

COMMUNITY



Seattle Strayer, 10, a Parkdale Elementary fourth grader, has published her first book, "Julie the Superdog." The book is available for checkout at the school's library. Contributed photos

Parkdale student publishes first book

By Trisha Walker
Columbia Gorge News

Not every kid can walk into their school library and check out a copy of their own book. Seattle Strayer can.

Seattle, 10, is a fourth grader at Parkdale Elementary and the author of the book, "Julie the Superdog," released on April 13 and available through Barnes & Noble.

"I was inspired to write this book by a friend and her new puppy," she said. The book description (www.barnesandnoble.com) reads, "Julie is a superdog. Well, really she's a magic dog, but she likes being called a superdog better. Being a superdog means Julie has amazing powers with more to come as she gets older. And as she grows, she takes on mini assignments. But one day, Julie's new owner, Cora, finds the paper that has Julie's mission written on it, and the superdog's secret is revealed. Julie might be able to get that problem out of the way, but can she complete her job from The Boss?"

The process took Seattle several months — writing the story, typing it up, editing, creating the cover and choosing the right fonts, all before tackling the final publishing process.

"I've always been into writing and reading, and I thought it would be cool to have my own book published, so I have had that goal for about a year and a half," she said.

Publishing a book is a long process, Seattle said. "... And it takes some patience, but in the end it's worth it to hold a

book you have written in your hands."

"She is such a hard worker and so dedicated that it truly amazes me," said Seattle's mother, Jordan Strayer. "She did this all on her own and is so driven. She has always loved reading and as she learned to write has also been really into writing. I feel she is so fortunate to have found something she is passionate about at such an early age."

Seattle describes the book as fun and light-hearted, and a good pick for kids ages 6-12. She plans to write a series featuring Julie the Superdog.

"I already have some ideas for the next books in the Julie the Superdog series, so I'm very excited for the future," she said.

In addition to Barnes & Noble, the book is available to check out at the Parkdale Elementary School library. Seattle plans to donate a copy to the Hood River Library.

Seattle additionally enjoys writing poems and book reviews, which can be found on her website, funbookreviews.com.

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WS Library to hold sixth annual Community Reads program

The Friends of the White Salmon Valley Community is bringing back the community reading program known as KOOBDOOGA ("A Good Book" read backwards) in October.

This year's title is "A River Lost" by Blaine Harden. Free copies of the book are available now for artists interested in creating a work inspired by the book. Additional books will be available to the general public during the summer.

Submitted art will be displayed virtually throughout the month of October, with an online reception on Sept. 30.

Works in all mediums are welcome, including acrylics, oils, pastels, photography, fiber arts, beadwork, mixed media, etc. Interested artists should pick up a book at the White Salmon Valley Community Library.

High resolution photos of the art work must be submitted by Sept. 18 to be included in the online art show. The art exhibition will not be juried; however, the KOOBDOOGA committee reserves the right to reject works that do not meet the exhibition criteria.

In addition to the art show, The

Friends of the Library will host a series of four presentations each Thursday in October from 6:30-8 p.m. Scheduled presentations include author Harden, author and photographer Peter Marbach, river explorer and educator Laurie Wilhite, and more.

For more information on how to participate in the art show, contact Mary Kapp, art exhibition chair, at 509-493-1679 or jmkapp@gorge.net.

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Money Matters: Shop Local!

Ever wondered where the money you spend in a store goes? Where that money goes is different depending upon who owns the store where you shop. In a store that is owned by someone who lives locally, more money stays in your community.

When you shop at a locally owned business, \$68 stays in your community.

When you shop at a non-locally owned business, \$43 stays in your community.

Graph It!

Here's another way to show how shopping locally matters. Color these pie graphs. Color the parts that show money that STAYS in town GREEN. Color the part that shows money that LEAVES town RED.

Standards Link: Math: Organize and display data in graphs.

Source: Independentwestand.org/Civic Economics-Andersonville Study of Retail Economics

Who cares?

Everyone should care about how much money stays in the community. Why? Look at the pictures below. They show a few of the many ways local businesses use the money spent in their stores to help their communities.

Fred's Discount Tires

Andrews Hall Community Theatre

Now Playing: *The Wizard of Oz* SPONSORED BY PLAZA REAL ESTATE

Coming Soon: *Beauty and the Beast* SPONSORED BY PLAZA REAL ESTATE

K&S Market

Missing Words

Replace the missing words in this news article using these words:

SHOW STORE TEAM SCHOOL LOCAL

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use context clues to determine the meaning of words.

New Scoreboard Highlights Power of Shopping Locally

MID COUNTY — On Thursday night, the Mid-County Titans basketball _____ got to watch their shots light up a new scoreboard, thanks to Homer's Office Supply. The Titans won the game and had extra money.

Homer Stapleton, the owner of the _____, said this was a good year for business and that many of the families did their back to _____ shopping at his store. Business was up by 70% over last year thanks to _____

"I want to _____ my customers how much I appreciate their shopping at my store," Stapleton said. "I know they have a choice and that my _____ store isn't the only place to shop."

Standards Link: Reading Comprehension: Use context clues to determine the meaning of words.

Where I Can Shop Locally

Where can you buy the following items in your local area? Think through the newspaper or online and write the name of a local business that sells each of these items.

SPORTS GEAR AUTO PARTS

FLOWERS CLOTHES

SHOES BIKES

HARDWARE BOOKS

Local Business

Use your newspaper to make a list of 10 or more businesses in your community. Find out which of these are locally owned and which are not. Create a chart to show your findings.

Standards Link: Data Analysis: Organizes data in simple charts.

Kid Scoop Puzzler

What is a skunk's favorite kind of money?

To find out the answer, cross out every B-I-L-L and the remaining letters reveal the answer.

B I L L B i l l b
I l l C b I L l e
b i l l n B i l l
T b I L L b i L L
B i L L s B I L L

Double Double Word Search

CUSTOMERS COMMUNITY BUSINESS SUPPLIES LOCALLY SCHOOL GRAPHS WHERE STORE SPEND CARES STAYS PARTS SHOW TEAM

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?

C L S H O S E R A C
P O S E I L P P U S
P C M D N E P S C C
O A M M A E T T W H
S L R M U O U O H O
Y L N T M N H R E O
A Y I E S S I E R L
T G R A P H S T E T
S S E N I S U B Y Y

Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognize identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop LESSON LIBRARY

Local Government

Find an article in the newspaper about someone who works in local government. What does he/she do? Why are they in the newspaper?

Standards Link: Civics: Understand the organization of local government.

Write On!

When I Grow Up

What do you want to be when you grow up? Write a paragraph about a job you would like to have one day and why you would be good at it.

Kid Scoop FIT & FUN

Piggy Bank Workouts

Piggy Bank Shake

Pretend you are a piggy bank and shake yourself. Can you hear the jingle of coins? Shake to the left! Shake to the right!

Jingle Jump

Toss ten coins onto the sidewalk. Can you hop from coin to coin, standing on one foot? Next, do deep knee bends to pick them all up!

Heads or Tails?

Try to do ten sit-ups while balancing three coins on your head. Now have a friend try. Could either of you do it?

Balanced Budget

Try to walk across your yard with a dollar bill on your head. It'll take some smooth moves to keep the dollar from dropping!

Standards Link: Physical Education: Use a variety of basic and advanced movement forms.