two especially when waiting in the lobby so THANK YOU so much!!!"

Prospect

Library Associate Breanne Wolgamot read Prospect Charter 2nd graders books about hot air balloons and then helped the class create their own paper mâché hot air balloons. The students then proudly walked their colorful creations to the library where they were on display for a week.

Salmon Watch and the Rogue Basin Project came to the library to help Prospect patrons learn more about local watershed conservation. Attendees learned about the watersheds, how to identify invertebrates, and map riparian areas.

Eagle Point

Who knew that National Donut Day is celebrated every year on the first Friday in June? Librarians, that's who! Eagle Point teamed up with local food truck Little Butte Donuts to offer a celebration patrons will not soon forget. Library Specialist Jenna Steigleder hosted a "Nuts for Donuts" special storytime marathon, reading a donut-themed story every thirty minutes, and taking breaks in between for crafts and games. Patrons lounged on the front lawn of the branch eating donuts provided by the truck and had a great time.

Eagle Point hosted an author workshop for children with local author Val Coulman. During the workshop, she taught patrons how a book goes from an idea to a physical item that others can purchase and read. Working with Coulman, the kids crafted their very own story wherein some of their pets went on an inter-dimensional adventure to save a planet of aliens from an evil robot. They then designed and drew what they wanted the cover of their book to look like. Patrons of all ages were very engaged with the topic, asking detailed questions about self-publishing, and the ins and outs of negotiating literary contracts with publishers.









The Eagle Point Library parking lot turned into a mini-Renaissance Faire in late June as the branch hosted members of the local Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) as they put on an awesome reenactment of Medieval Swordplay. After the demonstration, the patrons had a chance to try it for themselves. SCA reenactors led them in a mini lesson covering the basics of safety and a few simple moves, and after waivers were signed, patrons were given foam swords to practice. Local Channel



5 News came and reported a story on this program, as well. For patrons who feel that the way of the sword is not for them, the SCA always has places for bards and jesters – there really is something for everyone.

Community Resources

As the weather heats up, the Community Resources team has been focusing on ensuring that the department is prepared to support patrons through heatwaves and possible poor air quality. Staff are continually checking that the information they have on local resources is up to date, and they are also exploring whether there are additional resources to add to the list.

Outreach/Programs/Digital Services

Outreach

Outreach's dance card was packed this month, and the DART Van was busy with many parade appearances. Summer means community events around the district, and staff participated in many local festivities including Beers, Bluegrass and BBQ, Juneteenth at Pear Blossom Park, Medford Pride, the Jacksonville Country Queer Summerfest, Gold Dust Days, and the Rogue River Rooster Crow. Plenty of people stopped by to say hi, win prizes, sign up for cards, and learn about what the library can offer them in the heart of their community.

Business Librarian

Business Librarian Roslyn Donald also kept a lot of her focus on the outdoor festivals, as it provides valuable opportunities for business outreach supporting vendors at the markets. JCLS provided Wi-Fi hotspot service to vendors at both the Summerfest and the Applegate Evening Market to help enable contactless payment at the events. This provides invaluable assistance to rural artisans and food producers, and it helps promote library resources as well.

At Home Services

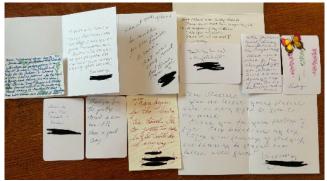
Project Sunshine has officially concluded for the year. Participants were thrilled with their presents and sent many thank you notes back.

"You are bright young students with so many gifts to give to the world. Thank you for your package of gifts. They brighten my day. May your journey of studying and learning be as joyful and filled with grace."

"Thank you so much for a very nice gift. It will brighten up my kitchen. I love your artwork. You are all just the best! ♥"

"Thank you for the lovely tea towel and tea bags. I appreciate your thoughtfulness. Best wishes to you as you prepare for the next step in fulfilling your dreams."

The companion Project Cozy will resume in late Fall.



Library Specialists Kateri Warnick and Mackenzie Pollock attended the Rogue River Estates monthly event and created windchimes with the residents.

DART Technology Van

Along with the many Outreach events DART attended, the team also visited the Housing Authority of Jackson County at two resource fairs. A new location was added this month to the DART schedule: Garfield Park in Ashland. DART visited the park with two members of the Ashland Parks and Recreation team and made plans for future park visits.

Education Services

Education Services presented information about the Summer Reading Program to all 3rd graders at Table Rock Elementary and a group from Logos Charter School. During their visits, students expressed their excitement at participating in the program and were motivated by the hope of winning one of the grand prizes.

Community Librarian Evelyn Lorence and Education Services Specialist Bella Silva also attended Kennedy Elementary's Literacy Night for the second year in a row. Attendees were very excited to learn about all the resources and events offered by JCLS. One grandparent was delighted to hear about the Kid's Center webpage and TumbleBooks, as it would help to support their child's independent reading skills. Additionally, Silva and Medford Teen Librarian Andrea Leone visited the Housing Authority at Creekside to host creating a fun tote bag craft and distribute SRP handouts. Later, they visited the Don Jones Memorial Park, which is a designated site for free student meals during the summer. Families signed up for Summer Reading through Beanstack and Leone and Silva offered free books to get them started on the reading challenge.

To support the branches, gift books were ordered and sent out to branches to be given to students attending summer school programming. The titles chosen reflected a wide variety of ages (K-9th) and were offered in both English and Spanish.



Digital Services

The final touches were installed in the new Medford Computer Classroom in June, and staff are excited to start using the space. The equipment features microphone, audio, and a smart screen, and it will greatly enable staff's capabilities to offer inhouse training to both patrons and staff.

Digital Services have continued their effort to expand programming to the community, which has resulted in new appointments and interactions. Specialists Jacob Spilman and Nicole Vukcevic presented the first of a series of MyChart how-to sessions in the new classroom. Research has shown that communities where residents are educated on and engaged with these tools are statistically healthier due to better access to healthcare providers and their personal medical information. The team look forward to more sessions to increase community awareness of this vital resource to public health.

Finance and Human Resources

The HR and Finance teams worked together on the migration and the implementation of Paylocity, the new HR and Payroll software platform. Towards the end of the month, all staff were given login access, training, and the ability to navigate and learn the system prior to needing to use it for time entry on July 1. Feedback from staff has been overwhelmingly positive, and they are already making good use of the features that the platform offers. The HR team will spend July implementing the various HR modules, such as Rewards and Recognition, Learning Management System, Community, Performance, Recruitment, Onboarding, and Benefits Enrollment.

Benefit and Wellness Coordinator Kaya Courtroul developed the District's Bloodborne Pathogen Training and Response Plan. The plan outlines the process to follow when staff encounter Bloodborne Pathogens, including the response protocol should something serious happen, such as an accidental needle stick. Safety steps and

processes were already in place. This plan and the training bring the district in compliance with State Law. Courtroul delivered the training to all staff during the June All-Hands Meeting.

JCLS is proud to announce that another cohort of staff have graduated through the Library Leadership League. Ten current staff members, representing various classifications and locations, attended the three-session training led by Staff Development Coordinator Loren Clupny. The in-person training held at the Medford branch taught the attendees qualities of leadership and touched on important supervisory skills. This training is mandatory for all new supervisors, and it is also open to other staff wanting further professional development and who are considering future leadership opportunities.

Marketing

After months of preparation, June is when the Summer Reading magic happens. It started off in brand-new style, with motorists driving to the Medford branch down Central greeted by a large banner promoting the Summer Reading Program. The Marketing Department was excited to unveil the first month of Summer Reading giveaways, which included custom seed packets and the first of three trading cards featuring Fernsworth, this year's Summer Reading mascot. Spanish and English Language radio ads promoting SRP also aired, and KOBI interviewed Area Manager of Outreach and Programs Carrie Turney Ross about programming happening at JCLS throughout the summer.

Press Releases:

Summer Reading: https://bit.ly/4cVFp95

July Windows in Time: https://bit.ly/3VTUcKl

Media Coverage:

KOBI on Summer Reading: https://bit.ly/3L9pFn7

KOBI on SCA at Eagle Point: https://bit.ly/4cVfdv2

Ashland News on "Ashland Reads":

https://bit.ly/3Xe2WgO

Notable Videos:

June Read This!: https://bit.ly/3Xak6Mc

Pride Month Storytime: https://bit.ly/3VSOuLK

Support Services

Assistant Director of Support Services Kelda Vath traveled to San Diego for the American Library Association's Annual Conference. Vath networked with vendors and library peers and attended a variety of sessions focusing on topics related to the JCLS Strategic Plan and Facilities Master Plan. She toured 3 regional San Diego library facilities. Notable sessions included discussions on library construction project best practices and lessons learned, tips on serving Spanish language readers, and a panel showcasing indigenous language revitalization programs across the country.

Collection Development

June 5th marked the one-year anniversary of the JCLS video game collection. The collection launched with 77 different titles and today there are over 226, with more being added each week. Games on the Nintendo Switch are by far the most popular, in comparison with the others for the PlayStation and the Xbox. Over the last year, the branches with the highest number of video game circulations were Medford (785), Ashland (504), Central Point (394), Eagle Point (190), Jacksonville (149), and Rogue River (143).

Technical Services



The online library card registration form on the JCLS website has been improved and went live in mid-June. The simplified sign-up process for users remains similar; however, patrons now receive visible confirmation that their online registration was successful, and an email is sent containing their card information and PIN, which makes it more user-friendly. Online library card registrations provide immediate access to JCLS's digital collections and resources for Jackson County residents and are valid for 30 days. Patrons can visit any branch within those 30 days to easily upgrade to a full-service card to borrow physical (and digital) materials.

Information Technology

As part of the JCLS Technology Plan's goals to increase the library's cybersecurity posture, Network Administrator Jason Whyte has implemented Huntress, an advanced endpoint protection service, on staff devices. Huntress is a best-in-class endpoint threat detection and response service that exceeds traditional antivirus solutions. Huntress will only be deployed on staff devices, not public devices for patron use, as those are wiped clean between user sessions.

A complex and multi-departmental project to transition and streamline Wi-Fi hotspot circulation and management has been completed. The practical goal of the project was to transition the hotspot circulation and vendor management from the Digital Services Department to a new model handled in part by public services staff, but managed collaboratively in Support Services with collection oversight handled by Collection Development, record and item management and maintenance handled by Technical Services, and vendor contract management and technical maintenance handled by IT. However, the primary and patron-driven purpose of this project is to boost access and visibility of the collection, improve patron experience and ease of use, and add more hotspots to the collection to enhance digital equity efforts in the Valley. By all measures, JCLS is well on its way to achieving these significant outcomes.

They key players who worked hard to make this happen included Eric Molinsky, Digital Services Supervisor, and his team, Technology and Innovation Manager Parvaneh Scoggin, and the IT department staff, Technical Services Manager, Ashley Johnson, and Collection Development Manager, Laurin Arnold. Also critically involved were Masyn Phoenix, Upper Rogue Area Manager, who led a Circulation Committee group in developing procedures for public services staff, and Kelda Vath, Assistant Director of Support Services who brought everyone together.

Facilities

The planned capital project to replace Eagle Point's HVAC system was completed in June. As luck would have it, the HVAC system was not operating during the first real heat wave of the year, resulting in multi-day branch closures and Eagle Point staff being re-deployed throughout the system, due to the excessive internal temperatures. The replacement continued on schedule, and the branch was soon back open and ready for business. Patrons and staff alike were overjoyed to be in the cool branch when it reopened, and the overflowing return bins showed staff how important the library is to the Eagle Point community.

As usual, the end of the fiscal year comes with a flurry of facilities projects getting wrapped up. Among the noteworthy accomplishments were the installation of a new cell phone charging locker at Medford, along with new computer lab furniture, with improved individual space allocation and conveniently placed outlets for users. Medford also had the grand staircase re-painted with accessibility striping and the staff parking lot was resurfaced by the city.

Butte Falls also received some new furniture, and White City received long-awaited outdoor patio furniture. As the weather has been nicer, patrons have been enjoying new large-scale outdoor games on the patio. As a final touch, some shade canopies will be installed soon which will create a cool outdoor space for all to enjoy.