

**May 13 – June 9  
Activities Report**

**Programming**

**Youth (Laura)**

It's summer reading program time! The official kick-off is June 1, but we already started encouraging families to sign up. We have already distributed hundreds of summer reading program flyers. Families may use a paper log to track reading minutes or log on to ReaderZone.org. We will be providing weekly challenges. Each child who signs up for summer reading receives a free book.

I attended the Central Oregon School Media/Library Symposium. While I was the only public librarian to attend, it was great to connect with the school librarians and see where they need support. Many school librarians are divided between working in the school library and supporting teachers, serving on recess duty, bus duty, etc. They have little time to work with their collections, run Oregon Battle of the Books clubs, and provide library time to the students. They are frustrated knowing that the ELA scores are low, but are not recognized as a vital part of literacy in schools. I asked what a public librarian could do to support the school librarians. Many of them said helping with weeding, collection development, visiting the library during student library time, helping with Oregon Battle of the Books, and training. After the symposium and took a survey of our local school librarians. Jefferson County has seven: five elementary, one middle school, and one high school. Six of the school librarians are with Jefferson County School District, and one is with Culver Elementary. All JCSD 509j librarians responded to the survey. Culver did not. They requested that the public library visit each library once a month, provide curriculum support, offer storytimes and book clubs, support Oregon Battle of the Books, provide research and inquiry support, and market the summer reading program.

Here are some quotes from the schools:

"Many thanks for all that JCLD does to support Jefferson County students and libraries!"

"Thank you for your continued support of our school libraries."

"A massive thank you for all that JCLD does in community and professional support for the JCSD, Culver, and Black Butte School Districts."

"I am trying to promote reading for fun in my classrooms. We do not have a library at Bridges High School yet. I have access to the MHS library, but I would like my students to have more resources."

"Just that you are all amazing, and I appreciate all that you all do in our district and community so much! Thank you!"

"I would love to get a book club going at MHS. If possible, having an option for English and in Spanish."

"I like the ideas of having book talks, author visits, in the Library OBOB support/coaching, etc."

With this in mind, Laura is working with the district librarian, Ryan Dempsey, to find ways to meet these needs. Laura is currently working on bringing three Oregon Battle of the Books authors to visit the school districts here in Jefferson County. Currently, she has Dan Gemeinhart, Gennifer Choldenko, and Makiia Lucier available to visit. She will be applying for a round house grant to cover one of the authors and will need support from the JCLA to cover the other authors. It would cost approximately \$18,000 to bring the authors here for a two-day visit and an evening with the author. I would also work with Holly to provide books for the authors to sign, and the cost

of the evening ticket would be the cost of the book. Laura's goal is to raise awareness of the importance of literacy, support the Oregon Battle of the Books, and create a connection between the kids and the author. Gennifer Choldenko is an elementary OBOB author, Dan Gemeinhart is a middle school author, and Makiia Lucier is a high school author.

(Amanda) We continue to have Storytimes at the library; attendance has been up and down. Some days there is just one child, and other days there are 6 or 7. I am excited for the Summer reading program to start, as I think that will boost Storytime attendance. Moms want to get out of the house, and kids love dinosaurs! Our Outreach Storytimes are finished for the summer and will start back up in September. We will hopefully be adding 2 more child care centers to our route. I am working on becoming more familiar with our children's collection and going through and seeing what to keep and what not to keep, and also learning what is popular and what new books could be purchased

(Lizzy)

Was out for the month doing her student teaching. Her first Summer STEM will be in June.

### **Adults (Gabby)**

The Nonfiction Book Club met on May 15 to discuss *A Marriage at Sea* by Sophie Elmhirst. There were 4 present for a great discussion. The next meeting is on June 19, when we will be discussing *Astro Physics for People in a Hurry* by Neal DeGrasse Tyson.

Tech Help Saturday was on May 2 and 16. None one attended.

### **Spanish (Adriana)**

Adriana was out for the month of May, and no programs were provided during that time. She returned in time for her Spanish Book Club meeting on June 3.

### **Circulation (Laura/Alex)**

(Laura) I have been going through various kits and games in the library. Many needed cleaning, replacements, and updates. The library has received game donations, which cut the cost of purchasing games. Some of the games are being added to circulation. I may need to apply for a grant from JCLA to finish fixing the kits.

### **Technical Operations (Alex, Jane, Laura)**

At the end of June, all circulating hotspots will be withdrawn from the collection. Hotspots, while popular, are a serious cost to the library's budget. The minimum cost of the hotspot program is about \$8,000 since the program was introduced in 2022. Out of the 30 hotspots for this fiscal year, 10 are billed but not paid (missing or damaged), 6 are in branch mending (unusable), 2 are past due, 2 are library use only (but not functional), and 12 are checked out.

### **Safety (Jane)**

No report. Safety Committee did not meet this month.

### **Outreach (Star)**

Bookmobile updates: Culver will begin getting weekly bookmobile service on June 25 until the opening of the Culver branch. We will begin service to Ashwood starting on July 14. Next will be setting up service to Crooked River Ranch, using Ann Light (JCLA member) as a conduit.

Current schedule:

- First Fridays: Big Muddy (school visit, preschool co-op storytime, bookmobile service) and Antelope (bookmobile service)
- Third Tuesdays: Camp Sherman school visits
- Thursdays: Culver (bookmobile service, Summer Reading Program challenges)
- Second Mondays: Ashwood (bookmobile service) coming in July

Outreach Summer Reading Program: We have two programs, each scheduled for Camp Sherman and Big Muddy. These will be modified versions of two of the programs offered at the main library and will take the place of storytimes until school resumes.

Community Events: We could use some help from the board at upcoming community events. The staff will have the necessary materials, and it's more about having representation for the community.

The sign-up sheet is in Teams: <https://jeffersoncountylibrarydistr.sharepoint.com/:x/s/Staff/IQAU-fs5dKaQTKX4lx22WsURASec4sW5IVwtYpls8MBgS8I?e=LKCxGw>

**Budget/Finance (Kristin/Jane)**

(Kristin) All purchases (other than recurring payments) have been completed for this fiscal year. We did a good job of staying within budget. I will be submitting the 4th-quarter reimbursement grant request to JCLA, estimated at \$25,000.

As of the May property tax reports from Jefferson County, we have received \$811,000, which is 101% of the 2025-2026 budgeted amount of \$800,000.

**Administration/Facilities (Jane)**

Staff were asked to submit ideas/suggestions for reorganizing/renovating the library and duplex for future operations. This input will go to the board to help in making a plan to move forward after the construction bond failed.

**Training**

Tess and Tiffany are signed up for SDAO Board training on August 18 at Eagle Crest.

**Upcoming Events**

June

- 9 JCLD Board Meeting and Budget Hearing (4:30 pm)
- 15 Culver City Council Meeting (6:30 pm)
- 23 Madras City Council Meeting (5:30 pm)
- 27 Metolius Summer Kick-off event (10 am)

July

- 6 Metolius City Council Meeting (6 pm)
- 14 JCLD Board Meeting (4:30 pm)

August

- 15 Culver Crawdad Festival Parade (10 am)

## Correspondence

May 21, 2026

Ms. Kovari,

A resident of the Library District attended the JCLD Board meeting on May 12, 2026, to ask why I had not returned their call. I explained that you and the resident attending were the only people to contact me that day regarding the MAC, and that I had responded to an email from you, assuming I had responded to the entire petitioning group.

My statement was, "I contacted Susan Kovari, who I thought was with the Waves of Change." By contacting you, I incorrectly assumed that you and the District Resident were part of the recall effort. When I realized my mistake, I apologized to the resident for not returning her call.

You're absolutely correct that your correspondence was signed "On behalf of concerned MACRD community members," and you did not claim any connection to Waves of Change. I apologized to all present for that mistake.

*1. The exact statement you made at the May 12 meeting regarding me, Susan Kovari, Waves of Change, or any claimed connection between me and Waves of Change;*

My statement was "I contacted Susan Kovari," who I thought was with the Waves of Change, and that the Waves of Change had filed the recall petition.

*2. The factual basis for any statement suggesting that you called me, contacted Waves of Change, or understood me and Waves of Change to be the same thing;*

There is no factual basis suggesting that I called you. I did not say, "I called Susan Kovari." I have never spoken with you, and I would not say I did unless it was true.

There is no factual basis to think that you were associated with the Waves of Change. That was a misguided assumption on my part that the informal, grassroots organization is associated with you.

*3. If you believe you called me, the date and time of the alleged call, the telephone number called, how you obtained that number, whether you spoke with anyone or left a voicemail, and whether you have any call log or other record supporting that the call occurred;*

I never stated that I had called you

*4. Whether you stated or implied that I, Waves of Change, or anyone associated with either was responsible for inaccurate statements, harassment, recall activity, or Facebook commentary at issue; and*

I did not imply that you, the Waves of Change, or anyone associated with you or the Waves of Change was responsible for any inaccurate statements, harassment, recall activity, or Facebook commentary issue.

*5. How do you intend to correct or retract any inaccurate or misleading statement made during the public meeting.*

- I will report at the June 2026 meeting of the JCLD Board that I had confused the informal grassroots group, the Waves of Change, with the two people who had initially contacted me, you by email, and the District Resident via the Library's front desk.
- I clearly understand that Waves of Change is not a recall committee, a chief petitioner, a legal entity, or a party to any legal matter.
- I acknowledge sending you via email a statement that the next logical step is to remove the Facebook post. The removal occurred within minutes of sending you the final email.

The May 12 meeting was not recorded, and the minutes will reflect a summary of my confusion and my apology to the District Resident.

For clarity, (1) I did not call or speak with you, on April 21 or any time before or after that nor did I state that; (2) I now clearly understand, thanks to the clarification from the District Resident who spoke during public comments on the May 12, 2026 Board meeting, that the Waves of Changes is an informal Facebook page and not involved in any legal matters or recall effort; and (3) a single person filed the recall petition, and not the Waves of Change.

I am sending my response individually to each Library Board member as you've requested. I will include this email and my response in the information sent to the board before its June 2026 meeting.

I'm available to meet with you at your request and at our mutual convenience if you would like any further clarification or have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Jane Ellen Innes

---

May 16, 2026

Dear Ms. Innes,

I am writing because I was informed that, during the Jefferson County Library District meeting on May 12, 2026, you made comments referencing me and/or Waves of Change.

Specifically, I was told that when you were asked about inaccurate statements made on Facebook, you stated something to the effect of, "I called Susan Kovari, Waves of Change."

I need to clarify that you did not call me. To my knowledge, I did not provide a telephone number in my April 21 email correspondence with you. Our communication was by email only. In those emails, I referred to myself and to concerned community members of MACRD. I did not identify myself as Waves of Change, and I did not state that Waves of Change was acting on my behalf or as part of any recall effort.

Because I was not present for your May 12 comments, I am requesting that you please clarify the following:

1. The exact statement you made at the May 12 meeting regarding me, Susan Kovari, Waves of Change, or any claimed connection between me and Waves of Change;
2. The factual basis for any statement suggesting that you called me, contacted Waves of Change, or understood me and Waves of Change to be the same thing;
3. If you believe you called me, the date and time of the alleged call, the telephone number called, how you obtained that number, whether you spoke with anyone or left a voicemail, and whether you have any call log or other record supporting that the call occurred;
4. Whether you stated or implied that I, Waves of Change, or anyone associated with either was responsible for inaccurate statements, harassment, recall activity, or Facebook commentary at issue; and
5. How you intend to correct or retract any inaccurate or misleading statement made during the public meeting.

This is important because there is already public confusion between me personally, Waves of Change as an informational Facebook page, and separate recall-related activity. Waves of Change is not a recall committee, chief petitioner, legal entity, or party to any legal matter. Any public statement suggesting otherwise is inaccurate and misleading.

For clarity, our April 21 communication was by email only. In that exchange (copied below), you acknowledged that taking down the Facebook post seemed to be the next logical step, and the draft response you provided stated that the Library District did not allege that harassment attributed to individuals associated with the recall effort had occurred.

Please also let me know whether the May 12 meeting was recorded, whether the minutes will reflect your comments, and whether you are willing to issue a correction at the next Library District meeting or in writing.

I am requesting that any correction make clear that:

- You did not call Susan Kovari;
- Waves of Change is an informational Facebook page;
- Waves of Change is not a recall committee, chief petitioner, legal entity, or party to any legal matter; and

The Library District has no factual basis to state or imply that Susan Kovari or Waves of Change engaged in harassment or improper conduct.

Because the Library District Board members appear to be contacted through online forms rather than direct email addresses, I am requesting that this correspondence be forwarded to Board Chair Susan Stovall, Vice Chair Tiffany Turo, and all Library District Board members for full transparency.

Please also treat this email as public correspondence to the Board and preserve it with the Library District's records regarding the May 12, 2026 meeting and any related correction or clarification. I am not asking individual Board members to deliberate or respond outside a properly noticed public meeting. I am requesting only that the full Board be made aware of this concern because it involves reported comments made during a public Library District meeting. Thank you for addressing this promptly.

Sincerely,  
Susan Kovari