Roseburg Library Facilitates Letter-Exchange Project
Kris Wiley for The News-Review

Roseburg Public Library is excited to partner on a letter-writing exchange project that connects Oregonians through the mail.

Oregon Humanities’ Dear Stranger program has encouraged people to share their experiences, beliefs and ideas for 10 years. Participants respond to a prompt and submit their letter to Oregon Humanities, which then swaps letters between two writers. The exchange is anonymous.

This fall, Oregon Humanities is celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Dear Stranger program by making it part of their Beyond 250 project, which “will explore a future vision for our country on the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.”

All patrons are invited to respond to the following prompt:

**What is the Oregon you want to live in?** It’s been nearly 250 years since the United States declared its independence. What do you hope the next 250 years hold for Oregon, and for the country? How will people govern themselves, share power and build community? How do you hope people will practice independence, interdependence or both? If you don’t live in Oregon, think about your own community. What is the world you want to see around you, now and in the future?

The library will serve as a letter-writing station through October. Stop in and use the self-serve table near the front desk, which includes paper, writing utensils, envelopes and directions. Participants must fill out a form and sign a permission agreement.

Library staff will ensure entries are returned to Oregon Humanities. Alternately, writers may mail their letter directly to Oregon Humanities. Participants will receive a letter from another writer in November.

**Friends Book Sale**

The Friends of the Roseburg Library fall book sale is this week at the library, 1409 NE Diamond Lake Blvd.

Hours are 9 a.m.-8 p.m. Thursday; 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday; and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday.

This is a bargain sale with all books in good condition but well loved and includes books donated by the public and withdrawn from the library collection.

Most books and audiovisual materials will be priced at 50 cents with mass-market paperbacks for 25 cents. Selections include fiction, nonfiction and antique books. Special art books and new editions published in the last three years will be offered for $5. Colorful handcrafted book bags are available for $5.

The Friends accept payments by cash or check only.

During the sale, leftover better books from the summer sale will continue to be sold at the Friends Book Store inside the library.

On Saturday, all books will be free. Following the sale, all books at the Friends Book Store will be free until the December book sale.

Anyone wishing to help with the book sale, please contact the Friends at friendsroseburglibrary@gmail.com. Shifts are available during the sale, and volunteers always are needed to help with setup Wednesday from 2-4:30 p.m. and takedown Saturday from 2-4 p.m.

For more information, call 541-492-7050.

Book donations are welcome during open library hours. Drop off items at the front desk.

This Week’s Library Events

Thursday, September 6, 9 a.m.-8 p.m. – Friends of the Library Book Sale

Thursday, September 5, 6:30 p.m. – Author Discussion Group: Percival Everett (email kwiley@roseburgor.gov for the Zoom link)

Friday, September 7, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. – Friends of the Library Book Sale

Saturday, September 8, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. – Friends of the Library Book Sale