



# Library Tidings News about the Siuslaw Public Library by Kevin Mittge

ready created a secret agency, the Special Operations Executive (SOE), whose spies were trained in everything from demolition to sharpshooting. Their job, he declared, was to “set Europe ablaze.”

But with most men on the front lines, the SOE was forced to do something unprecedented: recruit women. Thirty-nine answered the call, leaving their lives and families to become saboteurs in France.

In “D-Day Girls,” Sarah Rose draws on recently de-

classified files, diaries, and oral histories to tell the thrilling story of three of these remarkable women. There’s Andréé Borrel, a scrappy and streetwise Parisian who blew up power lines with the Gestapo on her heels; Odette Sansom, an unhappily married suburban mother who raised the SOE as her ticket out of domestic life and into a meaningful adventure; and Lise de Baissac, a fiercely independent member of French colonial high society and the SOE’s unflappable “queen.”

Together, they destroyed train lines, ambushed Nazis, plotting prison breaks, and gathered crucial intelligence — laying the groundwork for the D-Day invasion that proved to be the turning point in the war.

Rigorously researched and written with razor-sharp wit, “D-Day Girls” is an inspiring story for our own moment of resistance: a reminder of what courage — and the energy of politically animated women — can accomplish when the stakes seem incalculably high.

**Library opens tomorrow!**  
The library is pleased to begin offering browsing at our facilities in Florence and Mapleton beginning tomorrow, Thursday, April 1.

To begin, we will match our curbside pickup and drop-off hours, so Monday through Thursday, the hours will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and on Fridays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. In Mapleton, we will offer a slightly expanded service from current curbside hours, providing browsing from noon until 5 p.m.

on Thursdays only. Days open, including weekends, and the number of hours, will increase as conditions allow. Patrons will continue to be required to wear masks inside the library. Appointments are not necessary. We have new touch less check-out stations to use. There will be no seating at this time and meeting rooms are not available. Restrooms will also be closed to the public.

**WATER from page 1A**

The person selected to lead the effort to add transparency and clear communication to the workings of the MWD is Jim Grano, a Mapleton resident who has worked for many years as a volunteer with an array of local organizations, including schools, environmental projects and the Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP). Grano was a participant at Wednesday’s meeting as Basurto announced the formation of the CRT and introduced him as the leader of the effort to improve district communication.

Saubert’s tenure as manager, referring to it simply as a “Tendency towards confrontation, not communication” during an extended discussion of the MWD situation with *Siuslaw News*.

During Wednesday’s meeting, Grano spoke about his new position leading the CRT and MWD’s plans for the future.

“Our goal was to provide as much factual information as we had and to be as transparent as we could. And to show a pathway forward,” Grano said. “All of the bills will be reconciled, but we have a new office person and we don’t want her to be overwhelmed by the calls and the problems. So, (CRT) will be calling each of our customers to talk about

their individual problems.” Grano also echoed Basurto’s comments that the district has made mistakes but the recent change in leadership has allowed for more discussion and ideas about the difficulties faced by the MWD.

Without disparaging any previous district leaders, both Grano and Basurto believe the current members of the board do want to insure the delivery

of clean, potable water to their friends and neighbors.

“After talking with Dustin, I realized I knew most of the board and I knew they were good, well-intentioned people. They only met once a month and, in retrospect, were not provided the information they needed to understand the situation,” Grano said. “So, I agreed to step in and help. I have some experi-

ence working with boards and I think that I might be joining the board, maybe by the time of the next board meeting. By then, we will have a better understanding of what we need to do improve the communication with the 240 users in the district.”

The meeting was well received by the online viewers, as the comments on social media platforms indicated

over week. There was a general consensus that the meeting had begun the process of healing the community and those in charge of providing one of the basic needs of its citizenry.

The next meeting of the MWD Board is scheduled for April 13 beginning at 7 p.m.

Residents with questions or concerns can contact the MWD office at 541-268-4348.

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**To our valued readers:**  
**Help small businesses affected by coronavirus right now, including ours.**

Businesses of all sizes have been hit hard in this challenging new age of social distancing and self-isolation, but the blow has been catastrophic for small operations that rely on in-person transactions. There are many ways to help this holiday season, like purchasing gift certificates or memberships, and yet there are many service-type businesses that don’t have that option.

As we look to a new year, we’re celebrating what connects us as a community, and what we can do to support our local businesses!

**THAT’S WHY WE CREATED THE SUPPORT LOCAL TOGETHER CAMPAIGN.**  
The Support Local Together campaign will help local businesses who have to choose between promoting their business and paying the electric bill. It will also help support the *Siuslaw News*, who has seen a strong decrease in advertising revenue, but an increase in readership.

**IT DOES TWO THINGS.**

- 1. Funds advertising dollars for local businesses**  
Your financial support will go directly to fund advertising that our local businesses need to stay top of mind.
- 2. Supports local journalism**  
By becoming a supporting member, you are helping to replace some of the advertising revenue the *Siuslaw News* has lost over the past ten months, due to the pandemic.

**HERE IS HOW TO SUPPORT:**

- Call 541-902-3524
- Make a donation of your choosing.
- Choose a specific local business that you would like the advertising credit to go to, or leave that blank and we will designate it to a business we know needs help.

Our community is small but generous and we recognize there are many great organizations, like ours, that could use your help.

We believe the vast majority of our readers have always shared our view of the value and necessity of a strong local media and are willing to provide support equal to two or three cups of coffee a month to secure its future.

Thank you in advance for doing your share to secure a strong local economy in the community we are proud to serve.

**Jenna Bartlett**  
Publisher  
jbartlett@thesiuslawnews.com  
541-902-3524

**Yes, I would like to become a 2020/21 Support Local Together Sponsor**  
**Call 541-902-3524**  
Mail sponsorship form to: **Siuslaw News Supporter**  
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