

Library takeout begins Monday

■ Get your hands on what you want to read, watch or listen to from Cook Memorial Library

LA GRANDE — As Oregon and Union County moves toward the next phase of its reopening plan, Cook Memorial Library is preparing to get physical library materials back into the hands of patrons eager to read print books and watch DVDs.

“So many of our patrons prefer reading a physical book over an eBook while many more may not even have internet service at home,” the library’s director, Kip Roberson said, in a press release. “Our inability to circulate materials during the pandemic has meant that the library hasn’t been able to serve the patrons who likely needed our services the most.”

Starting Monday, June 8, the La Grande library will begin offering “Library Take-Out” — contactless pickup of materials reserved in advance — the first non-virtual service since the pandemic forced the closure of the library in mid-March.

Patrons can now begin placing “takeout” orders online or by phone. Request holds on up to nine specific items that you would like to read, watch or listen to. Library staff will prepare the orders and schedule a pickup time starting Monday.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Search the Sage Catalog at www.cookmemorallibrary.org and place up to nine holds on the items they want to read, watch or listen to. A library staff member will then call and confirm the order and schedule a pickup time.

Patrons can also call the library at 541-962-1339 to request items or ask the staff to curate a selection of items based on their reading/viewing/listening interests. At that time a pickup time will be arranged.

Pickup times will be in one-hour time slots with a maximum of four patrons scheduled per hour. The library asks for your patience as it may take up to 24 hours to fill an order.

Items will be checked out to the patron at the time the order is filled. Each order will be packed into a free reusable tote bag along with a receipt and a complimentary disposable facial mask — because “wearing is caring.”

All takeout orders must be picked up at the entrance at the corner of Fourth Street and Adams Avenue. When a patron arrives for their appointment they will call 541-963-1339 or ring the doorbell, and the staff will bring out the items.

Patrons are asked to follow all physical distancing guidelines and signs and consider wearing a mask. If a patron needs any special accommodation, let the staff know at the time of making their appointment.

With the exception of oversized items, all returns must be made through the book drops.

All items will be checked out for four weeks. No overdue fines will be assessed at this time.

Cook Memorial’s “Library Take-Out” will continue through the end of June at least.

“I know our patrons miss their library — the browsing of books, the in-person story times and book groups, the public use computers, the quiet study areas, and their interactions with our wonderful staff,” said Roberson.

“As much as they miss us, we may miss them even more. We are working as quickly as possible to get to a point where we can open the doors to our patrons.”

School Days goes virtual — pioneer spirit in the digital age



Submitted image

David Spurlock works on his spoon during Flora School Days 2019. He will be collecting herbs and showing their uses as part of this year’s virtual event.

FLORA — The pioneers did not have internet “back when,” but they did have the ingenuity to make do with what they had. “School Days cannot be held in person, so we did what the pioneers did — adapted to what we can do and can use — and Virtual School Days was born,” proclaimed Nathan Thompson, Walla Walla resident in charge and member of the Flora School Education Center School Board.

Beginning with an introduction at 9:45 a.m. Saturday, June 6, folk art demonstrators will be livestreamed from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thompson will provide live narration during that time frame, enabling viewers to take a peek at each pioneer skill.

The livestream may be watched in real time on the Facebook pages for Flora School, Rusty Hammer Forge, Rusty River Forge and Burners and Blue Mountain Blacksmith Guild. Viewers do not need Facebook to view the live narration — it will also be available on Flora School’s website (www.floraschool.org).

Questions may be asked by visiting the group on Saturday during each particular demonstration.

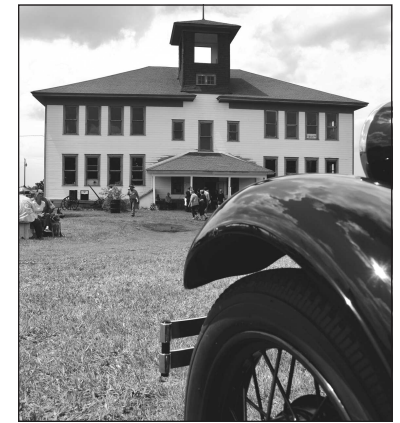
“Live feed allows viewers to question our folk artists just as if you are watching them demo in person,” Thompson said.

If you can’t catch the livestream, the individual demonstrators can be viewed through the FSEC Virtual School Days 2020 group on Facebook any time after Saturday.

For more information, view the school’s website or Facebook page, email floraschool@tds.net or call 541-828-7010.

Due to COVID-19, donations collected during Virtual School Days will be donated to food banks to help out those in need. The School Board for the Flora School Education Center has already donated a pig (turned into sausage) and the chicken (turned into money), both to be used by food banks local to the demonstrators. Both the pig

and the chicken were donated to the Flora School Education Center to be auctioned off (pig) and used at the Dutch oven lunch at the in-person School Days.



Submitted image

Flora School during the 2019 Flora School Days.

SCHEDULE

10 A.M.

Treadle Sewing Machine, Schoolhouse Quilt Blocks by Nickie Sanchez, FSEC Schoolhouse Quilters, San Diego, California

Coffee Roasting, Sarah Thompson, Cast Iron Coffee, Walla Walla

Alpaca Care, Nikki Riley, Pacs and Chicks, Walla Walla

Leathercraft, Cutting Laces for Moccasins and Pouches, Rene Challis, Moccasin Lady, Troy

Blacksmith, Fireplace Set by Justin Riley, Riley River Forge, Walla Walla

Herbalism, Foraging for Wild Edibles by David Spurlock, Walla Walla

Beginning Bladesmithing, Blacksmith Knives by Mike Rowley, Ugly Pug Forge, Enterprise

11 A.M.

Cooking with Cast Iron Dutch Ovens, Dan Thompson, North End Crossing, Flora

Stained Glass, Robert Ridinger, Pomeroy, Washington

NOON

Seeding the Past, Laura Wisdom, Pleasant Views by Laura, Portland
Harnessing the Future, Brian Cook, Equine Elegance, Hermiston

1 P.M.

Herbalism, Usage and Preparation of Wild Edibles, David Spurlock, Walla Walla

Colonial Blacksmithing, Strap Hinges by David Roeder, Custom Knives by David Roeder/Tri-Cities

2 P.M.

Long-arm Sewing Machine, Vanessa Thew Thompson, North End Crossing, Flora

3 P.M.

Cowboy Boots, Crimping Vamps, Morgan Buckert, Blaine County, Idaho

—Go to www.facebook.com/Flora-SchoolEducationCenter for scheduling specifics and instructions.