

Foundation Announces the Crown Jewel Society

In July 2007, in a local editorial about the new Stayton Public Library addition, the library was referred to as Stayton's "Crown Jewel." Since that time, the library has done much to fulfill that noble title by providing greatly expanded services such as the Outreach Storyteller and increased Internet access for the public.

It is now time to insure that the Stayton Public Library will continue to be a treasured resource for our community and to maintain the same level of excellent service for generations to come. The Stayton Library Public Foundation is proud to announce the formation of The *Crown Jewel Society* as a means to those ends and we invite all of you to join the Society.

Members of the Crown Jewel Society will receive a variety of benefits including a discount at the Friends of the Library Bookstore, special invitations and early entry into unique "Spotlight Events" at the library such as:

- Reception and presentation with Oregon's Poet Laureate, Paulann Petersen.
- *Crown Jewel Society* kickoff party, "Sipping in the Stacks."
- Reception and program with Naseem Rakha, award-winning journalist and author of bestselling novel, *The Crying Tree* (see below for details).

There will be five categories of membership, ranging from \$50 to \$1000+. This will give everyone an opportunity to become a sustaining supporter of the Library. Gifts to the Crown Jewel Society will be used to support the Stayton Public Library by funding special library programs and enhancing library facilities, equipment and services.



"Sipping in the Stacks"

The kick-off event for the new *Crown Jewel Society* was held at the Library Saturday, October 23, and dozens of guests mingled and visited while enjoying local wines from Piluso Vineyard and Winery, Seven Brides micro brews, and delicious food prepared and catered by Sharlene Trexler, of Trexler Farms. The event showcased the library and all that is available there, while President Dave Karr explained the benefits of joining the Crown Jewel Society.

See List of Crown Jewel Society Members on next page

Crown Jewel Society Member Spotlight Event

Thursday, Dec. 9 5:00-5:45pm: A reception with Naseem Rakha, National Public Radio contributor and author of the bestselling novel, *The Crying Tree*.

6:00-7:00pm: Public presentation by Naseem Rakha in the Library E.G. Seigmund Meeting Room

2010-2011 Crown Jewel Society Members

Diamond Level

Carl and Patti Sampson
Eric and Robin Nichols
Robert and Kay Pendelton
Bill and Jennifer Martinak
Dave and Norma Karr
Ted and Diane Freres
Tyler and Deana Freres
The Tabor Family
Martie Johnson

Sapphire Level

Helen Chamberland

Emerald Level

Lee and Barbara Howard
Michael and Barbara Reding
Gil and Roma Stewart
Sublimity Insurance Group
Steve and Teresa Zimmerman
Tass Morrison and Tom Anderson
Stephanie and Damian Jorgensen

Pearl Level

Elizabeth Bailey
Stayton Mini Storage
Curtis and Fran Ward
Nancy Grant
Zoe Rose
Dr. BC Nelson

Pearl Level

Vincent and Terry Brand
Cathy Ingalls
Charles and Ruth Clarkson
Vi and Ed Cotter
Rich and Pam Kingsley
Ted and Mary Meier
The Foundation of
Stayton Area Rotary Club
Glenn and Andrea Hilton
Irene Marchbanks
Gisela Cowger

Ruby Level

Hazel Glover
Lainey Jorgensen
Kellen Jorgensen
Anita L. Woodside
Betty Batche
Helen Fritton
Arthur and Leveta Christiansen
Tom and Elizabeth Allman
Monica and Baxter Weber
Katherine Kirsch
Jolene Crowther
Carson and Colette Lord
Louise Meyers
Lyle and Susan Gibby
James and Judith Templin
Pam Pugsley

New SPLF Administrator

Consuelo “Chelo” Icovino was recently hired as Foundation Administrator. She replaces Colette



Lord who announced her resignation effective October 28, and has served the Foundation for the past two-and-a-half years. Chelo has begun her training with Colette, and will take over the .4 FTE position in November, working mostly on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Chelo comes with significant experience working for seven years as assistant director for an Arizona non-profit. Her responsibilities included organizing and training board members and volunteers, assisting with fundraising activities, soliciting donations, and grant writing, tracking, and reporting. She lives with her family in Mr. Angel. Please stop by the volunteer office in the library and welcome Chelo!

Good New\$ for the Library

By Mike Reding, Marketing Committee

There is still some good news to be found these days. Generous donors have given the Stayton Library's Outreach Storyteller Program gifts totaling \$17,000 this year and have funded a new website for the Library Foundation. Outreach Storyteller is a wonderful program that features Crystal Neal, who reaches more than 16 pre-K classrooms, day cares and Head Start classes at over 10 different sites, reading to hundreds of children each month. The locations are all in Stayton, Sublimity, Lyons

and the surrounding rural areas of the North Santiam Canyon in both Linn and Marion counties.

The largest gift, \$10,000, came from The Doris J. Wipper Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation; \$5,000 came from the Juan Young Trust; \$4,000 from the Siletz Tribe Charitable Contribution fund; and \$2,000 came from The Oregon Cultural Trust and the Marion Cultural Development Corporation.

NW Natural agreed to fund the new Stayton City Library Foundation's website. This generous gift from our local



The Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution fund presents a check to SPLF. From left: Mike Holden, charitable fund member; Crystal Neal, Youth Outreach Library Assistant; Dave Karr and Norma Karr, SPLF; and Cheryl Lane, charitable fund member.

gas utility has allowed the Foundation to completely change the existing website, making it more useful to our wonderful supporters.

Preschool Outreach Storyteller Program Successful

By *Chrystal Neal, Youth Outreach Library Assistant & Storyteller*

The Outreach Storyteller Program had a wonderful beginning last year, serving over 250 children in 16 preschool and daycare classrooms in the North Santiam area. It was amazing to see how successful the program was, in such a short time. Teachers reported that the best part of the program was seeing “so much excitement connected to reading” and “The kids love it!” Parents also were delighted to have their kids participate: “To see the kids huddle around Crystal each week is enough to justify the importance and need for this program!”

This year the Stayton Public Library Foundation is delighted to be expanding the Outreach Storyteller Program. In addition to adding more preschool classrooms, some North Santiam School District kindergartens will also be participating. The Outreach Storyteller Program expects between 350 and 400 students to be served by the program during the 2010-2011 school year.

As the Storyteller services began this fall it was exciting to see both new and familiar faces. It is almost always a rush of hugs and questions: “Did you bring puppets?” “What are you reading today?” “Did you bring us new books?” Although some changes have been made to the program, much will remain the same. Each classroom is visited once or twice a month for an active and engaging story time including three to five stories, singing songs, and physical activities appropriate for the planned literacy activities.

In addition to storytime, each classroom will continue to receive a rotating collection of 10-15 books to use in their classroom until the next visit. Over the summer additions were made



Singing “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes” at St. Mary Preschool.

to the rotating collection, focusing on more fun read-alouds, ABC’s, non-fiction, and song books. Through storytimes and the rotating collection students, caregivers, and teachers are exposed to the wide variety of literature that is available for young children.

One of our goals this year is to improve the library/school/home connection. Last year the children loved getting books they could keep and add to their home library. Children will once again be provided with books to take home and read (again and again!) with their parents or guardians. This year we will provide flyers to send home throughout the year that will include information on the six early literacy skills every child needs before they learn to read. Through suggested book titles, songs, and literacy activities, families will be able to complement the program and build on their children’s early literacy skills at home.

Four New Board Members Elected

A Certified Public Accountant, a marketing manager, a retired school board member and teacher, and a vice president of information technology have recently been elected to the Stayton Public Library Foundation (SPLF) Board of Directors. **Robin Nichols**, a CPA with Boldt, Carlisle, & Smith, LLC CPA in Stayton was elected to the board and office of treasurer in July. She and will serve on the finance committee. She assumed the treasurer’s role that Gil Stewart, who retired in July, held for the past 7 years. Robin and her husband, Eric (see below) live in Sublimity. **Judith Brown**, also a long-time Sublimity resident, retired educator and Friends of the Library and food bank volunteer, was elected to the board in August and will serve on the events committee.

Stephanie Jorgensen has professional experience in marketing and sales, and teaches music for toddlers at the Stayton Public Library. She was elected at the August meeting and will serve on the marketing committee. She resides with her family in Stayton. **Eric Nichols**, married to Robin (see above) is Vice President of Information Technology at Sublimity Insurance, has held several positions in his church and serves on the budget committee for the North Santiam School District. He was elected in August and will serve on our governance committee. Congratulations and welcome to these talented and committed volunteers who will serve to make the Stayton Public Library Oregon’s finest community library.

Returning board members are President Dave Karr, Vice President Tass Morrison, Secretary Diane Brenner, Kay Pendleton, Hazel Glover, Colleen Graff, Kay Kiser, and Carol Tabor.

What Would We Do Without Benefactors and the Money They Leave?

By Dave Karr, President SPLF Board

The question above was posed by Paul Johnson, a British historian writing in Forbes magazine about James Smithson. "...James Smithson, (was) a mysterious English gentleman scientist who died in 1829 and left a half-million dollars to endow a foundation in Washington D.C. that would create 'an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men'. Smithson...believed America to be the country of the future....(and) his gift was intended to ensure that it did." His gift of, "more than 100,000 gold sovereigns—was unprecedented in America

and aroused suspicion... It took the persuasive powers of former President John Quincy Adams to persuade Congress to accept it and set up the new powerhouse of knowledge." And as we all know now, "the Smithsonian has proved to be one of the world's great success stories in institution creation."

While we do not expect to replicate the Smithsonian experience in Stayton, the story is still relevant because a library endowment, diligently pursued, can have an incredible impact on community learning and the dissemination of knowledge. The Stayton Public Library Foundation has established an endowment to provide on-going financial sup-

port for the Stayton Public Library to enable the library to sustain and enhance its operations and services for future generations. Why should this matter to Stayton? Because together with the school, the church and the hospital, a library is one of the cornerstones of a healthy community. Libraries give people the opportunity to experience new ideas, explore great minds, and experience great art, while at the same time providing a sense of place for gathering. We want our community to thrive, and our children to grow into happy, healthy, well educated adults. We believe a vibrant public library can play a major role in achieving this.

The Stayton community met the challenge of funding the library addition because its residents knew the value a new, modern library would bring to them and their children today. It is harder to understand the value of an endowment when its rewards will not be seen for some time. Visionaries like James Smithson and John Adams saw this value and made the dreams of the future become reality. Will Stayton see it too?

If you are interested in learning more about the Stayton Public Library Foundation's endowment fund, feel free to contact us at 503-769-9658 or visit us at www.staytonlibraryfoundation.org (under "current projects") for details.

Summer Barbecue

Dave Karr, Foundation President welcomed 50 Library Staff, Library Board members, Friends of the Library, and Foundation Board members to the Foundation's potluck barbecue in August. Thomas Anderson and Dave Kinney flipped burgers on barbecues loaned by Stayton Cooperative Telephone Company. The annual event is a fun time for all the branches of support to our library to reconnect and talk about our joint mission—maintaining and enhancing Stayton's 'Crown Jewel'.



P.O. Box 810
Stayton, Oregon 97383

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