

Library's Annual Report Demonstrates Impact

Kris Wiley for The News-Review

Our work at Roseburg Public Library is rooted in customer service. We purchase and circulate popular material, assist folks with their technology needs, develop and host programs, and provide a welcoming space.

Every month we compile statistics that help us quantify our efforts. That information is posted online as part of the Library Commission's agenda packet (available at www.cityofroseburg.org/your-government/commissions/library-commission) and shared during their meeting the third Tuesday of each month at the library and on Facebook Live.

At the end of each fiscal year, we gather the monthly data to create a snapshot that helps inform the library's annual report to the State Library, a requirement as a legally recognized public library. We also use the opportunity to compare the year's performance with previous years.

Fiscal year 2024-25 (July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025) was another great year at the library. We experienced growth in some areas and a status quo in other areas, results I anticipated as we closed out our sixth year of services.

We issued 1,500 library cards and ended the year with 7,700 cardholders.

Nearly 75,800 people visited the library, a 2.5% decrease in door count over the previous year.

Patrons checked out 115,250 items, a 4.4% increase over the previous year. Physical materials accounted for 65.5% and digital materials 34.5% of circulation, a 4.9% change in favor of digital materials.

There was a 21.7% year-over-year growth in digital materials circulation.

I attribute much of the popularity of digital materials to the introduction of online magazines, which are available on the Libby app. Patrons checked out more than 5,000 digital magazines.

They also increased their digital audiobooks use, checking out more than 19,000 items, a 13.7% increase over the previous year. Digital book use was flat with 15,350 checkouts.

The library hosted 255 programs that 8,600 people attended. That was 60 fewer events, primarily because we did not have the services of an AmeriCorps participant to focus on adult programming, but attendance was virtually the same.

The library was open 1,724 hours with four full-time equivalent staff members. Twenty-three library volunteers served 1,200 hours, and about 50 Friends of the Roseburg Public Library volunteers served 2,000 hours.

All of these numbers are a result of your support. Thank you for making Roseburg Public Library part of your routine. We look forward to providing another year of service to the community.

Summer Reading Survey for Adults

Adults are invited to complete the library's summer reading bonus survey for a chance to win a \$25 gift card to Gathering Grounds Coffee House in Roseburg.

Participants are invited to respond to the following prompts:

- What was the best book you read this summer?
- What book/movie/TV show do you keep hearing about?
- What book would you like to see adapted to a screenplay?
- Who is your favorite literary character?
- Which actor would you like to play your favorite literary character?

To participate, visit the library's website, and click on "Summer Reading Program." Click on the link titled "August Bonus Survey" to complete the survey. Alternately, stop into the library for a paper survey, or email me at kwiley@roseburgor.gov with your responses. The survey closes at 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 23.

One winner will be drawn randomly from all fully completed submissions.

Next Week's Library Events

Monday, Aug. 11-Saturday, Aug. 16, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. - StoryWalk® at Stewart Park near the YMCA

Tuesday, Aug. 12, 10 a.m. – Grab-and-go kids craft kits while supplies last

Tuesday, Aug. 12, 1 p.m. – Children's program: weave a coaster

Tuesday, Aug. 12, 6:30 p.m. – Online Book Group (email kwiley@roseburgor.gov for the Zoom link)

Wednesday, Aug. 13, 10:30 a.m. at Stewart Park Pavilion – Storytime with Aurora

Thursday, Aug. 14, 1-2:30 p.m. – Teen program: thumbtack string art

Friday, Aug. 15, 10:30 a.m. at Stewart Park Pavilion – Children's program: paint rocks