

Library makes progress on expansion plan

Library completes strategic plan, summer programming ramps up

The board and staff are making steady progress with the future expansion of the Library at its existing site on 7th Street. This time last year, we asked for community feedback to help develop a strategic plan. One of the results from the process included "expanding the library's capacity as a cultural, informational, and educational hub." A related sub-goal is to explore options to expand the facility to increase its capacity for community use and develop a process and plan for building renovation.

We have rearranged staff and freed up the small meeting room, and we also have a small (fits one-two-people) space and a community group our library team often uses as the meeting room. The quiet room has been used by individuals for things like testing or making personal telephone calls (think accountant during tax time). The meeting room has been so popular that we are looking at alternative spaces for in-house meetings. Our community has an acute need



NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY
Jane Ellen Innes

for free community meeting space, and gathering spaces are essential to our expansion.

Board members established and completed two goals for the last 12 months: (1) complete a strategic plan and (2) hire an owner's representative.

What's an owner's representative? Taking on a significant capital project comes with inherent risks. Many moving parts are involved, and a lot of money is at stake. Projects can become increasingly complex and demand the Owner's time and resources. Each project is unique, differing in scope, objectives, budget, teams, schedules, and regulations. This complexity requires a high learning curve, making it challenging for the Owner—even one with construction project experience—to successfully execute their goals and objectives. In addition, the Owner already has a complete set of responsibilities outside the construction project. (Sure, I can buy a house, but I wouldn't know how to build one.)

Project Solutions, Inc. in Bend. Compass has worked on several capital projects in Madras, including the Jefferson County Courthouse renovations and the Jefferson County Health and Wellness Center. "The board has been considering a capital project for a long time, and it's wonderful to see things moving forward," said Stephen Hillis.

As we continue on this project, we will gather suggestions from the community. The Jefferson County Library is your space, and we want to be sure our building reflects the needs of our District. Board member Tiffany Turo said it best, "I'm excited about our progress so far. And look forward to building something that truly reflects the community's needs."

Fundraising is an essential component of this building project. The Library has received significant donations from the Gloria and Robert Comingore estate, the Beth Crow estate, Adele and Sumner Rogriguez, and the Juniper Branch of Family Finders. The Jefferson County Library

Last fall, the board requested quotes from companies that provide owners' representative services. After the interviews, the board selected

Compass Association, including the Foundation and the Friends of the Library, has also raised funds for this project.

Friday Night Movies

After a COVID hiatus, the Free Friday Night Films at the Library started again last fall. We will begin showing films again in late September/early October. Thanks to all of you who came out on Friday nights to share the experience and make the program successful.

We look forward to seeing you again in the fall.

Library Happenings

- Teen Cosplay Event, Saturday, May 20 @ 3 pm
- Notry services are available by appointment Tuesday – Thursday from 10 am to 3 pm
- You'll find us at the Saturday Market on May 1 and the Downtown First Thursday Kick-off tomorrow, May 4.
- Our regular English, Spanish, and bi-lingual story-times continue throughout May, along with family story-time on Saturdays
- Mark your calendars! Summer reading program registration opens on June 1.

If you're interested in receiving an electronic copy of our monthly newsletter, send a request to info@jclid.org, and we'll add you to our distribution list.

BIRTHANNOUNCEMENT

Jayleen Renteria

Christopher Renteria and Maria Balderrama, of Madras, are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Jayleen Renteria. Jayleen was born April 24, 2023, at 1:41 a.m. at Saint Charles Madras. At birth, Jayleen weighed seven pounds eight ounces and was 20 inches in length. Jayleen joins sisters, Jenesys, 8, and Jaylahni, 4, at home.

Paternal grandparents are Carlos and Dolores Renteria of Redmond.

In Loving Memory

Christine Lindley Belcastro

October 8, 1950 - April 11, 2023



Christine Lindley Belcastro, went home to the Lord on April 11, 2023, dying peacefully in her sleep at her winter residence in Yuma, Arizona. Christine was born to Richard and Gladys Lindley on October, 8, 1950, in Albany, Oregon. She was the oldest of two children.

The Lindley family moved to Madras when Chris' dad became a partner in Gourmet Foods and oversaw its trucking operation. Chris spent her childhood in Jefferson County and was involved in many activities at school and church. She graduated from Madras High in 1968. She had hoped to become a registered nurse but was never able to pursue that dream.

Chris got her first job the following year writing obituaries for the Herald and News in Klamath Falls. She spent the next 11 years at the H&N working her way up as the first female government reporter and eventually to society editor. She received numerous awards from her work as a writer. Chris left the newspaper business and became a travel agent after marrying Pete Belcastro in 1978. Pete worked as news anchor at KOTI-TV at the time and the two had been news rivals. Chris enjoyed her new career and loved working at Sunshine Travel in Klamath Falls thru 1984. Pete and Chris married at a small ceremony at their home on Conger Avenue, overlooking the Link River. They remained together 45 years and had one child, Mark, born in 1980.

Pete and Christine moved to Medford in 1984 when Pete was hired as the news anchor at KOB TV Channel 5. Chris didn't stay at home long and was hired by AAA