Roseburg Public Library Celebrates the Friends Kris Wiley for The News-Review

Oct. 19-25 is National Friends of Libraries Week, a time to honor the support these grassroots organizations provide in their communities.

Friends of the Roseburg Public Library attend programs, check out material, share the library story and fundraise to support library projects and programs.

In the past year, the Friends donated nearly \$29,000 primarily as a result of their book sales. Proceeds funded the summer and winter reading programs, the sound system in the Ford Room, program presenters, craft supplies and more.

Friends manage the carts and carts of donations we receive, sorting books and magazines and determining how they will be distributed to the public.

Magazines always are free and located in two racks near the Friends Book Store inside the library.

Currently, the Friends Book Store inventory consists of residual books from the large fall sale, and everything is free.

Some donated material is saved for the large, quarterly book sales in the Ford Room. The next sale is Thursday, Dec. 4 through Saturday, Dec. 6 and will be a better sale with items suitable for gifting.

Some donated items are posted on the Friends of the Library's Amazon account.

Donations of gently used books and DVDs along with magazines less than three years old are welcome during library hours. Drop off items at the front desk. Receipts are provided upon request.

The Friends also serve as the Local Program Partner for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, an early literacy program that mails one new, free book to registered children from birth to fifth birthday. Our service area includes the following zip codes: 97443, 97447, 97470, 97471, 97494 and 97495.

As the local affiliate, the Friends are responsible for fundraising \$15.50 per registered child per year; approving and managing changes to registrations; and paying invoices.

Over the past year, 18,000 books were sent to 1,900 children.

Online registration is available at imaginationlibrary.com; click "Check Availability." Anyone may register a child; however, a parent's or guardian's phone number or email address is required. The first book is mailed eight to 10 weeks after registration.

The Friends also adopted the path between the library and Deer Creek, picking up litter and helping beautify the space.

I encourage folks to consider becoming a Friend. Stop by the library or visit the group's website at roseburglibraryfriends.org for more information and the membership form.

The Friends always need help with their book sales. Email friendsroseburglibrary@gmail.com or call the library at 541-492-7050 to learn more about volunteer opportunities.

Thank you, Friends, for your support. We are grateful!

Next week's events

Wednesday, Oct. 29, 10:15 a.m. - Storytime with Aurora

Thursday, Oct. 30, 10:15 a.m. – Storytime with Aurora

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

Saturday, Nov. 1, 10:30 a.m.-12 p.m. – Recreational Chess Club