What's Next For Your Community Libraries and How We Are Working To Serve You

Dear Friends,

We know that you are eager to come back to your libraries. We are just as eager to welcome you back—with your health and safety in mind.

Since the libraries closed on March 15th, our staff have been working with Washington County Cooperative Library Services to draft a plan to offer library services while ensuring the safety of patrons, volunteers and employees. Cedar Mill & Bethany, along with other WCCLS libraries, will follow a phased reopening. By carefully incorporating guidance released by government and health authorities, the plan provides sound guidance for moving forward. Each Washington County library is catering the plan to their individual communities’ needs and their libraries’ capacities.

One of our first priorities over the next few months will be to get library materials into your hands, followed by accepting returns. Some libraries throughout the country have tested contactless, curbside pickup. We are closely following their efforts and systematically preparing to adopt their successes.

We have already begun by working to manage backlogs of orders and holds, bring in new safety supplies, and structure staffing levels, schedules, and teams to prepare the libraries for contactless pickup.

Then we will plan to receive and quarantine returned items. Currently there are more than 80,000 items checked out at Cedar Mill & Bethany Libraries. More than 30% of items in circulation come from other Washington County libraries. To accept returns, our daily inter-library courier system must be reactivated.

We are monitoring scientific tests being performed on library materials by the Reopening Archives, Libraries, and Museums (REALM) project to determine the safest way to handle returned items.

When the libraries are opened to the public, it will be in the safest capacity possible. Until then, we appreciate your patience as we work to create the libraries of the future—a future in which we are all safe and healthy.

In the meantime, turn the page to find out how your community libraries have been meeting the challenge of the pandemic by creating new programs, offering digital services and helping you find the best resources for your needs. You may be surprised by just how much we have to offer you, even when our doors are closed!

For the libraries,

Peter Leonard, CMBCL Executive Director
Library News June—August 2020

WHAT’S HAPPENING AT THE LIBRARIES

VOTERS PASS LIBRARY LEVY

Washington County voters approved measure 34-297 on May 19th with a 68.6% approval vote. This five-year levy is not an increase, but simply renews the level of support from Washington County. Cedar Mill Libraries receives approximately 40% of its operating revenue from this levy, so passage was very important. The levy runs from July 2021 through June 2026. Funds from the library levy are used to purchase books and other materials, provide children’s reading programs and to provide resources for job seekers. The levy also supports countywide services such as e-books, courier, internet and our shared automation system. With so many aspects of our daily lives turned upside down due to Covid-19, the library appreciates our county’s support and trust in our mission.

BRINGING THE LIBRARIES TO YOU

Storytelling has been a key feature of American libraries for over a century, and for good reason. As children listen to stories, they acquire essential tools for learning and communication including vocabulary expansion and development of literacy and active listening skills.

Storytelling programs can include sing-a-longs, dancing and puppets. By offering live, group storytimes, libraries create community and promote inclusivity. As children attend the events on a regular basis, librarians become some of the most beloved people in their lives.

Cedar Mill and Bethany Community Libraries regularly offer over 500 live storytimes each year that are regularly attended by up to 75 children at a time. When library staff learned that the libraries would temporarily close due to Covid-19, they immediately set to creating an online storytime program. As emails poured in from parents telling of kids missing “their” librarians, staff were studying video editing and filming storytelling videos in their homes. The result has been a great success, with videos reaching thousands of followers and receiving enthusiastic feedback.

Through online storytimes, CMBCL librarians seek to provide children with a sense of normalcy and an uninterrupted connection to the libraries they love, all while teaching them skills they will use for a lifetime. Learn more here.

Cedar Mill and Bethany Community Libraries currently publish pre-recorded and live Storytime at Home videos on Facebook and Youtube.

Facebook Comments

"Good to see you, Marta! Joey had a big smile on his face when he saw you and loved dancing around to his favorite songs! Thank you!" — Annie

"Great My little one enjoyed, especially the froggie! Thank you!" — Kalpana

"Thank you so much! My daughter loved your library storytime before the closure and now she can have such a great time every week by watching your video." — Ariel

Facebook: @CedarMillLibraries   YouTube: Cedar Mill Library

Facebook Comments

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DIGITAL RESOURCES

Find a world of e-books, audiobooks, videos, courses, programs, and so much more waiting for you online. All free with your library card! Visit Library.CedarMill.org/Digital-Library.

33,970

Cedar Mill and Bethany Community Libraries loaned out 33,970 e-books in the last month alone!

BEYOND THE LIBRARIES

My Little Waiting Room at St. Vincent’s Hospital provides free childcare to all Providence patients while they are at the hospital for services. CMBCL helps by providing books to the hospital every month. Since 2015, these rotating book collections have provided fun and comfort for preschoolers, toddlers and infants while they wait for their parents at the hospital. School age kids enjoy the diversion of comics, magazines, and books selected just for them. Thanks to our longtime volunteers Gary Heckendorn, who makes our deliveries, and thanks to Roger Bates who long ago memorized the routes where he drops off books. And congratulations to My Little Waiting Room for 10 years of serving families!

CEDAR MILL LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION

Construction of the Milltowner shopping center is well under way, including Cedar Mill Library’s new parking lot. Watch the construction camera—a live video feed filmed from the roof of the library—at Library.CedarMill.org/News/Construction.
**Summer Reading** What’s the same? What’s different?

**The Same:**
- Kids who keep reading over the summer retain (or improve!) their reading skills.
- Pre-readers who listen to books enter school better prepared to learn to read.
- Read any time between June 1st and August 31st.
- Kids can set reading goals and track their efforts.
- Watch storytimes, puppet shows and STEM events online. Check the libraries’ website event calendar.
- Enjoy fun activities and challenges all summer long—posted on the libraries’ website blog.
- ALL reading counts—books, tablets, comics, instructions, email, cereal boxes. If you can read it—it counts!

**Different:**
- You don’t have to register—just begin!
- All programs and storytimes will be virtual.
- In the interest of safety, reward books and incentives will not be distributed this year. We will, however, have options to showcase and celebrate readers’ success.
- The summer begins with the libraries closed, but e-books are available with your library card.
- This year we will be joining other libraries and WCCLS in a countywide project to get books into the hands of Washington County children in need.

**Join Us Online For Fun Summer Events**

**Dragon Theater Puppets and Princesses**
This summer a Portland company teams up with CMBCL to celebrate reading. Visit each week in July and watch them bring stories to life with classic character puppets and real-life princesses.
- July 9: The Friendly Little Unicorn Puppet Show
- July 16: Little Bugs Big World
- July 23: The Reluctant Dragon Puppet Show
- July 30: Magic Show with Elsa and Anna from Frozen

**Simple Summer STEM and Craft for Kids Grades K-5**
Your favorite CMBCL staff members share easy projects using stuff you have around the house.
- June 18: Slime
- June 25: Fairy House
Participate in the Teen Tween Summer Reading Challenge and Help Others

The teen tween summer reading challenge will look a little different this year. In the interest of safety, reward books and incentives will not be distributed. However, we absolutely want to encourage everyone to keep reading! That’s why every book read will contribute 25 cents towards a donation to the Oregon Food Bank in order to battle food insecurity. Our goal is to donate up to $1,000 by the end of the summer.

Read for fun and do good at the same time! Here’s how:

**Who:** Students entering the 6th–12th grades

**When:** June 1st through August 31st

**How:** Track your reading

**Track your reading online:**
- Download the Beanstack Tracker App from your favorite app store.
- Create an account or log in with your account from last year and start tracking!

Or print and complete the tracking form found at Library.CedarMill.org/Events/Teens.

**Local Teen Wins Teen Art Prize!**

Washington County Cooperative Library Services (WCCLS) is proud to announce the winner of its 2019 Teen Summer Reading Art Contest: Emily L!

Emily is an 8th grader at Stoller Middle School and a Bethany Library patron. Teens around Washington County voted for this design as their favorite depiction of the 2020 Summer Reading slogan, "Imagine Your Story."

Emily receives a $200 gift certificate for Amazon.com and her art will appear on countywide Teen Summer Reading publicity this summer, including posters and bookmarks. Read more at News.WCCLS.org

1st Place: Emily L. - Bethany Library

2nd Place: Angelina G. - Tualatin Public Library

3rd Place: Helena L. - Beaverton Murray Scholls Library

3rd Place: Ayesha K. - Bethany Library

Local students Helena L. and Ayesha K. tied for Third Place, and both received prizes.

**Sync: Audiobooks for Teens**

Teens looking for audiobooks should check out SYNC. SYNC is a free, summer audiobook program for teens ages 13+. It runs from April 30th to July 29th and it gives participants two thematically paired
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ADULTS

Summer Reading

Countywide Program
Sign up for countywide Summer Reading for Adults from June 1st to July 31st at WCCLS.org/ASRP. You’ll receive fun, interactive emails with fantastic book suggestions from library staff throughout the summer!

CMBCL Summer Reading Contests for Adults
Adults can enter a prize drawing on our website each month this summer! (one of each prize available per library location)
In June, tell us about a book that you read or listened to recently.
- Prizes: $50 Bethany's Table restaurant gift certificates
In July, tell us something that you watched on Kanopy.
- Prizes: $50 Rainy Day Games gift cards
In August, tell us what you want to read next!
- Prizes $50 Powell's gift cards

Events

Three on a Theme Book Talk
Wednesdays | 5pm | Facebook: @CedarMillLibraries
Join us as library assistant Becca brings us three book recommendations that all share a common theme! Find past videos are on our YouTube account: Cedar Mill Library

Create at Home
Sundays | 11am | On the libraries’ website calendar
Create at Home is a weekly online series brought to you by the talented staff at Cedar Mill & Bethany Community Libraries. Each week we present a new video highlighting processes and techniques in creating art.

Owl Book Group
June 26, July 31, August 28 | 10:30am-12pm | Online via Zoom
Current Owl Book Group members will receive a link for this meeting. If you're new, welcome! Email laurab@wccls.org to receive a link a few days before the event.

Writers’ Mill
June 21, July 19, August 16 | 1-3 pm | Online via Zoom
Whether you’re writing just for fun, hoping for publication, or planning to self-publish, join us for an inspiring gathering of people who love to write. Newcomers welcome! Current Writer’s Mill members will receive a link for this meeting. Email laurab@wccls.org to sign up and receive a link.

Visit Library.CedarMill.org/Adults to find more virtual events for adults!
**VOLUNTEERS**

**Celebrating a Library Hero: Helen Fohl, 1920-2020**

Helen volunteered at Cedar Mill Library from 2001 to 2016. She was a retired teacher and school librarian, most recently from the Beaverton School District, when she joined the library’s volunteer family. Ever curious and ever committed to books, to reading and to the library, Helen volunteered to shelve and pull requested items, and was sometimes naughty in the process! More than once she had to be reminded not to climb on the slippery wooden chairs to reach the high shelves! But her dogged determination usually meant she found everything on her list. She took morning shifts that started just before the library opened, but often when she arrived, she had been up for four or five hours, engaged in Bible study. She supported her church as well as Habitat for Humanity, even into her 90’s. She had an indomitable enthusiasm and a lust for life that spanned nearly 100 years. Hers is a life to celebrate—she is a library hero.

She had an indomitable enthusiasm and a lust for life that spanned nearly 100 years.

To learn how you can volunteer when the libraries and shop reopen, visit Library.CedarMill.org or contact Volunteer Services Manager, Jennifer Imai, at (503) 644-0043 x111 or jeni@wccls.org.

**SECOND EDITION RESALE**

**Save Your Item Donations**

Have you been cleaning out your closets? Please save your donations of new and like-new items until the shop reopens. Help the shop help the library even more by grouping your donations by category: clothing and linens, shoes and accessories, electronics and small appliances, housewares, and miscellaneous. Keep an eye out for updates and find our donation guidelines on our website at Library.CedarMill.org/Second-Edition-Resale.

All proceeds from your purchases made at Second Edition Resale support Cedar Mill and Bethany Community Libraries.

Follow @SecondEditionResale on Facebook and Instagram.

**SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY LIBRARIES**

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, Cedar Mill and Bethany Community Libraries Association depends on your donations to make library services possible in your community. Questions? Contact us at CMLdevelopment@wccls.org

Visit Library.CedarMill.org and make your gift today.
“We face unprecedented uncertainty, as a community and as part of humanity. It helps to know that part of what makes Cedar Mill a wonderful community, the library, will survive this crisis and emerge intact.” - Harold H.