

# Letters from the Librarian

“It’s in those quiet little towns, at the edge of the world, that you will find the salt of the earth people who make you feel right at home.”

? - Aaron Lauritsen, *100 Days Drive: The Great North American Road Trip*



I love this quote about “quiet little towns” because it rings true for me as a librarian and as a human. Do you feel “right at home?” I hope you do. Especially in this season. Together, as a community, we near the darkest days of the year. We’ve weathered the change from late summer into autumn and now we’re truly in the blustery throes of fall-turning-winter weather. If we’re lucky, we’re cozy in our pre-winter routines. It’s not quite time to plan next spring’s garden, but it’s definitely never the wrong time to tackle our to-be-read stacks. Baking or cooking (from a new cookbook or a family favorite?),

playing card games and working puzzles, cracking open a new book, or listening to an old favorite while doing chores. This is the beauty of fall.

Together, as a community, we have a new set of local, state, and national leaders. We’ve navigated a contentious election season and maintained our relationships and our sense of neighborliness. In North Douglas county, we watch out for one another. I often observe that political or ideological differences matter little when it comes to our neighbors in Drain, Elkton, Yoncalla, Curtin, Cottage Grove. We have more in common than we harbor differences. Is this true from your corner of the woods? In the library, we’ve hung signs from September on that remind us to leave our political discussions at the door. Sometimes it’s hard to discern whether a topic is political, isn’t it? What I’ve found is that everyone wins when we focus on the subjects that are inarguably important to all of us: Children. Nature. Families. Freedom and faith. Do we have to agree on every level in order to respect one another? We do not. This is the beauty of community.

New in the library this month: “Patron” and “Staff Picks” are displayed (and they check out quickly!); the seed library has new winter crop seeds ready to plant; preschool storytime on Tuesdays at 11:00; a huge crop of new puzzles is available

for borrowing; more than 40 new books for all ages were added to the collection; BINGO on November 27 to kick off your Thanksgiving weekend.

Continuing in the library this month: Yarn Club on Wednesdays at 4:00; family movie matinees on Wednesdays at 5:00; LEGO Club on the first and third Thursdays at 4:00; YonDr Book Club on Thursday November 14.

We’d love to help you access physical and digital resources during open hours - stop in Tuesdays 10:00-6:00, Wednesdays 12:00-7:00; Thursdays 11:00-6; Fridays and Saturdays 11:00-4:00 to browse and borrow, to use the internet or computers and printers, or for help accessing audiobooks and ebooks on your device or ours. You can find us at [ndld.org](http://ndld.org) 24-7 or email [info@ndld.org](mailto:info@ndld.org) for help during closed hours. Call 541-836-2648 to renew materials or to ask questions. We love being in community with you.

“We can complain because rose bushes have thorns or rejoice because thorns have roses.”

--Alphonse Karr, *A Tour Round My Garden*  
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## Elk Creek Glass

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and converted the Garage into the Fusing Shop. Here he keeps his stores of beautiful, some rare, glass sheets and assorted supplies for piecing together some absolutely stunning sculptures in glass for all manners of use and displays. Color and sparkle, twisting and fiery explosions of light reflect the unlimited artistic and technical aspects that result in amazing products that you want to showcase and ponder.

Finally, just about a year ago, the



stars aligned and they were ready to start bringing in the students. Classes in Glass Blowing and glass Fusion with Avi teaching and guiding his students along was underway. In addition to the excellent reviews of the classes, they made the shop available for rentals for student projects, with Avi guiding them along the way, still teaching and providing critical lessons and tips for maximum results and benefits.

Over the year, Avi Zohar, lead instructor and owner, said several students mentioned that they had glass blowing experiences at other shops in Oregon, but Elk Creek Glass is different. Elk Creek Glass is really emphasizing students learning and doing the steps. The focus is more on the process than final object. Other



shops were having students pick the colors and shape, but having studio staff do most of the work. Instead, Avi, has students gather the glass right out of the furnace, learn to manage and shape the glass on the pipe, add the colors, and even break the piece off the pipe when its done.



The pieces are unique and capture someone’s creativity and their daring to try something new and special.

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## Lower Umpqua Library Announcements



Lower Umpqua Library District (LULD) now has five neighborhood library modules, out of a planned total of six. Please feel free to visit them and borrow a book or a DVD!

The neighborhood library modules are roofed bookcases, which are mostly placed throughout the library district’s rural hinterland, which provide books and DVDs to residents on an honor system basis. Each module is designed to hold approximately 150 titles and is equipped with a light that will allow for use after dark. LULD has neighborhood library modules:

- 1.) Near the fire station in Winchester Bay (Broadway Avenue and 6<sup>th</sup> Street)
- 2.) Near the fire station in Scottsburg (Highway 38 and Wells Creek Road)
- 3.) Near the intersection of Loon Lake Road and Elk Ridge Forest Road in Ash Valley
- 4.) In front of Smith River Store
- 5.) In front of the Highland Pool in uptown Reedsport

Placement of a sixth neighborhood library module is planned for Gardiner, but it is not yet setup. If you are interested in having a

seventh neighborhood library module placed on your land or in your community, please contact the library.

Staff and volunteers keep the modules full by periodically restocking books and DVDs. LULD will provide updates on this

item is available for checkout to library card holders for a period of up to three weeks and may be renewed for an additional three weeks unless requested by another patrons.

There are approximately 180 magazine and newspaper



project as additional neighborhood library modules are erected.

The library continues to offer traditional library material such as books, DVDs, CDs, and magazines for borrowing, as well as less conventional items such as WiFi hotspots and extenders, compasses, pedometers, trekking poles (hiking sticks), bicycle locks, computer accessories, and umbrellas. Each

subscriptions, which cover a wide variety of topics and interests. Please call, visit, or email the library for more information.

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