

## A Banner Year at Roseburg Public Library Kris Wiley for The News-Review

As I review Roseburg Public Library's sixth year of operation, I continue to be amazed by and grateful for the community's investment in literacy and lifelong learning.

The library checked out 110,000 items this year, a 6% increase over 2023. The change primarily was due to digital circulation, which increased 17% and accounted for 31% of all checkouts.

The library provides access to downloadable books and audiobooks on two platforms, cloudLibrary and Libby. Digital magazines are available on Libby.

Circulation of e-books and e-audio was virtually equal at about 16,000 checkouts each. Patrons checked out 1,700 electronic magazines since the service launched in July.

Circulation of physical materials increased 1.5%, to nearly 76,000.

The four most popular books for adults were "Three-Inch Teeth," the newest title in the Joe Pickett mystery series by C.J. Box (31 checkouts); "The Exchange: After the Firm" by John Grisham (28 checkouts); and "James" by Percival Everett and "Calamity of Souls" by David Baldacci (26 checkouts each).

Manga, which are graphic novels originating from Japan, remained popular, particularly with junior and teen readers. Graphic novels publish in volumes, and several titles topped 100 checkouts.

Our youngest patrons remained loyal to the Elephant & Piggie series by Mo Willems and Eric Carle's beautifully illustrated picture books, including "The Very Hungry Caterpillar."

The library added 4,000 items to the collection, 3,500 of which were purchased. Our focus remains on stocking new, popular titles.

The library issued 1,600 cards this year. There are 6,700 active cardholders, 30% of whom are youth.

Nearly 80,000 people visited the library, not only to check out materials but to use the public computers and Wi-Fi, receive reference assistance, hang out in a quiet space and more.

That "more" includes programming. The library hosted 275 programs for 7,800 people of all ages, from Storytime to Harry Potter Day to a cultural dance performance and author visits.

Six years went by faster than I could have imagined. We have accomplished much of what I hoped when I came on board, but one of the reasons I love my work is because of all the opportunities that remain. I can't wait to show you what we have in store for 2025.

### **Holiday Hours**

The library will be closed Tuesday, Dec. 24 and Wednesday, Dec. 25. We will reopen at 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 26.

The outside book drop will be open for returns. The library's digital platforms, cloudLibrary and Libby, are available 24/7.

Next week's library event

Thursday, December 26, 6:30 p.m. – Silent Book Group