

AGENDA
Garfield County Public Library District Board of Trustees Meeting
Date: Thursday, November 2, 2023, 2:00 PM
Place: Silt Branch Library

Board Mission Statement: The GCPLD Board supports the GCPLD mission, vision, and values through the following actions: Ensuring financial stability, investing in staff development, providing service advocacy, and promoting District library innovation.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Roll Call
- B. Comment on October 5, 2023, Board Meeting Public Participation
- C. Public Participation: 3 minutes per person
- D. Approval of the agenda

II. CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL

- A. Minutes of Library Board meeting October 5, 2023 (pp.1-3)
- B. Claims for Board Approval: General Fund August 16 through September 15, 2023 (pp. 4-5);
Alpine Bank Credit Card Statement August (pp. 6-7)

III. ACTION ITEMS - NONE

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Management Report, Jamie LaRue (pp. 8-12)
- B. Budget Committee updates on the 2024 budget draft, Michelle Foster, Kevin Hettler
- C. Finance Report, Kevin Hettler (pp. 13-23)
- D. Silt Branch Library report, Brenda Kingen

Next Board Meeting December 7, 2023, 2 pm, Location: New Castle Branch Library, 402 West Main Street.

Adjourn meeting.

This agenda is subject to change, including adding items up to 24 hours in advance or deleting items at any time. All times are approximate. If special accommodation is necessary per ADA, please call 970-625-4270 before the meeting.

Prepared by: Jamie LaRue, Executive Director

**GARFIELD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS: BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
PLACE: Rifle Branch Library
October 5, 2023**

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Roll Call – Kim Owens conducted the roll call.
- B. Jamie LaRue addressed public comments from the September 7, 2023, Board Meeting.
Freedom to Read Forum announcement for Ute Theater October 18th 6:00-8:00 pm. Colorado Sun reporter will moderate.
Attorney: appeal process.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Adrian Rippy-Sheehy
Michelle Foster
John Mallonee
Susan Use
Crystal Mariscal

BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Jocelyn Durrance

STAFF PRESENT:

Kevin Hettler	Emily Hisel
James Larson	Kim Owens
Jenn Cook	Amaranda Fregoso
Chris Rayne	Nancy Barnes
Mary Clement	Amy Tonozzi
Darla Baumli	Alex Garcia
Jon Medrano	Abraham Korah
Ana Gaytan	Maria Gaytan
Jackie Skala	Sierra Reyelts
Sindia Salinas	Karina Baker

PUBLIC PRESENT:

John Lepkowski	Trish O’Grady
Mike Watts	Vennie Lilly
Nancy Talpers	Hanna Arauza

GUESTS PRESENT via Phone:

Beth Dauer, Seter & VanderWall

II. PUBLIC COMMENT: (3 minutes per person)

- i. John Lepkowski: concerned that the library does not listen to the public. He wants the books Prison School, Finder, and one other series put in a locked space and marked must be 18 years of age to check out. Dictatorial and Marxist people on The Board. They are sexualizing children.
- ii. Trish O’Grady: Explained her actions at the Silt Library. “Ticked off” that an employee was wearing a shirt with “Read with Pride” on the front. She says it violates our own employee handbook. She said she could have acted more appropriately. Trish apologized to Brenda. Trish suggests that we do more veterans programs.
- iii. Mike Watts: here to address the books in question with a commonsense approach. Feels the artwork targets bondage and assault on children by adults. He is against the stickers on the books as it identifies these books to children. Proponents of the books cite the First Amendment. No one wants to ban books and simply keep them locked up. Even if you cite the First Amendment you cannot incite poor behavior.

III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- A. Move to approve the agenda by John Mallonee, seconded by Michelle Foster. **Motion passed.**

IV. CONSENT ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

- A. Minutes of Library Board meeting September 7, 2023 (pp. 1-4)
- B. Minutes of Library Special Board meeting September 27, 2023 (pp. 5)
- C. Claims for Board Approval: General Fund August 16 through September 15, 2023 (pp. 6-7); Alpine Bank Credit Card Statement August (pp. 8-9)
 - i. A motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Crystal Mariscal, seconded by Michelle Foster. **Motion passed.**

V. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and FSA COBRA vendor approval, Kim Owens (pp. 10-18)
 - i. Kim recommends that we change our Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and FSA COBRA service vendor to iSolved.
 - ii. Motion to approve made by Michelle Foster, seconded by Crystal Mariscal. **Motion passed.**
- B. Appoint Adrian Rippy-Sheehy for a second full term to the Library Board of Trustees.
 - i. Motion to approve made by Susan Use, seconded by Michelle Foster. **Motion passed.**

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Management Report, Jamie LaRue (pp 19-23)
 - i. CALCON is a board notification since three or more board members will be attending.
 - ii. Addressing long-term housing with outside agencies.
 - iii. Mover and Shakers program. Community concerns and needs in the future, 18 months. Aspirations for the community. Adrian would like to morph the “Did you know” section into addressing the community and their needs. Have a community member address their concerns at the library meeting.
- B. Long-term housing solutions, Jamie LaRue, Kevin Hettler
 - i. Jamie addresses the handout that is included in the board packet. We have lost an employee due to housing issues. The handout provides options that the library can enact to assist employees with housing issues.
 - ii. Short Term solutions:
 - 1. Assist with moving costs
 - 2. Housing subsidy for transitioning housing (renting a condo/apartment)
Using money already in our budget for this assistance.
 - 3. Hotel rooms
 - iii. Long term:
 - 1. Habitat for Humanity \$100,000.00 donation from the foundation and the employee assumes the mortgage.
 - 2. Purchase real estate to rent it to an un-housed employee/Foundation investment
Need rules for who would benefit from these solutions.
This is not a one-year problem or solution this problem is here to stay.
We need to come up with ideas that are more long-term to assist our employees.
Purchasing a property is a substantial change for the Library, they become property owners.

- C. Colorado FAMLI medical leave replacement options, Kim Owens
Update on FAMLI: we are exploring two options. We received three bids from providers.
Draft of the internal plan. Key points are the level of service to the employee, payment amount made to the employee, and the ease of administration of the plans. Hopefully will have a proposal for the recommended plan in either November or December.
*John asked about the result of the education disbursement monies. The tuition reimbursements requested were lower than anticipated. We are looking forward to adjusting the process. Getting the word out that this program is available.
- D. Budget Committee presenting the 2024 budget draft, John Mallonee
John Mallonee reviewed the budget draft that was included in the board packet. Draft budget showing property tax revenues up. But we cannot count on them for 2025. Inflation adjustments are made throughout the entire budget. Including a 4% cost of living compensation adjustment. A 4% pay-for-performance wage pool is also included. With significant increases in Library collections, additional employee costs are also included in the budget. Two limited-duration staffing positions are also included in 2024. Short-term housing commitments and education assistance remain in the 2024 budget. Investments in facility improvements remain in the 2024 budget.
- E. Finance Report, Kevin Hettler (pp.24-32)
As a result of the education assistance funding, we had an employee who was able to pay off their student loan today, many thanks to the Board. Introducing our new Accountant Jackie Skala to the Board. Sales tax continues to tick up, it is up 11% year to date. We are being conservative with sales tax estimates to ensure we are covered if it eventually drops off. Proposition HH is on the ballot, the state has mailed the Blue Book with ballot information. The 2024 draft budget includes the impact of Proposition HH passing.
- F. Rifle Branch Library report, Amy Tonozzi
Melissa Wiley serving as an interim Circulation Coordinator.
Maria is now in a full-time position. (40 hours, filling in as a coordinator) Sierra used to attend Amy's story times. (She volunteered growing up and in high school was a page) Sindia, is a positive new employee. Karina Baker was awarded Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy (CLEL) Rising Star Award!!!
Two new Pages. Fully Staffed.

Forged new relationships:

Discovery Café
Great Expectations
English classes with childcare
Conversation circle twice monthly
Bee mural and reception
Second annual Spanish Heritage program (Crystal emceed)
Jorge and Andres programs have grown (Teen Tech, Anime Club)
Stats have increased.
Merchandising is working.

- G. "Did You Know," Hanna Arauza, Board of Trustees candidate.
Hanna shared her "Love Letter to the Library" letter of intent to the Board.

Next Board Meeting November 2, 2023, 2 pm, Location: Silt Branch Library, 680 Home Ave.

Adjourn meeting.

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Prepared by: Jamie LaRue, Executive Director

2:57 PM

10/17/23

Accrual Basis

Garfield County Public Library District

Claims for Board Approval

September 16 through October 15, 2023

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
10010 · Alpine Bank- Gen(..7072)				
09/16/2023	Eft	CRA	401a retirement plan contributions	(7,441.59)
09/16/2023	Eft	CRA	457 retirement plan contributions	(4,138.05)
09/18/2023	25880	Fregoso, Amaranda	Education assistance reimb	(385.00)
09/18/2023	25881	Garay, Andres	Education assistance reimb	(94.91)
09/18/2023	25882	Terry, Melissa	Education assistance reimb	(795.63)
09/25/2023	Eft	Alpine Bank	Aug c.c. pmt	(9,113.15)
09/29/2023	25883	A Clean Break, LLC	RI, SI, NC Sept cleaning	(6,700.00)
09/29/2023	25884	AFLAC	Sept supplemental insurance	(107.70)
09/29/2023	25885	Align Multimedia, LLC	Video production - Good of the ...	(750.00)
09/29/2023	25886	AlwaysMountainTime LLC	AMT radio ads	(700.02)
09/29/2023	25887	American Janitor LLC	PA cleaning	(1,096.00)
09/29/2023	25888	Anvil Points Upholstery & Carpet	CA SI cleaning	(4,012.00)
09/29/2023	25889	Arreguin, Rodrigo	Live music for Hispanic Heritage...	(500.00)
09/29/2023	25890	Aspen Science Center	Kids stem workshop	(1,365.00)
09/29/2023	25891	Beachey, Ari	Mileage reimbursement	(26.20)
09/29/2023	25892	Cardiff Cleaning Service	GW CA cleaning	(4,422.00)
09/29/2023	25893	Citadel Security Group, LLC	GW security	(2,701.64)
09/29/2023	25894	Cleator, Mary	Mileage reimbursement	(44.54)
09/29/2023	25895	CodeCombat Inc.	Teen code programming subscri...	(6,000.00)
09/29/2023	25896	Cook, Jennifer	Education assistance	(8,617.34)
09/29/2023	25897	Demco	Processing supplies	(387.50)
09/29/2023	25898	Dungan, Stephanie	Education assistance / mileage r...	(7,732.51)
09/29/2023	25899	Entravision Communications Corp	Hispanic heritage festival promo...	(1,650.00)
09/29/2023	25900	Garcia-Bernal, Alejandro	Education assistance	(7,714.17)
09/29/2023	25901	Hisel, Emily	Education assistance / mileage r...	(5,789.29)
09/29/2023	25902	Contreras, Axel	DJ for Hispanic Heritage Festival	(1,400.00)
09/29/2023	25903	Ingram Library Services	Library materials	(18,053.40)
09/29/2023	25904	Krakow, Amy	Mileage reimbursement	(17.03)
09/29/2023	25905	Larson, James	Education assistance / mileage r...	(2,042.66)
09/29/2023	25906	Marmot Library Network, Inc.	Computer replacements	(29,521.80)
09/29/2023	25907	Mezcla Socials Dance	Dancing for Hispanic Heritage fe...	(4,500.00)
09/29/2023	25908	Micro Plastics, Inc.	Staff day service awards	(450.75)
09/29/2023	25909	Midwest Tape	Library materials / hoopla e-mat...	(6,109.61)
09/29/2023	25910	OverDrive	Library eMaterials	(1,163.36)
09/29/2023	25911	Planning Solutions	NC PA planning review	(5,750.00)
09/29/2023	25912	Rama's Bistro LLC	Bee Mural reception	(1,550.00)
09/29/2023	25913	Reliance Standard	Oct disability insurance	(1,128.92)
09/29/2023	25914	Roaring Fork Valley Early Learnin...	Superhero storytime	(250.00)
09/29/2023	25915	Rocky Mountain Puppets	Kids event	(3,000.00)
09/29/2023	25916	Seter & Vander Wall, P.C.	Legal services	(1,507.50)
09/29/2023	25917	Skala, Jackie	Mileage reimb	(26.20)
09/29/2023	25918	Suarez, Dulce Andrea	Translation services	(271.25)
09/29/2023	25919	Wells, Cassie	Face Painting Hispanic Heritage...	(700.00)
09/29/2023	25920	Western Paper Distributors	CA janitorial supplies	(195.50)
09/29/2023	25921	Wiening Deines, Dorothy	Pirate day festival refreshments	(300.00)
09/29/2023	25922	Willis Towers/CEBT	Oct health insurance	(37,516.54)
10/02/2023	Ach	Alpine Bank- CC	Oct merchant fees	(210.72)
10/02/2023	Eft	Black Hills Energy	GW and CA gas	(108.82)
10/02/2023	Eft	ImageNet Consulting - fka De Lag...	Copier lease	(1,161.66)
10/03/2023	eft	CRA	Retirement plan contributions	(7,439.21)
10/03/2023	Eft	CRA	Retirement plan contributions	(4,191.67)
10/04/2023	Eft	Garfield County Public Library Fou...	Book sales / donations	(1,290.79)
10/10/2023	Eft	Verizon Wireless	Cell phones, hotspots, filtering s...	(8,208.02)
10/10/2023	Eft	Colorado Dept of Revenue-Sales ...	3Q sales tax	(673.62)
10/10/2023	Eft	Town of CA- Sales Tax	3Q sales tax	(130.80)
10/10/2023	Eft	City of GL- Sales Tax	3Q sales tax	(104.22)
10/10/2023	Eft	City of RI-Sales Tax	3Q sales tax	(98.51)
10/12/2023	Eft	Xcel Energy	PA Electricity 2 mos	(1,955.23)
10/14/2023	Eft	Tiger, Inc.	Gas delivery	(545.80)
10/15/2023	25923	625-Water(9283)	SI RI staff water	(101.15)
10/15/2023	25924	All Around Property Maintenance, ...	CA PA September landscape m...	(1,794.28)
10/15/2023	25925	AlwaysMountainTime LLC	radio ads	(2,350.00)
10/15/2023	25926	Aspen Daily News	Ads	(1,338.75)
10/15/2023	25927	Aspen Santa Fe Ballet	Forklorico performance at Hispa...	(1,000.00)
10/15/2023	25928	Becker, Rachel	Meeting death as a friend works...	(400.00)
10/15/2023	25929	Benson, Kim	Mileage reimb	(175.54)
10/15/2023	25930	Birds Beware Window Washing	Exterior and window cleaning all...	(4,350.00)

2:57 PM

10/17/23

Accrual Basis

Garfield County Public Library District

Claims for Board Approval

September 16 through October 15, 2023

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
10/15/2023	25931	Cedar Networks	October broadband	(1,194.00)
10/15/2023	25932	Citadel Security Group, LLC	GW security service	(2,851.80)
10/15/2023	25933	Colorado Department of Labor	CA boiler inspection	(80.00)
10/15/2023	25934	Colorado Doorways, Inc.	GW SI door repairs	(5,139.29)
10/15/2023	25935	Colorado Mountain News Media	September print ads	(2,481.36)
10/15/2023	25936	Column Software, PBC	2024 proposed budget notice	(29.92)
10/15/2023	25937	Cura HR, LLC	Cultural initiatives / DISC / goal ...	(8,032.50)
10/15/2023	25938	EverGreen ZeroWaste	CA compost service	(65.00)
10/15/2023	25939	ImageNet Consulting LLC	Copier copies	(1,261.46)
10/15/2023	25940	Ingram Library Services	Library materials	(13,945.92)
10/15/2023	25941	Jalisco Grill LLC	Hispanic heritage celebration ca...	(440.00)
10/15/2023	25942	JanWay Company USA, Inc.	Word cloud tumblers general ev...	(6,366.00)
10/15/2023	25943	Jean's Printing	Freedom to Read promotions	(442.54)
10/15/2023	25944	Jerkunica, Alexandra	Center fitness class	(225.00)
10/15/2023	25945	Marmot Library Network, Inc.	Q4 2023 IT Support	(56,633.50)
10/15/2023	25946	Midwest Tape	Library materials	(7,680.92)
10/15/2023	25947	Morning Star Elevator, LLC	NC Semi-annual elevator service	(560.00)
10/15/2023	25948	Mountain Pest Control, Inc.	Sept spraying	(307.00)
10/15/2023	25949	Fregoso, Amaranda	Mileage reimb	(87.77)
10/15/2023	25950	Medrano, Jonathan	Exp / mileage reimb	(166.09)
10/15/2023	25951	OverDrive	Library eMaterials	(9,238.72)
10/15/2023	25952	Owens, Kim	Gov't Innovation Workshop	(315.92)
10/15/2023	25953	Pye Barker Fire & Safety, LLC	CA backflow valves inspections	(785.00)
10/15/2023	25954	S.T.E.A.M. Junction LLC	Dazzling decades kids events	(585.00)
10/15/2023	25955	Smith, Natalie	Mileage reimb	(108.73)
10/15/2023	25956	Sopris Sun	Ads	(900.00)
10/15/2023	25957	Spangenberg, Kim	Exp reimb - pokemon refreshme...	(25.60)
10/15/2023	25958	Spectra, LLC	Final payment on surveillance c...	(41,185.01)
10/15/2023	25959	Suarez, Dulce Andrea	Translation services	(35.00)
10/15/2023	25960	Tillotson, Elizabeth	Mileage reimb	(21.25)
10/15/2023	25961	Tonozzi, Amy	Mileage reimb	(99.56)
10/15/2023	25962	Town of Parachute	water / sewer / trash	(640.24)
10/15/2023	25963	Trane US Inc.	4Q maintenance	(2,852.00)
10/15/2023	25964	Transparent Information Services, ...	Background checks	(343.25)
10/15/2023	25965	Unique Management Services, Inc.	September collections service	(189.05)
10/15/2023	25966	Universal Mechanical Services, LLC	RI PA hvac repairs	(5,377.19)
10/15/2023	25967	University of Wisconsin	Making a collection count virtual ...	(325.00)
10/15/2023	25968	Western Paper Distributors	Janitorial supplies	(826.79)
10/15/2023	25969	Wolburg, Natasha	Mileage reimb	(159.42)
10/15/2023	25971	Zimmermann, Robert	Mileage reimb	(295.13)
Total 10010 · Alpine Bank- Gen(..7072)				(407,665.48)
TOTAL				(407,665.48)

11:44 AM

10/17/23

Garfield County Public Library District

Reconciliation Detail

20510 · Alpine Bank Purchase Card, Period Ending 09/30/2023

Type	Date	Num	Memo	Clr	Amount	Balance
Beginning Balance						9,113.15
Cleared Transactions						
Charges and Cash Advances - 81 items						
Credit Card Charge	09/01/2023	SSAlpacaFrm	Grand prize for summer reading	X	(358.00)	(358.00)
Credit Card Charge	09/01/2023	SS3CGFOA	CGFOA annual conference	X	(350.00)	(708.00)
Credit Card Charge	09/01/2023	SSRestauran	Staff prizes for winter reading	X	(175.00)	(883.00)
Credit Card Charge	09/01/2023	SS3BvrRun	CGFOA Conference lodging	X	(128.82)	(1,011.82)
Credit Card Charge	09/01/2023	CACityMkt	Snacks for kids' programs	X	(123.47)	(1,135.29)
Credit Card Charge	09/01/2023	SIUSPS	Monthly ill and stamps	X	(51.11)	(1,186.40)
Credit Card Charge	09/01/2023	NCCLIC	CLEL virtual conference	X	(35.00)	(1,221.40)
Credit Card Charge	09/03/2023	SSAdvOutdoo	Grand Prize for summer reading	X	(869.12)	(2,090.52)
Credit Card Charge	09/04/2023	NCWalmart	Spark program craft day/ESL mat...	X	(20.92)	(2,111.44)
Credit Card Charge	09/05/2023	SSGWCavern	Grand Prize for Summer Reading	X	(2,448.00)	(4,559.44)
Credit Card Charge	09/05/2023	SICLIC	CLEL Virtual conference	X	(35.00)	(4,594.44)
Credit Card Charge	09/05/2023	PARReforma	Reforma conference registration	X	(35.00)	(4,629.44)
Credit Card Charge	09/05/2023	PSClarks	Homeschool program refreshments	X	(29.95)	(4,659.39)
Credit Card Charge	09/05/2023	PAWalmart	Craft Supplies	X	(19.58)	(4,678.97)
Credit Card Charge	09/07/2023	SSTLS	Display furniture for Glenwood	X	(2,314.48)	(6,993.45)
Credit Card Charge	09/07/2023	SSCityMkt	Refreshments for September boa...	X	(52.01)	(7,045.46)
Credit Card Charge	09/07/2023	CAUSPS	Monthly ill postage	X	(29.32)	(7,074.78)
Credit Card Charge	09/07/2023	FTMrSudsy	Bookmobile car wash	X	(24.00)	(7,098.78)
Credit Card Charge	09/07/2023	NCDollGen	ESL Material	X	(11.00)	(7,109.78)
Credit Card Charge	09/07/2023	CACricut	Cricut monthly subscription	X	(10.61)	(7,120.39)
Credit Card Charge	09/08/2023	NCEXqDes	Burning mountain parade balloons	X	(40.00)	(7,160.39)
Credit Card Charge	09/09/2023	SS3Walmart	Refreshments for Bee mural	X	(16.08)	(7,176.47)
Credit Card Charge	09/11/2023	SSGetAir	Grand prize for summer reading	X	(528.00)	(7,704.47)
Credit Card Charge	09/11/2023	NCRoarFrkRn	Generator for Burning Mountain F...	X	(60.00)	(7,764.47)
Credit Card Charge	09/11/2023	SSRobly	Email newsletter platform	X	(52.50)	(7,816.97)
Credit Card Charge	09/11/2023	NCUSPS	Monthly ill postage	X	(35.61)	(7,852.58)
Credit Card Charge	09/11/2023	SSAdobe	Adobe creative cloud	X	(29.99)	(7,882.57)
Credit Card Charge	09/12/2023	SSEmpCounci	Training: Managing ill or injured w...	X	(225.25)	(8,107.82)
Credit Card Charge	09/12/2023	SIWCMCM	Hispanic Heritage treat bags	X	(70.07)	(8,177.89)
Credit Card Charge	09/12/2023	GWCityMkt	Refreshments for teen program/p...	X	(69.96)	(8,247.85)
Credit Card Charge	09/12/2023	CANaNoWriMo	Nanowrimo program supplies	X	(39.35)	(8,287.20)
Credit Card Charge	09/12/2023	SIDolGen	Loteria night raffle basket	X	(17.50)	(8,304.70)
Credit Card Charge	09/13/2023	SSCarbClay	Grand prize for summer reading	X	(200.00)	(8,504.70)
Credit Card Charge	09/13/2023	SSGranFarn	Map print for Hispanic Heritage	X	(157.00)	(8,661.70)
Credit Card Charge	09/13/2023	PAWMClarks	Pirate festival supplies	X	(88.18)	(8,749.88)
Credit Card Charge	09/13/2023	CACityMkt	Guess how many are in the jar su...	X	(5.97)	(8,755.85)
Credit Card Charge	09/15/2023	MMAil HandD	RI Hand dryer	X	(1,050.00)	(9,805.85)
Credit Card Charge	09/15/2023	SIFrnyTacos	Refreshments for loteria game ni...	X	(155.00)	(9,960.85)
Credit Card Charge	09/15/2023	SICapDeli	Staff morale	X	(130.97)	(10,091.82)
Credit Card Charge	09/15/2023	MMUhaul	Transport stage to Rifle	X	(37.95)	(10,129.77)
Credit Card Charge	09/15/2023	RIReforma	Reforma conference registration	X	(35.00)	(10,164.77)
Credit Card Charge	09/15/2023	SSReforma	Reforma conference registration	X	(35.00)	(10,199.77)
Credit Card Charge	09/15/2023	RIltiCaesar	Refreshments for anime club	X	(24.47)	(10,224.24)
Credit Card Charge	09/15/2023	SIDolGen	Refreshments for staff meeting	X	(7.50)	(10,231.74)
Credit Card Charge	09/16/2023	SSWalmart	Supplies for Hispanic Heritage O...	X	(40.07)	(10,271.81)
Credit Card Charge	09/17/2023	FTWalmart	Paint and bug spray	X	(45.90)	(10,317.71)
Credit Card Charge	09/18/2023	SSCityMkt	Refreshments for staff day	X	(245.39)	(10,563.10)
Credit Card Charge	09/18/2023	GWBoardBox	Magic program booster pack	X	(104.99)	(10,668.09)
Credit Card Charge	09/19/2023	GWARSLConf	ARSL Conference travel and per ...	X	(316.50)	(10,984.59)
Credit Card Charge	09/19/2023	SSAdobe	Adobe creative cloud	X	(29.99)	(11,014.58)
Credit Card Charge	09/19/2023	SSAdobe	Adobe stock	X	(29.99)	(11,044.57)
Credit Card Charge	09/20/2023	NCAlpacaFar	Alpaca storytime	X	(250.00)	(11,294.57)
Credit Card Charge	09/20/2023	RIWalmart	Supplies for Hispanic heritage	X	(68.26)	(11,362.83)
Credit Card Charge	09/20/2023	SSUSPS	Return processing supplies	X	(16.35)	(11,379.18)
Credit Card Charge	09/20/2023	GWUSPS	Monthly ill postage	X	(8.15)	(11,387.33)
Credit Card Charge	09/21/2023	RICLIC	CLEL conference registration	X	(35.00)	(11,422.33)
Credit Card Charge	09/22/2023	SSMasters	Monthly fax service	X	(189.73)	(11,612.06)
Credit Card Charge	09/22/2023	SS2Tublite	Parts for large format printer	X	(62.16)	(11,674.22)
Credit Card Charge	09/22/2023	NCCityMkt	Refreshments for Super mario s...	X	(13.96)	(11,688.18)
Credit Card Charge	09/23/2023	NCWCMMLaPI	Hispanic heritage celebration	X	(109.70)	(11,797.88)
Credit Card Charge	09/23/2023	SSAdobe	HR Acrobat po subscription	X	(23.99)	(11,821.87)
Credit Card Charge	09/24/2023	SSHytt	ARSL conference travel and per ...	X	(1,422.80)	(13,244.67)
Credit Card Charge	09/24/2023	RI2ARSLConf	ARSL conference travel and per ...	X	(326.11)	(13,570.78)
Credit Card Charge	09/24/2023	RI2ScoopKape	Refreshments for Hispanic heritage	X	(244.25)	(13,815.03)
Bill Pmt -CCard	09/24/2023	SSWells	Face Painting Hispanic Heritage f...	X	(100.00)	(13,915.03)

11:44 AM

10/17/23

Garfield County Public Library District

Reconciliation Detail

20510 · Alpine Bank Purchase Card, Period Ending 09/30/2023

Type	Date	Num	Memo	Clr	Amount	Balance
Credit Card Charge	09/24/2023	RICityMkt	Refreshments for Hispanic heritage	X	(70.16)	(13,985.19)
Credit Card Charge	09/25/2023	SIDolGen	Batteries and program prizes	X	(18.75)	(14,003.94)
Credit Card Charge	09/26/2023	SSMtnEmploy	Training: Legal issues for HR and...	X	(450.50)	(14,454.44)
Credit Card Charge	09/26/2023	SSAmButton	PA craft supplies	X	(291.80)	(14,746.24)
Credit Card Charge	09/26/2023	SSGoofballs	La Noche Latina decorations	X	(133.90)	(14,880.14)
Credit Card Charge	09/26/2023	SSAmbutton	CA craft supplies	X	(91.15)	(14,971.29)
Credit Card Charge	09/27/2023	GWCostco	Supplies for nanowrimo/Snacks f...	X	(314.49)	(15,285.78)
Credit Card Charge	09/27/2023	CACity Mkt	Snacks for Spark and Magic the ...	X	(79.50)	(15,365.28)
Credit Card Charge	09/28/2023	SSHampton	Gov't innovation conference lodging	X	(672.00)	(16,037.28)
Credit Card Charge	09/28/2023	SSHampton	Gov't innovation conference lodging	X	(578.00)	(16,615.28)
Credit Card Charge	09/28/2023	PAUSPS	Monthly ill postage	X	(44.47)	(16,659.75)
Credit Card Charge	09/29/2023	CAOctoCoffe	Mug conference per diem	X	(17.40)	(16,677.15)
Credit Card Charge	09/29/2023	CAOctoCoffe	Mug conference per diem	X	(16.50)	(16,693.65)
Credit Card Charge	09/29/2023	CAOctoCoffe	Mug conference per diem	X	(8.10)	(16,701.75)
Credit Card Charge	09/30/2023	RIUSPS	Monthly ill postage	X	(65.00)	(16,766.75)
Credit Card Charge	09/30/2023	RICityMkt	Karina award celebration	X	(47.98)	(16,814.73)
Total Charges and Cash Advances					(16,814.73)	(16,814.73)
Payments and Credits - 1 item						
Check	09/25/2023	Eft	Aug c.c. pmt	X	9,113.15	9,113.15
Total Cleared Transactions					(7,701.58)	(7,701.58)
Cleared Balance					7,701.58	16,814.73
Register Balance as of 09/30/2023					7,701.58	16,814.73
Ending Balance					7,701.58	16,814.73

Management Report, September 2023

Jamie LaRue, Executive Director

Community interview update

Nancy Barnes (Branch Library Director) will no doubt update the board, but I'm impressed with the number of interviews that have already taken place. I'm also pleased that so many of our staff are able to participate in this effort.

CALCON

Many thanks to Adrian, Jocelyn, Sue, and John for their attendance at the CALCON in October. I believe that over 50 trustees showed up for various Trustee Track programs, and I appreciate your willingness to try to stay abreast of the many programmatic issues, legal concerns, and emerging trends.

Censorship in the news

Our Freedom to Read Forum, held on the evening of October 18, 2023, at the Ute Theater, was well attended. My thanks to James Larson and Alex Garcia-Bernal for publicity and logistics. There were roughly 130 attendees, and I believe we managed to allow almost all of the public who wished to speak a chance to do so. We did not require any sign-in process. We simply placed two signs, one by each distinct microphone: "More restrictions" and "Broad access." The latter outnumbered the former by at least four to one. Rifle TV made videos, and I hope to make them more accessible soon. Our moderator, Raleigh Burleigh of the Sopris Sun, was gracious, polite, and firm. The event overall maintained decorum and respect.

I'm attaching my prepared remarks from my 20-minute introduction to the session. It's a little long, but I think it's a good idea to preserve the content. While I may have improvised a little, this was my attempt to provide library context for the evening. Slide content is in italics. My remarks follow in plain text.

Introduction

- Thank you so much for being here this evening. Before we listen to community comments, I wanted to do something that happens too seldom in public discourse today. I want to give some historical context. I want to talk about the meaning of an institution in public life.
- First, I'll briefly review the foundations of the public library in the US Constitution, Supreme Court decisions and Colorado law. Then I'll talk about some specific policies adopted by Garfield County Libraries. Finally, I'll give an update on the status of two recently challenged series. Then I'll pass this over to our moderator, Raleigh Burleigh, editor of the Sopris Sun.

First, let's talk about the establishment of the public library.

*The First Amendment to the United States Constitution prevents the government from making laws that: regulate an establishment of religion; prohibit the free exercise of religion; **abridge the freedom of speech**, the freedom of the press, the freedom of assembly, or the right to petition the government for redress of grievances.*

The library is a unit of government, specifically, the state government. Our purpose is squarely centered on the freedom of speech: the right of the people, all people, to express themselves.

SCOTUS and Colorado Law

Pico: "The right to receive ideas is a necessary predicate to the recipient's meaningful exercise of his own rights of speech, press, and political freedom." Students have First Amendment Rights.

Island Trees: "Local school boards may not remove books from school library shelves simply because they dislike the ideas contained in those books."

*CRS 24-90-102. Legislative declaration. The general assembly hereby declares that it is the policy of this state, as a part of its provision for public education, to promote the establishment and development of all types of publicly-supported free library service throughout the state to ensure equal access to information **without regard to age, physical or mental health, place of residence, or economic status...***

- SCOTUS, the Supreme Court of the United States, has interpreted the First Amendment as not just the right to speak—but the right to access the speech of others.
- In two frequently cited cases, even students have the right to participate in and access speech, press, and political information.
- And local school (and library) boards can't remove things or place onerous restrictions on content just because they don't like it.
- In Colorado law, libraries are established as a public good, intended to assure equal access to information for everyone.

Policy

"Today indications in many parts of the world point to growing intolerance, suppression of free speech and censorship affecting the rights of minorities and individuals."

- *Forrest Spaulding, 1938*
- In 1938, in Des Moines, IA, two library titles were challenged: *Mein Kampf* by Hitler (because it was "foreign") and *The Grapes of Wrath* by Steinbeck (because it was both "communist" and "pornographic"). Director Forrest Spaulding then introduced his "A Library's Bill of Rights to the American Library Association in 1939, in part in response to the rise of authoritarianism around the world. Then, Hitler, Stalin, Mussolini. Today, Putin, Erdogan, Xi, and many others.

The Library Bill of Rights

- I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of **all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.***
- II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. **Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.***
- III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.*
- IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.*
- V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.***

VI. Libraries that make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an **equitable basis**, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

VII. All people, regardless of origin, age, background, or views, possess a right to privacy and confidentiality in their library use. Libraries should advocate for, educate about, and protect people's privacy, safeguarding all library use data, including personally identifiable information.

- I won't read all of this. The key parts are the bold sections: we gather materials from everywhere, to help our residents investigate and understand the world around them.
- And we are committed to serving everyone.



- There has been a sharp rise in the number of attempts to ban or restrict library materials in the US.
- Usually, the claim is that challenged books are just about sex. More often, they're about LGBTQ folks and people of color.
- In my view, libraries hold a mirror to our culture. We track social change. About 3% of our collection these days represent voices that were previously marginalized in our society, and in our libraries. 97% represents the voices that dominated American publishing: mostly white straight folks.
- That's the focus of most of the challenges, both from the conservative right--which wants us to fend off those new voices--and from the liberal left, which wants us to expand them, and while we're about it, go back and purge the older and less enlightened books.
- But libraries are supposed to resist censorship from either side.

Three more core policies

Materials Selection

- *Broadest possible selection*
- *Issues of the day*
- *Selection is not banning.*
- *We buy what is...*
 - *Published*
 - *Well-reviewed OR*
 - *Requested*

Request for Reconsideration

- *Written request*
- *Committee to review in entirety.*
- *Recommendation to keep, reclassify, remove.*
- *Director decision*
- *Written Board appeal*

Patron Cards

- *No card*
- *No media (movies, CD, video games)*
- *1 item at a time*
- *Digital services only*
- *Staff not responsible for limiting use. Parents may oversee their children's reading—but only their own.*
- *"GCPLD provides a diverse and varied collection of materials and resources designed to help patrons of all ages meet their educational, informational, professional, and recreational needs through a variety of formats."*
- *We buy what is published. 5 big publishers, accounting for over 85% of what you see in libraries and bookstores. They publish what they believe will sell, so they have an audience.*
- *What is well-reviewed by experienced librarians who know what their patrons check out, recommended for all, some, or no academic, public, or school libraries.*
- *What is requested by our patrons? Even if 2 libraries start out the same, they quickly change to reflect what local folks ask for.*
- *You may not agree with individual policies. But these were all in place when I got here, and are common throughout the United States, and under its own bylaws, the board must follow them. So do I and so do our staff.*

The Facts: Finder and Prison School

- *Manga, a popular Japanese style of illustrated storytelling. "Graphic novel" doesn't mean "sexy." It just means it has drawings, like superhero comics. Most manga are for younger audiences and have simple storylines.*
- *Both challenged titles are cataloged as "Adult." Shelved far from the children's area.*
- *An adult patron requested both well over a year ago.*
- *Both carry labels by publisher indicating "adult content."*
- *We added red stripes on the spines to tell staff not to shelve them with children's or young adult graphic novels.*

Both do have sexual content. But they are not "obscene" or "child pornography." (See next slide.)

Definitions

Pornography has no legal definition.

Child pornography is illegal. But must either involve the sexual abuse of actual children, or illustrations indistinguishable from photographs.

Obscenity: must meet a three-part (“Miller”) test, developed in 1973. Thus far, only the court can make this finding, and even Supreme Court Justices don’t agree with each other.

No findings of obscenity of library books since that time.

Challenge status

- Both series were reviewed by a committee of 6 staff members, representing all branches. They read the whole book, not just looked at pictures.
- Both received recommendations to retain it as currently cataloged and placed.
- That decision was appealed on September 7. The board has 60 days to respond. They are listening closely to public comment today and consulting legal counsel. Will make their decision by or before November 2.

Finally, I highlighted the logo of a new service, Biblioboard, which is a platform for local self-publishing. I said, “If you don’t like a book you see in the library, write a better one. Let’s move from being just consumers to being creators.”

Financial / Treasurer Report, October 2023

By Kevin Hettler, Chief Financial Officer

The following charts depict all revenues received and expenditures made from 1/1/23 through 9/30/23 and are relative to their respective annual budgets (Unaudited).

Total revenues received as of 9/30/23 are \$11,498,564.

Total expenditures made as of 9/30/23 are \$7,122,361.

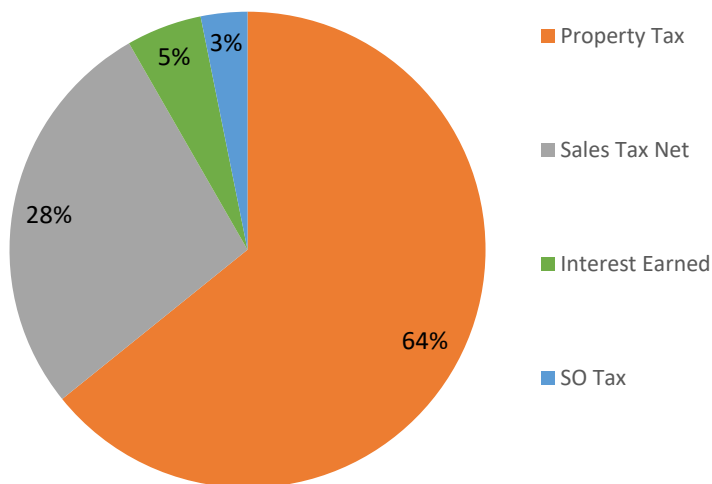
75% of the year has elapsed as of 9/30/23.

99% of budgeted revenue (\$11,545,399) has been received.

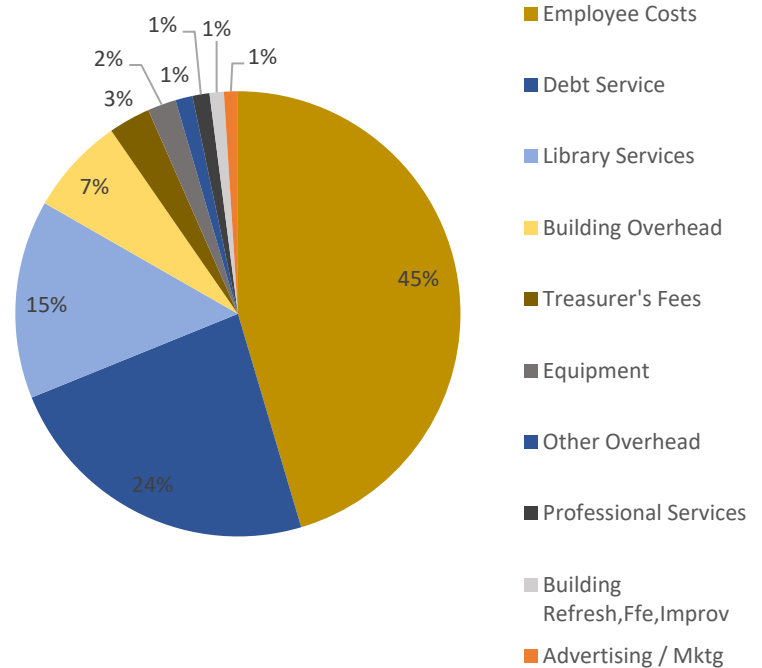
68% of budgeted expenditure (\$10,340,129) has been made.

All cash and investment accounts have been reconciled by month end.

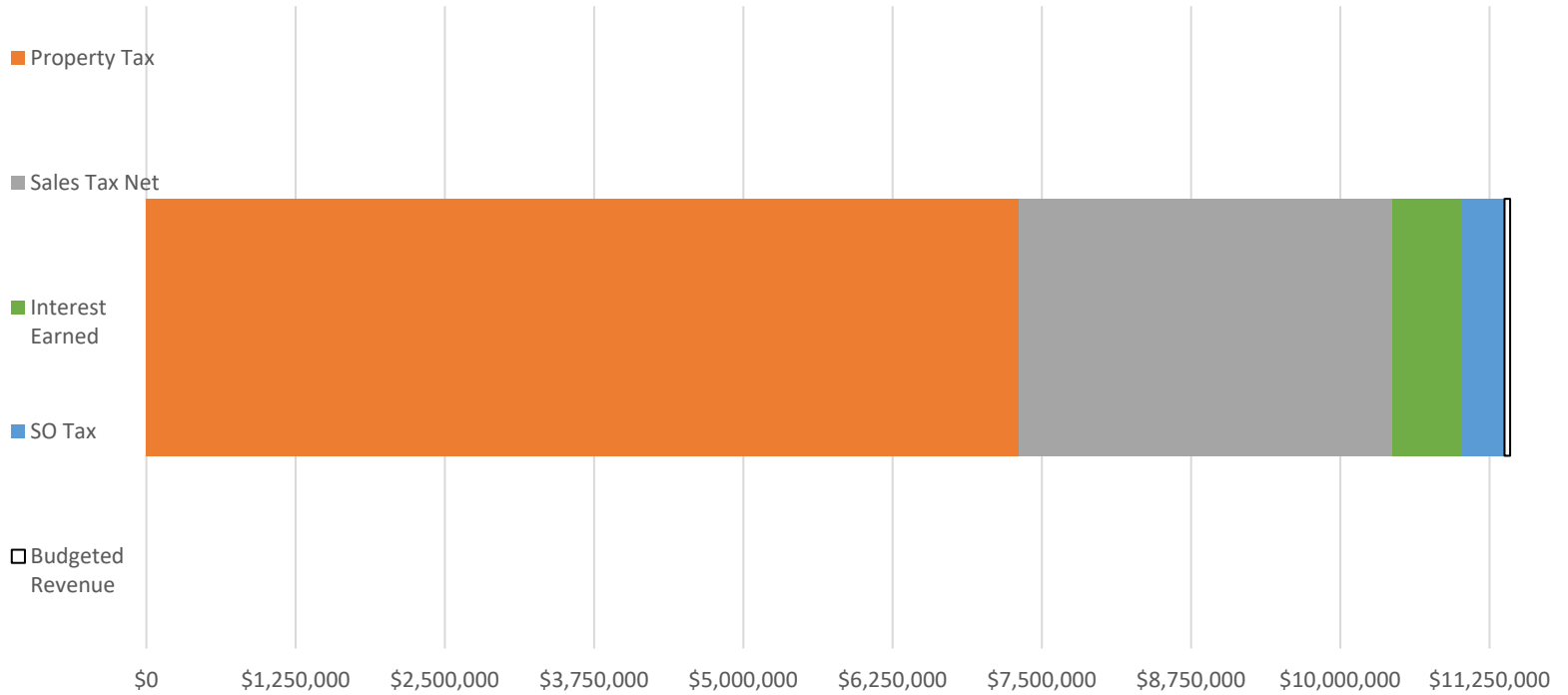
YTD Revenues through 9/30/2023



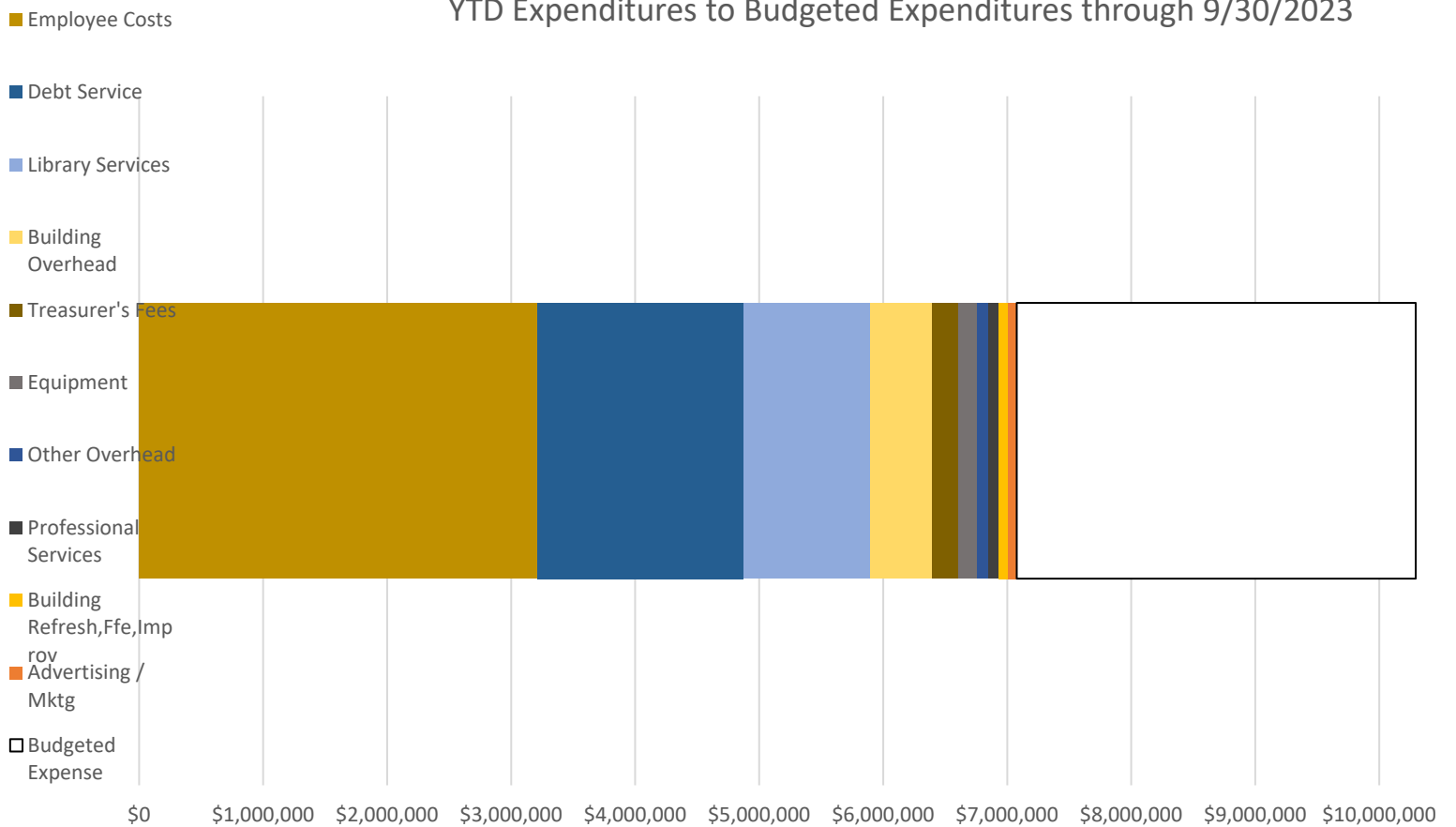
YTD Expenditures through 9/30/2023



YTD Revenues to Budgeted Revenues through 9/30/2023



YTD Expenditures to Budgeted Expenditures through 9/30/2023



Garfield County Public Library District
2024 Draft Budget

	2023 Adopted Budget	2024 Draft Budget	% of '24 Budget	\$ increase / (decrease)in 2024 from 2023	
Income					
40100 · Sales Tax Revenue(Net)	3,500,000	3,920,000	26.42%	420,000	2024 based on Garco projection and 2023 trending up from budgeted amount
40200 · Property Tax Revenue	7,306,045	9,866,513	66.49%	2,560,468	Reflects 2.50 mill levy from the August prelim certif of values; including Proposition HH potential impacts;
40300 · Specific Ownership Tax Revenue	400,000	450,000	3.03%	50,000	Reflects upward trend in 2023
40900 · Interest Earned on Investments	150,000	500,000	3.37%	350,000	Reflects ColoTrust projected interest rates in 2024
41000 · Grants-	81,692	18,314	0.12%	(63,378)	Reflects Co State grant
41200 · Other Revenue	62,662	48,045	0.32%	(14,617)	Reflects Verizon tower rent and electricity reimb; GW security reimb from CCCA
41300 · Solar Rebates	9,000	8,000	0.05%	(1,000)	Reflects 2023 actual trends
42000 · Branch Revenues	36,000	29,000	0.2%	(7,000)	Minimal budget impact, may propose going cash free in 2024
Total Income	11,545,399	14,839,872	100.0%	3,301,472	
Expense					
50001 · TREASURER'S FEES	224,121	284,730	2.51%	60,609	2% fee on revenue collected by the county
50005 · DEBT SERVICE	1,659,799	1,659,799	14.62%	-	Fixed annual payment amount through 2027
51000 · EMPLOYEE COSTS					
51001 · WAGES/TAXES	3,763,763	4,325,498	38.1%	561,735	Includes a 4% cola pay adjustment(\$39K per 1%); a 2% merit + 2% project bonus pool; 1 new FT Digital Content and iLL Technician; reclassify 6 existing Circulation Coordinators to 6 Assistant Branch Managers; convert 1 FT Library Specialist to 1 FT Adult Services Coordinator(pilot); 2 year limited duration summer Youth Services intern and Archivist/Digitization intern; increase our existing Internal Courier hours by 4 hours per week to 28 hours; 3.5% rate increase for health insurance; Board development/training funds remain; Expansion of staff training and development for biennial PLA conference attendance; \$5,500 expansion of tuition and student loan reimb; short-term / emergency housing assistance remains; An equivalent or better company sponsored FAMLI leave plan; Compensation market study update.
51049 · BENEFITS	630,750	696,210	6.13%	65,460	
51200 · EMPLOYEE EXPENSES	321,424	402,331	3.54%	80,907	
Total 51000 · EMPLOYEE COSTS	4,715,937	5,424,039	47.78%	708,102	
52001 · LIBRARY MATERIALS	675,396	816,118	7.19%	140,722	28% Expansion in print and electronic materials. Growing collection spending to industry average;
52099 · SUPPORT FOR LIBRARY SERVICES	68,706	67,183	0.59%	(1,523)	Minimal budgetary changes: External courier service rate reduction

Garfield County Public Library District
2024 Draft Budget

	2023 Adopted Budget	2024 Draft Budget	% of '24 Budget	\$ increase / (decrease)in 2024 from 2023	
52199 · IT SUPPORT	346,465	371,380	3.27%	24,915	Marmot pricing increase; self check licensing fees; Includes proposed patron incident tracking system
52300 · EVENTS	267,000	287,000	2.53%	20,000	Expansion of cultural events such as Native American heritage month, bilingual events, LGBTQA+
53000 · PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	146,311	204,144	1.8%	57,833	Includes a contracted Rifle branch security officer
54000 · BUILDING OVERHEAD, REFRESH, IMPROVEMENTS	1,716,394	1,738,633	15.32%	22,239	Includes inflationary adjustment on all services and utilities; Bldg projects: Exterior LED lighting, 6 outdoor smart lockers. Building refresh funding remains.
55000 · EQUIPMENT	226,396	178,141	1.57%	(48,255)	Budget decrease due to completion of new Self check machine rollout in 2023. 2024 Equipment purchases include automated book sorters; 60 public and staff computer replacements. Remote meeting equipment.
56000 · OTHER OVERHEAD	84,825	92,548	0.82%	7,723	Estimated increase in liability and property insurance rates
57000 · ADVERTISING & MARKETING	131,500	140,500	1.24%	9,000	Additional promotion needed for the expansion of cultural events; Direct mailers, library card design competiton, using GIS for expanded library card sign up push.
58000 · VEHICLES	18,541	18,400	0.16%	(141)	2023 spending is under budget, budget line to remain unchanged.
59040 · PARTNERSHIPS	58,738	69,238	0.61%	10,500	Includes 2024 membership in CLEER(Clean Energy Economy for the Region) \$10,500
Total Expense	10,340,129	11,351,853	100.0%	1,011,724	
Net Income	1,205,270	3,488,019			

Garfield County Public Library District
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual (unaudited)
Jan-Sep 2023

	Jan - Sept 2023 Actual	Annual Budget	% of Annual Budget	Footnotes	Jan - Sept 2022 Actual	\$ Increase / (Decrease) in Actual '22 to '23
Income						
40100 · Sales Tax Revenue	3,158,989.75	3,580,000.00	88.24%		2,898,303.76	260,685.99
40102 · Sales Tax Refunds	(30,824.23)	(80,000.00)	38.53%		(92,379.05)	61,554.82
40200 · Property Tax Revenue	7,303,917.00	7,306,045.00	99.97%		5,351,108.90	1,952,808.10
40300 · Specific Ownership Tax Revenue	359,770.11	400,000.00	89.94%		303,728.56	56,041.55
40900 · Interest Earned on Investments	583,694.96	150,000.00	389.13%	1.	102,435.79	481,259.17
41000 · Grants	29,712.81	81,692.00	36.37%		41,848.25	(12,135.44)
41200 · Other Revenue	50,242.91	62,662.00	80.18%		33,966.54	16,276.37
41300 · Solar Rebates	5,343.14	9,000.00	59.37%		6,023.27	(680.13)
42000 · Branch Revenues	37,718.27	36,000.00	104.77%		38,351.57	(633.30)
Total Income	11,498,564.72	11,545,399.00	99.59%		8,683,387.59	2,815,177.13
Expense						
50001 · TREASURER'S FEES	214,567.71	224,121.00	95.74%		169,369.47	45,198.24
50005 · DEBT SERVICE	1,659,799.61	1,659,800.00	100.0%		1,659,799.60	0.01
51000 · EMPLOYEE COSTS	3,213,503.40	4,715,937.00	68.14%		2,691,091.25	522,412.15
52000 · LIBRARY SERVICES	1,020,163.94	1,357,567.00	75.15%		951,652.03	68,511.91
53000 · PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	87,769.56	146,311.00	59.99%		81,715.17	6,054.39
54000 · BUILDING OVERHEAD	502,018.99	866,393.00	57.94%		428,051.80	73,967.19
54500 · BUILDING REFRESH, FURNITURE,IMI	73,361.62	850,000.00	8.63%		91,569.43	(18,207.81)
55000 · EQUIPMENT	146,736.12	226,396.00	64.81%		31,585.25	115,150.87
56000 · OTHER OVERHEAD	87,755.58	84,825.00	103.45%	2.	75,943.66	11,811.92
57000 · ADVERTISING & MARKETING	71,116.86	131,500.00	54.08%		57,891.80	13,225.06
58000 · VEHICLES	8,208.19	18,541.00	44.27%		13,625.52	(5,417.33)
59000 · PARTNERSHIPS	37,360.28	58,738.00	63.6%	3.	47,524.32	(10,164.04)
Total Expense	7,122,361.86	10,340,129.00	68.88%		6,299,819.30	822,542.56
Net Income	4,376,202.86	1,205,270.00			2,383,568.29	1,992,634.57

Footnotes:

1. The 30 day yield on the ColoTrust account for Sept was 5.5058%. Up from 2.6205% in Sept 2022.
2. Annual property and liability insurance paid in January
3. The first 9 months Cooper Commons condo assessments have been paid.

Garfield County Public Library District

Balance Sheet

As of September 30, 2023

	Sep 30, 23
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10010 · Alpine Bank- Gen(..7072)	875,967.79
10050 · Colo Trust - General	16,813,061.60
10055 · C-Safe	56,581.84
10060 · Alpine Bank- Payroll(..8785)	14,912.43
10070 · Alpine Bank - Flex(..0583)	2,756.66
10210 · Alerus- Flex deposit	544.45
10300 · Petty Cash- Cash drawer fund	1,075.00
Total Checking/Savings	17,764,899.77
Other Current Assets	
12050 · Sales tax transfer by Treasurer	426,540.57
12100 · Property tax transfer by Treas	7,311,889.00
12250 · Leases Receivable	414,444.84
Total Other Current Assets	8,152,874.41
Total Current Assets	25,917,774.18
TOTAL ASSETS	25,917,774.18
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 · Accounts Payable	73,084.26
Total Accounts Payable	73,084.26
Credit Cards	
20510 · Alpine Bank Purchase Card	16,814.73
Total Credit Cards	16,814.73
Other Current Liabilities	
20660 · Grants Payable	1,552.60
21100 · Other Payroll Payables-	
21105 · FLEX payable	2,630.68
21140 · CRA (retirement)	11,630.88
Total 21100 · Other Payroll Payables-	14,261.56
21200 · Payroll Payable-	64,511.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	80,325.16
Total Current Liabilities	170,224.15
Long Term Liabilities	
22000 · Deferred Sales tax Revenue	426,540.57
22100 · Deferred Property Tax Revenue	7,311,889.00
22250 · Deferred inflow - verizon lease	414,444.84
Total Long Term Liabilities	8,152,874.41
Total Liabilities	8,323,098.56
Equity	
30000 · Unassigned Fund Balance	12,862,143.94
30005 · Non-Spendable Fund Balance	36,928.82
30010 · Restricted Fund Balance	319,400.00
Net Income	4,376,202.86
Total Equity	17,594,675.62
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	25,917,774.18

**GARFIELD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
SALES TAX COMPARISON REPORT
BEFORE REFUND**

	2019		2020		2021	% Incr(Decr) from prior yr	2022	% Incr(Decr) from prior yr	2023	% Incr(Decr) from prior yr
January	232,350.29	16.19%	219,964.19	-5.33%	244,593.97	11.20%	287,373.78	17.49%	342,694.36	19.25%
February	201,365.63	-6.18%	211,661.48	5.11%	248,671.50	17.49%	313,756.46	26.17%	334,035.62	6.46%
March	235,241.22	-4.88%	205,882.59	-12.48%	306,107.18	48.68%	363,315.73	18.69%	397,314.64	9.36%
April	221,993.61	0.65%	207,819.08	-6.39%	315,594.36	51.86%	356,926.25	13.10%	371,576.74	4.10%
May	251,876.55	7.70%	252,114.14	0.09%	365,531.99	44.99%	369,020.81	0.95%	412,129.29	11.68%
June	271,841.07	3.83%	275,818.52	1.46%	360,421.57	30.67%	416,313.77	15.51%	436,062.94	4.74%
July	283,289.61	6.41%	296,171.04	4.55%	358,053.80	20.89%	415,689.44	16.10%	438,635.60	5.52%
August	283,746.69	9.51%	282,100.20	-0.58%	325,543.47	15.40%	437,595.12	34.42%		#VALUE!
September	273,911.00	5.58%	308,802.67	12.74%	359,893.69	16.54%	408,790.73	13.59%		#VALUE!
October	268,983.77	10.76%	298,225.56	10.87%	333,716.60	11.90%	392,680.20	17.67%		#VALUE!
November	248,621.68	15.53%	270,897.91	8.96%	312,286.84	15.28%	378,346.49	21.15%		#VALUE!
December	286,039.62	14.79%	321,746.12	12.48%	375,907.52	16.83%	426,540.57	13.47%		#VALUE!
TOTAL	3,059,260.74	6.59%	3,151,203.50	3.01%	3,906,322.49	23.96%	4,566,349.35	16.90%	2,732,449.19	-40.16%

**GARFIELD COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT
SALES TAX COMPARISON REPORT
AFTER REFUND**

	2019		2020		2021	% Incr(Decr) from prior yr	2022	% Incr(Decr) from prior yr	2023	% Incr(Decr) from prior yr
January	209,576.47	5.38%	219,154.90	4.57%	237,651.31	8.44%	282,424.27	18.84%	335,755.71	18.88%
February	198,821.31	-6.36%	208,449.22	4.84%	225,592.83	8.22%	313,056.99	38.77%	321,339.27	2.65%
March	233,664.43	-4.67%	199,473.40	-14.63%	302,292.48	51.55%	293,864.24	-2.79%	395,859.72	34.71%
April	221,373.23	2.02%	194,556.04	-12.11%	312,333.74	60.54%	356,615.85	14.18%	369,805.64	3.70%
May	236,645.79	1.34%	245,037.26	3.55%	363,341.37	48.28%	357,069.28	-1.73%	411,190.92	15.16%
June	270,813.24	3.67%	270,598.88	-0.08%	354,079.99	30.85%	414,125.44	16.96%	434,620.76	4.95%
July	281,615.39	6.48%	254,330.79	-9.69%	355,006.45	39.58%	414,876.04	16.86%	437,099.52	5.36%
August	283,033.57	9.78%	280,187.96	-1.01%	317,495.97	13.32%	434,258.56	36.78%		#VALUE!
September	273,401.59	6.01%	306,570.32	12.13%	358,127.16	16.82%	408,238.24	13.99%		#VALUE!
October	266,965.89	11.84%	295,679.43	10.76%	332,468.17	12.44%	390,686.93	17.51%		#VALUE!
November	246,816.73	15.47%	262,364.84	6.30%	310,702.80	18.42%	375,740.34	20.93%		#VALUE!
December	277,231.38	11.65%	311,675.86	12.42%	375,476.64	20.47%	425,100.13	13.22%		#VALUE!
TOTAL	2,999,959.02	5.30%	3,048,078.90	1.60%	3,844,568.91	26.13%	4,466,056.31	16.17%	2,705,671.54	-39.42%

As we prepare our 2024 budget, I've presented below a series of scenarios of what a temporary mill levy credit would look like to our overall revenue projection. The scenarios include 2024 property tax revenue projection reflective of estimated valuation increases to residential and oil & gas property.

Property Type	2023 Revenues at 2.5 mill levy	2024 Property tax revenue at a 2.50 mill levy	\$ Revenue increase from 2023	2024 Property tax revenue at a 2.40 mill levy	\$ Revenue reduction from 2.50 mill levy	% Reduction from 2.5 mill levy
Vacant land	\$ 217,505	\$ 217,505	\$ -	\$ 208,805	\$ 8,700	2.29%
Residential	1,543,108	\$ 1,933,825	390,717	1,856,472	77,353	20.33%
Residential(multi family)	122,444	\$ 122,444	-	117,546	4,898	1.29%
Commercial	930,001	\$ 930,001	-	892,801	37,200	9.78%
Renewable Energy Prod	1,053	\$ 1,053	-	1,011	42	0.01%
Industrial	33,431	\$ 33,431	-	32,094	1,337	0.35%
Agricultural	34,758	\$ 34,758	-	33,368	1,390	0.37%
Natural resources	8,520	\$ 8,520	-	8,180	341	0.09%
Producing mines	497	\$ 497	-	478	20	0.01%
Oil & gas property	4,088,454	\$ 5,886,533	1,798,079	5,651,072	235,461	61.89%
Prod Oil Prim Land						
Prod Gas Prim Land						
Prod Ngls Prim Land						
Prod Gas Equip						
Gathering systems						
Drilling rigs						
State assessed prop	342,022	342,022	\$ -	328,341	13,681	3.60%
Total taxable property	\$ 7,321,794	\$ 9,510,590	\$ 2,188,796	\$ 9,130,166	\$ 380,424	100%

Property Type	2024 Property tax revenue at a 2.50 mill levy	\$ Revenue increase from 2023	2024 Property tax revenue at 2.30 mill levy	Revenue reduction from 2.50 mill levy	% Reduction from 2.50 mill levy	2024 Property tax revenue at 2.0 mill = flat budget to 2023 (with 5% inflation adj)	Revenue reduction from 2.50 mill levy	% Reduction from 2.50 mill levy
Vacant land	\$ 217,505	\$ -	\$ 200,104	\$ 17,400	2.29%	\$ 174,004	\$ 43,501	2.29%
Residential	\$ 1,933,825	390,717	1,779,119	154,706	20.33%	1,547,060	386,765	20.33%
Residential(multi family)	\$ 122,444	-	112,649	9,796	1.29%	97,955	24,489	1.29%
Commercial	\$ 930,001	-	855,601	74,400	9.78%	744,001	186,000	9.78%
Renewable Energy Prod	\$ 1,053	-	969	84	0.01%	843	211	0.01%
Industrial	\$ 33,431	-	30,757	2,674	0.35%	26,745	6,686	0.35%
Agricultural	\$ 34,758	-	31,977	2,781	0.37%	27,807	6,952	0.37%
Natural resources	\$ 8,520	-	7,839	682	0.09%	6,816	1,704	0.09%
Producing mines	\$ 497	-	458	40	0.01%	398	99	0.01%
Oil & gas property	\$ 5,886,533	1,798,079	5,415,610	470,923	61.89%	4,709,226	1,177,307	61.89%
Prod Oil Prim Land								
Prod Gas Prim Land								
Prod Ngls Prim Land								
Prod Gas Equip								
Gathering systems								
Drilling rigs								
State assessed prop	342,022	\$ -	314,660	27,362	3.60%	273,617	68,404	3.60%
Total taxable property	\$ 9,510,590	\$ 2,188,796	\$ 8,749,743	\$ 760,847	100%	\$ 7,608,472	\$ 1,902,118	100%

Proposition HH projected impact on residential property tax in 2024

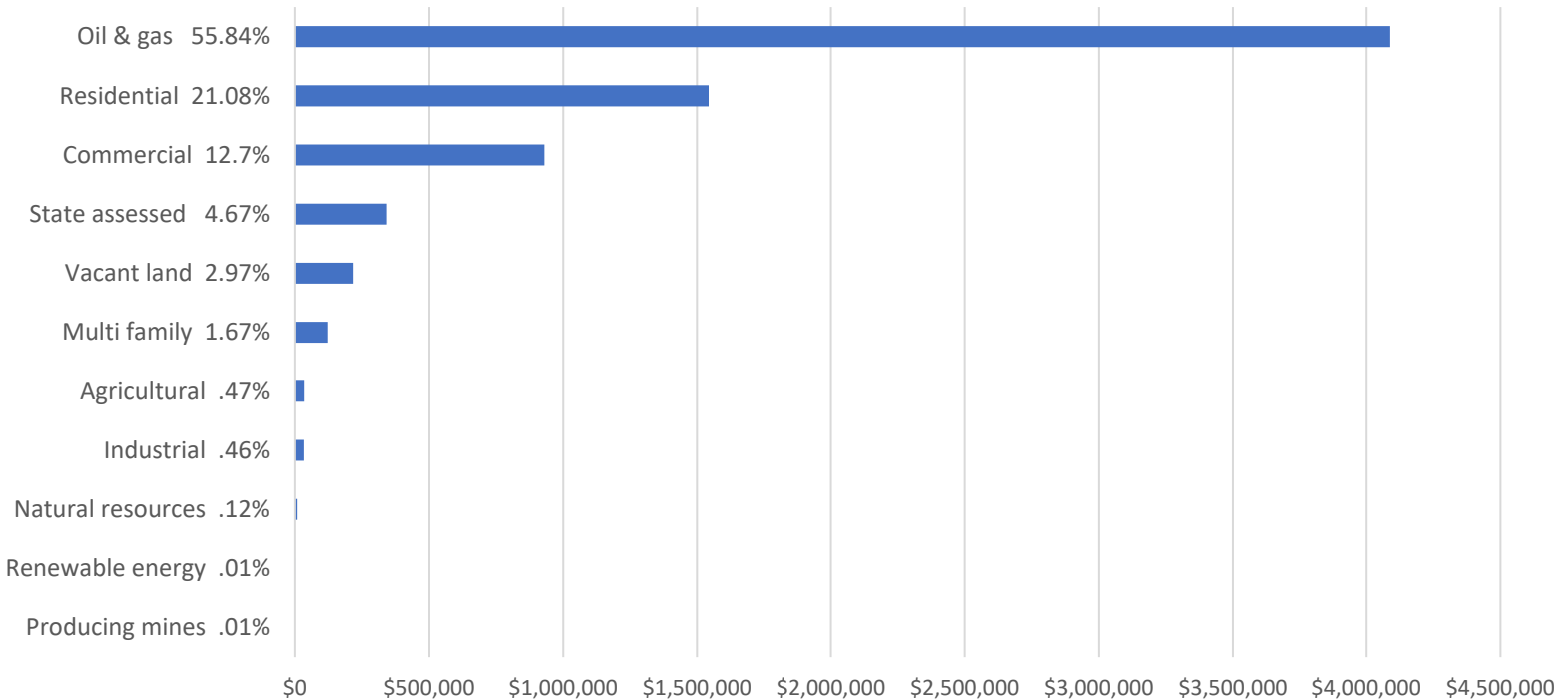
		Property value reduction	Adjusted property value	Assessment rate	Assessed value	Property tax paid on the Library 2.5 mill levy	Increased property tax from 2023	% change in property tax from 2023
Garco median residential property value in 2021 (tax revenue collected in 2022 and 2023)								
\$	433,000	(15,000)	418,000	6.765%	28,278	\$ 71	-	-
Same property valued in 2023 based on 30% appreciation rate (revenue collected in 2024)								
\$	562,900	(50,000) **	512,900	6.700% **	34,364	\$ 86	15	21.52%
\$	562,900	(15,000) ***	547,900	6.765% ***	37,065	\$ 93	22	31.08%

**** if proposition HH passes** Additional residential property tax collected in 2024 over 2023 \$ 332,144

***** if proposition HH fails** Additional residential property tax collected in 2024 over 2023 \$ 479,545

NOTE: For illustration purposes only, actual results will vary

2023 Property Tax revenue by property type



As a result of Colorado Senate Bill 23-303, the November 7, 2023 ballot measure HH reads as follows:

SHALL THE STATE REDUCE PROPERTY TAXES FOR HOMES AND BUSINESSES, INCLUDING EXPANDING PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR SENIORS, AND BACKFILL COUNTIES, WATER DISTRICTS, FIRE DISTRICTS, AMBULANCE AND HOSPITAL DISTRICTS, AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND FUND SCHOOL DISTRICTS BY USING A PORTION OF THE STATE SURPLUS UP TO THE PROPOSITION HH CAP AS DEFINED IN THIS MEASURE?

Colorado Proposition HH, the **Property Tax Changes and Revenue Change Measure**, is on the ballot in Colorado as a legislatively referred state statute on November 7, 2023.

A "**yes**" vote supports making various changes to state property taxes and revenue limits, including:

- reduce property tax rates;
- allow the state to retain and spend revenues that it would otherwise be required to refund to residents under the Colorado Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR), to give local governments to make up for decreased tax revenues;
- create a limit on local government property tax revenue; and
- create a new cap on state revenue, allowing the state to retain revenue up to the newly created cap.

A "**no**" vote opposes making changes to property taxes and state revenue limits.

Source:

[https://ballotpedia.org/Colorado_Proposition_HH,_Property_Tax_Changes_and_Revenue_Change_Measure_\(2023\)#cite_note-summary-5](https://ballotpedia.org/Colorado_Proposition_HH,_Property_Tax_Changes_and_Revenue_Change_Measure_(2023)#cite_note-summary-5)

The tables below show the proposed property tax assessment rates and valuation reductions under Proposition HH compared to current law without Proposition HH shown in italics. In current law without Proposition HH and under Proposition HH, the assessment rate was set to be 7.15% in 2033 and after.

Source: Colorado Legislative Council Staff Revised Fiscal Note

https://leg.colorado.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2023A/bills/fn/2023a_sb303_r5.pdf

Residential Property Assessment Under SB 23-303

Amounts in italics show changes from current law

Property Tax Year	2023	2024	2025-2032	2033 and later
Owner-Occupied Primary Residence	6.7% after \$50,000 reduction <i>from 6.765% after \$15,000 reduction</i>	6.7% after \$40,000 reduction <i>from 6.976%* for single family, 6.8% for multifamily</i>	6.7% after \$40,000 reduction <i>from 7.15%</i>	7.15% <i>unchanged</i>
Senior Owner-Occupied Primary Residence	6.7% after \$50,000 reduction <i>from 6.765% after \$15,000 reduction</i>	6.7% after \$40,000 reduction <i>from 6.976%* for single family, 6.8% for multifamily</i>	6.7% after \$140,000 reduction <i>from 7.15%</i>	7.15% <i>unchanged</i>
Other Multifamily	6.7% after \$50,000 reduction <i>from 6.765% after \$15,000 reduction</i>	6.7% after \$40,000 reduction <i>from 6.8%</i>	6.7% after \$40,000 reduction <i>from 7.15%</i>	7.15% <i>unchanged</i>
Other Residential	6.7% after \$50,000 reduction <i>from 6.765% after \$15,000 reduction</i>	6.7% after \$40,000 reduction <i>from 6.976%*</i>	6.7% <i>from 7.15%</i>	7.15% <i>unchanged</i>

Nonresidential Real Property Assessment Under SB 23-303

Amounts in italics show changes from current law

Omits producing mines and oil & gas, as these are not affected

Property Tax Year	2023	2024-2026	2027-2028	2029-2030	2031-2032
Lodging and Other Improved Commercial Property	27.85% after \$30,000 reduction <i>from 27.9% after \$30,000 reduction</i>	27.85% <i>from 29%</i>	27.65% <i>from 29%</i>	26.9% <i>from 29%</i>	26.9% or 25.9% ¹ <i>from 29%</i>
Other Commercial, Industrial, Natural Resources, State Assessed	27.85% <i>from 27.9%</i>	27.85% <i>from 29%</i>	27.65% <i>from 29%</i>	26.9% <i>from 29%</i>	26.9% or 25.9% ¹ <i>from 29%</i>
Vacant Land	27.85% <i>from 27.9%</i>	29% <i>unchanged</i>	29% <i>unchanged</i>	29% <i>unchanged</i>	29% <i>unchanged</i>
Agricultural, Renewable Energy Producing Property	26.4% <i>unchanged</i>	26.4% <i>from 29%²</i>	26.4% <i>from 29%</i>	26.4% <i>from 29%</i>	26.4% or 25.9% ¹ <i>from 29%</i>
Renewable Energy Agricultural Land ³	26.4%	21.9%	21.9%	21.9%	21.9%

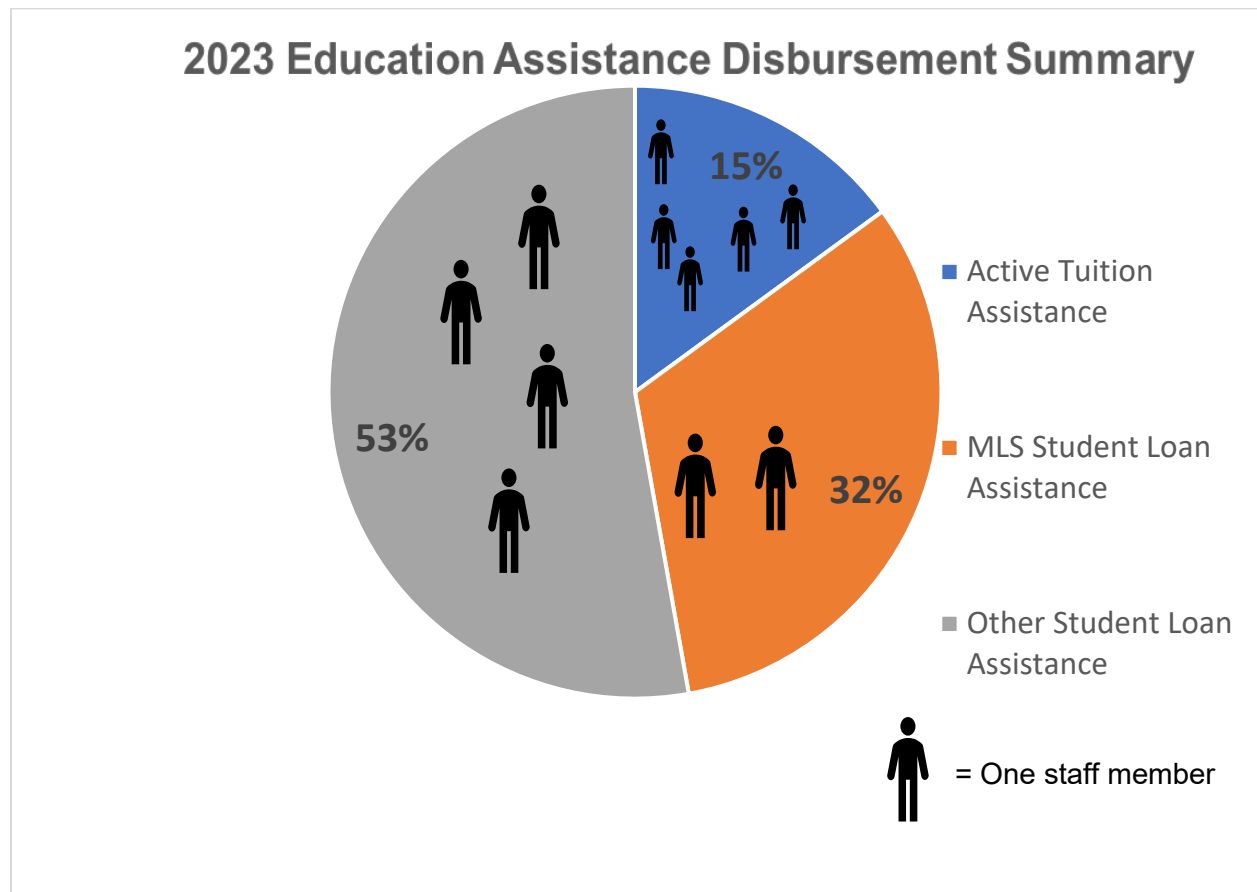
Human Resources Report, October 2023

By Kim Owens, HR Director

At the October Board Meeting, there were several questions about the 2023 Education Assistance Program, and I want to show the Board more details about this important employee benefit.

We were able to support the education of eleven of our staff members, which represents nearly 19% of our eligible staff.

Staff have attended multiple conferences and workshops over the last couple of months and one of the common threads is the necessity of employers to offer unique and robust benefits as a retention tool for staff. Repeatedly Student Loan relief is highlighted as a benefit employers can offer, and yet only 8% do (according to the 2023 Society for Human Resources [SHRM] Employee Benefits Survey). The Board deserves to be proud of its innovative decision to provide education assistance that extends to helping with crippling student loan debt. GCPLD is investing in its staff's future. While we can't do much about record inflation and limited and unaffordable housing, we can help with this while we're experiencing increased revenue without encumbering the District for years to come.



Thank you to our Board for their commitment to supporting our staff's education.

Staff Education and Development update:

We have two internal candidates for the Employee Development Coordinator position and look forward to filling this important position soon.

Fall is a busy season for professional conferences, and we were happy to send staff to a few in-state conferences.

MARMOT held its annual User Group Conference (MUG) in Grand Junction on 9/28 – 9/29. Nine staff attended and had the opportunity to network with staff from other libraries and with the MARMOT staff. They attended training on understanding and leveraging AI in libraries, privacy and security, OverDrive, EBSCO, and more.

We also sent eight staff and four board members to the Colorado Association of Libraries annual conference (CALCON) from 10/12 – 10/14 in Loveland, CO. Staff attended sessions covering a range of topics that included information about how to better use data, literacy, leadership, senior programming, collection development, teen services, mentoring, how to be an employer of choice, trends for trustees, and much more. Our very own Jenn Cook presented two sessions, Library Materials to Offend Everyone: Tips for Selecting a Balanced (and Controversial!) Collection and Social Justice, Neutrality, Intellectual Freedom, and the ALA; and Jamie LaRue presented three sessions including: Library Trends for Trustees, Data to Light the Path to the Future, and Planning for Loss: When a Staff Member Dies.

We had five of our Hispanic Outreach Committee members attend the Colorado REFORMA conference in Denver on October 20. The conference focused on partnerships, outreach, and programming.

Recruiting and Staffing update:

The last 30 days have been fairly quiet with fewer departures and hires. Our HR Generalist, Melissa Terry, works diligently to seek out qualified candidates who meet the varied needs of each branch and expedite the hiring process to help the District stay staffed. We had a full-time Library Specialist vacancy at the New Castle branch and the community needed a Spanish-speaking staff member and we were able to hire a bilingual staff member.

One of our staff members at the Carbondale branch was unable to sustain in the unaffordable housing environment and ultimately had to resign from her position and relocate away from the area.

Staffing Report - Since 9/25/2023:

New Hires: 1

- Library Specialist – New Castle, 40hrs/week – 10/26/2023

Promotions/Transfers: 0

Vacancies: 3 (openings designated as “on pause” are not included in the vacancy count)

- Employee Development Coordinator – Support Services, 40hrs/week
- Circulation Coordinator – Rifle, 40hrs/week
- Library Specialist – Carbondale, 40hrs/week
- Library Page – Parachute, 10hrs/week – *On pause*

- Library Page – Silt, 10hrs/week – *On pause*

Departures: 1

- Library Specialist – Carbondale, 40hrs/week – 10/18/2023

Additional Staffing Information:

Headcount as of 10/26/2023:

- 77 total staff members (does not include subs)
- 41 benefit-eligible staff (32 - 40 hours per week); 36 staff with less than 32 hours per week
- 59 FTE

Staff Stats by Location – 10/26/2023					
<u>Location</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Total Staff Count</u>	<u>Scheduled Staff Hours per Week</u> <small>(total of all staff)</small>	<u>Count of Benefit Eligible Staff (over 32 hours)</u>	<u>Count of Staff not eligible for Benefits (under 32 hours)</u>
Carbondale	6.9	10	276	4	6
Glenwood	8.4	11	336	5	6
New Castle	6.9	10	276	4	6
Silt	6.9	9	276	4	5
Rifle	7.95	12	318	5	7
Parachute	6.65	9	266	4	5
Support Services	15.3	16	612	15	1
Grand Total	59	77	2360	41	36

Branch Libraries Report, November 2023

By Nancy Barnes, Branch Libraries Director

Branch Staff Shine

Library staff recently attended the Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL) in Wichita, Kansas, Marmot User Group (MUG) workshops in Grand Junction, and the Colorado Association of Libraries (CAL) annual state conference in Loveland. Staff shared their newly acquired knowledge with their coworkers at branch staff meetings and all-staff meetings.

New Castle Branch Manager Ana Gaytan recently led a presentation on serving the Hispanic community through programming at the REFORMA conference in Denver.

Branch Initiatives

At the Fall Staff Day, Jamie and Nancy launched the community interview process. Staff throughout the district are conducting community interviews in all six communities with a diverse group of stakeholders. The goal of the interview process is to create relationships with key stakeholders, learn about the issues most pressing to our communities, and find out about the aspirations of our communities. This data will help inform the district's future long-range plan as we learn where our expertise and the communities' values and concerns overlap. To date, district staff have conducted twenty interviews with a diverse group of stakeholders including non-profit directors, government employees, local business owners, law enforcement, physicians, a middle school principal and many more. The district's goal is to complete all community interviews by the end of November.

Branch libraries celebrated the freedom to read during Banned Book Week, October 1-7th with banned book displays both highlighting challenged or banned books and educating the community on the reasons why people challenge library books.



Rifle Library Banned Book display



Program Success

Eclipse watch parties were a major success across our branch libraries. The number of attendees at our branches was staggering:

Carbondale: 200+

Glenwood: 200+

New Castle: 190

Silt: 200

Rifle: 250

Parachute: 90



A young Carbondale patron.



New Castle patron, Sofia, enjoys the eclipse.

Fifty works of art created by members of the Glenwood Springs Art Guild are on display in the Glenwood branch. Centering around the theme, *Fall in Love with Art*, artists used watercolors, pastels, and other mediums to capture landscapes, pastoral scenes, and local landmarks. The community was invited to attend a reception with the artists on Friday, October 20th to celebrate their artistic accomplishments. The show will run through December 4th and the community is invited to vote on their favorite works of art.



Glenwood Art Guild display

The Glenwood branch, in partnership with Raising a Reader Aspen to Parachute, hosted an arts festival for local families. The approximately 250 attendees were able to enjoy story times, interact with children's book authors, create crafts, and make art in Rosybelles, a 1962 International school bus retrofitted as a mobile art classroom. Staff made 25 new library cards for community members during the festival, ensuring access for families to all the resources and services provided by GCPLD.

Rifle Library held several programs to celebrate Fall and Halloween. The Adult Crafting Circle made fall kitchen towels and oven mitts, teens gathered for a Spooky Movie Night, and the library held its annual Preschool Halloween Parade and Trunk or Treat. This is one of the library's biggest events each year. The library partnered with the Rifle Police Department to make the event bigger and better with the addition of the Trunk or Treat.

Parachute Library also celebrated the season with a Dia de los Muertos event, a pumpkin carving program and a trunk or treat event at the Bea Underwood Elementary School.



Teens gather for Anime Club led by Library Specialist II, Jorge, at the Rifle Library

Community Outreach

Carbondale Youth Services Coordinator, Lauren, attended The Confluence Early Childhood Education (CECE) Coalition meeting, along with the Mountain Voices Project, Rocky Mountain Early Childhood Council, and Early Childhood Network, to brainstorm ways to improve access to early care and education in the Parachute to Aspen region. Attendees gave the library a standing ovation.

Stories of Impact

Silt Youth Services Coordinator, Paul, had a story time patron, who comes occasionally, tell Brenda that her grandson said that they needed to go to Silt's story time today because Mr. Paul was missing him.

Rifle Library held *The Great Pumpkin Carve* on Friday, October 13th, and had 90 people show up to carve pumpkins. It was a very messy endeavor, but well worth it to see all the happy families creating their works of art. A mother with three children thanked the staff profusely for having the event, stating that money was tight, and she appreciated being able to take her children to fun events.



The Great Pumpkin Carve in Rifle.

Staffing

The Glenwood branch welcomed a dynamic and energized new addition to the team, Youth Services Coordinator Tahrea "Red" Millberry. Red's first day at the branch started with an introduction by Meghan and her pals, the Rocky Mountain Puppets, during the library's Wednesday SPARK program. Red comes to the branch with extensive experience working with children, from babies and toddlers to tweens and teens. Beyond her namesake locks, families will recognize Red, through her enthusiasm and interest in connecting with local families.

Parachute Library Specialists from Parachute Lizz Tillotson and Natalie Smith were recently promoted to Library Specialist II.

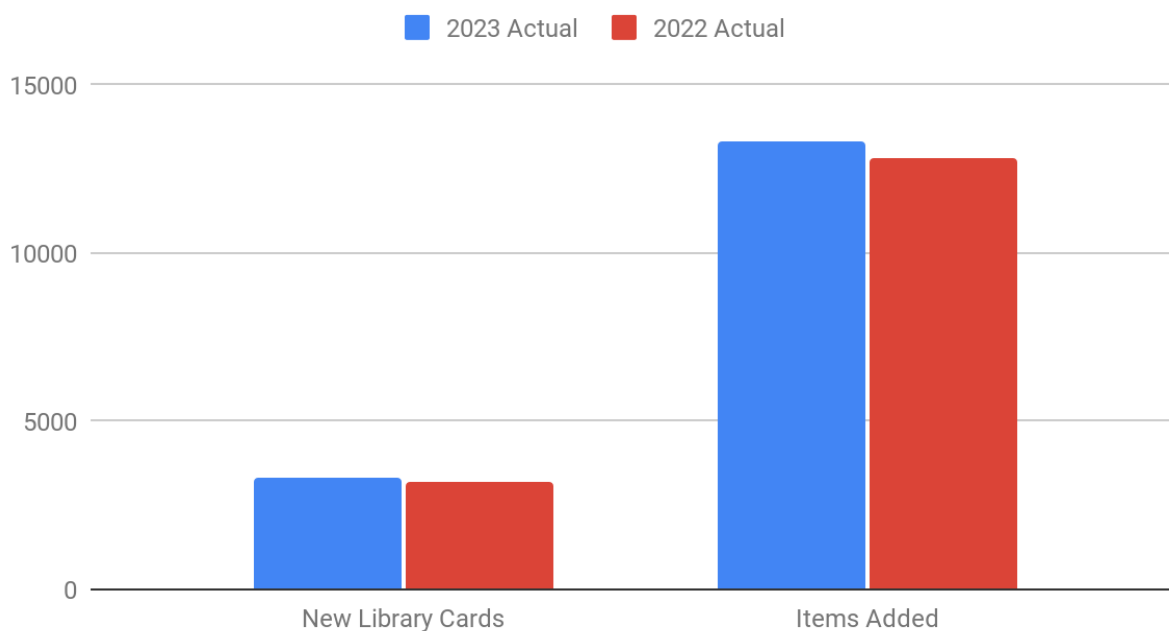
Circulation and Collections Report, October 2023

Jenn Cook, Technical Services Director

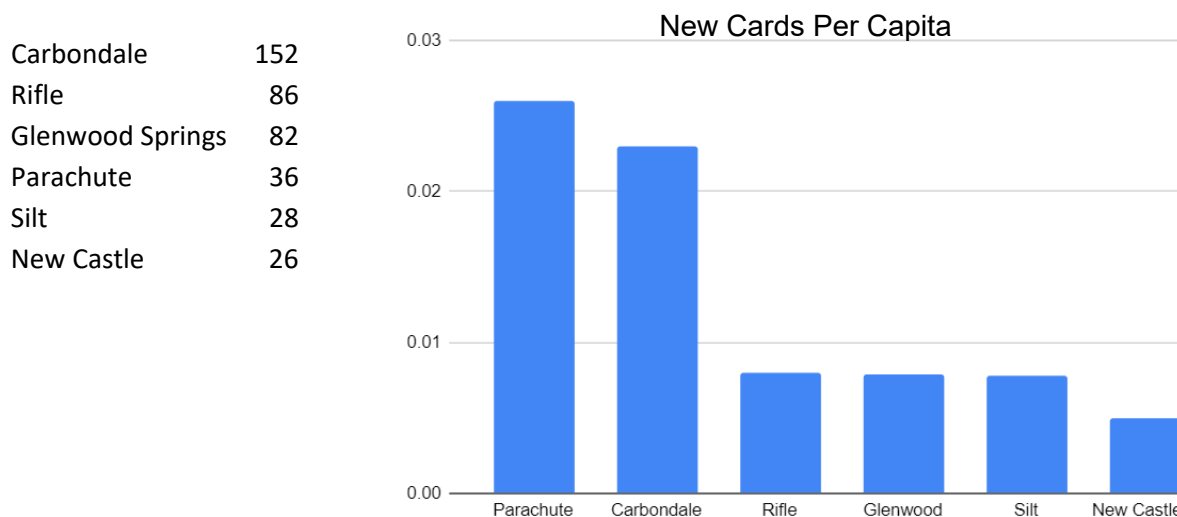
Library Card Signup Month

Since last month was Library Card Signup Month, this graph shows that the number of new library cards is very slightly up from 2022, as well as the number of items added to the collection. The total number of new library cards created in September was 410, which is 11% above the monthly average of 368.

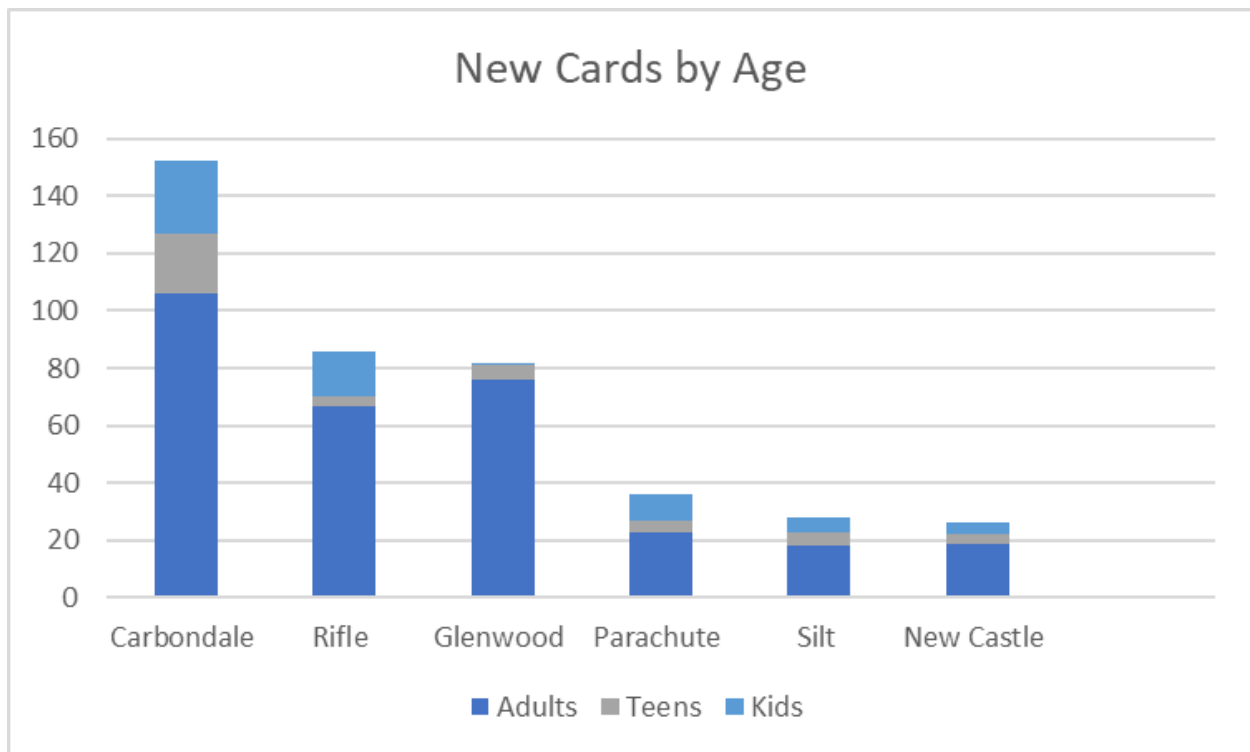
New Patrons and New Materials



Also, looking at the number of library cards created in September by branch in terms of a per capita calculation tells a surprisingly different story than the raw numbers do.



Finally, here is the breakdown of new library cards created in September by age. By far, at every branch, the largest number of new library cards are created for adults. People do still use libraries!



Marketing report, October 2023

James Larson, Communications and Marketing Director

October Recap

The last 4 weeks have been an up-and-down emotional time for Marketing and the whole district. We all know what has been going on with the threats of censorship, so I'd like to focus on some of the good things for you. As detailed in Alex's Events Report, September and the first half of October have been happily busy. Here is a recap of some of the big, fun events and programs:

- 2nd Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival-Sept 24th – thank you to my fellow Hispanic Outreach Committee members for their devotion to making this festival an enormous success. An incredibly special thank you to Crystal for emceeding the event!
- Grand unveiling of the Good of the Hive
- Farewell tour of Megan, a true friend of the library, and her Rocky Mountain Puppets
- 1st Annual Pirate Day at the Parachute Branch
- September Library Card Signup month
 - The total number of new cards for the month was 410 (11% above the monthly average of 368).
 - Carbondale 152
 - Glenwood 82
 - New Castle 26
 - Parachute 36
 - Rifle 86
 - Silt 28

I also recently enjoyed joining other Hispanic Heritage Committee members at the REFORMA conference at the University of Denver. Ana gave a fantastic presentation on her successes at the Posada holiday event at the New Castle branch. Going into the conference I thought that we were not doing enough for our Hispanic Communities. Proudly, I can say that our library district is leaps and bounds above other state libraries in our programming for, collections for, and outreach to the Hispanic community in Garfield County. Others are learning from us!

Stay tuned for GCPLD ads in the soon-to-launch Colorado River Neighbors' new monthly magazine that particularly represents down valley – Rifle, Silt, and Parachute.

Website – we are in the final stages. Recently there has been final back and forth about content and functionality. The next stage will be testing of the new site, then launch in November or January. Probably not December due to the holiday activities.

Outreach

- The Raising a Reader Children's Art and Literacy Festival was cohosted by the Glenwood Springs Branch on 10/7 - another fantastic success for 130 children and 109 adults for 76 families. We are already planning the event for Oct 12th of 2024.

Social media analytics

Followers:

Facebook – 3,890 (50 new followers)

Instagram – 1,499 (6 new followers)

Email Newsletter – 14,655

Facebook Reach* 31,711 (up 19% from last month)

Instagram reach: 621 (up 28% from last month)

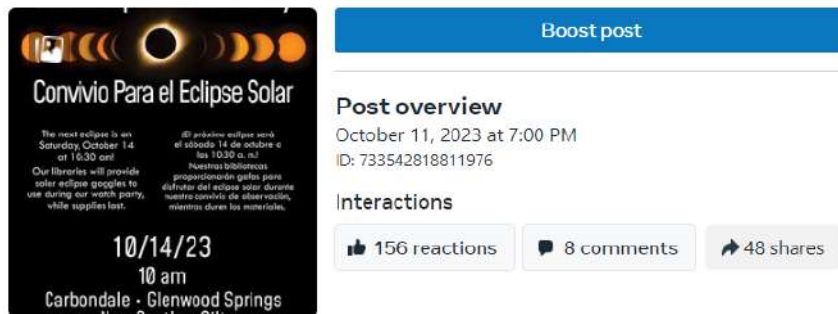
* Reach = The number of people who saw any content from your Page or about your Page, including posts, stories, ads, social information from people who interact with your Page and more.

Top 5 Facebook Posts:

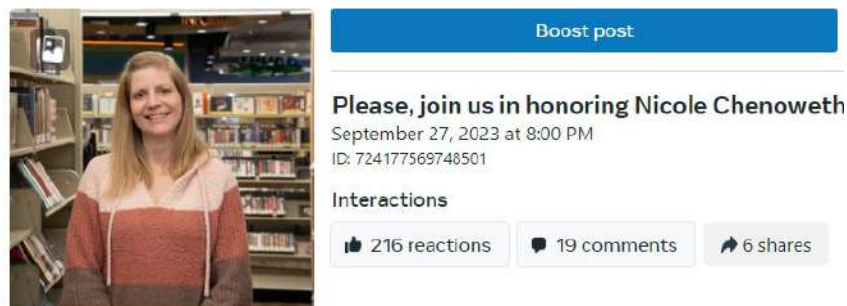
Thank you Gus – Reach = 9,404 people



Join us for the solar eclipse – Reach=8,300



Congrats Nicole 5 year anniversary – Reach=8,200



Great Pumpkin Carving Events – Reach = 4,600 people

The graphic features three carved pumpkins with different faces. The text reads: "GREAT PUMPKIN CARVE", "Your Garfield County Libraries are having a pumpkin carving celebration during the month of October!", "Pumpkin, patterns, and tools will be provided while supplies last. One pumpkin per group, but feel free to bring your own.", and lists four locations: RIFLE (October 13 • 11:30 am), NEW CASTLE (October 21 • 1 pm), CARBONDALE (October 25 • 2 pm), and GLENWOOD SPRINGS (October 25 • 2:30 pm).

[Boost post](#)

Post overview
October 10, 2023 at 6:00 PM
ID: 732874262212165

Interactions
👍 101 reactions 💬 9 comments ➦ 38 shares

Eclipse-New Castle – Reach=3,642 people

A group of people, mostly wearing sunglasses, are sitting on a bench outdoors, looking towards the sky. A blue square icon with a white document symbol is overlaid on the top left of the photo.

[Boost post](#)

Marveling at the eclipse outside our New Ca:
October 17, 2023 at 6:00 PM
ID: 737454908420767

Interactions
👍 102 reactions 💬 0 comments ➦ 3 shares

Top 5 Instagram Posts:

Opinion by Gus Richardson = 417 people

A small profile picture of a man with glasses and a beard, wearing a dark jacket, standing outdoors.

Opinion by Gus Richardson

On Thursday, Sept. 10, I had the opportunity to attend a local library board meeting. I was very excited to do so for three key reasons: 1) I got out of math class, 2) I'd never been to a library board meeting before and 3) the topic being discussed directly pertained to me.

They were discussing two "questionable" manga, those being graphic novels from the "Prison School" and "Finder" series. These books were being brought up due to the fact that they contain sexual content that some people find problematic for a book (allegedly) marketed toward children.

This I understood! I'm always a bit cautious around restricting books, but this seemed fair. If the content found within these books was truly sexual and restrictive marketed to teenage

<https://soprissun.com/library-controversy-a-youths-perspective/>

<https://soprissun.com/library-controversy-a-you..>
October 18, 2023 at 6:00 PM
ID: 18212457661271043

Interactions
❤️ 55 likes 💬 6 comments

Quote – Reach = 283 people



Each time you
read a book,
a tree smiles knowing
three life after
death!!

Boost post

Post overview
September 30, 2023 at 10:00 AM
ID: 17862109080011104

Interactions
19 likes 0 comments

Overview Performance Feed preview

Day of the Dead or Halloween? – Reach = 240 people



of the
dead Halloween

Boost post

Day of the Dead or Halloween? Which is your favo.
October 19, 2023 at 10:01 AM
ID: 18008555170860997

Interactions
19 likes 0 comments

Overview Performance Feed preview

Eclipse in NC – Reach = 238 people



Boost post

Marveling at the eclipse outside our New Castle B
October 17, 2023 at 12:01 PM
ID: 18108047482338707

Interactions
34 likes 1 comment

Overview Performance Feed preview

Hispanic Heritage Festival – Reach = 214 people



Boost post

Here are some photos from Sunday's Hispanic He.

September 26, 2023 at 3:00 PM

ID: 17954727497659044

Interactions

40 likes

0 comments

Overview

Performance

Feed preview

In the News – most of the images have links to the full articles.

'Why are these books accessible to children?'

Discussion over effort to restrict certain books at Garfield County Libraries unfolds at Rife's Ute Theater

News [FOLLOW NEWS](#) | Oct 21, 2023

Westley Crouch
For the Glenwood Springs Post Independent



Wednesday letters: Support for RFSD school board candidates, Freedom to Read

Opinion [FOLLOW OPINION](#) | Oct 18, 2023

Freedom to Read event

I was filled with hope for the future when I read Roaring Fork High School Junior Gus Richardson's Op Ed in the Sopris Sun last week. I met Gus outside of the Carbondale library after a Library Board meeting that was "sabotaged" by a mob of adults behaving badly. Gus attended the meeting as a journalism assignment for his high school English class. The group wanted certain books in the adult section either removed from the library or made difficult to check out.

After the meeting Gus interviewed people outside the library. Like Gus, many of us had never seen behavior like this in our library. These were full-grown, red-faced adults shouting, accusing and belittling library board members and anyone else who didn't agree with them. Great adult role-modeling for young Gus, eh?

If you haven't read Gus's Op Ed, you should. Go to <http://www.soprissun.com> and search for "Library Controversy, A Youth's Perspective."

I agree with Gus that libraries should remain places unencumbered by censorship or book bans.

Atta boy, Gus. I hope you got an "A" on that assignment and I look forward to seeing your "byline" in the future.

By the way, I'm attending the "Freedom to Read" event at the Ute Theater in Rifle at 6 p.m. Oct. 18. If you care about the future of our libraries please plan to attend this important event.

Pat Bingham Fitzpatrick, Carbondale

Garfield County leaders tell library to keep “pornographic materials” away from kids in latest salvo over Japanese graphic novels

County commissioner acknowledges directive can't be enforced — but notes library board can be fired



By **ELIZABETH HERNANDEZ** | ehernandez@denverpost.com | The Denver Post
PUBLISHED: October 19, 2023 at 6:00 a.m. | UPDATED: October 19, 2023 at 6:03 a.m.

Garfield County's elected commissioners this week directed the county's library board to ensure “pornographic materials” aren't accessible to children at public libraries and can't be checked out by young people.

How the commissioners would enforce that order — the latest flare-up in a fight over library materials in the Western Slope county — and how the county even defines pornography were unclear when the board voted unanimously to approve the message Monday.

Commissioner Tom Jankovsky acknowledged in an interview with The Denver Post on Wednesday that the Garfield County Public Library District's Board of Trustees is an independent body that doesn't have to follow the county's directive. But, he said, “the reason that motion was made is because we do have the ability to remove all board members from the library board.”

The commissioners “don't want to go there,” Jankovsky said, but it is an option.

James LaRue, executive director of the Garfield County Public Library District, has received calls over the last year for select adult Japanese graphic novels — some with LGBTQ themes — in the county's libraries to be stored on a top shelf away from children. Some people have requested the library check the IDs of patrons borrowing those books to ensure they're over 18.

LaRue called the commissioners' directive “political intimidation.” He said there is no legal definition of pornography and that, historically, the term has been used to describe all kinds of titles, from “The Grapes of Wrath” to children's books about where babies come from.

Garfield County's library does not intend to move the books out of reach, LaRue said, because the facility is not in the business of preventing people from reading.

The contested books include the Japanese manga-style series “The Finder” and “Prison School.”

“There is a keen interest in manga,” LaRue said. “Manga has a huge continuum of content. This was requested by a member of our public, and that's what we do as a library.”

LaRue said the library district had no record of a child checking out one of the graphic novels — until recently, when a mother opposed to the books brought her child to the library and checked one out under the child's name to prove that it's possible, he said.

“It's very easy to not allow access to what I would consider pornographic,” Jankovsky said during Monday's public meeting. “I haven't read the book, but I have read the [letters to the editor](#) and seen the graphics supplied to me by opponents of this. The graphics are not only pornographic but sadistic, masochistic, pedophilic — I don't know if I used the right term on that one, but children shouldn't be able to get those items.”

LaRue assembled a committee of library staff from different branches who have read the books to determine whether the graphic novels should be retained, reclassified or removed. So far, LaRue said, his staff has recommended to keep the books as they are.

The decision has divided the county with some supporting the library's stance to keep books accessible and others — including the three county commissioners — arguing the library has a responsibility to protect children from what they deem “pornographic” materials.

After voting to approve the directive, the commissioners asked County Attorney Heather Beattie during the public meeting whether they were setting themselves up for a First Amendment battle over the definition of pornography.

Beattie said defining what constitutes pornography would be difficult and would likely end up being litigated in court.

LaRue said once he receives the paperwork confirming the directive, he'll be contacting a lawyer.

The directive came after the three Garfield County commissioners decided not to appoint sole candidate Hanna Arauza — a local scientist, community organizer and mother whose resume said she frequents the library — to the Garfield County Libraries Board of Trustees after the library board voted to appoint her.

“I thought we were going to appoint a wonderful board member during this meeting and that it was not going to be a controversial thing,” LaRue said. “The board has always appointed people without issue in the past.”

Commissioners asked Arauza whether she would make pornographic materials inaccessible to children at the library. Arauza told them she believes parents are responsible for monitoring what their children are reading.

The commissioners said they wanted input on Arauza's appointment from the community at a public forum scheduled for Wednesday evening in which Garfield County residents would be asked to share their thoughts in favor of or against restrictions to library materials.

“It's frustrating because this shouldn't be a political thing,” Arauza said in an interview. “It's a non-political appointment to a volunteer position on the library board, but the heads of our county have made it political.”

Republican Commissioner Mike Samson noted during the meeting that Arauza's husband, [Steven Arauza](#), was running as a Democratic contender for Samson's seat in the 2024 county commissioner election.

During Monday's meeting, commissioners inquired whether the library board refusing to abide by county directives could meet the threshold to disband the entire library Board of Trustees.

The county attorney said library trustees could be removed under specific circumstances such as committing willful misconduct or negligence of duty.

"What they're trying to do is say, 'We told the library board what to do and we're the presiding officers and, therefore, we have now given ourselves an excuse to fire the lot of them,' LaRue said. "I would describe that as a political threat, as political intimidation."

The commissioners apologized to Hanna Arauza at the conclusion of this portion of the meeting, saying they were sorry she was "caught in the crosshairs."

During the meeting, the resident who made the original complaint against the Japanese graphic novels spoke and offered to show the public images from the books that he opposed.

"It makes me sad that something like these books we have had for over a year that no one read except for the person who requested them (have) become the focus of the life of the library," LaRue said. "There's a potential legal battle on the horizon, and for what? Protecting children they don't have from books they haven't read."

YOUR LETTERS

Thanks to Garfield County libraries for curating diverse collections

Garfield County libraries, while providing a diverse catalogue of information/offering to all patrons with clear delineation of genre, content, and interest, operates in accordance with the American Library Association Bill of Rights (1939) and is guided by the Library Code of Ethics. As such, we as citizens are tasked with engaging responsibly with an intellectual freedom uncomplicated by digital algorithms and corporate influence.

Recent discussions about removal and restricted access to certain library books has brought to light two problematic issues: interest in trending toward a more homogeneous catalogue and a question as to whether our populace is able to handle the freedoms enjoyed in the individual pursuit of knowledge.

I believe that it is the stitching together of this intellectual liberty and conscious engagement, on the part of both the library district and its users, that forms the keystone to a strong community. It allows for a spectrum of free offerings beyond books, ranging from community access to technology (computer/wifi), the mobile Colorado Workforce Center, or town hall venues to instruction in Tai Chi and English language acquisition, not to mention a multitude of story hours; all of which contribute to the fabric of our county.

I for one stand strong with the Garfield County library system's respect for content curation and public voice. I also believe that

diversity in authorship and subject matter are integral to intellectual growth. Responsible investigation leads to innovation, empathy, and resilience.

Keep our communities curious.

Carolyn Howard
Carbondale

After will bring balanced, thoughtful leadership to RFSD board

I am writing in support of Betsy After's candidacy for District B of the Roaring Fork School District Board of Education. I had the pleasure of serving on the Mount Sopris Montessori Preschool Board during Betsy's tenure as the board president. I found her to be an engaged, knowledgeable, and effective leader. She successfully steered the school through the academic and financial challenges of COVID and a corresponding leadership change.

I recently spoke with Betsy about her candidacy for school board and was impressed. She demonstrated deep knowledge of the RFSD's most urgent challenges (i.e. teacher retention, fiscal responsibility, improved communication) and the skills and motivation to address them. She is eager to utilize her strengths to serve students, teachers and our broader community. With two young children in district schools, she is committed to serving the district over the long-term.

The RFSD needs balanced, thoughtful leaders like Betsy to ensure that all students

Home winter readiness workshops comes to Garfield County libraries

News [FOLLOW NEWS](#) | Oct 4, 2023

PI

Staff Report [FOLLOW](#)



a blower test is one of the many things homeowners can do to get their home ready for winter.

Courtesy of Sierra Jeter

Garfield County Libraries to host Freedom to Read forum

Discussion prompted from recent efforts to restrict book access

News [FOLLOW NEWS](#) | Sep 28, 2023

Westley Crouch
For the Post Independent



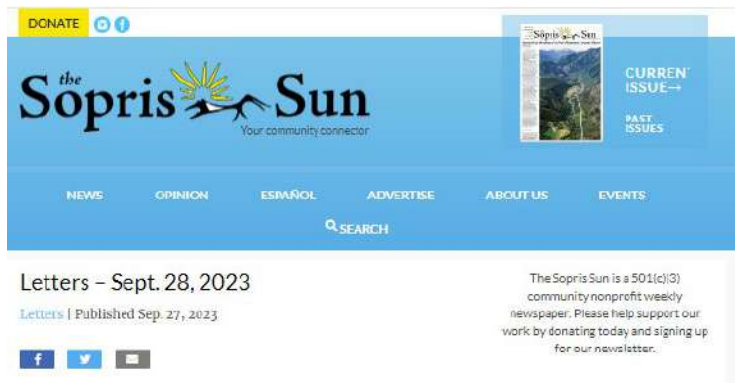
The Ute Theater in Rifle.
Post Independent archives

THE ASPEN TIMES ATW ASPEN TIMES WEEKLY **Snowmass Sun** Serving Aspen and Snowmass Village, CO

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Fitzpatrick: Local libraries continue to be safe

Opinion [FOLLOW OPINION](#) | Sep 28, 2023



Letters – Sept. 28, 2023

Letters | Published Sep. 27, 2023



Re: Mature Content

Last week, I read an article about a man who was arrested for domestic violence; he was shocked because he thought it was his right to beat his woman. A few years ago, I saw a police officer friend of mine and I asked him how it was going. He said that 30 years ago, they had domestic violence reports about once per year, but now it's once per week.

After decades of studying human behavior and years of counseling people who had suffered various forms of abuse and perpetrators who felt like victims, I was actually surprised that I was even surprised to read an opinion by a man who read "stories about men raping women and women learning to love being raped. Even women who weren't raped in those stories loved a good roll in the hay, so much that they would do anything for, and put up with anything from, the men who rolled with them." He found "those stories exciting" but that was okay because he didn't grow up to be a rapist.

Imagine what such stories teach young men about how to treat women. Of course, censoring them would be a waste of time because anyone with access to a computer can find whatever they want online or at the Garfield County libraries because the executive director, Jamie LaRue, says those stories are meant to be funny. They are "comic" books, after all.

Manga books in Garfield libraries are a drop in the worldwide bucket. Throughout history, it's been fine with certain men in cultures all over the world to beat, rape and murder women, and they usually get away with it. I recently read an article about an 11-year-old girl who was charged with child trafficking because some man tricked her into sending explicit photos of herself. This is common because victims of sexual assault and abuse (including children who are trafficked or forced into prostitution) are often criminalized. Why criminalize the victims and not the perpetrators?

And that's the world we live in. They say no snowflake in an avalanche feels responsible. That said, I am very grateful every day for those who dedicate their lives to helping people and even saving lives.

Roxanne Bank, Carbondale

Margo: Book banning, Rifle and the Great Divide

All Margo, Aspen Daily News Columnist Oct 23, 2023

Garfield County leaders tell library to keep 'pornographic' materials away from kids in latest salvo over Japanese graphic novels

County commissioner acknowledges directive can't be enforced — but notes library board can be fired

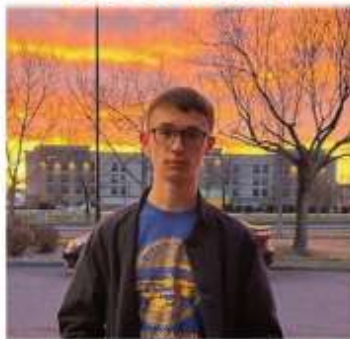
News [FOLLOW NEWS](#) | Oct 19, 2023

Elizabeth Hernandez
The Denver Post



People show pictures from Japanese Manga during a Garfield County Libraries meeting in Carbondale in September.

OPINION



Guest Opinion

By Gus Richardson

On Thursday, Sept. 10, I had the opportunity to attend a local library board meeting. I was very excited to do so for three key reasons: 1) I got out of math class, 2) I'd never been to a library board meeting before and 3) the topic being discussed directly pertained to me.

They were discussing two "questionable" manga, those being graphic novels from the "Prison School" and "Finder" series. These books were being brought up due to the fact that they contain sexual content that some people find problematic for a book (allegedly) marketed toward children.

This I understood! I'm always a bit cautious around restricting books, but this seemed fair. If the content found within these books was truly sexual and truly being marketed to young children, I think that it's a great idea to move that to a more adult section.

However, once I heard the

opposition's argument and more of the facts, my opinion quickly changed. I learned over the course of the meeting that these books were in fact not in the kids' section, but were instead put there by said opposition, with one ambitious member of this group bothering library-goers and forcing children to look at the images. I also learned of the opposition's request to segregate these books into a special, age 18+ room which a customer would need to present some form of identification to enter. They claimed that if their demands weren't met, they would instead petition for the library to remove these books from the shelves.

As a 16-year-old, this information was beyond upsetting. Why should a group of older adults who don't know me or care about me get to decide what I can read? These are adults parenting children they'll never meet. These are adults screaming out their opinions, with speakers having to be cut off for refusing to obey the rules of the public meeting and the entourage exclaiming their beliefs during other people's time. These are adults placing themselves as just crusaders, and much like the crusade, caring not for those hurt in the process. These are adults acting like the children they claim to protect.

When we ban books, we ban experiences, knowledge and information. We cannot quarantine

or destroy that which we don't agree with. When the Nazis burned library books en masse, we saw that as an atrocity. Why would anyone limit the opportunity for knowledge in such a permanent and primitive way? Yet Americans today fight to do that very same thing by banning books.

After this meeting, I was pretty depressed for a good few days. The disappointment I felt was immeasurable when all these people put so much passion into forcing their opinions on a captive audience. The lack of love for our fellow human beings I observed was crushing. I remember returning home feeling as though I had lost some faith in humanity.

But once I reflected on the meeting over the coming week, I remembered all the quieter speakers, who calmly but firmly shared their position with the audience. Who, when even I personally disagreed with them, were still kind and understanding of the opposing side. So I want to leave this piece with a message: no matter how hard it seems, no matter how much ridicule they gain for it, the intelligent, the well-spoken and the loving will always win over the loud, the abrasive and the hurtful in the end. And we must fight to make this claim ring true, as I don't want to live in a world where it doesn't.

Library controversy: A youth's perspective

Events September 2023

Alex Garcia-Bernal, Education & Events Manager

The month of September we kicked off our fall events program, which includes several larger library events dedicated to Heritage, Art, and Children's Literature.

Special Events:

GCPLD celebrated Hispanic Heritage by joining the City of Glenwood Springs on Saturday, September 16th for a cultural celebration under the bridge. The event hosted a couple hundred people with music and activities. GCPLD also hosted their 2nd annual Hispanic Heritage Celebration at their Rifle branch on Sunday, September 24th. The event featured music, special presentations, food vendors, and activities. The event hosted about 350 participants. Both events brought a staff team from across the district.

The Rifle Library hosted a reception event for The Good of the Hive Mural, with music, food, and a special presentation by Matt Willey, our muralist. The event had about 150 participants and celebrated the culmination of the month-long art project at the Rifle branch. The New Castle Library also attended the Burning Mountain Festival with the town of New Castle on Saturday, September 9th. The Parachute Library celebrated its first annual Pirate Festival on Saturday, September 16th, with about 60 people in attendance.

The libraries also hosted a special presentation featuring Rocky Mountain Puppets. Carbondale hosted on Tuesday, September 26th, Parachute and Glenwood Springs on Wednesday, September 27th, Rifle on Thursday, September 28th, and Silt and New Castle hosted the last two on Friday, September 29th. All programs had excellent attendance with a full house at each location.

Partnered Children Events:

All our branches continued to host the Spanish language Story Time with Raising a Reader, Bolsitas Rojas once weekly through September. The Silt and Rifle libraries continued to host the Meal Monkey free meal program once per week in the month of September. The Rifle Library hosted its weekly parenting support group with Great Expectations each Tuesday in September. The Rifle and Silt libraries hosted their monthly STEM program with the Aspen Science Center on Friday, September 8th. The New Castle library hosted a special story time at the Silt Alpaca farm on Wednesday, September 20th.

Library Children Events:

The Parachute, Rifle, New Castle, Glenwood Springs, and Carbondale libraries continued to host SPARK, an engaging program for school-age kids featuring various activities and community partners during days off from school, or early release day once per week during the month of September. All library branches continued to host their weekly Storytime programs throughout the month of September.

The Carbondale library hosted their weekly Get the Wiggles Out program for early childhood on Fridays, the New Castle and Glenwood Springs libraries hosted their weekly on Thursdays. The Silt library hosted their weekly Shake Your Sillies Out program for early childhood on Fridays. The Rifle Library hosted its weekly Preschool Playgroup for early childhood on Wednesdays.

The Silt Library continued to host their Ukulele for Kids program weekly on Wednesdays. The Parachute Library hosted their monthly Homeschool Parent Advisory group on Friday, September 8th. They also hosted their Homeschool Lunch-in program on Friday, September 29th. The Silt library began its monthly dexterity and coordination play program for early childhood, Tiny Hands, on Thursday, September 21st.

Teen/Tween Events:

The Rifle Library hosted its monthly Teen Tech Club on Friday, September 1st. They also hosted their weekly Anime Club for tweens and teens each Friday. The Silt Library hosted its weekly video game club, Game On each Friday in September, the New Castle Library hosted its weekly game club, NC Gamers Reach Friday as well, with one special video game tournament hosted on Friday, September 15th. The Carbondale library hosted its Creator Club program on Friday, September 8th and 22nd. They also hosted their monthly Magic The Gathering game club on Wednesday, September 13th and their Coding Club on Thursday, September 14th and 28th. The Glenwood Springs library hosted its monthly Dungeons and Dragons gaming club on Saturday, September 16th. The Parachute Library hosted their teen game club for a special video game tournament on Saturday, September 23rd, and their regular game program on Saturday, September 30th.

Family Events:

The Parachute Library hosted their weekly, Piece it Together family puzzle activity program each Sunday in September. The Silt library hosted its monthly Spanish language Loteria family game night on Thursday, September 14th.

Book Clubs:

The Glenwood Springs library hosted their monthly Spanish language book club, Entre Las Paginas on Saturday, September 9th. They also hosted their teen book club at Glenwood Springs High School on Monday, September 11th and 25th. The Parachute Library hosted its monthly Western Colorado book club on Tuesday, September 12th, and its monthly Food For Thought Cookbook club on Thursday, September 14th. The Carbondale library hosted their monthly GSA book club on Friday, September 15th, and their Third Thursday Book Club on Thursday, September 21st. The New Castle Library hosted its monthly Evening of Poetics poetry program on Monday, September 25th.

Partnered Adult Events:

The Glenwood Springs library continued to host their memoir writing workshop, Your Story, Your Life on Friday, September 1st and 15th. The Carbondale library continued to host their programming with Valley Settlement each Wednesday in September.

Adults Arts and Crafts:

The Carbondale Library hosted its Nature Journaling program on Friday, September 1st. The Parachute branch hosted its monthly Crochet Club on Saturday, September 2nd. They also started their monthly Fall Craft Series program on Saturday, September 9th. The Carbondale library hosted their In Stitches knitting club weekly on Mondays in September. The Rifle Library hosted its weekly Ukulele for adults class each Monday in September. The Silt Library hosted its monthly Crafty Saturday program on Saturday, September 16th.

Adult Education Events:

The Rifle Library continued to host their ESL class with CMC each Tuesday and Wednesday in September and their monthly English/Spanish Conversation Circle on Wednesday, September 13th. The New Castle library hosted their English Exposure class weekly on Tuesdays, beginning on Tuesday, September 12th, and their ESL class weekly on Wednesdays. The Rifle Library hosted a special Medicare 101 presentation on Saturday, September 16th, and a special presentation on Awareness of Technology for Parents, presented by the Sheriff's Department on Thursday, September 21st. The New Castle library hosted their Spanish language Computer Class on Friday, September 22nd and 29th. The Silt Library hosted a special presentation on readiness for end-of-life, Meeting Death as a Friend, featuring Death Doula Rachel Becker on Saturday, September 23rd.

Social Events:

The Carbondale library hosted its Lost Art of Random Conversations program on Sunday, September 3rd and 17th. The New Castle library continued to host its Pilates for Seniors program weekly on Wednesdays in September. They also hosted their Tai Chi for Seniors program each Monday in September. The Carbondale library hosted their Move from Your Center mobility program for seniors weekly on Mondays in September. The Silt Library hosted their Tai Chi for Seniors program weekly on Wednesdays beginning on September 13th. The Glenwood Springs library hosted their Monthly Chess Club on Thursday, September 21st, and their monthly Pride Social on Friday, September 22nd. The Parachute Library hosted its monthly Fall Film Festival on Thursday, September 21st. The New Castle Library hosted its special New Castle Convos community program on Wednesday, September 27th.

Upcoming:

The Carbondale Library is currently working on the Human Library project. We are scheduled to host a later Saturday in January 2024. We are selecting 6-8 human books and running a breakout session-style 4-hour program in which participants can interview and converse with the books. We have a general plan to host this program four times per year at different branches, based on the pilot program in Carbondale.

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GCPLD is now preparing for our Day of the Dead Celebrations. We will build an altar at each branch, and participate in special events in Carbondale, Glenwood Springs, and Parachute to commemorate Dia de Los Muertos in late October and early November.

The Rifle Library is preparing to be part of the city of Rifle's Trunk or Treat parade on October 27th. The Parachute Library is preparing to be part of the Town of Parachutes Trunk or Treat event at the Rec Center on October 31st. The Parachute, Rifle, New Castle, Glenwood Springs, and Carbondale libraries are hosting their annual Great Pumpkin Carving programs for the month of October.

The New Castle library is preparing their Posada Holiday event which will be held at the Rec Center on December 9th.

Facilities October Report

Jon Medrano, Facilities Manager

The Facilities Department oversaw many projects and repairs. The following are worthy mentions from the Facilities Department from the month of October.

Library Reconfiguration for Parachute & New Castle Branches - UPDATE

The Facilities Manager is currently engaged with local general contractors to obtain quality bids. No proposals have been received at this time; however, communication is still ongoing. Once GCPLD acquires valid bid proposals, The Facilities Manager will present a vendor recommendation to the Board of Trustees. The project committee has done an incredible amount of planning and strategizing thus far. More updates to follow as this large district project continues.

Boiler Replacement for Rifle Branch Library

The Rifle Branch library received a new boiler when the older one was found leaking in the storage closet of the MAD Lab. No damage building damage was done since it was a small amount of water. The Facilities Manager worked with a local plumbing company to address this issue and replace it.

FOB System Repair for Glenwood Springs, New Castle & Silt Branch Libraries

The Facilities Manager worked with a door company from Denver to address an FOB System issue at the Glenwood Springs, New Castle, and Silt Branch libraries. A small piece of equipment called a Lantronix needed to be replaced at all said libraries. It allows communication from the host computer to each library's FOB System panel so any changes like issuing a few key fobs for an employee can be done. Now that a new Lantronix device has been installed the system is operating as normal at these library locations.

Window Repair at Carbondale Branch Library

A local window company was contacted to address and repair shifting pieces of window glass at the Carbondale library. Over the course of time, some windows on the east side of the building in the children's area shifted creating small gaps between the windows and the frame. Thankfully, the Carbondale staff was able to notice and create a work order. The repair has now been made and the windows are back to being weatherproofed.

Backflow Inspection for Carbondale Branch Library

The Facilities Manager collaborated with a company to complete the backflow inspections at the Carbondale library. This is an annual inspection to ensure that backflow equipment is functioning as normal. A copy of the report will be sent over to the Town of Carbondale for their records.

New District Display Furniture

The Facilities Manager received a detailed list of needed display furniture for the district libraries. Upgrading to better-quality displays will help increase circulation. Other items such as chairs and reading tables will replace those that are outdated and worn for patrons to better enjoy.