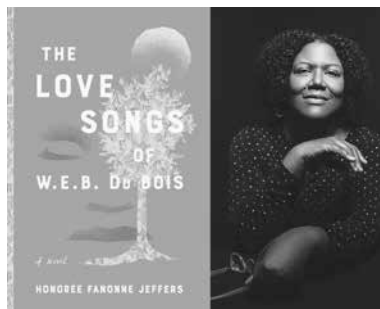


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LOCAL NEWS



The Albina Library has moved back to its historic home at 216 N.E. Knott St.

Back to its Roots

Albina Library moves to historic home

BY BEVERLY CORBELL
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

After being moved repeatedly, then shut down for several years, the Albina Library has moved back to its historic home at 216 N.E. Knott St. and is open for business.

Eduardo “Eddie” Arizaga, administrator of the Albina Library, said the library — the smallest in Multnomah County at 3,500 square feet — will eventually be expanded and redeveloped to 25,000 square feet. Now that all county libraries have reopened after being closed for more than a year because of the coronavirus pandemic, Arizaga hopes to see a lot more foot traffic at its “new” location.

Because it moved and had to upgrade computer equipment, the Albina Library was the last county library to reopen after shutting down on March 13, he said, but he hopes that word is getting out that the library welcomes patrons.

“We’ve been getting some foot traffic and the Dishman Community Center just reopened,” he said. “We’re looking to add extra signage and want to let people know they can walk in.”

The library was moved from its location at NE 15th Ave. and NE Fremont, Arizaga said, into the NE Knott Street building, which housed the Title Wave Used Bookstore for about 30 years. The Knott Street building was constructed in 1912, one of more than

1,600 in the U.S. underwritten by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie.

Arizaga said that while the Knott Street location is somewhat larger, it is still a relatively small current footprint, but has been re-configured to make it more suitable for a community library. The old location didn’t have a community meeting room or even a place for story time.

“What a bookstore presents is different from a library,” he said. “We’ve provided more seating and lower shelving to bring in natural light. It had some really large shelving that was not flexible, so we made it into a really large workroom, and we want children’s books in a 6-foot space.”

The future renovations involve

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Back to School Health, Safety Tips

The Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Health Authority are offering five health and safety tips to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in schools.

“I know many parents are anxious about the (coronavirus) Delta variant’s impact on schools, and at the same time excited for kids to return to the classroom. My goal for this school year has been to keep students learning in the classroom, with minimal disruptions,” Gov. Kate Brown said. “The more we do to protect our families at home, the more we help our students succeed at school.”

Families are urged to vaccinate all eligible household members. Wear face coverings or masks in public and in carpools. Face cov-



Gov. Kate Brown

erings are effective at preventing the spread of COVID-19 and can reduce the need to be quarantined and miss in-person learning. Limit gatherings with other

households for now — including big events for kids, like birthday parties. If your kids have an early fall birthday, celebrate with just your household. You might consider postponing larger celebrations until the Delta variant’s rapid spread has subsided (plan a half-birthday bash!).

Move social activities outdoors. To help minimize kids’ exposure to COVID-19, try to plan outdoor activities when possible — especially when with other households.

Make a plan in case your child needs to miss school. Being prepared can make this difficult time easier and will help your child tran-

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