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CONNECTIONS: YOUR LINK TO THE
State Library of Oregon



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AGENCY NEWS

State Library Building Reopening Pushed Back Again

Because of the anticipated arrival of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 in Oregon, the State Library building, along with many other state agency buildings, will now remain closed to the public beyond the scheduled reopening date of January 3rd. At this time a new reopening date has not been identified. Thankfully, most of our services can be accessed [online](#), and if you need more personalized assistance, please feel free to [contact us](#).

LIBRARY SUPPORT & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Getting to Know the Library Support and Development Services Division

Featured staff: Greta Bergquist (she/her)



Greta Bergquist joined Library Support and Development Services at the State Library of Oregon in 2018 as the [Youth Services](#) Consultant. She works with public libraries implementing [Ready to Read](#), supporting Early Literacy and Summer Reading library programs across the state.

Greta works with external partners like the Oregon Library Association's [Children's Services Division](#) and [Oregon Young Adult Network](#) as they strive to support youth-focused library staff, as well as statewide youth-focused organizations like [Oregon ASK](#) or the [Early Learning Division](#). There are so many people working together to help young Oregonians succeed!

This year, Greta was pleased to focus in on Teen Services at libraries. She worked with her colleague Tamara Ottum on a Teen Services Grant allowing 28 libraries the opportunity to serve teens in the way that made sense for them. Projects included everything from adding a 3-D printer to a teen makerspace to a public gardening bed project on library grounds. Additionally, Greta worked with Multnomah County librarian Danielle Jones to bring YALSA's [Transforming Teen Services](#) to Oregon library staff. They facilitated a spring and fall cohort of library staff diving into all things teen development and connected learning. The work public library staff do in their home communities never fails to inspire Greta.

When not working, Greta enjoys art, cooking, being outside, and hugging baby goats with her neighbors.

Wallowa Band of the Nez Perce Tribe Documents 30 Years of Tamkaliks Celebration



For over 30 years now, the Tamkaliks Celebration has been a way for dispersed descendants of the Wallowa Band of the Nez Perce to spend time with one another in their ancestral homeland. While they haven't been able to host the

homecoming powwow for two years because of the pandemic, members of the tribe took advantage of the time to work on a project long in the making – a film documenting the 30 years' worth of stories and memories that have come out of this healing celebration.

“It's been a very difficult couple of years for our communities, and since we

haven't been able to host Tamkaliks for the past 2 years because of COVID, right now is the perfect time to create this film that shares our history, elevates the voices of Nez Perce people, and helps people feel connected, even when we can't be together in person," says Sara Averbek, coordinator on the film project.

Work on this project started in 2020 with the organization of thousands of historical documents and photos. "This process helped us realize that the film could really be something tangible," says Sara. In summer 2021, the State Library began issuing funds from the



American Rescue Plan Act with a focus on increasing equity in Oregon libraries. When the group working on the film heard of these funds through the Oregon Historical Society, they felt it was the perfect fit for their project (*photo credit: John Whittle*).



The Tamkaliks Celebration spans across generations – families have raised kids to look forward to it every year, and those kids have gone on to do the same for their own children. Many of those who helped plan the first Tamkaliks and subsequent cultural events and organizational developments are now elders. The film will capture this rich history through interviews, archival footage, and photographs (*photo credit: Tim Duane*).

"We've only begun to scratch the surface on the amazing breadth of experience, contribution, and stories tied to the Tamkaliks Celebration," says Sara. "I wasn't even 1 year old when the planning of the first powwow started, so for me personally, the best part of this project is the opportunity to learn

about the incredible start and unfolding of what is now the Nez Perce Wallowa Homeland project—an organization that’s doing incredibly important work to ensure Nez Perce presence and influence in the Wallowa Valley.”

The Nez Perce production company Verge by Lewonne Teasley has been selected to produce the film. For more information, please contact [Sara Averbeck](#), or you can follow @nezperceallowahomeland on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) for future updates.

State Library Jobline - Free Way to Post and Find Library Jobs in Oregon

Are you looking for a library job or trying to hire someone?

The State Library wants to help!

Advertise or find that perfect job through the [State Library’s Jobline](#). Jobline is a valuable tool for helping you fill your job openings by reaching all across the state of Oregon and beyond. Simply send us the job announcement to reach interested job seekers. It is very simple; [click here for instructions](#).

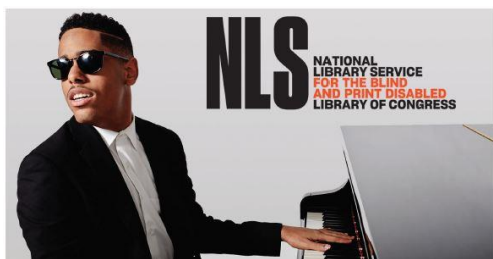
Jobline is updated every weekday morning, and we are happy to work with you on getting your job openings publicized. Please contact [Ferol Weyand](#) for more information.

TALKING BOOK & BRAILLE LIBRARY

In Case You Missed It

A lot of us are still processing 2020, so it sounds almost weird to say 2021 is over, but here we are in 2022! In case you missed any of what the Talking Book and Braille Library was up to, here's a year-in-review recap:

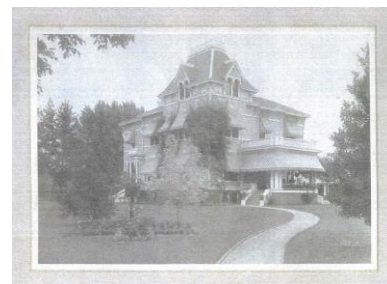
- With the rise of Alexandria Gutenberg (our customized cartridge system), the library said goodbye to their physical collection of single-title cartridges. The blue containers that once adorned their shelves have all been mailed away.



- The National Library Service (NLS) celebrated their 90th anniversary with a concert featuring Matthew Whitaker in March, and also hired a new director, Mr. Jason Broughton, who started in

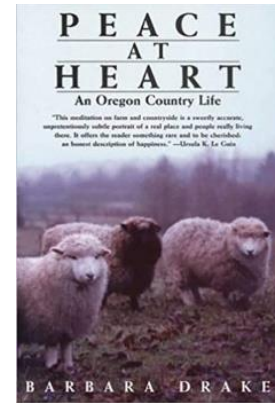
September.

- A legacy user surprised the library with a letter detailing her memories of some of the houses that were located where the State Library building was built. Her letter was very apropos in light of the State Library building being nominated for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.
- Registered Braille readers here in Oregon were graciously included by the Utah State Library in the NLS's Braille e-reader pilot, which launched over the summer. So far only a couple users have needed tech support, with the rest loving the e-readers quite thoroughly.



- Marilyn and Eldon Robinson, two of the library's longest-serving volunteers, decided to "retire" this year. Between the two of them they amassed a mountainous total of 23 years and nearly 4,500 hours of service. The two were treated to a pair of matching fleece jackets as part of our appreciation, which Marilyn says she wears almost nonstop.

- A new volunteer, Jennifer Imai, completed the library's first remotely recorded audio book, titled *Peace at Heart* by Barbara Drake. In all, it took four months for Jennifer and Studio Manager Joel to record, edit, mix, review, correct, mark-up, produce, and upload *Peace at Heart*, which has now been downloaded well over 100 times from BARD by users not just in Oregon but across the country.



- For those people into numbers, the Talking Book and Braille Library's circulation numbers increased by 30% in 2021! The library spent much of the year well above their running 10-year average. A lot of this success can be directly contributed to customized cartridges. Users are loving their personalized connection to the world even more now that they can get whatever they want exactly when they want it!

Here's to 2022 being cooler than the other 2020s have been thus far. At least we have "Twosday" to look forward to next month: February 2, 2022 (2/2/22) will be on a Tuesday (how cool is that)!

Talking Book and Braille Library TRIVIA TIME!

We're back with another Talking Book and Braille Library Trivia Time! But before we get to this month's question, here is last month's answer:

What is the name of the publication created by Deschutes Public Library and distributed by Meals on Wheels in Central Oregon? **The Library Corner (TLC)**

Thank you to everyone who submitted their answers, and feel free to keep participating each month. **This month's question is a little different;** there's no right or wrong answer!

Q: What did you enjoy the most this holiday season?

- Seeing family or friends
- Giving gifts
- Receiving gifts
- Holiday foods
- Holiday music or movies
- Community activities
- Other



Click the button above to submit your answer. If you provide your name and contact information along with your answer, you may win a fun prize!

We'll be back with more trivia in future Connections issues.

**GOVERNMENT INFORMATION &
LIBRARY SERVICES**

Law Student Writes a Thank You to the Nation's Research Librarians

Several months ago, the State Library of Oregon was contacted by a Notre Dame law student with a question about a peculiar procedure used by some state legislatures. Years ago, he had heard about how the Michigan legislature

would address gridlock surrounding budget deadlines by literally stopping the clock within their legislative chambers. He wanted to do a directed reading on the topic and reached out to legislative libraries and state libraries across the country. He was hoping to receive a few short responses that would help guide his own research. Instead, what he actually received blew him away.

At least 34 research librarians from across the country answered this student's inquiry, including this State Library's own Natalie Brant and Dave Hegeman. They replied with very specific information, including images from Tennessee of clocks being stopped and newspaper clippings from Missouri of reported stoppage incidents. The overwhelming amount of information the student received led him to write an editorial article for *The Observer*, a student-run newspaper, declaring his admiration of research librarians.

The article, available in its entirety [here](#), offers his take on what makes research librarians so valuable. "First," he says, "research librarians are curious. [...] Second: research librarians are thorough. [...] Third: research librarians are helpful above all." The people he communicated with all went the extra mile, a "hallmark of the profession."

The article ends with this thought: "Where, in our own lives, do we have the zeal of a research librarian? Where can we be most authentically curious, thorough, and helpful?" These qualities are ideals we can all strive to live out in our vocations, and if we're not quite sure how to at first, there's probably a research librarian out there who can help guide us along the way.

**Emergency Preparedness Comic Available from the
Oregon Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and Dark
Horse Comics**

Disaster awareness, readiness and emergency preparedness are increasingly important to keep in mind in the dynamic environment of our much-loved Pacific Northwest.



The Without Warning! comic book series began as a public education tool designed to engage with young audiences.

Empowering every Oregonian to reduce their risk, be ready and know what to do when disaster strikes is crucial to staying safe. Kids and teens who are prepared may experience less anxiety and feel more confident during actual emergencies and

disasters.

Freely available for download, the third issue in the “Without Warning!” series addresses what to do before and during a wildfire, helping individuals protect themselves, their loved ones and wildlands when wildfires take place.

Without Warning! Wildfire is available to read for free at [Dark Horse Digital](#), OEM’s website ([English](#) & [Spanish](#)), and on Dark Horse’s iOS and Android apps. It is also available on Kindle, Comixology, Google Play and Apple Books. Printed copies are available in English and Spanish through county emergency management offices, Clackamas Community College and Keep Oregon Green.

This specific issue was created by the [Oregon Office of Emergency Management](#) in collaboration with [Dark Horse Comics](#), [Keep Oregon Green Association](#), [Oregon Department of Forestry](#) and [Clackamas Community College - Fire and Emergency Management](#).

All of the comics in the series, [Without Warning! Earthquake](#) (2014), [Without Warning! Tsunami](#) (2016) and [Without Warning! Wildfire](#) (2021) are available via

your State Library of Oregon digital collections.

Please feel free to let your patrons know about these important state publications.

They may just save a life.

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Mission

The State Library of Oregon cultivates, preserves, and delivers library and information services to foster lifelong learning and community engagement.



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