

Summertime, where the reading's easy...

By the time you read this story the library will be a little quieter. A little more focused on calm; a little less frenetic. Why? Because the Summer Reading Program will have wrapped up. We abbreviate this important library function as SRP, which is good because we're always thinking about it, always talking about it, always writing about it. SRP is what connects us the most deeply with the Fern Ridge community, and it is one of the most rewarding things we do.

What is SRP? Simply put, it's a collection of programs, prizes, and activities meant to keep our community reading when there's no school, less work, and more sunshine. We know there's a lot to do in Oregon when the rain stops, but it's important for our literary health to keep reading, to keep learning, and to keep imagining while the teachers take a well-deserved break from steering us all in the right direction.



This year, the incentives were Croc charms. And if you have no idea what those are you're not alone. Those of us in Generation X didn't know that these are characters and images from pop culture that affix to those ubiquitous soft sandals known as Crocs. Kids know, though, and they love 'em!

Rewarding kids for reading is nothing new. Anyone else remember getting a personal pan pizza from Pizza Hut in the '80s as part of the Book It! Program? Scalding hot cheese STILL makes me want to read Encyclopedia Brown or The Great Brain...

This year, as part of the *Read, Renew, Repeat* theme, kids, teens and adults in Fern Ridge read 10's of thousands of pages, millions of words, and unknowingly kept the 'summer slump' at bay. They will return to school and work more engaged and ready to continue learning. That's a big deal, and worth the time and effort we put in. It's worth the extra noise in the library and worth the shortage of parking spots. Don't get me wrong, there's a beauty and charm to a quiet library. But we'd rather it bustling and busy.

It's your library, after all, and we want you to use it.



FUNDRAISING GOAL FOR 2024-25

Goal: \$15,000

Let's build a bright future together. Grow the Fern Ridge Library Foundation Endowment Fund and invest funds today to support the library forever. Funds are invested by the highly-respected Oregon Community Foundation. Our last campaign to build endowment funding was in 2020 and we successfully raised \$10,000. Let's do more!

How to help?

- Give online at www.frlfoundation.org/give
- Mail check payable to Fern Ridge Library Foundation
- Transfer IRA or retirement funds directly
- Make a bequest or gift by will
- Give life insurance or estate beneficiary designation in your estate plans

The Fern Ridge Library Foundation is a tax-exempt charitable organization under the IRS Code 501 (c) 3. Tax ID # 93-1198874.
E-mail: info@frloundation.org



President's Message

I believe a library helps build a strong community and it certainly takes a community to build and grow a library. The Fern Ridge Library is a case in point.

Of course, the library is supported financially through the Library District's tax base and Local Option Levy. The funds derived thereby support the costs of running the library. This includes staff salaries, utilities, and other miscellaneous expenses the library incurs in order to provide services to the community.

However, our library could not run the way it does without another form of community support—Volunteerism. Volunteers support library functions in so many different ways. The Library Board of Directors are elected community members who volunteer their time to serve on the board. Many from the community give their time assisting the library staff in day-to-day operations in the building, including reshelving books, working the circulation desk, and more. The Friends of the Library are another large group of individuals who support the library through the book sales that they sponsor several times a year and their general advocacy for the library.

The Fern Ridge Library Foundation was established roughly 30 years ago as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization. Our initial purpose was to be able to accept tax-deductible donations required to match the \$300,000 Konnie Family donation to launch a new construction project. Of course, the match was made and the library building we use today is the result. The Foundation has continued its fundraising activities over the years, and, no surprise, the Foundation board is also made up of community members who volunteer their time and energy.

As a Foundation board member since the beginning, I can tell you that there is a great deal of gratification to be derived from this work, which is successful and ongoing. We have been able to enhance library services, and the building itself, through various fundraising projects over the years, as well as continue to build our endowment fund.

I welcome anyone in the community who might be interested in volunteering on the Foundation board, or in other ways, to contact me at doctafloyd@gmail.com or speak with any of the board members you may know about the work we do. Come join our winning team! Thank you!

David Floyd, M.D.
President, Fern Ridge Library Foundation

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAM

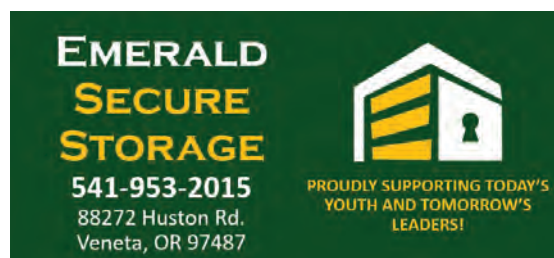
THANK YOU!



THE FERN RIDGE LIBRARY
FOUNDATION THANKS OUR
**2023-24 COMMUNITY PARTNER
MEMBERS** FOR THEIR GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF THE FERN RIDGE LIBRARY.

Charitable giving and business support is essential to a healthy and vibrant library. In 2014, the Foundation initiated the Community Partner program to encourage business and organization giving. Each year the number of participating companies and organizations grows.

A new 2024 member of the Community Partner program is Emerald Secure Storage, a family-owned business established in 2005. Angela Witty-Bawyll, manager, responded to the fundraising appeal this spring. She says the family supports the schools and athletics and felt that the library was another important ingredient in the community. "Libraries are one of the most important public services in a community," she says when interviewed. "Books are a reliable place to find facts, locate free knowledge available to everyone, and helps create a world of possibilities for the imagination." Thank you!



Visit www.frlfoundation.org/join to learn more about our contributors and the Community Partner program. We can't do it without you!

Writers & Wine

A Literary Event and Fundraiser for the Fern Ridge Library

Bob Welch, the 2024 featured author for Writers & Wine, has finished hiking the 2,650 mile Pacific Crest Trail with his brother-in-law, Glenn, which they did over a decade of summers. His latest work, published in 2023, *Seven Summers (And a Few Bummers)*, is a refreshing and authentic telling of



a deeply personal journey. It contains the true grit of this adventure, as well as the humor that is a hallmark of Welch's writing. Writers & Wine 2024 will be held Sunday, October 6 from 3:30–6:00 p.m. at the Fern Ridge Library, 88026 Territorial Hwy in Veneta.

Presented by the Fern Ridge Library Foundation, Writers & Wine is a fundraiser for the library and each year features a regional winery and a Northwest author, with a newly released book. This year, the Art Exhibit at the library will feature works by Bets Cole, a prolific artist and library patron.

We are proud to welcome Bob Welch and to celebrate their successful trek and his latest work. Each admission ticket purchased includes your copy of the book. Silvan Ridge is our featured winery and they offer their award-winning selections. Mark your calendar, invite your friends, and join us!



Bob Welch is the author of more than two dozen books, including *The Wizard of Foz*, *Track & Field Writers of America's 2019 Book of the Year*, and *American Nightingale*, an Oregon Book Award finalist and featured on ABC's *Good Morning America*. As a columnist for *The Register-Guard* in Eugene, Oregon, Welch twice won the National Society of Newspaper Columnist's "Best Writing" award.

Admission to the library's 2024 event includes remarks and a reading by our author, appetizers from Broadway Grill, a copy of the book, and a free glass of wine from Silvan Ridge or other beverage of your choice. One raffle ticket will be entered in your name for the "Getaway" raffle. Admission is \$65 per person, \$100 per couple. Tickets are available online at www.frlfoundation.org/events and at the Fern Ridge Library.

If you can't join us, don't miss out. **New this year** is a Writers & Wine gift bag purchase for \$55. Learn more about tickets, gift bags, and raffle purchases in the green sidebar on the right.

Raffle ticket purchases may be made independently from event tickets. Raffle prizes will be drawn and winners announced at the event. You do not need to be present to win raffle prizes. Additional raffle tickets may be purchased online and at the event.



Writers & Wine 2024

Laugh out loud and join us for a fun afternoon with a reading by Bob Welch, your copy of his newly-released book, wine from Silvan Ridge, catering by Broadway Grill, and raffle prize drawings.

Sunday, October 6, 3:30–6:00 p.m.

Fern Ridge Library, 88026 Territorial Hwy, Veneta

W&W tickets: \$65 per person; \$100 per couple (one book per couple). Includes one ticket entered into the Getaway raffle.

Getaway Raffle: \$400 gift certificate to the Overleaf Lodge in Yachats, Oregon. Tickets \$10 each.



Fun Raffles: A collection of delightful prizes and gifts including tickets to the Oregon Coast Aquarium, gift certificates and prizes from local shops, wineries, restaurants, and artists. Tickets \$5 each.

W&W Gift Bag: A \$55 purchase will win you a copy of Welch's book and a \$25 gift card to use at Silvan Ridge all in a library tote bag. Pick up at the library after Oct. 7.

Visit the website at www.frlfoundation.org/events to learn more and to purchase your tickets. Event, raffle tickets, and gift bags are for sale online for card purchases and available at the library for check or cash sales. For questions, contact info@frlfoundation.org.

Thank you Sponsors!



DAVID FLOYD
& BETS COLE

JACK GRAY &
MARY JO WADE

Many thanks to Lane Forest Products, Swanson Brothers Lumber Co., Territorial Vineyards & Wine Co., David Floyd & Bets Cole, and Jack Gray & Mary Jo Wade for their support.

What's New at Your Library—Digital Resources and Inspiration Artwork



By Colin Rea, Library Director

This last year saw a few new additions to the library, some physical and some digital. Check out what we've added since our last newsletter!



Comics Plus

If you've ever purchased a book from the Friends of the Library book sale or even from the small cart they maintain in the library, you may wonder where that money goes. Well, here's one answer! Thanks to Friends of Fern Ridge Library, we now offer access to Comics Plus, a digital collection of thousands of graphic novels, manga, comic books and comic strips. Visual stories for readers of all ages. Find access on our website at www.fernridgelibrary.org and start reading today!

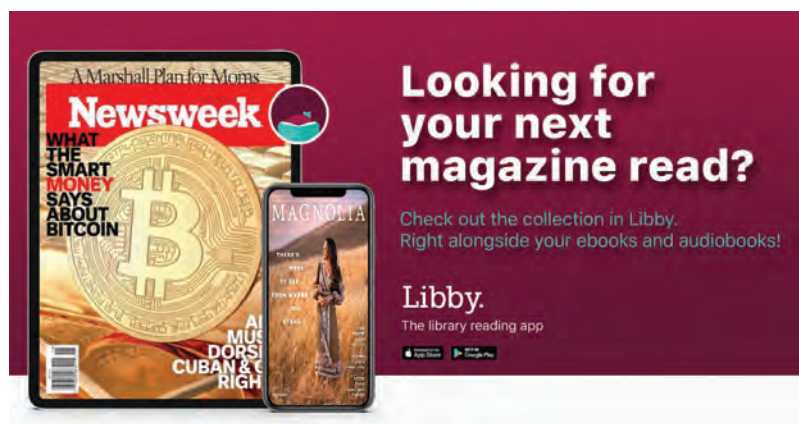
An Art Installation

Artist Peter Erskine (erskinesolarart.net) is on a mission to install his prism-focused art in 100 rural libraries, and Fern Ridge is one of them. Using custom prisms, mirrors, skylights and windows, Peter Erskine's Solar Spectrum Art installations transform ordinary sunlight into radiant solar spectrum beams—bathing library spaces, staff, and patrons in the breathtaking beauty of natural rainbow light. Come see what this installation has done for our kids section!



Digital Magazines

If you use the Libby app from Overdrive on your phone, tablet, or computer, you can now access current and archived magazines 24/7! Check out the titles available when and where you'd like with this new digital offering.



Library Board

Fern Ridge Library Foundation

FERN RIDGE LIBRARY MISSION AND VISION

The **MISSION** of the Fern Ridge Library District is to inspire, empower, and engage our community through discovery and sharing of information. The **VISION** of the Fern Ridge Library District is to grow an inclusive physical and virtual space where the services provided are responsive to the needs of our community.

Adopt-a-Shelf—It's Your Library, Put Your Name in It!

Since 2008, shelf tags have been placed throughout the library as part of the Fern Ridge Library Foundation's ongoing Adopt-a-Shelf fundraiser. At our recent count, conducted by Les Benoy, Library Foundation board member, there are now 610 shelf tags that have been adopted. These tags are added to the shelves by donors and families, business and organization members of the Community Partner program, to recognize support for the library and to remember friends and family members—including pets.

Now, when an Adopt-a-Shelf tag is added, and an email address is provided, we will take a photo of your tag as it is installed. We will then send you an image and provide location information so you can find your shelf. To sponsor a shelf tag, contribute \$50 or more and provide text for 25 characters maximum. You can make payment online at www.frlfoundation.org/give or pick up a donation card next time you're in the library. Tags are ordered and installed at least 4 times a year. We have 1,100 shelves available, so keep going, Fern Ridge. Thank you for your support.



- **FERN RIDGE LIBRARY**
88026 Territorial Road
Veneta, OR 97487
541-935-7512
www.fernridgelibrary.org

- **LIBRARY HOURS**
Monday 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Tuesday 10 a.m.–7 p.m.
Wednesday 10 a.m.–7 p.m.
Thursday 10 a.m.–7 p.m.
Friday 10 a.m.–7 p.m.
Saturday 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Sunday CLOSED

- **TO MAKE A DONATION OR DISCUSS AN ENDOWMENT GIFT, CONTACT:**

FERN RIDGE LIBRARY
FOUNDATION
P.O. Box 397
Veneta, OR 97487
541-935-7512
www.frlfoundation.org/legacy
info@frloundation.org

- **FOUNDATION BOARD**
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News from the Friends of the Fern Ridge Library

Who are the Friends of the Fern Ridge Library?

We're an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization that's been supporting the Fern Ridge Library for more 30 years. We advocate for our library and raise money through annual membership dues, donations, and the book sales you know and love. The funds we raise help to fund library programs, purchase materials to supplement the library's collections, and assist the library with visibility and outreach events in the community. Information about all Friends' activities is posted in a number of places in the library as well as on the Friends' website, friendsfernridgelibrary.weebly.com, and on social media. Join us for fun, community, and library advocacy! We LOVE our library!

Books Everyday Sale Stand and Book Sales

Our most popular and visible activity is our book sales. We typically hold two-day sales in the library three times each year. Our everyday book sale stand, near the library entrance, means patrons can purchase books whenever they visit the library. We accept book donations too. Up to 2 bags of books may be left for us at the library or contact us for larger donations.

We share a booth with the library at the Veneta Harvest Festival in September and sell books. With the funds raised over the past year, we continued our support of the summer reading program, printing of the library's monthly calendars and the of extra OBOB (Oregon Battle of the Books) books for kids and teens. In addition, we contributed to the fundraising project to get new entry doors for the library and contributed to the library Foundation's endowment fund. We also funded access to digital graphic novels (Go Comics) and digital magazine subscriptions.

In other community contributions, we continue to stock the book exchange box at the Applegate Elementary School in Crow, donate books to other book exchange boxes in the area and stock the shelves at the Fern Ridge Service Center with large-print books for seniors. We also donated surplus materials to the Veneta SMART Readers program, books for kids and teens to the SANTA Project and the Love Project food pantry, audiobooks and puzzles to the Fern Ridge Service Center as well as adult fiction to the Oregon Country Fair.

FRIENDS OF THE FERN RIDGE LIBRARY BOOK SALE!



October 18–19 at the library!
10 a.m.–4 p.m. both days.

Members of the Friends are admitted at 9:30 a.m. on Friday.



Sandra Larson Memorial Scholarships

For the tenth consecutive year, the Friends awarded scholarships to five local high school seniors, recognizing their outstanding academic achievement and service to the community. The 2024 Sandra Larson Memorial Scholarships of \$750 each were awarded to Maritza Espinoza-Silva, Iris Frome, Lillian Ossowski, Arina Rose, and Ariel Stafflund. All of these students were active volunteers in the community—Ariel and Arina were volunteers at the library. These scholarships were made possible by donations from generous members of our organization.



Maritza Espinoza-Silva will attend University of Oregon in the first step toward a career in law and justice.



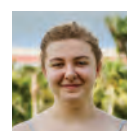
Iris Frome plans to pursue a career in veterinary sciences, beginning with studies at the University of Washington.



Lillian Ossowski also plans a career in the veterinary field and will attend Oregon State University.



Arina Rose plans to pursue a career in editing, starting with studies in English at Lane Community College and University of Oregon.



Ariel Stafflund plans to write children's books and work as a librarian, beginning her studies at Lane Community College.

The VISION of the Fern Ridge Library Foundation is to be a vibrant, sustainable, collaborative organization that works to enhance the library's service to the community.

Fern Ridge Library Foundation
P.O. Box 397
Veneta, OR 97487

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YOU'RE INVITED

Writers & Wine

- Featuring Bob Welch
- Wine from Silvan Ridge Winery
- Great raffle prizes
- Catering by Broadway Grill

Sunday, October 6, 3:30–6:00 p.m.

Fern Ridge Library, 88026 Territorial Hwy, Veneta

Purchase tickets and gift bag online or by check or cash at the library. www.frlfoundation.org/events

\$65 per person includes 1 book, food, 1 glass of wine/ beverage, and 1 raffle ticket for the Getaway raffle

\$100 per couple includes 1 book, food, 2 glasses of wine/ beverage, and 1 ticket for the Getaway raffle

NEW Can't make it? Order a Writers & Wine Gift Bag!

\$55 each includes 1 book, \$25 gift card to Silvan Ridge Winery in a library tote bag. Pick up at the library after Oct. 7.

Additional raffle tickets: \$10 each for Getaway raffle and \$5 each for Fun Raffle Prizes.

I LOVE MY LIBRARY



Congratulations and High Praise

Farewell and adieu to Laura Blankenship, who has served the Fern Ridge Library District as Assistant Director since she joined the team back in 2007. Laura has worn many hats, and many faerie wings during her time, and anyone who enjoyed participating in the adult summer reading program has

her to thank. She also spearheaded the Courtyard renovation and involved local nurseries, artists, and creators in making the space outside the library a special area. Laura is retiring in February of 2025, and the library won't be the same without her! Thank you, Laura, for your many contributions.