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Photo Essay: The Many Faces of Oregon's Rural Libraries

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Photo Essay:

The Many Faces of Oregon's Rural Libraries

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Cottages, storefronts, schools, trailers, and bookmobiles, residents of Oregon's small towns can find their libraries in a wide variety of locations. But however small, the librarians, paraprofessionals, and volunteers are just as dedicated to providing quality service as their counterparts in larger cities and towns.

Weston Public Library



Weston is a small rural community in Eastern Oregon, population 700. The library has been operating since 1912, and since 1930 in this location. The building was formerly a doctor's office, and is part of an historic downtown area.

Siletz Public Library Lincoln County Library District



Front view of the new Siletz Public Library. More pictures of the new library can be found [on Flickr] at <http://www.flickr.com/groups/svfol/>.



Troy Branch Wallowa County Library



The Troy Branch Library resides in a schoolhouse where there is one teacher for children kindergarten through 8th grade. It is quite isolated, with Enterprise, the closest town, an hour and a half away (in good weather). The Troy Branch is part of the Wallowa County Library in Northeastern Oregon which has two branch sites in remote canyons. Along with Troy is the Imnaha branch, which also resides in a one-room schoolhouse serving K–8 students.

Stayton Public Library



The Stayton Public Library just held their grand opening following a 7,500 square foot expansion.



This shot shows patron Diana Maul checking out books at the circulation counter. Staff are Kris O'Donnell, Library Aide and Nancy Grant, Library Assistant.



Linn Library League



Photo of the Linn Library League Bookmobile that operates in Linn County (for more information about the Linn Library League please visit www.linnlibraryleague.org). It is funded by grants and is independent of any library system. In this photo it is stopped at the town of Cascadia.

Creswell Library Lane Library District



Creswell Library Circulation Desk

Library Assistant Yaakov Levine and Volunteer Extraordinaire Lenny Lenard work at the circulation desk on an unusually quiet Friday afternoon.



Juvenile Fiction at Creswell Library

The library is a remodeled hardware store. This wall divides the children's room from the rest of the library. The "wave window" softens the space and creates a whimsical touch.



Baker County Library District



Riverside Branch

The Baker County Library in Baker City is positively picturesque along the Powder River and across from the popular city park.



Haines Branch

The recently remodeled Haines Branch of the Baker County Library District serves a population of 410. The original library, the historic stone building at right, was integrated into the redesign as a community meeting room.



Bookmobile

The Baker County Library District donated their former bookmobile, a 1968 Gertenslager, to Hurricane Katrina victims. The current vehicle, a 1999 MSV Thomas, visits isolated Baker County communities twice a month, logging over 500 miles every week.



Klamath County Library



Chemult Branch



Sprague River Branch



Bonanza Branch



Chiloquin Branch

The Klamath County Library system has 10 branches in outlying areas with all linked by their Polaris catalog. They also share materials with Klamath Community College. Branch Support Assistant Heidi Nowak helps Branch Supervisor Nathalie Johnston with collection development, computer troubleshooting, program development, and staffing. 🌿



Thanks go to the following people who provided these photographs of their libraries for all of us to enjoy:

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