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Cow Creek Tribal Library: A Tribal Library That Grows Every Year

Kelly LaChance Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe Indians

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Cow Creek Tribal Library:

A Tribal Library that Grows Every Year

by Kelly LaChance Education Director, Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians he Cow Creek Tribal Library offers a quiet, intimate space for tribal members and tribal employees to read, check out books, and surf the Internet. The library is located in the Cow Creek Government Office in Roseburg, Oregon.

Each year the Cow Creek Tribal Library receives an IMLS Native American Library Services Basic Grant, which provides us with the opportunity to purchase books, videos, and magazine subscriptions. For the last five years, the basic grant has been dedicated to increasing the holdings in the Native American section of the library collection. Native American books and videos for adults, teens, and children are a high priority and many items have been purchased to fill the need in this area.

The children's Native American section offers many wonderful books for all ages and reading levels. The books and videos were carefully selected in order to meet the cultural and educational needs of the Cow Creek tribal youth. Many of the books come with audio tapes. Recently, we have been steadily replacing the cassette tapes with compact discs. These audio recordings are a favorite and are checked out quite frequently.

In addition to the Native American section, the Cow Creek Tribal Library collection contains many other areas that cater to a wide

range of interests. Other featured sections include: nature, gardening, crafts, health, parenting, and educational materials. The library continually receives praise from patrons on the variety of books that are available in these other sections. Many people are amazed that our small library has such a large variety of information for tribal members to access.

A periodical collection is currently being developed. The library subscribes to many Native American newsletters and magazines. Back issues are housed in the library for patrons to use for information and research.

Another great opportunity that the Cow Creek Tribal Library has utilized is the "Staying Connected Grant" from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. This grant provided the library with the means to obtain a new computer for public use. Prior to this, the library had two donated computers, which were in need of upgrading. The grant provided the funds to purchase one computer. Another computer was purchased with tribal revenues. When patrons visit the library now, there are two updated computers with Internet access for them to use.

If you would like more information on the Cow Creek Tribal Library, please contact Kelly LaChance at (541) 677-5575 or klachance@cowcreek.com. Visit us at 2371 N.E. Stephens Street, Suite 100 Roseburg, OR, 97470.



The two new computers with Internet access for Tribal members



A comfortable and quiet place to read with easy access to books.

