

**AGENDA**  
**Garfield County Public Library District Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Date: Thursday, October 5, 2023, 2:00 PM**  
**Place: Rifle 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 September 7, 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 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)

**III. ACTION ITEM**

- A. Flexible Spending Account (FSA) and FSA COBRA vendor approval, Kim Owens (pp. 10-18)
- B. Appoint Adrian Rippey-Sheehy for 2<sup>nd</sup> full term to the Library Board of Trustees.

**IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- A. Management Report, Jamie LaRue (pp 19-23)
- B. Long-term housing solutions, Jamie LaRue, Kevin Hettler
- C. Colorado FAMLI medical leave replacement options, Kim Owens
- D. Budget Committee presenting the 2024 budget draft, John Mallonee
- E. Finance Report, Kevin Hettler (pp.24-32)
- F. Rifle Branch Library report, Amy Tonozzi
- G. "Did You Know",

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

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: Carbondale Branch Library**  
**September 7, 2023**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Roll Call
- B. Public Participation: 3 minutes per person

**Adrian Rippy-Sheehy** called the meeting to order at **2:00 pm**. Kim Owens conducted the roll call.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Adrian Rippy-Sheehy  
Michelle Foster  
Jocelyn Durrance  
John Mallonee (via phone)  
Susan Use

**BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Crystal Mariscal

**GUESTS:**

John Martin  
Tom Jankovsky  
Mike Samson  
Fred Jarman, County Manager  
Graham Jackson, BOCC Attorney  
Beth Dauer – Seter & VanderWall PC (via phone)

**STAFF PRESENT:**

James LaRue  
Nancy Barnes  
Alex Garcia  
Sara Friend  
Eileen Cummings  
Chris Rayne  
Kevin Hettler  
Kim Owens  
James Larson  
Rob Zimmermann  
Paul Stanley  
Brenda Kingen

Tracy Kallassy  
Amaranda Fregoso  
Abraham Korah  
Kim Benson  
Rae Quiroz  
Ana Gaytan  
Mary Clement  
Jenn Cook  
Seth Bontrager  
Trary LaMee

**Public Present:**

Trish O'Grady  
 Amy Hadden Marsh (The  
 Sopris Sun)  
 Roxanne Bank  
 Michael Watts  
 Tela Forehand  
 Robin Pruett  
 AJ Thompson  
 Art Armijo  
 John Lepkowski  
 Broxi Thomas  
 Mike Caquelir  
 Paul Mascarenas  
 Ellen Dole  
 Debbra Wanzer  
 Sallie Moore  
 Melissa M  
 Robin Robinson  
 Margaret Hammel  
 Molly Ring  
 Mia Ortman  
 Dorothea F  
 Pam Taylor  
 Sarah Kemme  
 Bill Anschuetz  
 John Kelinwauhter  
 Laura Baumgarten  
 Emily Carr  
 Sally Faison  
 Vennie Lilly  
 Carolyn Howard

Sue Zislis  
 Pat Freens  
 Ruth Hollowell  
 Jim Ogden  
 Niki Delson  
 Pat Goodvis  
 Cheryl Beachey  
 Sidney Poncelet  
 Richard Allen  
 Annie Brooks  
 Janean Nutter  
 Judy Auste  
 Crispen Limacher  
 Sally Fasion  
 Debbie Bruell  
 Ellen Freedman  
 Al Harder  
 Cathy Click  
 Terrie Drake  
 Alex Clifford  
 Susan Meason  
 James A Legg  
 Laura A Donnelly  
 Amanda Benis  
 Carole O'Brien  
 MZ Schaenck  
 Kevin O'Brien  
 Lesue Johnson  
 Ted Ziglis  
 Bob Long  
 Jude Kravitz  
 Mallory Kaufman

Ivy Chalmers  
 Fredda Korbes  
 Caleb Robinson  
 Cole Buerger  
 Chris Millally  
 Sandie Rerff  
 Mikhi Mallory  
 Judy Herigstad  
 Josh Buchman  
 Ed Buchman  
 Michelle Buchman  
 Annette Roberts Gray  
 John Busscher  
 Paula Ayala  
 Jane Kelly  
 Krys Greenwood  
 Genevieve Smith  
 Martha Durgy  
 Andrew Wimalk  
 Bryan Alvarez  
 Gus Richardson  
 Janet Johnson  
 Maricela Aguilar  
 Betsey Safford  
 Maria Ramirez  
 Linda Giesecke

**BEFORE PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jamie LaRue, Executive Director: discussed the purpose of the public library, First Amendment rights, and public comments from the August board meeting. He addressed recent patron behavior that violated the District's Code of Conduct by berating library staff and patrons, moving materials from where they belong to other parts of the library (including the children's area)—when the same patron falsely accused the library of “pushing adult books at children.” President Adrian Rippey-Sheehy announced that she would expand the public comment session from fifteen minutes to one half hour.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

- I. Trish O'Grady, Rifle: Produced a petition with 831 signatures. Presented to the GCPLD Board and BOCC. Believes books should be under lock and key and ID presented to checkout. Also wants books removed if not locked up.
- II. Michael Watts, New Castle: He has a cursory knowledge of materials and is concerned...why are characters only Asian?
- III. John Martin: spoke to clarify the relationship between BOCC and GCPLD. (The Commissioners receive but don't approve the library's budget, appoint but don't select Library Trustees.)
- IV. Tela Forhan, Silt: Believes the library has a moral obligation to limit access to content that minors have access to by removing books.
- V. Robin Pruett, Silt: Believes books in the library contain pornographic images and promotes rape. Wants a public meeting with community members and GCPLD Board of Trustees on the topic of books in the libraries.

- VI. Paul Mascarenas, New Castle: Thanked the library for offering a space for the community with its positivity. Libraries serve all in the community. Suggested other ways to help keep children safe.
- VII. Ellen Dole, Glenwood Springs: Referred to the GCPLD Code of Conduct and says it provides a safe environment. Cited the American Library's Association Bill of Rights which includes free access for minors. Encourages personal responsibility.
- VIII. Broxi Thomas, Battlement Mesa: Discussed her personal experience using libraries and how she learned about things from the access of books in the library. Believes everyone should have the right to access the materials of their choice.
- IX. Art Armijo, Silt: Rancher and substitute teacher. He believes that the books should be placed in a secure location on higher shelves. Thinks libraries share responsibility with parents for access to materials.
- X. Adrian Rippy-Sheehy addressed the handout about all the library's programs and events each month.

## II. ADRIAN CALLED A 10 MINUTE RECESS

- A. Jamie LaRue and Adrian Rippy-Sheehy are interested in hosting a public community meeting, more information to come. Garfield County Commissioners and the GCPLD support a forum with plenty of time for public comment.

## III. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- A. Adrian requested to amend the agenda as follows: Discussion Item "A" moved to immediately following approval of the Consent Agenda. Action Item "C" is to be moved to item "E" under Discussion Items. The remaining two Discussion Items will become Discussion Items "F" and "G."
  - i. A motion to approve the agenda as modified was made by Michelle Foster and seconded by Jocelyn Durrance - **Motion passed.**

## IV. CONSENT ITEMS FOR APPROVAL

- A. Minutes of Library Board meeting August 3, 2023 (pp. 1-2)
- B. Claims for Board Approval: General Fund July 16 through August 15, 2023 (pp.3-4); Alpine Bank Credit Card Statement July (pp. 5-6)
  - i. A motion to approve consent agenda by Michelle Foster, seconded by Jocelyn Durrance - **Motion passed.**

## V. WORK SESSION

- A. Garfield County Board of County Commissioners work session.
  - i. John Martin – Discussed the significant increase in property valuations on Garfield County residents and is asking GCPLD to consider a temporary mill levy reduction for one year. He likes the idea of a community forum to discuss controversial materials and encourages the GCPLD board to attend.
  - ii. Mike Samson – Discussed his conversations around the nation about Garfield County and the pride the library brings to each community. Commends the Board of Trustees for their running of the library.
  - iii. Tom Jankovsky – Believes the GCPLD Board is well-balanced, and diverse and represents the relationship between the County Commissioners and the Garfield County Public Library District. He also urged the library to consider rejoining Garfield Clean Energy coalition, of which the library was a founding member.

## VI. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Employee Handbook revision approval, Jocelyn Durrance (pp. 7-43)

- i. Minor changes to the final draft of the handbook regarding floating holidays, a legal recommendation from the Employers Council. Motion to approve by Jocelyn Durrance, seconded by John Mallonee - **Motion passed.**
- B. Portable device loan policy to the revised procedure, Jamie LaRue, Nancy Barnes (pp. 44-45; summary of changes pp. 46-47)
  - i. Chromebooks are eight years old and when they no longer work, they won't be replaced. Removed replacement fines, these changes allow for better access to public computers, Chromebooks are for in-library use only. Motion to approve by Susan Use, seconded by Jocelyn Durrance - **Motion passed.**

## VII. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Garfield County Board of County Commissioners work session – moved to follow the consent agenda.
- B. Management Report, Jamie LaRue (pp 48-56)
  - i. Highlighted CFO analysis of the impact of HH and reduction of mill levy.
  - ii. Presented other staff highlights.
- C. Budget Committee update, John Mallonee
  - i. The current state of the budget is good.
  - ii. The Budget Committee is reviewing several items for consideration in 2024.
  - iii. The Budget Committee will be preparing a budget draft to be presented to the Board at their October meeting.
- D. Finance Report, Kevin Hettler (pp. 57-66)
  - i. Discussed housing issues for employees.
  - ii. Discussed oil and gas property value increases in 2022 for 2024 budget year, this will decrease in 2025.
  - iii. Discussed residential valuations.
  - iv. Residential, gas, and oil are 77% of our property tax revenue.
  - v. Discussed Proposition HH on the November ballot.
  - vi. Discussed how a temporary mill levy credit would affect library revenues.
- E. Discuss Bray Realty apartment lease in Silt.
  - i. Discussed the origins of the idea of renting an apartment for temporary staff housing.
    - a. Allocation of funds from the short-term housing budget for recruitment and retention.
    - b. Considerations for policy development around emergency housing assistance going forward – equitable, fair application, cost sharing, limited duration.
- F. Carbondale Branch Library report, Tracy Kallassy
  - i. Housing challenges for branch staff.
  - ii. Impressed with staff handling of complaints professionally.
  - iii. Now that school is in session after-school usage is up.
  - iv. Meeting room revised rules have paid off- patron uses a room regularly after hours to play the piano.
  - v. Planning Human Library event, modeled after a program in the Netherlands, aims to address prejudices by talking to people whom one may not normally talk to.
- G. “Did You Know”, Jocelyn Durrance
  - i. Discussed Mt. Sopris: 9,052 feet high, from certain angles it looks like a volcano: it is called a stalk because it never erupts, equates to a blood blister, blood/lava – never erupts.

A motion to adjourn was made by Adrian Rippy-Sheehy. The meeting adjourned at **3:28 pm**.

## NEXT MEETING

The next regular board meeting is on October 5, 2023, at the Rifle Branch Library at 2:00 pm.

**Garfield County Public Library District**  
**Record of Proceedings: Board of Trustees Meeting**  
**Date: Thursday, September 27, 2023, 2:00 PM**  
**Place: Zoom**

**I. A. CALL TO ORDER**

**Adrian Rippy-Sheehy** called the meeting to order at **2:04 p.m.** Kevin Hettler conducted the roll call. A quorum was met.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Adrian Rippy-Sheehy  
Jocelyn Durrance  
John Mallonee  
Crystal Mariscal

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Kevin Hettler  
Alex Garcia  
Eileen Cummings  
Kim Owens  
Melissa Terry  
Jenn Cook

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Michelle Foster  
Susan Use

**B. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

A motion to modify the agenda was made by Adrian. A motion to approve was made by John Mallonee and seconded by Jocelyn Durrance. **Motion Approved**

**II. CONSENT ITEMS FOR APPROVAL**

**A.** None

**III. ACTION ITEMS**

**A. Review Board Applicant for the vacant Rifle Trustee position**

Applicant Hanna M. Arauza's application and letter of intent for the Rifle Trustee position was received on September 5, 2023. There were no other applicants. The special meeting was called so the board could fulfill its obligation to fill the vacant seat as soon as possible.

The applicant is eligible to complete the partial term and then is eligible to apply for 2 three-year terms.

A motion to approve the applicant was made by John Mallonee and seconded by Jocelyn Durrance.

**Motion Approved.**

Adrian will schedule the meeting with the Garfield County Board of County Commissioners to affirm this appointment.

Adrian adjourned the meeting at 2:13 p.m.

**IV. DISCUSSION ITEM**

**A.** None

Next Board Meeting October 5, 2023, 2 pm, Location: Rifle Branch Library, 207 East Ave.

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

11:47 AM

09/12/23

Accrual Basis

**Garfield County Public Library District**  
**Claims for Board Approval**  
**August 16 through September 15, 2023**

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
<b>10010 - Alpine Bank- Gen(..7072)</b>				
08/26/2023	Eft	Alpine Bank	July c.c. pmt	(11,140.49)
08/30/2023	Eft	City of Glenwood Springs	GW Electricity	(1,066.00)
08/30/2023	Eft	Town of Carbondale	water / sewer	(91.72)
08/30/2023	Eft	Black Hills Energy	GW & CA Gas	(85.19)
08/30/2023	Eft	Tiger, Inc.	PA RI SI NC gas delivery	(629.38)
08/31/2023	Eft	ImageNet Consulting - fka De Lage ...	Copier lease	(1,161.66)
08/31/2023	25819	A Clean Break, LLC	RI, SI, NC Aug cleaning	(6,700.00)
08/31/2023	25820	AFLAC	Aug supplemental insurance	(107.70)
08/31/2023	25821	American Janitor LLC	PA cleaning	(1,096.00)
08/31/2023	25822	Barnes, Nancy	Mileage reimb	(410.03)
08/31/2023	25823	Batchelder, Karin	Mileage reimb	(17.03)
08/31/2023	25824	Bibliolabs	Community digital archive software subsc...	(9,210.00)
08/31/2023	25825	Cardiff Cleaning Service	GW CA cleaning	(4,422.00)
08/31/2023	25826	Citadel Security Group, LLC	GW security service	(3,139.02)
08/31/2023	25827	Colorado Association of Libraries	CALCON23 registrations	(2,660.60)
08/31/2023	25828	Demco	Processing supplies and easels	(605.77)
08/31/2023	25829	Highland Rogues, Inc	PA pirate show	(470.00)
08/31/2023	25830	McMahan and Assoc LLC	2022 Audit	(14,750.00)
08/31/2023	25831	Midwest Tape	Library materials and Hoopla	(5,985.03)
08/31/2023	25832	Mountain Parent LLC	Fall ads	(700.00)
08/31/2023	25833	OverDrive	Library eMaterials	(256.99)
08/31/2023	25834	Playaway Products LLC	Library materials	(5,079.70)
08/31/2023	25835	Reliance Standard	Sept disability insurance	(1,004.74)
08/31/2023	25836	Seter & Vander Wall, P.C.	Legal Services	(957.00)
08/31/2023	25837	Suarez, Dulce Andrea	Translation services	(341.25)
08/31/2023	25838	Swigert, Dieanna	ESL lessons	(500.00)
08/31/2023	25839	Universal Mechanical Services, LLC	RI HVAC Repairs	(1,431.77)
08/31/2023	25840	Matthew Willey Murals, Inc	Bee mural artist	(5,000.00)
08/31/2023	25841	Matthew Willey Murals, Inc	Bee mural artist	(5,000.00)
08/31/2023	25842	Matthew Willey Murals, Inc	Bee mural artist	(2,000.00)
08/31/2023	25843	Ingram Library Services	Library materials	(32,225.39)
08/31/2023	25844	Aspen Science Center	All Branches- Kids Stem Workshop	(1,170.00)
08/31/2023	25845	Garcia, Alex	Mileage reimb	(141.48)
08/31/2023	25846	Library Journals, LLC	Library management training	(1,281.60)
08/31/2023	Eft	Garfield County Public Library Foun...	Donations / book sales	(1,491.83)
09/01/2023	Eft	CRA	8/29 retirement contributions	(7,297.37)
09/01/2023	Eft	CRA	8/29 retirement contributions	(4,424.94)
09/01/2023	Eft	CRA	make-up \$457 contributions	(136.54)
09/01/2023	Eft	Alpine Bank- CC	Aug merchant fees	(238.79)
09/10/2023	Eft	Verizon Wireless	Cell phones, hotspots, filtering service, O...	(8,179.68)
09/15/2023	25847	625-Water(9283)	RI SI staff water	(151.80)
09/15/2023	25848	Acme Fire Alarm Company Inc	4th Quarter Monitoring Fire & Security Sy...	(371.88)
09/15/2023	25849	All Around Property Maintenance, Inc	CA PA August landscape maintenance	(2,274.28)
09/15/2023	25850	AlwaysMountainTime LLC	Radio ads	(2,550.00)
09/15/2023	25851	Aspen Daily News	Ads	(191.25)
09/15/2023	25852	Associated Governments of Northwe...	AGNC EDD membership - JL	(250.00)
09/15/2023	25853	Ball, Johanna	Music for bee mural unveiling	(600.00)
09/15/2023	25854	Cedar Networks	Sept broadband	(1,194.00)
09/15/2023	25855	Citadel Security Group, LLC	GW Security service	(3,134.07)
09/15/2023	25856	Colorado Mountain News Media	Board vacancy ad	(300.00)
09/15/2023	25857	Cullen, Kelley	Pilates instructor	(500.00)
09/15/2023	25858	Cura HR, LLC	Policies/cultural/DISC/Goal Planning/FLSA	(3,220.00)
09/15/2023	25859	EverGreen ZeroWaste	CA compost service	(65.00)
09/15/2023	25860	Fregoso, Amaranda	Mileage reimb	(151.96)
09/15/2023	25861	Garfield County Treasurer	Landfill fees	(16.72)
09/15/2023	25862	ImageNet Consulting LLC	Copier copies	(1,124.63)
09/15/2023	25863	JanWay Company USA, Inc.	Library swag - bee mural; fall events	(10,955.63)
09/15/2023	25864	Jerkunica, Alexandra	Pilates event	(180.00)
09/15/2023	25865	Kallassy, Tracy	Mileage reimb	(231.87)
09/15/2023	25866	Krakow, Amy	Mileage reimb	(52.40)
09/15/2023	25867	Library Ideas LLC	Library materials	(1,118.34)
09/15/2023	25868	Marmot Library Network, Inc.	Replace monitor for self check	(320.21)
09/15/2023	25869	Meredith-Orr, Suzanne	Mileage reimb	(35.37)
09/15/2023	25870	Midwest Tape	Library materials and Hoopla	(10,982.01)
09/15/2023	25871	Mountain Pest Control, Inc.	August spraying	(307.00)
09/15/2023	25872	Ochoa, Tamara	ARSL airfare reimbursement	(430.40)
09/15/2023	25873	OverDrive	Library eMaterials	(9,022.77)
09/15/2023	25874	Poland, Shannon	NC snow removal Jan - Mar	(1,080.00)

11:47 AM

09/12/23

Accrual Basis

## Garfield County Public Library District

## Claims for Board Approval

August 16 through September 15, 2023

Date	Num	Name	Memo	Amount
09/15/2023	25875	Pronunciator LLC	Librari AI-reference assistant subscription	(5,800.00)
09/15/2023	25876	Town of Parachute	water / sewer / trash	(760.99)
09/15/2023	25877	Transparent Information Services, L...	Background checks	(264.05)
09/15/2023	25878	Unique Management Services, Inc.	August collections service	(169.15)
09/15/2023	25879	Universal Mechanical Services, LLC	GW RI hvac repairs	(1,190.00)
09/15/2023	Eft	Amazon .com	August amazon purchases	(3,820.80)
09/15/2023	Eft	CenturyLink	fire / elevator alarm telephone service	(426.78)
09/15/2023	Eft	City of Glenwood Springs	GW electricity	(1,110.82)
09/15/2023	Eft	City of Rifle	RI water/sewer	(182.33)
09/15/2023	Eft	Mountain Waste & Recycling	SI trash / recycling	(103.44)
09/15/2023	Eft	Town of Carbondale	water / sewer	(98.92)
09/15/2023	Eft	Town of New Castle	water / sewer	(221.65)
09/15/2023	Eft	Town of Silt	water / sewer	(173.85)
09/15/2023	Eft	Waste Management	CA RI NC Trash/recycling	(599.05)
09/15/2023	Eft	WEX Bank	August vehicle fuel	(567.19)
09/15/2023	Eft	Xcel Energy	PA RI SI NC electricity	(4,020.04)
Total 10010 · Alpine Bank- Gen(..7072)				(212,927.34)
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>(212,927.34)</b>



2:06 PM

09/11/23

## Garfield County Public Library District

## Reconciliation Detail

20510 · Alpine Bank Purchase Card, Period Ending 08/31/2023

Type	Date	Num	Memo	Cir	Amount	Balance
<b>Beginning Balance</b>						11,140.49
<b>Cleared Transactions</b>						
<b>Charges and Cash Advances - 75 items</b>						
Credit Card Charge	08/01/2023	SS3Reppark	Ripl conference parking	X	(108.00)	(108.00)
Credit Card Charge	08/01/2023	SS3Whole...	Ripl conference per diem	X	(50.04)	(158.04)
Credit Card Charge	08/01/2023	PALowes	Parade supplies	X	(38.38)	(196.42)
Credit Card Charge	08/01/2023	PAWalmart	Staff birthday refreshments	X	(27.59)	(224.01)
Credit Card Charge	08/01/2023	SIUsps	Monthly ill postage	X	(17.01)	(241.02)
Credit Card Charge	08/02/2023	SSHytt	RIPL conference lodging TK	X	(1,322.50)	(1,563.52)
Credit Card Charge	08/02/2023	SSSCPCo...	CALLI committee lodging	X	(131.00)	(1,694.52)
Credit Card Charge	08/02/2023	CAUsps	monthly ill postage and bra...	X	(51.76)	(1,746.28)
Credit Card Charge	08/02/2023	PALowes	Paint for outreach event	X	(28.41)	(1,774.69)
Credit Card Charge	08/02/2023	SSLetsStick	Patron puzzles for passive ...	X	(253.33)	(2,028.02)
Credit Card Charge	08/03/2023	SSLaQuinta	YSC applicant lodging	X	(248.92)	(2,276.94)
Credit Card Charge	08/03/2023	GWWalmart	Cricut supplies; disposal cle...	X	(39.50)	(2,316.44)
Credit Card Charge	08/03/2023	SSCityMar...	Board meeting refreshments	X	(21.08)	(2,337.52)
Credit Card Charge	08/03/2023	PAUsps	ill postage and stamps	X	(20.64)	(2,358.16)
Credit Card Charge	08/04/2023	SS3Sunm...	Summer picnic refreshments	X	(146.61)	(2,504.77)
Credit Card Charge	08/04/2023	SS3WMDG	Summer picnic supplies	X	(134.68)	(2,639.45)
Credit Card Charge	08/04/2023	SIDgCodo...	Staff meeting refreshments	X	(56.25)	(2,695.70)
Credit Card Charge	08/05/2023	PAAce	Parade supplies	X	(52.96)	(2,748.66)
Credit Card Charge	08/07/2023	CACricut	cricut monthly subscription	X	(10.61)	(2,759.27)
Credit Card Charge	08/08/2023	SINinjaBulk	All staff training day t-shirts	X	(1,377.30)	(4,136.57)
Credit Card Charge	08/08/2023	CAPeppino	SR celebration	X	(126.83)	(4,263.40)
Credit Card Charge	08/08/2023	PAWalmart	Parade candy; volunteer ref...	X	(105.40)	(4,368.80)
Credit Card Charge	08/08/2023	GWUsps	Monthly ill postage and sta...	X	(95.12)	(4,463.92)
Credit Card Charge	08/08/2023	CACHamber	Registration chamber busin...	X	(50.00)	(4,513.92)
Credit Card Charge	08/08/2023	SSAmigos	Graphic novel processing tr...	X	(35.00)	(4,548.92)
Credit Card Charge	08/08/2023	FTWalmart	Wasp spray	X	(11.92)	(4,560.84)
Credit Card Charge	08/09/2023	SSVersaP...	versa desk	X	(1,123.20)	(5,684.04)
Credit Card Charge	08/09/2023	FTLowes	Powerwasher hose	X	(101.63)	(5,785.67)
Credit Card Charge	08/09/2023	SSCityMar...	Event summit refreshments	X	(64.72)	(5,850.39)
Credit Card Charge	08/09/2023	CACM	SRC refreshments	X	(58.45)	(5,908.84)
Credit Card Charge	08/09/2023	SIWalmart	Community puzzle frame; st...	X	(25.18)	(5,934.02)
Credit Card Charge	08/10/2023	RIZoo	Supplies for bee mural project	X	(329.45)	(6,263.47)
Credit Card Charge	08/10/2023	RICMWM	Staff morale, anniversaries	X	(169.58)	(6,433.05)
Credit Card Charge	08/10/2023	FTUHaul	Transport manlift to RI Bee ...	X	(32.95)	(6,466.00)
Credit Card Charge	08/10/2023	FTRilfeLock	Keys for manlift	X	(7.50)	(6,473.50)
Credit Card Charge	08/11/2023	SSEZUp	Canopy frame replacement	X	(330.60)	(6,804.10)
Credit Card Charge	08/11/2023	SSELMUSA	Disc machine repair	X	(76.99)	(6,881.09)
Credit Card Charge	08/11/2023	SSAdobe	Sock images and creative c...	X	(59.98)	(6,941.07)
Credit Card Charge	08/11/2023	SSAdobe	Creative cloud	X	(29.99)	(6,971.06)
Credit Card Charge	08/14/2023	SSJoann	Graphic novel signs	X	(45.19)	(7,016.25)
Credit Card Charge	08/14/2023	FTWalmart	Cleaning Supplies	X	(32.44)	(7,048.69)
Credit Card Charge	08/14/2023	PAWalmart	Paint for PA parade	X	(20.20)	(7,068.89)
Credit Card Charge	08/15/2023	RIUsps	Monthly ill and branch posta...	X	(111.63)	(7,180.52)
Credit Card Charge	08/15/2023	GWCityMkt	Welcome back staff celebra...	X	(57.13)	(7,237.65)
Credit Card Charge	08/15/2023	PAWalmart	Refreshments for program...	X	(50.30)	(7,287.95)
Credit Card Charge	08/15/2023	FTWalmart	Varnish and sandpaper	X	(45.48)	(7,333.43)
Credit Card Charge	08/15/2023	RIWM	Crafting supplies	X	(27.57)	(7,361.00)
Credit Card Charge	08/16/2023	FTValleyL	Door Chime and bolts	X	(58.94)	(7,419.94)
Credit Card Charge	08/16/2023	FTSuperw...	Truck car wash	X	(19.00)	(7,438.94)
Credit Card Charge	08/17/2023	FTWalmart	Cleaning supplies	X	(76.09)	(7,515.03)
Credit Card Charge	08/18/2023	SSLaQuinta	Performer lodging	X	(548.24)	(8,063.27)
Credit Card Charge	08/18/2023	SSOTCCraft	RI craft supplies	X	(302.34)	(8,365.61)
Credit Card Charge	08/18/2023	SSAmButt...	PA craft supplies	X	(38.45)	(8,404.06)
Credit Card Charge	08/19/2023	SSRobly	Email newsletter platform	X	(52.50)	(8,456.56)
Credit Card Charge	08/21/2023	FTPitStop	Bookmobile oil change	X	(80.33)	(8,536.89)
Credit Card Charge	08/21/2023	PADominos	Challenge island refreshme...	X	(50.00)	(8,586.89)
Credit Card Charge	08/23/2023	FTPitStop	Bookmobile replace stabiliz...	X	(324.01)	(8,910.90)
Credit Card Charge	08/23/2023	GWCityMkt	Staff meeting refreshments	X	(32.95)	(8,943.85)
Credit Card Charge	08/23/2023	SSAdobe	HR Acrobat pro subscription	X	(23.99)	(8,967.84)
Credit Card Charge	08/24/2023	RIWal/LC...	Anime club refreshments	X	(76.13)	(9,043.97)
Credit Card Charge	08/24/2023	PAUsps	Branch postage	X	(66.00)	(9,109.97)
Credit Card Charge	08/25/2023	SSMastersT	Monthly fax service	X	(189.73)	(9,299.70)
Credit Card Charge	08/25/2023	CACal	CAL membership	X	(120.00)	(9,419.70)
Credit Card Charge	08/25/2023	PAClarkMkt	Homeschool luncheon refre...	X	(30.42)	(9,450.12)
Credit Card Charge	08/25/2023	FTWalmart	Umbrella for courier vehicle	X	(18.09)	(9,468.21)

2:06 PM

09/11/23

## Garfield County Public Library District

## Reconciliation Detail

20510 · Alpine Bank Purchase Card, Period Ending 08/31/2023

Type	Date	Num	Memo	Cir	Amount	Balance
Credit Card Charge	08/26/2023	SIWalmart	Branch staff t-shirts	X	(44.31)	(9,512.52)
Credit Card Charge	08/28/2023	FTWalmart	Replacement monitor for C...	X	(129.00)	(9,641.52)
Credit Card Charge	08/28/2023	NCUsps	Monthly ill and stamps	X	(108.57)	(9,750.09)
Credit Card Charge	08/28/2023	SSNetwkSol	Network solutions	X	(15.99)	(9,766.08)
Credit Card Charge	08/28/2023	FTWalmart	Adapter for monitor	X	(12.97)	(9,779.05)
Credit Card Charge	08/29/2023	SS3Whistl...	Admin day training refresh...	X	(354.02)	(10,133.07)
Credit Card Charge	08/29/2023	SS2SDA	SDA annual conference	X	(175.00)	(10,308.07)
Credit Card Charge	08/29/2023	FTPitStop	Truck oil change	X	(121.96)	(10,430.03)
Credit Card Charge	08/30/2023	NCCityMa...	CM events	X	(183.99)	(10,614.02)
Credit Card Charge	08/30/2023	FTAce	Bubble wrap	X	(39.98)	(10,654.00)
Total Charges and Cash Advances					(10,654.00)	(10,654.00)
<b>Payments and Credits - 6 items</b>						
Credit Card Credit	08/01/2023	CACricut	cricut sales tax refund	X	0.62	0.62
Credit Card Credit	08/09/2023	SSRiverwalk	Refund conference lodging ...	X	1,474.24	1,474.86
Credit Card Credit	08/19/2023	SSEtsy	Tax refund on banned book ...	X	10.39	1,485.25
Check	08/26/2023	Eft	July c.c. pmt	X	11,140.49	12,625.74
Credit Card Credit	08/31/2023	GWCalcon	Calcon conference discount	X	27.80	12,653.54
Credit Card Credit	08/31/2023	SS2Calcon	Calcon conference discount	X	27.80	12,681.34
Total Cleared Transactions					2,027.34	2,027.34
Cleared Balance					(2,027.34)	9,113.15
Register Balance as of 08/31/2023					(2,027.34)	9,113.15
<b>Ending Balance</b>					<b>(2,027.34)</b>	<b>9,113.15</b>



# Initial or Add-on Services Order Form

09/21/2023 • Initial Term 1 year(s)

Account #AUTOPGC08 • New Business

## Section 1: Employer Information

### Employer

Garfield County Public Library

207 East Ave

Rifle CO 81650-0000

#FEINs: 1 FEIN: 134349347

### Bill to

Garfield County Public Library

AUTOPGC08

### Contact

Kim Owens

207 East Ave

Rifle CO 81650-0000

kowens@gcpld.org

### Implementation Contact

Employer hereby subscribes for the Services described herein below and agrees to pay the associated Fees for same, on the payment terms set forth in this Initial or Add-On Services Order Form ("Order Form"), and the Terms and Conditions referenced below (together, the "Agreement"). If any terms and conditions contained in this Order Form conflict with terms and conditions of any previously executed agreements regarding the same subject matter, the terms set forth in this Order Form shall supersede those conflicting terms. If this Order Form is entered into to add services to an existing account, the terms set forth in this Order Form shall apply as to the Services subscribed to herein, unless otherwise indicated in the Notes section hereof. **The Initial Term of the Agreement begins on the Effective Date (which shall serve as the Effective Date for all Documentation unless otherwise indicated in the Notes section herein). Billing begins upon the availability of the Services, regardless of whether or when Employer begins using the Services.**



Total Employees  
7



Go Live Date  
01/01/2024



Implementation Fee  
\$0.00 (One-Time)



By naming the "Agency Contact," Employer authorizes isolved to communicate directly with the Agency Contact about all aspects of the Services related to the items indicated herein. Employer will indemnify, defend and hold harmless isolved and such other of isolved's directors, officers, employees, shareholders, members and Affiliates (as defined in the Terms and Conditions) from and against any Claims (as defined in the Terms and Conditions) arising out of or related to any Agency Contact's (or affiliated entities or individuals thereof) acts or omissions whatsoever related directly or indirectly to the Services. Not Applicable if left blank.

### Agency Details

#### Agency

#### Agency Contact

### We authorize designee for:

#### Online Access

Yes No

#### PHI Contact

Yes No

#### COBRA Notice Contact

Yes No

#### Receive Reports

Yes No



# Initial or Add-on Services Order Form

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## Section 2. Summary of Service and Fees †

Item	Quantity	Unit Type	Rate	Monthly Minimum	Annual Minimum
COBRA Notices Admin : Core Service	7	PIEPM	\$0.50		\$400.00
FBA Monthly Admin : Administrative Service (FSA)	7	PPPM	\$3.95	\$50.00	

*\*COBRA, POP, ERISA and ACA bill on an annual basis*

## One Time Fees

Item	Total
Total One Time Fees	



# Initial or Add-on Services Order Form

09/21/2023 • Initial Term 1 year(s)

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†**NOTICE**- Employer may subscribe to Bundled Services containing features Employer may choose to access, in whole or in part, on the Effective Date or later. If Applicable, features of Bundled Services are listed in the Notes section below, along with any associated fees. If Employer wishes to activate access to features of Bundled Services later, Employer should contact isolved at (800) 733-8839. Employer understands that activation of such features may involve the fees listed in the Notes below or other additional fees. Activation will be followed by a confirmation to Employer by isolved memorializing the activation and showing the fee changes. Employer understands and agrees that activation of any Bundled Services features after the Effective Date shall be governed by this agreement.

### Section 3. The Agreement, Terms and Conditions, Order Forms, and Other Documents

The Agreement between the Employer and isolved (together the "Parties," and each individually a "Party") means the Terms and Conditions contained at <https://www.isolvedhcm.com/legal/agreements/terms-and-conditions> (as may be amended from time to time), together with any additional terms and conditions below and any attachments to this Order Form hereto.

isolved Benefit Services Additional Terms and Conditions <https://www.isolvedhcm.com/legal/agreements/benefit-services-additional-terms-and-conditions>

### Section 4. Notes



# Initial or Add-on Services Order Form


09/21/2023 • Initial Term 1 year(s)

Account #AUTOPGC08 • New Business

## Signatures

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement as of the date of the last Party to sign below.

### isolved Account Executive

 9/21/2023  
Signed Date

**Stu Story**  
Chief Sales Officer  
sstory@isolvedhcm.com

**isolved Inc.**  
11215 N. Community House Rd, Ste.800  
Charlotte, NC 28277  
800-733-8839

### Employer Authorization

Signed Date

Contact Name: **Kim Owens**  
Title: **HR Director**  
Phone:  
Email: **kowens@gcp1d.org**

**Garfield County Public Library**  
Address:  
City:  
State: Zipcode:

## Our Customers Are Our People Heroes.

At isolved, we care, we are passionate, and we work as a team to help our customers and each other every day, which means we are always accountable for your and our own success, and we thank you for this opportunity. I like to say that isolved is more than big enough to deliver for you as you grow, yet small enough and agile enough to be there for you whenever you need us. My contact details are listed below, and should you have any questions that I can assist with now as you look to make your decision, but more importantly, should you choose to honor isolved with your business, over the coming years, then please do not hesitate to call or email.

Sincerely,





**Mark Duffell**  
Chief Executive Officer  
📞 949-300-7730 ✉️ [mduffell@isolvedhcm.com](mailto:mduffell@isolvedhcm.com)



## The Results Are In. People Love isolved.





# Initial or Add-on Services Order Form

09/21/2023 • Initial Term 1 year(s)

Account #AUTOPGC08 • New Business

## ADDENDUM

### HIPAA Business Associate Agreement v011023

#### 1. PREAMBLE AND DEFINITIONS.

- 1.1. Pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, as amended ("HIPAA") Garfield County Public Library ("Covered Entity") and isolved, Inc., or any of its corporate affiliates ("Business Associate"), a Michigan corporation, enter into this Business Associate Agreement ("BAA") as of the date that it is fully executed by the parties hereto (the "Effective Date") that addresses the HIPAA requirements with respect to "business associates," as defined under the privacy, security, breach notification, and enforcement rules at 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Part 164 ("HIPAA Rules") to the extent applicable to the services provided by Business Associate to Covered Entity. A reference in this BAA to a section in the HIPAA Rules means the section as in effect or as amended.
- 1.2. This BAA is intended to describe the steps that Business Associate will take to implement appropriate safeguards for the Protected Health Information ("PHI") (as defined under the HIPAA Rules) to the extent that Business Associate may receive, create, maintain, use, or disclose PHI in connection with the functions, activities, and services that Business Associate performs for Covered Entity. The functions, activities, and services that Business Associate performs for Covered Entity are defined in the administrative services agreement (the "Underlying Agreement").
- 1.3. Pursuant to changes required under the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act of 2009 (the "HITECH Act") and under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("ARRA"), this BAA also reflects federal breach notification requirements imposed on Business Associate when "Unsecured PHI" (as defined under the HIPAA Rules) is acquired by an unauthorized party, and the expanded privacy and security provisions imposed on business associates.
- 1.4. Unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, the following terms in this BAA shall have the same meaning as those terms in the HIPAA Rules: Breach, Data Aggregation, Designated Record Set, disclosure, Electronic Media, Electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI), Health Care Operations, individual, Minimum Necessary, Notice of Privacy Practices, Required By Law, Secretary, Security Incident, Subcontractor, Unsecured PHI, and use.
- 1.5. A reference in this BAA to the Privacy Rule means the Privacy Rule, set forth at 45 C.F.R. Parts 160-164 (the "Privacy Rule") as interpreted under applicable regulations and guidance of general application published by HHS, including all amendments thereto for which compliance is required, as amended by the HITECH Act, ARRA, and the HIPAA Rules.

#### 2. GENERAL OBLIGATIONS OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATE.

- 2.1. Business Associate agrees not to use or disclose PHI, other than (i) as permitted or required by this BAA or the Underlying Agreement, (ii) as Required by Law, or (iii) if such use or disclosure does not otherwise cause a Breach of Unsecured PHI.
- 2.2. Business Associate agrees to use appropriate safeguards, and to comply with Subpart C of 45 C.F.R. Part 164 with respect to ePHI, to prevent use or disclosure of PHI other than as provided for by the BAA.
- 2.3. Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate as a result of a use or disclosure of PHI by Business Associate in violation of this BAA's requirements or that would otherwise cause a Breach of Unsecured PHI. The Business Associate agrees to report to Covered Entity any Breach of Unsecured PHI not provided for by the BAA of which it becomes aware within 30 calendar days of "discovery" within the meaning of the HITECH Act. Such notice shall include, to the extent known, the identification of each individual whose Unsecured PHI has been, or is reasonably believed by Business Associate to have been, accessed, acquired, or disclosed in connection with such Breach. In addition, Business Associate shall provide any additional information reasonably requested by Covered Entity for purposes of investigating the Breach and any other available information that Covered Entity is required to include to the individual under 45 C.F.R. § 164.404© at the time of notification or promptly thereafter as information becomes available. Business Associate's notification of a Breach of Unsecured PHI under this Section shall comply in all respects with each applicable provision of Section 13400 of Subtitle D (Privacy) of ARRA, the HIPAA Rules and related guidance issued by the Secretary or the delegate of the Secretary from time to time.
- 2.4. Business Associate agrees, in accordance with 45 C.F.R. §§ 164.502(e)(1)(ii) and 164.308(b)(2), if applicable, to require that any Subcontractors that create, receive, maintain, or transmit PHI on behalf of the Business Associate agree to the restrictions, conditions, and requirements materially the same or more protective of PHI as those that



# Initial or Add-on Services Order Form

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apply to the Business Associate with respect to such information.

- 2.5. Business Associate agrees to make available PHI in a Designated Record Set to Covered Entity to enable it to satisfy Covered Entity's obligations under 45 C.F.R. § 164.524.
  - (i) Business Associate agrees to, at the direction of Covered Entity, comply with an individual's request to restrict the disclosure of their personal PHI in a manner consistent with 45 C.F.R. § 164.522, except where such use, disclosure, or request is required or permitted under applicable law.
  - (ii) Business Associate agrees that when requesting, using, or disclosing PHI in accordance with 45 C.F.R. § 164.502(b)(1) that such request, use, or disclosure shall be to the minimum extent necessary, including the use of a "limited data set" as defined in 45 C.F.R. § 164.514(e)(2), to accomplish the intended purpose of such request, use, or disclosure, as interpreted under related guidance issued by the Secretary from time to time.
- 2.6. Business Associate agrees to incorporate any amendments to PHI in a Designated Record Set as implemented by the Covered Entity pursuant to 45 C.F.R. § 164.526, or take other measures as necessary to enable Covered Entity to comply with its obligations under 45 C.F.R. § 164.526.
- 2.7. Business Associate agrees to maintain and make available the information required for Covered Entity to provide an accounting of disclosures to the individual as necessary to satisfy Covered Entity's obligations under 45 C.F.R. § 164.528.
- 2.8. Business Associate agrees to make its internal practices, books, and records, including policies and procedures regarding PHI, relating to the use and disclosure of PHI and Breach of any Unsecured PHI received from Covered Entity, or created or received by the Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, available to the Secretary for the purpose of the Secretary determining Covered Entity's compliance with the Privacy Rule (as defined in Section 7).
- 2.9. To the extent that Business Associate is to carry out one or more of Covered Entity's obligation(s) under Subpart E of 45 C.F.R. Part 164, Business Associate agrees to comply with the requirements of Subpart E that apply to the Covered Entity in the performance of such obligation(s).
- 2.10. Business Associate agrees to account for the following disclosures:
  - (i) Business Associate agrees to maintain and document disclosures of PHI and Breaches of Unsecured PHI and any information relating to the disclosure of PHI and Breach of Unsecured PHI in a manner as would be required for Covered Entity to respond to a request by an individual or the Secretary for an accounting of PHI disclosures and Breaches of Unsecured PHI.
  - (ii) Business Associate agrees to provide to Covered Entity information collected in accordance with this Section 2.11, to permit Covered Entity to respond to a request by an individual or the Secretary for an accounting of PHI disclosures and Breaches of Unsecured PHI.
  - (iii) Business Associate agrees to account for any disclosure of PHI used or maintained as an Electronic Health Record (as defined in Section 5) ("EHR") in a manner consistent with 45 C.F.R. § 164.528 and related guidance issued by the Secretary from time to time.

### 3. PERMITTED USES AND DISCLOSURES BY BUSINESS ASSOCIATE.

- 3.1. General Uses and Disclosures. Business Associate agrees to receive, create, use, or disclose PHI only in a manner that is consistent with this BAA, the Privacy Rule, or Security Rule (as defined in Section 5) and only in connection with providing services to Covered Entity; provided that the use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy Rule, including 45 C.F.R. § 164.504(e), if the use or disclosure would be done by Covered Entity. For example, the use and disclosure of PHI will be permitted for "treatment, payment, and health care operations," in accordance with the Privacy Rule.
- 3.2. Business Associate may use or disclose PHI as Required By Law.
- 3.3. Business Associate agrees to make uses and disclosures and requests for PHI in compliance with the Minimum Necessary principle under HIPAA.
- 3.4. Business Associate may not use or disclose PHI in a manner that would violate Subpart E of 45 C.F.R. Part 164 if done by the Covered Entity.
- 3.5. Business Associate may use PHI to provide data aggregation services as permitted by 45 C.F.R. § 164.504(e)(2)(i)(B).
- 3.6. Business Associate may use or disclose PHI to create de-identified data consistent with the applicable provisions of HIPAA and may use or disclose any such de-identified data for any purpose permitted by law

### 4. OBLIGATIONS OF COVERED ENTITY.

- 4.1. Covered Entity shall:
  - (i) Promptly provide Business Associate with the Notice of Privacy Practices that Covered Entity produces in accordance with the Privacy Rule, and any changes or limitations to such notice under 45 C.F.R. § 164.520, to the extent that such changes or limitations may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.
  - (ii) Notify Business Associate of any restriction to the use or disclosure of PHI that Covered Entity has





# Initial or Add-on Services Order Form

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agreed to or is required to comply with under 45 C.F.R. § 164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI under this BAA. Covered Entity will make such notification prior to the disclosure of such PHI to Business Associate or, if Covered Entity agrees or becomes subject to such restriction after disclosing the PHI to Business Associate, then Covered Entity will make such notification not later than five (5) business days prior to the date such restriction will become effective.

- (iii) Notify Business Associate of any changes in or revocation of permission by an individual to use or disclose PHI, if such change or revocation may affect Business Associate's permitted or required uses and disclosures of PHI under this BAA.
- 4.2. Covered Entity shall not disclose to Business Associate more than the minimum necessary PHI for Business Associate to perform its obligations under the Underlying Agreement.
- 4.3. Covered Entity shall not request Business Associate to use or disclose PHI in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy and Security Rule if done by Covered Entity, except as provided under Section 3 of this BAA.

## 5. COMPLIANCE WITH SECURITY RULE.

- 5.1. Business Associate shall comply with the HIPAA Security Rule, which shall mean the Standards for Security of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 C.F.R. Part 160 and Subparts A and C of Part 164, as amended by ARRA and the HITECH Act. The term "**Electronic Health Record**" or "**EHR**" as used in this BAA shall mean an electronic record of health-related information on an individual that is created, gathered, managed, and consulted by authorized health care clinicians and staff.
- 5.2. In accordance with the Security Rule, Business Associate agrees to:
  - (i) Implement the required administrative safeguards set forth at 45 C.F.R. § 164.308, the required physical safeguards set forth at 45 C.F.R. § 164.310, the required technical safeguards set forth at 45 C.F.R. § 164.312, and the required policies and procedures set forth at 45 C.F.R. § 164.316 to reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the ePHI that it creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of Covered Entity as required by the Security Rule
  - (ii) Require that any agent, including a Subcontractor, to whom it provides such PHI agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate safeguards to protect the PHI; and
  - (iii) Report to the Covered Entity any Security Incident of which it becomes aware.

## 6. TERM AND TERMINATION.

- 6.1. This BAA shall be in effect as of the date signed by both Business Associate and Covered Entity, and shall terminate on the earlier of the date that:
  - (i) Either party terminates for cause as authorized under Section 6.2.
  - (ii) All of the PHI received from Covered Entity, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, is destroyed or returned to Covered Entity. If it is not feasible to return or destroy PHI, protections are extended in accordance with Section 6.3.
- 6.2. Upon either party's knowledge of material breach by the other party, the non-breaching party shall provide an opportunity for the breaching party to cure the breach or end the violation. If the breaching party does not cure the breach or end the violation within a reasonable timeframe not to exceed 30 days from the notification of the breach, or if a material term of the BAA has been breached and a cure is not possible, the non-breaching party may terminate this BAA and the Underlying Agreement, upon written notice to the other party.
- 6.3. Upon termination of this BAA for any reason, the parties agree that: Upon termination of this BAA for any reason, Business Associate, with respect to PHI received from Covered Entity, or created, maintained, or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, shall:
  - (i) Retain only that PHI that is necessary for Business Associate to continue its proper management and administration or to carry out its legal responsibilities.
  - (ii) At Business Associate's option, return to Covered Entity or destroy the remaining PHI that the Business Associate still maintains in any form.
  - (iii) Continue to use appropriate safeguards and comply with Subpart C of 45 C.F.R. Part 164 with respect to ePHI to prevent use or disclosure of the PHI, other than as provided for in this Section 7, for as long as Business Associate retains the PHI.
  - (iv) Not use or disclose the PHI retained by Business Associate other than for the purposes for which such PHI was retained and subject to the same conditions set out at paragraphs (2) and (3) above which applied prior to termination.
  - (v) At Business Associate's option, return to Covered Entity or destroy the PHI retained by Business Associate when it is no longer needed by Business Associate for its proper management and administration or to carry out its legal responsibilities.
- 6.4. The obligations of Business Associate under this Section 7 shall survive the termination of this BAA.

## 7. MISCELLANEOUS



## Initial or Add-on Services Order Form

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- 7.1. The parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this BAA to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Rule, the Security Rule, HIPAA, ARRA, the HITECH Act, the HIPAA Rules, and any other applicable law.
- 7.2. The respective rights and obligations of Business Associate under Section 6 and such other provisions of this BAA that by their nature logically ought to survive the Termination of this BAA shall survive the termination of this BAA.
- 7.3. This BAA shall be interpreted in the following manner:
  - (i) Any ambiguity shall be resolved in favor of a meaning that permits the parties to comply with the HIPAA Rules.
  - (ii) Any inconsistency between the BAA's provisions and the HIPAA Rules, including all amendments, as interpreted by the HHS, a court, or another regulatory agency with authority over the Parties, shall be interpreted according to the interpretation of the HHS, the court, or the regulatory agency.
  - (iii) Any provision of this BAA that differs from those required by the HIPAA Rules, but is nonetheless permitted by the HIPAA Rules, shall be adhered to as stated in this BAA.
- 7.4. This BAA constitutes the entire agreement between the parties related to the subject matter of this BAA. This BAA supersedes all prior negotiations, discussions, representations, or proposals, whether oral or written. This BAA may not be modified unless done so in writing and signed by a duly authorized representative of both parties. If any provision of this BAA, or part thereof, is found to be invalid, the remaining provisions shall remain in effect.
- 7.5. This BAA will be binding on the successors and assigns of the Covered Entity and the Business Associate.
- 7.6. This BAA may be executed in two or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original.
- 7.7. Except to the extent preempted by federal law, this BAA shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the same internal laws as that of the administrative services agreement.



## Initial or Add-on Services Order Form

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### Signatures

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Agreement as of the date of the last Party to sign below.

isolved Account Executive

9/21/2023

Signed

Date

Stu Story

Chief Sales Officer

sstory@isolvedhcm.com

isolved Inc.

11215 N. Community House Rd, Ste.800

Charlotte, NC 28277

800-733-8839

### Employer Authorization

Signed

Date

Garfield County Public Library

Contact Name: Kim Owens

Title HR Director

## Management Report, August 2023

Jamie LaRue, Executive Director

### Community interview update – board role?

At our September 19 Staff Day, we launched our Community Interview process, in which staff will be contacting and asking community leaders the following questions:

- Tell us your story. (We want to understand people's histories.)
- What is your driving passion? (We want to understand their key motivations.)
- As you think about your constituents (the people your work focuses on or serves), what do you think their key concerns will be over the next 18-24 months? (We want to work up a list of converging issues in the county.)
- Tell us about your aspirations for the community. (Our approach is not just about *problems*. It's about a vision for a more vital future.)
- Who else should we talk to? (We want to cast a wide net for knowledgeable advisors.)

Nancy Barnes (Director of Branch Libraries) and I will present various findings along the way, but I wonder if the board would be interested in a parallel investigation. The idea is this: each board member would annually invite one representative of an organization they believe does important work in the community. We would give that representative a 15-minute slot at our board meetings to do two things: give us the thumbnail history of their organization and highlight key strategies in their own plans. Our goals: to understand the environment in which we operate, and to seek partners in work of mutual interest.

I'd be interested in board thoughts.

### Censorship in the news

The American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom (OIF) has recently "released preliminary data documenting a continued uptick in attempts to censor books, materials, and services across public, school, and academic libraries in the United States during the first eight months of 2023." See <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks/book-ban-data>. Among the preliminary findings from January 1-August 31, 2023:

- OIF reported **695 attempts to censor library materials and services and documented challenges to 1,915 unique titles** - a 20% increase from the same reporting period in 2022, which saw the highest number of book challenges since ALA began compiling the data more than 20 years ago. The vast majority of challenges were to books written by or about a person of color or a member of the LGBTQIA+ community.
- Between January 1 and August 31, 2023, there were 531 attempts to censor books. Total titles challenged in those attempts: 3,923.
- 92% of the books challenged were part of attempts to censor multiple titles.
- Where censorship occurred: 220 school districts, 208 public libraries.
- States where more than 100 titles were challenged: Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Idaho, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia.

Here's a poster from 2022 activity:



Attached to this report is a Memorandum from legal counsel about the relocation of library materials. I remembered a case (*Sund v. City of Wichita Falls, Tex*) which addressed the use of petitions to move materials from the children's room to the adult room, and asked counsel to consider its relevance to us.

This, in addition to additional public comment, may be addressed in our October 18, 2023, public forum, to be held at the Ute Theater in Rifle.

Finally, my book *On Censorship: A Public Librarian Examines Cancel Culture in the US* is out. I'm taking some time off in October to travel to Georgia, Oklahoma, and North Carolina to address various gatherings of public library directors and staff on the topic.

### [The Good of the Hive](#)

Matt Willey's marvelous mural, "The Good of the Hive," is now complete. Willey also held a well-attended program at Rifle Saturday, September 9. His thoughtful, gentle manner, and the deeper meaning of his effort to paint some 30,000-50,000 bees, resonated with the audience. The library continues to offer inspiration to our community.

### Museum update

I have been voted in as Vice President of the Glenwood Springs Historical Society. The Society has been engaged in a successful fundraising campaign to come up with \$20,000 to qualify for matching money from the City. The Society is also about to host its famous Ghost Walk—a tour of the historic cemetery in Glenwood Springs. I look forward to future collaboration efforts. I'm also enjoying working with former Library Board member Marilee Rippey.

### Rural Economic Development

There are efforts to consider the feasibility and utility of establishing a Colorado River Economic Development Partnership, to which I have been invited. As part of that exploration, I spent some six hours or so taking online classes from the Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade's Rural Technical Assistance Program. There is a massive infrastructure that might be tapped to bring more economic opportunity to the region. I'm pleased to be working with other area leaders to take advantage of them for county residents.

### CALCON

I look forward to seeing some of our Trustees at the upcoming Colorado Association of Libraries conference (October 12-14 in Loveland). Several sessions are planned for Trustees, and I suspect you all have a lot to share with each other.

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: Jamie Larue, Executive Director, Garfield County Public Library District

FROM: Seter & Vander Wall, P.C.; Elizabeth A. Dauer, Esq.

DATE: September 18, 2023

RE: Request for Removal/Relocation of Library Materials

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### Question Presented

The Garfield County Public Library District (“**District**”) received the following request during the public comment portion of its September meeting: Place *Finder* by Ayano Yamane and *Prison School* by Akira Hiramoto and any other materials with a Parental Advisory Warning in a locked bookcase, placed in an employee area or in a separate room marked as *adult only* at each of the library branches.

The Executive Director of the District has inquired whether the suggested relocation of library materials is legal.

### Discussion

The United States Supreme Court has consistently held that "the Constitution protects the right to receive information and ideas." *Stanley v. Georgia*, 394 U.S. 557, 564, 89 S.Ct. 1243 1247, 22 L.Ed.2d 542 (1969). The right to receive information is an inherent corollary of the rights of free speech and press that are guaranteed by the Constitution. "The dissemination of ideas can accomplish nothing if otherwise willing addressees are not free to receive and consider them. It would be a barren marketplace of ideas that had only sellers and no buyers." *Lamont v. Postmaster General*, 381 U.S. 301, 308, 85 S.Ct. 1493 1497, 14 L.Ed.2d 398 (1965) (BRENNAN, J., concurring). "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." *Board of Education, Island Trees Union Free School District No 26 v. Pico*, 457 U.S. 853, 102 S.Ct. 2799, 73 L.Ed.2d 435 (1982).

“Local school boards may not remove books from school library shelves simply because they dislike the ideas contained in those books and seek by their removal to 'prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion.'...". *Id.* Further,

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government is barred from “Contract[ing] the spectrum of available knowledge” through the restriction of library materials on the basis of viewpoint or message. *Id.*

Libraries are considered limited public fora and designated public fora<sup>1</sup> under a First Amendment analysis. See *Doe v. City of Albuquerque*, 667 F.3d 1111 (10th Cir. 2012). Therefore, the government “cannot limit access to library materials solely on the basis of the content of those materials, unless the [government] can demonstrate that the restriction is necessary to achieve a compelling government interest and there are no less restrictive alternatives for achieving that interest.” *Sund v. City of Wichita Falls, Tex.*, 121 F.Supp.2d 530 (N.D. Tex. 2000). Further, the most exacting scrutiny is applied to government actions that “suppress, disadvantage, or impose differential burdens upon speech because of its content.” *Id.*

The request to remove items from the children and/or teen collection and place them in a separate, “adult only” area is admittedly content-based and violates the free and open access to information principles of the United States Constitution. The *Sund* case challenged the removal of two books located in the children’s area into the adult section of the library. This relocation was found by the Court to be essentially a removal of the books altogether because those trying to access the titles would not be able to find them. The removal was held to be impermissible, content-based and viewpoint- based discrimination.

The request to include parental advisory warnings and to lock books in a restricted 18 and over section would similarly qualify as a removal under the *Sund* Court’s logic. It is legal counsel’s opinion that the measures requested during the public comment portion of the September meeting of the Board of Trustees, including the parental advisory designations, relocation, and identification requirements for access would serve to significantly chill speech by limiting access to information in violation of the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. In addition, locking up books that have been selected for inclusion in the public library collection based solely on the content and viewpoint of the books fails the First Amendment forum analysis, as the restriction does not achieve a compelling government interest, nor does the restriction utilize a less restrictive means of achieving the requester’s goal.

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<sup>1</sup> A limited public forum is a sub-category of the designated public forum. See *Faith Center Church Evangelistic Ministries v. Glover* (2006).



## Financial / Treasurer Report, September 2023

By Kevin Hettler, Chief Financial Officer

The following charts depict all revenues received and expenditures made from 1/1/23 through 8/31/23 and are relative to their respective annual budgets (Unaudited).

Total revenues received as of 8/31/23 is \$10,934,889.

Total expenditures made as of 8/31/23 is \$6,519,885.

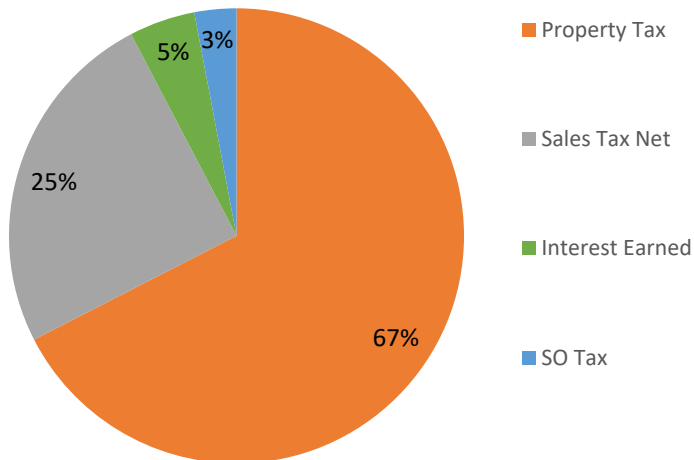
66.7% of the year has elapsed as of 8/31/23.

94% of budgeted revenue (\$11,545,399) has been received.

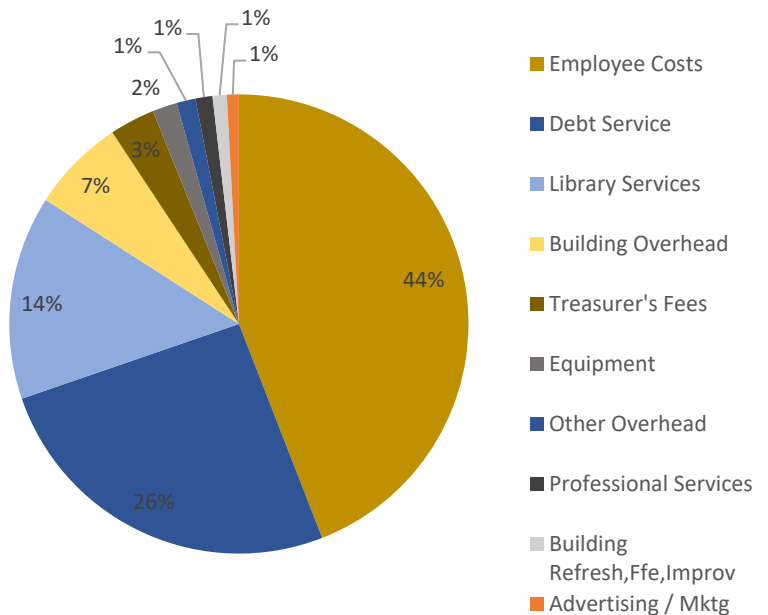
63% of budgeted expenditure (\$10,340,129) has been made.

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

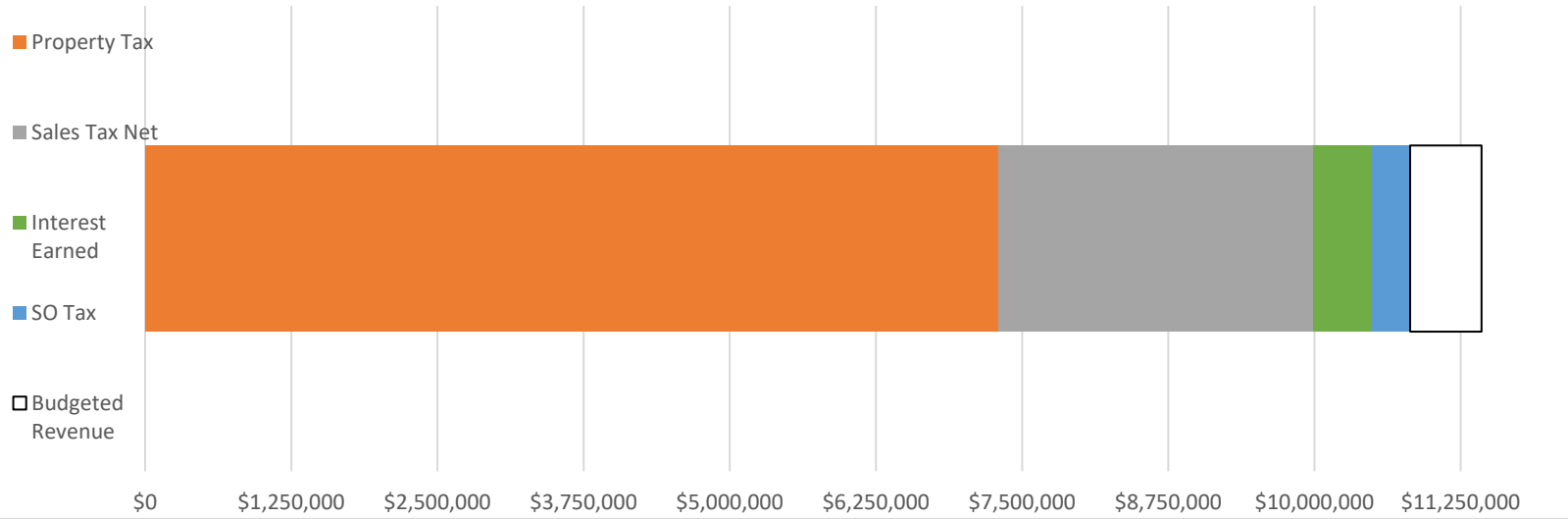
### YTD Revenues through 8/31/2023



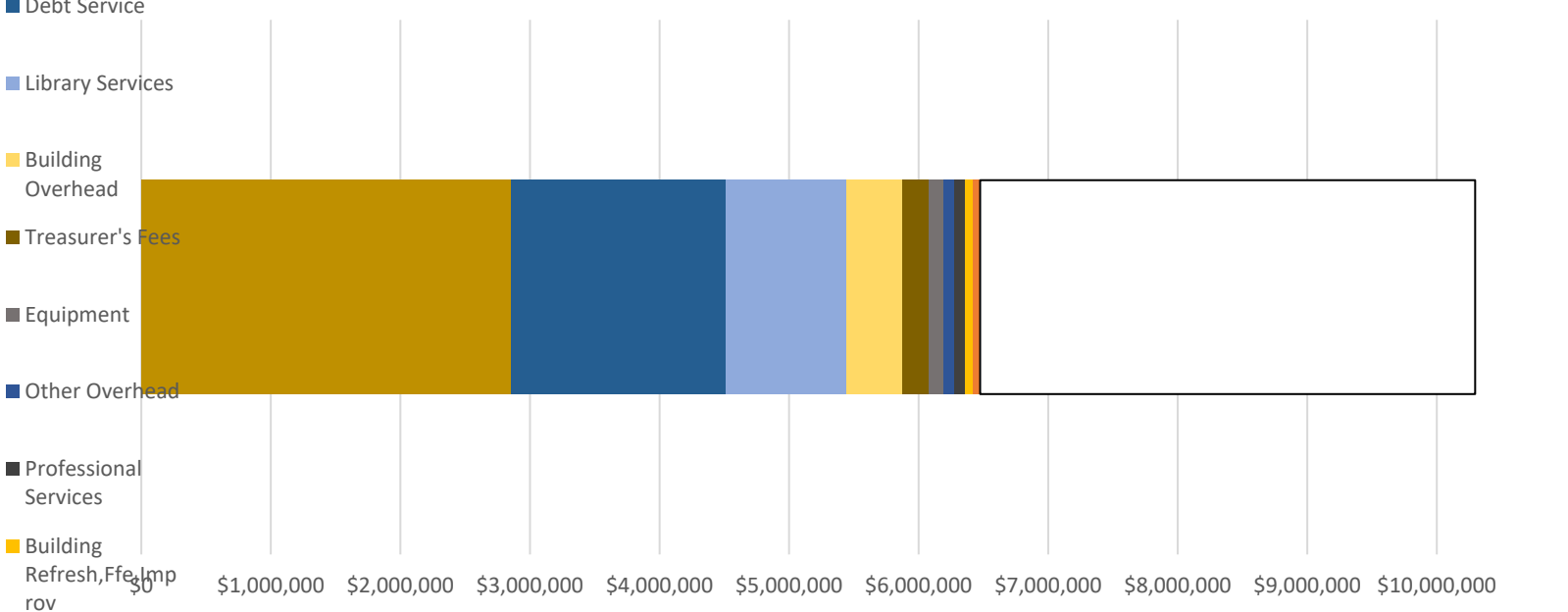
### YTD Expenditures through 8/31/2023



YTD Revenues to Budgeted Revenues through 8/31/2023



YTD Expenditures to Budgeted Expenditures through 8/31/2023



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	1,643,108	\$ 1,933,826	390,717	1,856,472	77,353	20.33%
Residential(multi family)	122,444	\$ 122,444	-	117,646	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 Ngl's 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	\$ 1,933,826	390,717	1,779,119	154,706	20.33%	1,547,060	386,765	20.33%
Residential(multi family)	\$ 122,444	-	112,649	9,795	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 Ngl's 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

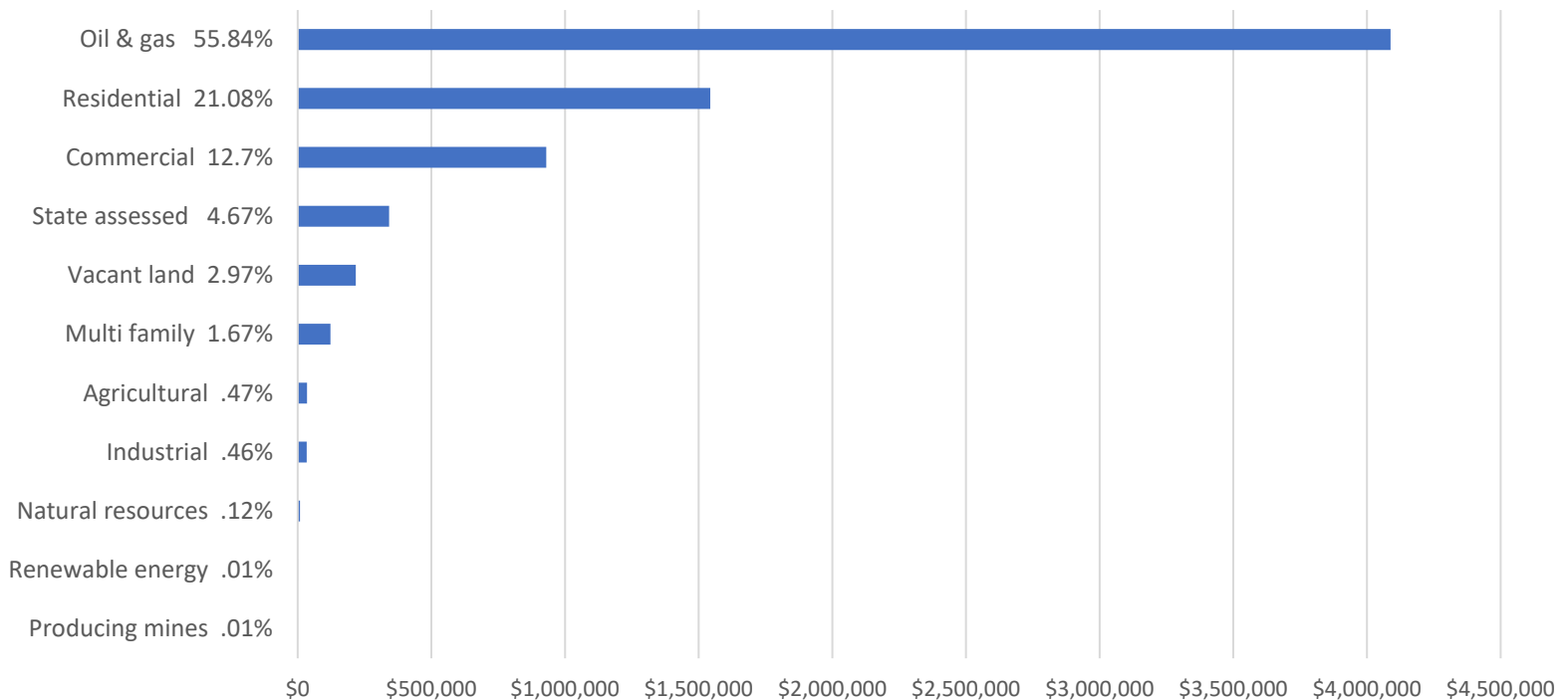
		Property value reduction	Adjusted property value	Assessment rate	Assessed value	Property tax paid on the Library 2.5 mill levy	Increased property tax from 2023	% change in property tax from 2023
Garco median residential property value in 2021 (tax revenue collected in 2022 and 2023)								
\$	433,000	(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](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% <sup>1</sup> <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% <sup>1</sup> <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%<sup>2</sup></i>	26.4% <i>from 29%</i>	26.4% <i>from 29%</i>	26.4% or 25.9% <sup>1</sup> <i>from 29%</i>
Renewable Energy Agricultural Land <sup>3</sup>	26.4%	21.9%	21.9%	21.9%	21.9%

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

	Jan - Aug 2023 Actual	Annual Budget	% of Annual Budget	Footnotes	Jan - Aug 2022 Actual	\$ Increase / (Decrease) in Actual '22 to '23
<b>Income</b>						
40100 · Sales Tax Revenue	2,720,354.15	3,580,000.00	75.99%		2,482,614.32	237,739.83
40102 · Sales Tax Refunds	(29,288.15)	(80,000.00)	36.61%		(91,565.65)	62,277.50
40200 · Property Tax Revenue	7,297,512.14	7,306,045.00	99.88%		5,342,532.15	1,954,979.99
40300 · Specific Ownership Tax Revenue	322,127.28	400,000.00	80.53%		266,807.46	55,319.82
40900 · Interest Earned on Investments	507,289.25	150,000.00	338.19%	1.	74,647.63	432,641.62
41000 · Grants	29,712.81	81,692.00	36.37%		41,848.25	(12,135.44)
41200 · Other Revenue	48,651.10	62,662.00	77.64%		32,038.94	16,612.16
41300 · Solar Rebates	4,705.99	9,000.00	52.29%		5,063.99	(358.00)
42000 · Branch Revenues	33,825.30	36,000.00	93.96%		33,613.21	212.09
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>10,934,889.87</b>	<b>11,545,399.00</b>	<b>94.71%</b>		<b>8,187,600.30</b>	<b>2,747,289.57</b>
<b>Expense</b>						
50001 · TREASURER'S FEES	205,697.42	224,121.00	91.78%		160,900.20	44,797.22
50005 · DEBT SERVICE	1,659,799.61	1,659,800.00	100.0%		1,659,799.60	0.01
51000 · EMPLOYEE COSTS	2,854,944.88	4,715,937.00	60.54%		2,391,196.18	463,748.70
52000 · LIBRARY SERVICES	929,842.28	1,357,567.00	68.49%		894,573.09	35,269.19
53000 · PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	77,412.11	146,311.00	52.91%		74,684.32	2,727.79
54000 · BUILDING OVERHEAD	429,082.42	866,393.00	49.53%		390,664.23	38,418.19
54500 · BUILDING REFRESH, FURNITURE,IMI	64,893.68	850,000.00	7.63%		53,643.65	11,250.03
55000 · EQUIPMENT	112,783.70	226,396.00	49.82%		27,896.89	84,886.81
56000 · OTHER OVERHEAD	86,581.52	84,825.00	102.07%	2.	74,638.45	11,943.07
57000 · ADVERTISING & MARKETING	54,248.72	131,500.00	41.25%		57,634.71	(3,385.99)
58000 · VEHICLES	7,238.62	18,541.00	39.04%		12,088.80	(4,850.18)
59000 · PARTNERSHIPS	37,360.28	58,738.00	63.6%	3.	35,643.19	1,717.09
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>6,519,885.24</b>	<b>10,340,129.00</b>	<b>63.05%</b>		<b>5,833,363.31</b>	<b>686,521.93</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>4,415,004.63</b>	<b>1,205,270.00</b>			<b>2,354,236.99</b>	<b>2,060,767.64</b>

**Footnotes:**

1. The 30 day yield on the ColoTrust account for Aug was 5.4512%. Up from 2.2540% in Aug 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\*\*unaudited\*\***  
**As of August 31, 2023**

	<u>Aug 31, 23</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10010 · Alpine Bank- Gen(..7072)	654,230.80
10050 · Colo Trust - General	17,036,935.23
10055 · C-Safe	56,329.41
10060 · Alpine Bank- Payroll(..8785)	997.02
10070 · Alpine Bank - Flex(..0583)	2,922.65
10210 · Alerus- Flex deposit	544.45
10300 · Petty Cash- Cash drawer fund	1,075.00
Total Checking/Savings	17,753,034.56
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	25,905,908.97
Other Assets	
19150 · Due to/fr Employees	36.00
Total Other Assets	36.00
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b><u>25,905,944.97</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 · Accounts Payable	30,692.74
Total Accounts Payable	30,692.74
Credit Cards	
20510 · Alpine Bank Purchase Card	9,113.15
Total Credit Cards	9,113.15
Other Current Liabilities	
20660 · Grants Payable	1,747.77
21100 · Other Payroll Payables-	13,528.51
21200 · Payroll Payable-	64,511.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	79,787.28
Total Current Liabilities	119,593.17
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	8,272,467.58
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	4,415,004.63
Total Equity	17,633,477.39
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b><u>25,905,944.97</u></b>



# 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%		#VALUE!
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!
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3,059,260.74</b>	<b>6.59%</b>	<b>3,151,203.50</b>	<b>3.01%</b>	<b>3,906,322.49</b>	<b>23.96%</b>	<b>4,566,349.35</b>	<b>16.90%</b>	<b>2,293,813.59</b>	<b>-49.77%</b>

### 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%		#VALUE!
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!
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,999,959.02</b>	<b>5.30%</b>	<b>3,048,078.90</b>	<b>1.60%</b>	<b>3,844,568.91</b>	<b>26.13%</b>	<b>4,466,056.31</b>	<b>16.17%</b>	<b>2,268,572.02</b>	<b>-49.20%</b>

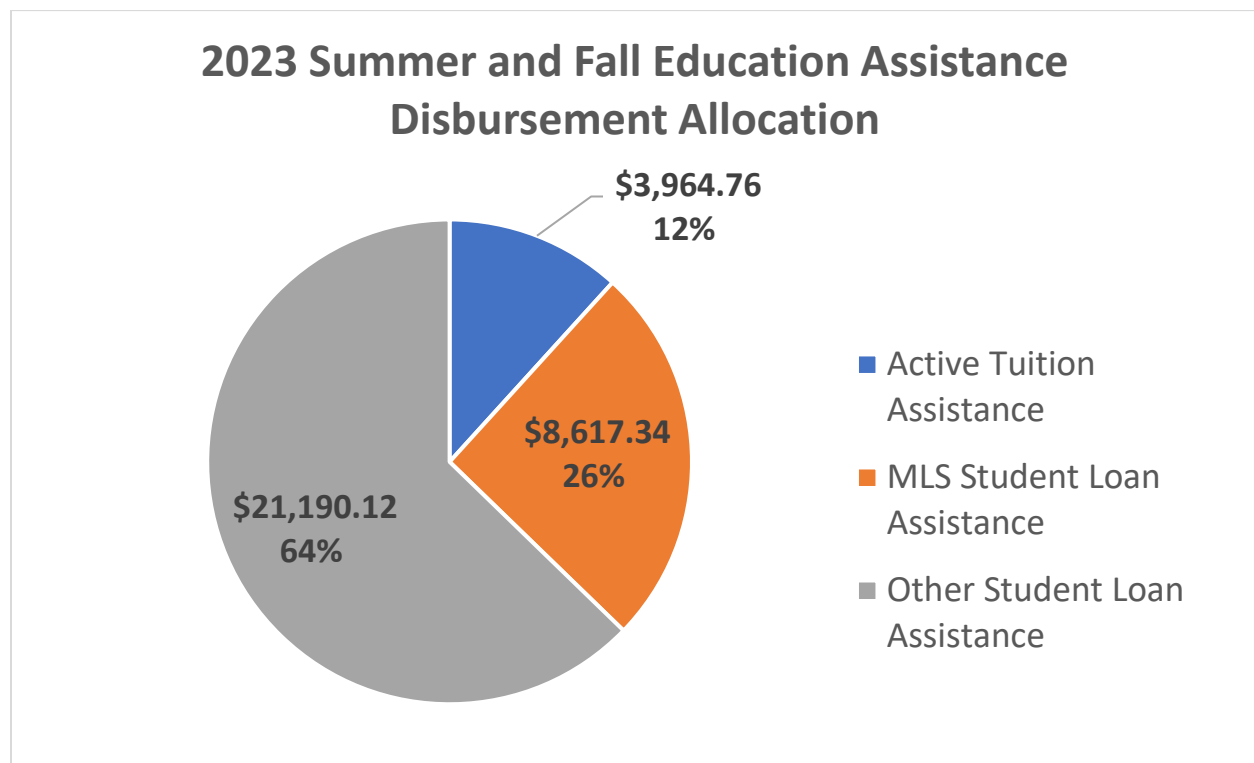
## Human Resources Report, September 2023

By Kim Owens, HR Director

We have distributed the remainder of the budgeted Education Assistance funds. Our goal was to benefit the greatest number of staff while we had these funds. We committed to prioritizing active tuition assistance requests first, then MLS student loans, followed by other student loans.

- Distribution:
  - Summer: Accept applications for tuition requests only.
    - One tuition request was received and it was paid at 100%.
  - Fall: Accept applications for both tuition and student loan assistance.
    - Four tuition requests were received and all were paid at 100%.
    - One MLS student loan request was received.
    - Three non-MLS student loan requests were received. One of the applicants was able to pay off their remaining student loan debt with the assistance they received from the fall distribution.

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



### Staff Education and Development update:

The Fall Staff Day committee planned and executed an outstanding day of training for all staff on September 19. Jamie LaRue and Nancy Barnes started the day by launching the District's

Community Conversations project – sharing information about the project, practicing the interview, giving staff time to create lists of the movers and shakers in their communities, and designating staff to start contacting them.

We had five GCPLD staff and a representative from the Colorado State Library host breakout sessions. Topics were: Who's Pushing Your Buttons, Developing A Growth Mindset, Brush Up On Your Database Skills, and Andy & George's Tech Emporium.

It was a great day for staff from all around the District to spend time together reconnecting and learn. Thank you to the Board for continuing to support staff development.

### Recruiting and Staffing update:

Amaranda Fregoso has officially earned the role of Branch Manager at Parachute. Amaranda started with the Library District as a volunteer before being hired into her first role as a Page at the Carbondale branch library. From there she worked her way up to Library Assistant to Associate and to Library Specialist. Amaranda spent more than two years as Carbondale's Circulation Coordinator and served a several months stint as Interim Branch Manager for the branch. She also spent a year as the District's Employee Development Coordinator.

### Staffing Report - Since 8/28/2023:

#### New Hires: 4

- Youth Services Coordinator – Glenwood Springs, 40hrs/week – 9/25/2023
- Library Specialist – Rifle, 24hrs/week – 9/13/2023
- Library Specialist – Silt, 24hrs/week – 9/20/2023
- Library Page – Rifle, 10hrs/week – 8/31/2023

#### Promotions/Transfers: 1

- Interim Branch Manager – Parachute hired as regular Branch Manager – 09/25/2023

#### 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 – New Castle, 40hrs/week
- Library Page – Parachute, 10hrs/week – *On pause*
- Library Page – Silt, 10hrs/week – *On pause*

#### Departures: 0

#### Additional Staffing Information:

Headcount as of 09/25/2023:

- 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 – 09/25/2023					
<u>Location</u>	<u>FTE</u>	<u>Total Staff Count</u>	<u>Scheduled Staff Hours per Week</u> <i>(total of all staff)</i>	<u>Count of Benefit Eligible Staff (over 32 hours)</u>	<u>Count of Staff not eligible for Benefits (under 32 hours)</u>
Carbondale	7.9	11	316	5	6
Glenwood	8.4	11	336	5	6
New Castle	5.9	9	236	3	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, October 2023

Nancy Barnes, Branch Libraries Director

### Branch Staff Shine

Youth Services Coordinators Nicole Chenoweth (Parachute) and Karina Baker (Rifle) were nominated for Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy (CLEL) Rising Star Awards for their significant commitment to early literacy programming and practices in their respective communities. The award recognizes individuals who have demonstrated exceptional work in the field of early literacy and who serve as an inspiration to colleagues in the field. One person in the state of Colorado is awarded this honor each year and the library district is proud to celebrate Karina Baker for winning this year's award.

At our recent Staff Training Day, several branch staff shared their knowledge and skills with their colleagues by leading breakout sessions. Ana Gaytan and Paul Stanley led "Brush up on Your Database Skills" while Jorge Loya and Andy Garay led "Andy & George's Tech Emporium." The library district is grateful to these staff members for going above and beyond to help their colleagues grow their technology and searching skills. In addition, staff from all six library branches participated in the Staff Day Planning Committee. A big thank you to Ren, Patti, Natasha, Sarah, Jorge, and Amaranda.

New Castle Branch Manager Ana Gaytan will be a featured presenter at the upcoming Reforma Colorado conference in Denver. She will share her experience with planning and implementing successful programs to meet the needs of the Hispanic community.

### Branch Initiatives

Glenwood staff have shifted shelving and furniture to highlight new items available for checkout in the branch. The team has focused on bringing attention to the wide variety of books and media for children and adults and replenishing the displays as items get checked out. The team is eagerly awaiting the arrival of the new display shelving to have additional ways to highlight recent branch additions. Additionally, the branch team has started planning a revamp of the branch layout to refresh the space for all patrons while focusing on creating more discrete spaces for both children and teens. The overall goal is to make the branch a comfortable place for patrons and visitors.

### Program Success

The Good of the Hive Bee mural was created during the month of September. The Rifle staff quickly embraced the artist, Matt, as a member of the library family. In addition to a special Saturday Bee story time, an artist reception attracted over one hundred people eager to learn more about the project and Matt's mission. Throughout the month, numerous people have stopped by the Rifle Library to see the mural and watch its progress. Staff have taken this opportunity to show off the branch to many new visitors and created numerous new library cards as a result. Now that the project is finished, staff look forward to creating a bee education area on the East Avenue patio.

Carbondale staff member Rae planned a successful class series that blends Pilates mat work and ballet technique called "Move From Your Center" which has been well received and attended by community members.

The new Youth Services Coordinator at the Glenwood branch, Tahrea "Red" Millberry started in September. Red's first day in the branch coincided with the Wednesday Spark event. The Rocky Mountain Puppets introduced Red to the families in attendance. In addition to watching a puppet show celebrating friendship, patrons met Red and enjoyed red-colored treats such as strawberries and red velvet cupcakes.

Rifle's English and Spanish Storytime's are back in full swing with strong attendance after a brief August hiatus.

Silt's "Game On" program has been successful in bringing more and new teens to the library to play and participate in the weekly after-school gaming program.

Parachute's Pirate Festival was a considerable success and a lot of fun. Over sixty people attended the event. They saw live cannons fired and learned about the history of piracy.

New Castle held its third annual Storytime field trip to the Alpaca Farm. There were 115 people in attendance. Families from all over Garfield County were happy to spend a morning at the Silt Sopris alpaca farm.

Glenwood hosted a "Sew Much Fun" program led by Marie Torry. Over two sessions, Marie helped families practice basic sewing skills and learn how to use a sewing machine. At the end of the second session, participants were able to take home the pocket pillows that they created.



### Community Outreach

Carbondale staff have been regularly staffing a booth at the weekly Farmer's Market and will be participating in the upcoming Potato Day parade and festivities.

Parachute staff are busily planning to host a Dia de los Muertos celebration with other community partners including the Grand Valley Resident Team. Events will include a costume contest, pumpkin carvings, trunk or treat, and much more.

New Castle library staff participated in the Burning Mountain Parade. The theme of the parade was "If Could Dream It" and the branch's float was "A Book is a Dream You Can Hold in Your Hands. It was a beautiful day, and the community showed their appreciation for the library.

## Stories of Impact

### **from Carbondale Branch Library:**

A patron wrote to commend Sara after observing her being incredibly patient and helpful with an upset patron. He said, "if Garfield County Libraries has a librarian of the month, she's got my vote."

Tracy helped a young patron with a "big problem." Someone broke the fairy door in the tree down the street from the library, and she needed books about fairies so she could learn more about them and find out how to fix them. We found some enjoyable books for her, and she left with "lots of ideas" on how to solve her problem.

### **from Silt Branch Library:**

A young teen bounced to the desk to ask for a graphic novel. After looking up the item, Brenda told her that we'd need to order it from another library. Disappointed, she said, "Oh, it's okay, don't worry about it." Brenda guided her through the website to "Suggest a Purchase" and the teen eagerly submitted a request for the book. During our conversation, Brenda discovered that she had recently moved from Puerto Rico and was struggling with English. To help her learn the language and culture, she consumes graphic novels.

A patron who scheduled a Book-A-Librarian session confessed that she was confronting her fear of technology; a daunting obstacle that has hindered her progress in life for the past 50 years. She was overjoyed that the library could assist her in acquiring the necessary skills for her new job. They even hugged the staff member before happily departing for their next appointment. Their next session is scheduled for next week.

## Circulation and Collections Report, September 2023

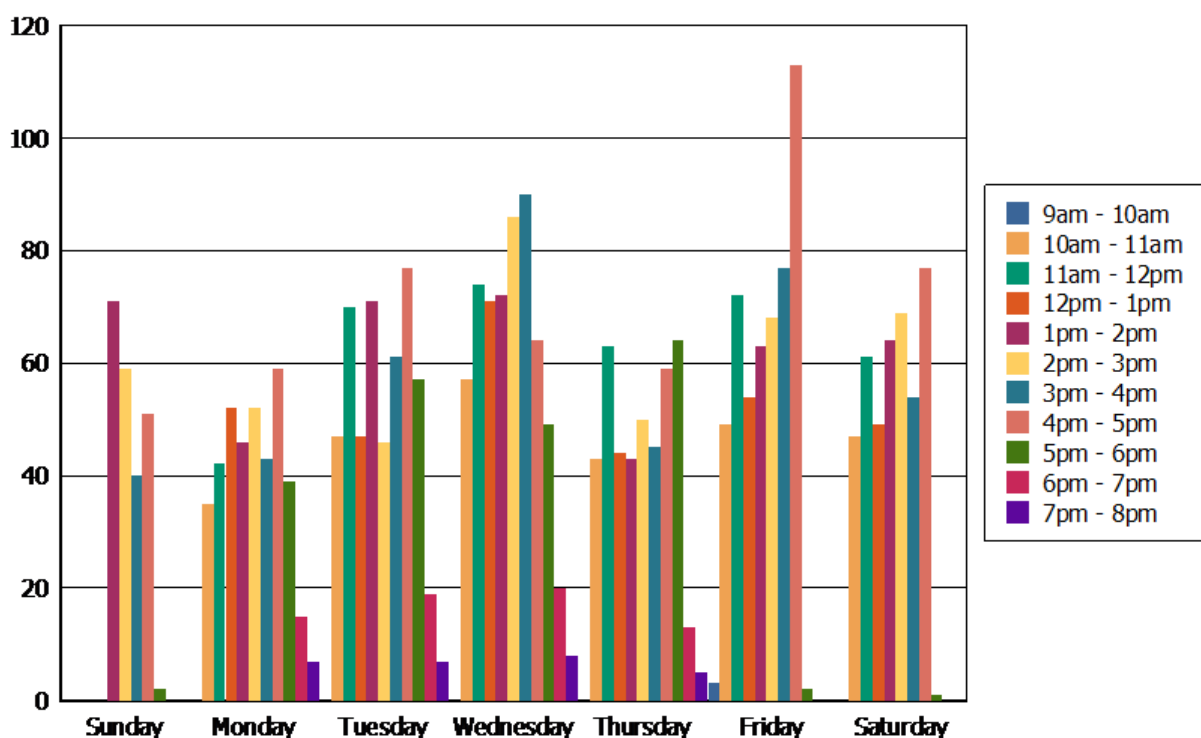
Jenn Cook, Technical Services Director

### Biblioboard

We are embarking on an exciting new partnership with Biblioboard, a platform that features top indie-published books from best-selling and award-winning authors that are always available to our patrons with no lending restrictions or limitations to access. In addition, Biblioboard tools help local authors get their works published on the site, have their works reviewed and vetted by Library Journal and Publishers Weekly, and see their work promoted across the state and nationally as part of the Indie Author Project, making it available on Overdrive and other platforms as well as Biblioboard. Furthermore, we could also use this platform to share the work of local artists, musicians, local history, lecture series, and contest submissions, to name a few possibilities.

### Self-Check Usage in their first month

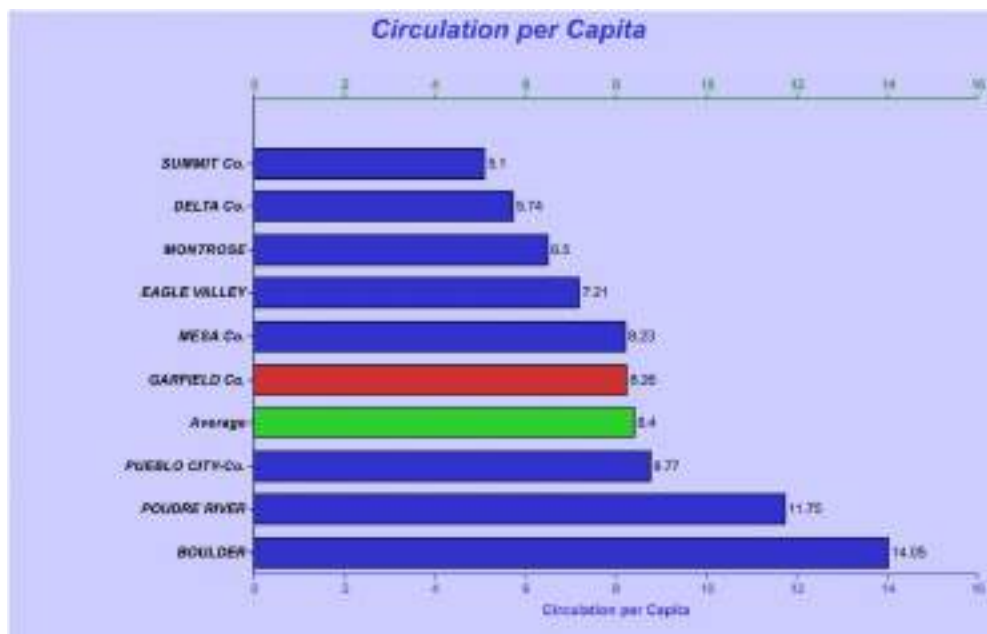
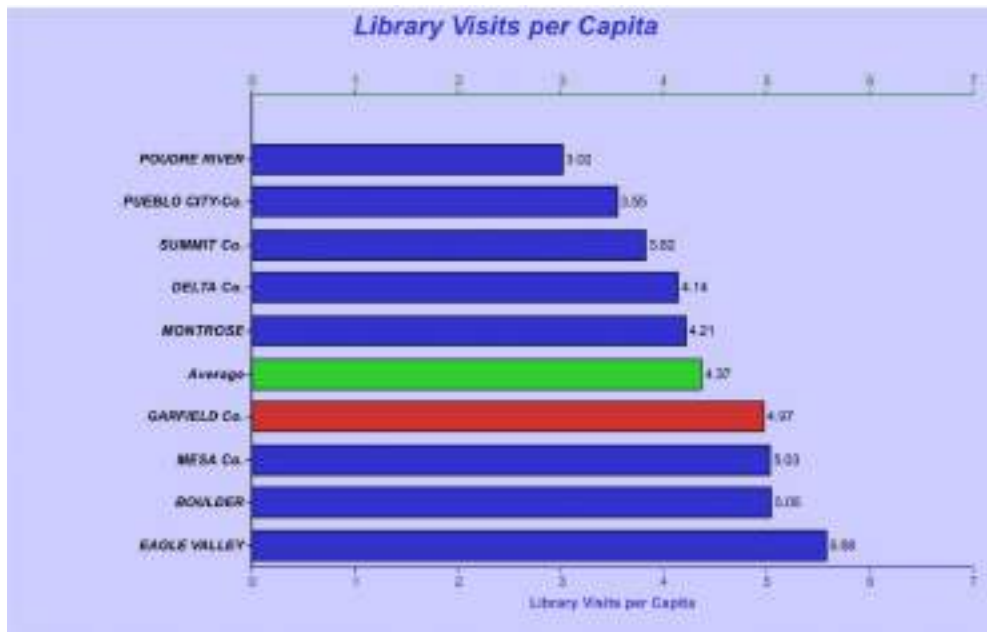
We have access to very detailed usage data on our new self-checks. I realize this graph is difficult to read, but I wanted to look at some overall trends by hour and time of the day for the first month of use. We will be examining closely branch-by-branch trends over time. In general, our opening hours remain fairly consistent regardless of the day of the week, and the after-school hours see a large bump in usage, but our evening hours taper off drastically, with the exception of Friday and Saturday when the last hour of the day is the busiest.





### Results of the 2022 Public Library Survey:

Comparative statistics of libraries across the state have been released, and there is a lot of data to dig into. The first of the key ratios that I have been looking at are library visits per capita and circulation per capita. As you can see in the charts below, Garfield County's rate of 4.97 visits per one hundred people performs slightly above average when compared with other public libraries of a similar size, and our rate of 8.26 circulations per 100 people is just below average. The good news is that the district continues to move in the right direction. The district's library visits per capita is up 30% from 2021 and circulation per capita is up 46% from 2021.



# Marketing report, September 2023

By James Larson, Communications and Marketing Director

## September Recap

The last 4 weeks have been an extremely busy time for Marketing and Events with major projects and events including the Good of the Hive Mural, Library Card Sign up Month, and our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Hispanic Heritage Festival. And, as you see below, we have been in the news quite a lot, particularly regarding the book banning issue but the local press did a nice job of covering the bee mural and the positive messages the mural represents. We have also advertised via radio, print and digital all the big events for the month of September, including a live Spanish Radio interview with La Nueva Mix to highlight the Hispanic Heritage Festival and Library Card Sign up month.

Our community outreach efforts continue to expand including participation in the Burning Mountain parade and festival in New Castle Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>, First Fridays in Carbondale, and La Noche Latina in GWS on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> which we co-sponsored with the City of Glenwood Springs.

I'd also like to recognize Crystal with a huge thank you for emceeing the Hispanic Heritage Festival on Sept 24<sup>th</sup>.

## Social media analytics

Followers:

Facebook – 3,841 (up slightly)

Instagram – 1,493 (up slightly)

Email Newsletter – 14,655

Facebook Reach\* 26,786 (down 30% from last month)

Instagram reach: 486 (down 6% 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:

Welcome – Reach = 7,270 people



Congratulations Karina – Reach=4,645



Burning Mt Parade in New Castle – Reach=4,451



Welcome back Deanah – Reach = 2,975 people



Ukulele class graduation – Reach=2,707 people



## Top 5 Instagram Posts:

Board meeting info correction– Reach = 223 people



Bee mural reception – Reach = 205 people



Congratulations Karina – Reach = 200 people



Farewell Rocky Mt Puppets – Reach = 172 people



**Got a FRIEND IN ME**

Admission: \$5.00 - \$10.00 - \$15.00 - \$20.00

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 26 - 11 AM - CARBONVILLE**

**WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 27 - 10:30 AM - INDIANAPOLIS**

**THURSDAY, SEPT. 28 - 10:30 AM - INDIANAPOLIS**

Boost unavailable

**Your Garfield County Libraries invite you to join u...**

September 19, 2023 at 8:00 PM

ID: 17973753842563630

Interactions

7 likes 0 comments

Burning Mt Parade – Reach = 170 people



**Here are some shots of our staff enjoying and par...**

September 11, 2023 at 4:11 PM

ID: 17985498674166827


Boost unavailable

Interactions


28 likes 0 comments

Overview Performance Feed preview





the Sopris Sun  
Your community connector



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SEARCH

Letters – Sept. 21, 2023

Letters, Opinion | Published Sep. 20, 2023

The Sopris Sun is a 501(c)(3) community nonprofit weekly newspaper. Please help support our work by donating today and signing up

Library props

On Sept. 7, the Garfield County Public Library District held its monthly board meeting in Carbondale. Articles in the *Post Independent*, *Aspen Daily News* and *The Sopris Sun* described what occurred at the meeting. The aggressive and confronting behavior of a group of folks who had not read the books but were incensed with the graphics, demanded that the board and the executive director place adult books in a guarded area of the library or lock them away — rather than being shelved in the adult section. The group's bullying tactics left no room for comment by those who had read the books and are perfectly capable of being the moral compass for themselves and their children, and felt that it was not a librarian's job to be a childcare supervisor.

I was five when my father took me to a small public library. It was a weekly venture followed by ice cream. I remember the smell of the wooden shelves. I remember learning the Dewey Decimal System and using a card catalog. Mostly, I remember cherishing the freedom of reading anything. My parents gave me a thirst for knowledge. By the time I was 12, I was allowed to take the subway to the New York City Public Library, and spend the day browsing and reading.

I am writing to support our library staff, its board of trustees, and Executive Director Jamie La Rue. I am grateful that they follow a code of ethics, committing to upholding the principles of intellectual freedom and resisting all efforts to censor library resources.

Niki Deison  
Carbondale

Library dissent

I appreciate that, unlike most others I talked with, Sue Zisla actually took the time to read a couple of the "explicit content" manga books at the Silt library. She called them "rather risqué," but the women I showed them to didn't want to look at them at all after they saw the first few images. One image shows a school girl handcuffed to a wall with her school uniform revealing her private parts. That's just one of many. The head librarian says these books are "meant to be funny."

A safe haven for books like that? Zisla asks if any public library or governing body should have the authority to restrict who has access to which reading materials. Truth is, they already do. Librarians pick the books they provide and determine where they will display those books. And, the First Amendment to the Constitution does not protect child pornography or obscenity.

I still want to know who requested these books, who bought them, and who approved them in the first place. They are definitely not funny.

The petition about these books requested segregating the books so that children under 18 could not check them out without parental permission — rather than putting them on the lowest shelves providing easy access to children. That is NOT BANNING the books. Correct me if I'm wrong, but our libraries have self-check-out computers. One need not even talk to a librarian.

I will say this: any parent who lets their children read these books would not be one I would let have access to any child in my family. But, how does one know unless their children start acting like the role models in these books? What are my children's rights? I must admit, I'm really sick and tired of abuse of children and women, and people thinking it's their right and that it's funny.

Roxanne Bank  
Carbondale

# Opinion

A8 | Monday, September 15, 2023 | Glenwood Springs Post-Independent

## EDITORIAL

### History repeats itself in calls for restricting books at Garfield County libraries

**C**alls for restricting access to certain books are nothing new. From religious texts to LGBTQ+ paraphernalia of nudity and red eyes, writings (and illustrations) have been offending people probably since they first appeared thousands of years ago.

In that vein, the push by some to ban the Garfield County Public Library District place Japanese Manga books is not surprising. While the books in question are not in the children's section and are noted as containing mature content by a red dot, some Garfield County residents want them restricted further or even banned outright. The library district's director has so far declined to do so, which has led some to call on the Garfield

County Commission to overrule the library district or even fire the director.

Concerns expressed about sexual and violent content seemed overly similar to many others made in the past about identifiable works such as "Caliban in the Sky," "Are you there God? It's Me, Margaret," "A Clockwork Orange," "Salvador" and many more.

The similarity of such arguments also gets to the root of why restricting access to such works is a slippery slope: where does it end? The Bible's Old Testament is filled with many instances of sex and violence. Some might see it's religious to ditch. The Bible could be banned, but exactly that happened in a Utah school district earlier this year. While the ban was shortly

reversed after, it's a great example of why those advocating restrictions should prefer to leave such calls to themselves and their families as opposed to politicians.

Finally, we're extremely skeptical of politicians' ability to make such judgments. Politicians are all too often reactionary to the loudest voices in the room. We often happen when a large, louder group calls for banning works now considered to be classics? Or even religious texts? Nothing good, and we'd rather trust our neighbors to make the call as to what is best for them and their families. And finally, ban on books, topics or films typically end up only increasing people's interest.

Finally, we'd encourage everyone to remember: Banned Books Week is coming up.

soon: Oct. 1-7. This is a perfect segue to reflect on what banned books week is all about, a week that celebrates the freedom to read, draws attention to banned and challenged books, and highlights persecuted individuals. Perhaps it's a great opportunity to consider what books you would not want to see banned and why? Then consider how you might feel if your neighbors called for it to be banned. After all, if we made such decisions to the government or politicians, there is no telling where it might go.

*The Post-Independent editorial board members are Publisher/Editor Dave Buchanan and community representatives John Stroud, Mark Pihlstrom and Amy Greenway.*

## Responsible for youth

This letter is in response to your article, "Residents call for restricting access to certain books at Garfield County Libraries."

I commend John Lepkowski and Trish O'Grady for taking a stand against highly inappropriate books in our libraries. Quoting the Colorado Legal Defense Group in reference to CRS 18-7-102, the definition of obscenity is 1) appealing to sexual interests and 2) depicting or describing offensive representations of sex acts or genitals and 3) lacking serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value. Under Colorado law, promotion of obscenity is promoting or possessing with intent to promote any obscene material. The definition of promote is to further the progress of a cause, venture, or aim; to support or actively encourage.

By refusing to remove the Hentai books and similar others, the library is indeed promoting them. These books most definitely are lacking in value! These pornographic books have nothing to do with the "marginalized." This as a defense spouts the commonplace rhetoric now used to justify anything.

If you allow anyone under the age of 18 to check these books out, you are essentially conveying that they are appropriate for that child. EVERY child should be able to feel safe in a library. Don't excuse the inclusion of these books as an alternative to "reading or watching a bunch of videos online!" Viewing pornography correlates with increased desire for rough or violent sex, increased chances for divorce and more. And that relates to the adults. What about impressionable young people?

Why do our young people have to pay the price for others' amorality?

Barbara McElroy, Parachute

## Fallacies

Hello, my name is Lucas Villarreal, I'm an 18 year-old home-school graduate who has lived on the Western Slope my whole life.

I'd like to offer some context about fallacies and why they're important. A fallacy is the use of incorrect or invalid reasoning in an argument that may otherwise appear sound.

After reading the cover article of Sept. 6's Post Independent, I noticed several logical fallacies being employed.

Jamie LaRue, the Garfield County Libraries Executive Director, said: "Most of the books we see in libraries... were published in the past by mostly white, straight folks... In the past 10 or 15 years, we started to see this rise of new voices... These are from the traditionally marginalized. It's LGBTQ, it's people of color, it's kind of these stories that start to reflect these emerging populations in America."

This is an Irrelevant Thesis fallacy, a subset of a Red Herring fallacy. The issue at hand, as stated by O'Grady and Lepkowski, is children's access to books with sexually explicit content. Mr. LaRue brings in a new line of thought about who are publishing books and what demographic they belong to. Mr. LaRue's statement, while true, doesn't offer a proper counter-argument, thus distracting the reader while masquerading as a reasonable response.

Another example is found later when Latino outreach director of the GCDP, Trinity Azuncena Stebleton said, "Do you want them (your children) to read or go watch a bunch of videos online?"

This is a Straw Man fallacy, another subset of a Red Herring. Stebleton inaccurately portrays O'Grady and Lepkowski's argument. Of course parents want their children to read books, but they don't want them reading pornographic books. Ms. Stebleton's counter-point concludes that since O'Grady and Lepkowski don't want children to have access to lewd reading materials, they must be against children reading altogether.

Educating oneself about the various fallacies is quite useful when encountering debates and discussions, as it can shine light on what appears to be otherwise sound reasoning.

Lucas Villarreal, New Castle





NEWS



Local Motion

# Local Motion: Regional Roundup on book bans and censorship

By [Cassie Knust](#), [Maevie Conran](#)

Published September 14, 2023 at 1:39 PM MDT

▶ LISTEN • 30:00

[Click image to listen](#)

## Pornography panic at GCPLD board meeting

By Amy Madden Marsh  
Suprius Sun Correspondent

The crowd that gathered at the Cushmanville Library on Thursday, Sept. 7 was too big for the Cafeteria Room, and spilled out into the hall. Word went out that title incident Irish O'Grady would be presenting her complaints to the Garfield County Public Library District board of trustees (GLB) about what she considers to be a pornographic book series at the Still Library called "Prison School" by Akira Hirasawa. O'Grady, a former U.S. Air Force mechanic and retired teacher, did not disappoint. Armed with a petition of 844 signatures and poster boards covered with photos of illustrations from the pages of "Prison School," she appeared to be on a mission.

O'Grady opened with the petition. "We ... agree that ... 'Prison School #1' and 'Prison School #2', along with other materials that have a pornographic meaning, should not be freely accessed by minors under the age of 18."

This isn't the first time O'Grady has appeared before the GLB. The library district's executive director, Joanne LaRue, told The Suprius Sun that she spoke at the July GLB meeting in Glenwood Springs and the August meeting in Parachute. O'Grady has also written to local papers, including The Suprius Sun (Aug. 17), about her thoughts on the books.

The challenge includes locking the materials in a bookcase, employee area or a separate room marked as "adult only" to be checked out by adults 18 or older with proof of age. The petition goes on to say, "If these requirements are not met, then we request all materials of the aforementioned series be removed from the library inventory."

LaRue told The Suprius Sun that O'Grady's challenge is definitely a First Amendment issue. "My feeling about this one, is that the library doesn't exist to restrict access," he explained. "We exist to expand access."



People sign in to attend the meeting, which spilled out of the room. Photo by Lynn "Jale" Baxter

LaRue is no stranger to library challenges. "A challenge means a request to remove or restrict access to some library resource," he explained. "Just about anything a library does has been challenged." He said he's dealt with more than 1200 challenges throughout his career as director of Douglas County Libraries and as director of the Office for Intellectual Freedom at the American Library Association (ALA) in Chicago.

He added that most of the ALA challenges addressed when 2% of what's published today. "[Works by] LGBTQ (and visible), people of color and other traditionally marginalized populations," he said. "Three percent of all library materials fall into these categories and 99% of the challenges focus on this 3%," he said.

LaRue added that the current "Prison School" challenge in Garfield County is part of a larger national movement. "I've seen it erupt from just individual parental panic, like, 'Oh my gosh my child is growing up too fast and I want to slow him down,'" he continued, "to anti-critical race theory here, don't say gay lives and criminalizing books, and the teachers and



Irish O'Grady holds up a page from the "Prison School" graphic novel series during the Garfield County Library meeting on Sept. 7. Photo by Amy Madden Marsh

illustrations who provide access to those books." O'Grady describes herself as a conservative Christian. "I believe in our God, my country, and our children," she told The Suprius Sun at Thursday's meeting. "I'm here on the part of the children, mostly because a lot of parents are feeling [this]." She agrees that this is a First Amendment issue. "But, the First Amendment does not cover child pornography and obscenity," she said. "Then, you have to delve into what is the definition of child pornography and obscenity, and people have different opinions about that."

continue on page 20

## Manga panic

continued from page 5

According to the U.S. Justice Department (DOJ) Citizen's Guide to U.S. Federal Law on Child Pornography, "Images of child pornography [any visual depiction of sexually explicit conduct involving a minor] are not protected under First Amendment rights, and are illegal contraband under federal law." The 2003 PROTECT Act prohibits the creation, distribution, and possession of child pornography that includes: a) a minor, b) a digital or computer image that is "indistinguishable" from that of a real minor, or c) an image which has been created or modified to appear to be that of an "identifiable minor" engaging in sexually explicit conduct."

The Act excludes "drawings, cartoons, sculptures, or paintings depicting minors or adults." Unless they are considered obscene, which is where things get complicated.

Obscenity is determined by using something called the Miller Test, established by the Supreme Court and based on legal cases from the '70s and '80s. The test asks jurists and judges to determine if something is obscene by holding it up to three standards,

including: appeal to prurient interests, depicting sexual conduct in a patently offensive manner and if the matter in question lacks serious literary, artistic, political or scientific value.

"The Manga that's being challenged has been around for a long, long time. It's mostly a Japanese kind of art form," said LaRue. He added that it has sexual content but it's not just about sex. "I think very often what happens when materials are challenged, it's an attempt to both diminish the context of the original work and to diminish the mind of the child who might encounter it."

For O'Grady, it's less nuanced. "I think this is very obvious," she said. "I don't know how you can misconstrue illegal sexual activity towards children and that's what I see in these drawings."

LaRue responded to O'Grady's challenge by letter in August, explaining the GLB's determination process and stating that the books in question will remain in the library "as currently cataloged and shelved." O'Grady hopes for a future compromise, but she's not sure what she'll do next.

## GARCO REPORT

### Easy solution to Garco library issue, says Tom Jankovsky

By Amy Hoffman Marsh  
Sopris Sun Correspondent

Commissioners began the meeting by approving a resolution commemorating Constitution Week and Patriot's Day, presented by Linda Morrison of the Captain Richard Sopris Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The rest of the meeting was short with approvals of the consent agenda, a liquor license for the upcoming Journey Home Animal Care Center fundraiser and a fee waiver for the Colorado River Valley Chamber event at the county fairgrounds.

Commissioners also discussed the Buford Road situation and the outcome of Thursday's Garfield County Public Library District board meeting in Carbondale. Commissioner Tom Jankovsky attended a recent meeting with Buford Road area residents, stating that they are angry about the condition of the road and the amount of traffic, including U.S. Forest Service logging trucks. "Those trucks are pounding that road," he said. He recommended that the county "put a blade" on the road and clean out the

ditches.

As for the library board meeting, Jankovsky said there is an "easy solution" to the problem of certain graphic novels at the Sitk Library. "Have restrictions on the books," he said. "The graphics are not appropriate. Pornography should not be accessible to children in our libraries."

At the library board meeting last week, Rifle resident Trish O'Grady presented poster boards covered with photos of illustrations from the "Prison School" manga series by Akira Hiramoto and a petition against the books. All three Garfield County commissioners (BOCC) attended the meeting. At Monday's meeting, Commissioner Mike Sammon stated that he and county manager Fred Jernan worked on a public information article over the weekend. "We don't tell the library board what to do," he said. Nor can the BOCC remove members from the board.

But, said Jankovsky, the BOCC can appoint people to the library board. "And, that's another way to change your library policies is to get people on that board when the seats open." The BOCC hopes the library

board will hold a separate meeting on the "Prison School" issue that would allow for more public comment. Jankovsky said he would be happy to comment as an individual at that meeting.

Commissioners Jankovsky and Sammon plan to attend the Stop 30 x 30 Land Grab conference in Irving, Texas next week, hosted by the conservative lobbying group, American Stewards of Liberty. The conference website features Garfield County's February 2021 resolution against President Joe Biden's 2021 order to conserve at least 30% of the nation's land and waters by 2030. The event schedule published on the website shows that Jankovsky will speak on Friday, Sept. 22, as part of the "Issues Across the American West" panel and the "Using the Federal Coordination Directive to Stop 30 x 30" strategy session.

According to Renelle Lott, county chief communication officer, \$2,713.84 has been spent on the conference so far, including transportation, registration and lodging for both commissioners. The money comes from the BOCC travel fund.

## RFSD REPORT

### School board meets with district legal counsel

By Renee Stoddard  
Sopris Sun Contributor

On Sept. 8, at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Roaring Fork School District (RFSD) Board of Education, the board entered executive session, listed on the approved agenda.

Under Colorado Revised Statute Sec. 24-6-302(4)(b), which pertains to conferences with an attorney for the local public body for the purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions pertaining to the superintendent's contract, the board met in executive session with RFSD legal counsel Brent Case for a little over an hour.

Upon the board's return to the public portion of the meeting, Case addressed the board via remote video, stating that "the entire content of the executive session was an attorney-client privilege discussion and therefore not recorded."

This consultation with the district's legal counsel comes as Superintendent Dr. Jesús Rodríguez is currently on Family Medical Leave Act for the birth of his second child. His leave began on Aug. 14 and is scheduled to continue until Oct. 20.

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# Willey finishes exterior paintings at Rifle Library

Wentley Crouch  
For the Fort Independent

The Rifle Branch Library held a wrap-up party for The Good of The Hive Mural painted by Matt Willey on Saturday.

The mural will be a continuation of Willey's The Good of the Hive project. Started in 2016, Willey is committed to hand-painting 10,000 bees globally.

Willey spoke to a packed room about his journey while in Rifle and what led him to paint this mural in the first place.

"I could not have done this if it wasn't for the people on the ground," he said. "I wanted to give a proper thanks to the Garfield County Librarians, James Larson, Alex Garcia-Bernal, Lydia LaBelle de Rios and her family, and others."

"This is your community and your place. It has been an amazing honor to be here," added a grateful Willey.

Willey began his speech by telling of an encounter he had with a person while painting at the Rifle Branch Library.

"I had a conversation with a person on why we, as humans, are different than bees. Normally my conversations are the other way around; as we all work together for the good of our hive," he said.



The final product of international artist Matt Willey's mural at the Rifle Branch Library.

"As the conversation started, the person began by saying that we are blessed with a light in each of us, but also burdened with a shadow."

"Some call that shadow the devil. Others call it ego, addiction, greed, or racism. It takes infinite forms and is very tricky

to maneuver."

Willey asked them if they have something like this in their hive, like "a shadow."

"They said yes they do, but it's not quite the same," he said.

Willey went on to explain that the person then said, "We are one being that has thousands of eyes,

misdeeds and lives."

"We learn who and what we are in the darkness of the hive," the person said to Willey. "We are born into our own shadow. We grow in the darkness of the shadow with others we love and trust. We do not experience loneliness until we are ready."



A close-up of a honeybee painted by international artist Matt Willey at the Rifle Branch Library.

"Ready for what?" Willey responded.

"The light," the person said. According to his speech, Willey wants all of us to find that light that each of us has. His mural in Rifle, like many of his murals that have come before, which can be found all over the world, is a reminder that we are all in this together. He also highlighted we must find our light and pass it on to others so we can do what is best for the good of the hive.

Food was catered for the event at the Rifle Branch Library and music was performed by Quam

BEES, A9

## BEES

From page A8

Bees — female-fueled music for the heart and soul. More about Queen Bees can be found on their website [thequeenbeesband.com](http://thequeenbeesband.com).

Labelle de Rios hosted Willey with her and her family during his time here and said she has learned much from this experience.

"While I was originally nervous to have an international artist live with us, Matt has been very humble and kind and gracious... It's been one of the best experiences ever," she said. "We have done a lot of sharing

and growing through some challenges throughout the project. Our intuitions of what originally connected us have proven true through getting to know one another."

She is excited for the friendships and relationships that bringing the Good of the Hive to Rifle has fostered within the community, Labelle de Rios added.

Willey's mural will be on display at the Rifle Branch Library for all to see. The patio, where the mural can be viewed, will be used as an education center for pollinator resiliency programs.

**Thursday, September 14, 2023**



## Carbondale Branch Library

**This September for Library Card Sign-Up Month, your Garfield County Libraries are giving away three Kindles to library card holders!**

We'll have a drawing for adults 18+, a drawing for teens 13-17, and a drawing for kids 12 and under. We'll give away a Kindle Paperwhite to the winning adult and teen, and a Kindle Kids to the winner of the kids drawing. The giveaway is simple and free to enter:



If you **DO NOT YET HAVE A LIBRARY CARD** from the Garfield County Libraries you can apply for one online by [clicking here](#) or visiting your nearest library. Once you register you will automatically be entered to win.

If you **ALREADY HAVE A LIBRARY CARD** from the Garfield County Libraries you will need to renew your information with us in September to be eligible. Simply call or visit your local library and ask to renew your library card. Once that is done you'll be entered to win automatically. You will also receive a small gift (while supplies last).

[Learn More](#)



# Book restriction effort spurs heated atmosphere at Garfield County Libraries meeting

Westley Crouch  
For the Post Independent

Garfield County locals spoke for and against restricting access to certain books during a heated public comment period at the monthly Garfield County Libraries Board of Trustees meeting on Thursday.

Rifle resident Trish O'Grady recently began a petition calling for restricted access to Japanese Manga books. O'Grady, along with fellow restriction proponent John Lepkowski, say the illustrations and subject matter of these books are inappropriate for children.

The books, however, are not in the children's section and have been marked with red dot stickers to alert patrons of the adult subject matter.

Meanwhile, the library's existing children policy states that children under the age of six must be accompanied by an adult or caregiver (age 13 or older) at all times in the library. Children six to eight years of age must have an adult caregiver (age 13 or older) present in the library at all times.

"As of right now, we have 844 petitioners who feel the way I do," O'Grady said during public comment, referring to the petition she and her group of proponents collected signatures for.

The Garfield County Libraries district has so far denied O'Grady's original request to have the books placed on the top shelf. During Thursday's meeting, O'Grady started to read part of the denial letter from the Garfield County Libraries Executive Director Jamie LaRue before being asked to sit down.

Tela Forehand, a lifelong resident of Garfield County, expressed

disappointment with the library board for having what she referred to as pornographic books available to children.

"As our culture becomes more sexualized, children are the casualties of adult exploitation," she said. "We need to combat the premature sexualization of children by adults and that requires focus from both lawmakers, courageous parents and public institutions."

Forehand also said sexual content at a young age promotes aggressive behavior in boys.

"And (it) sets up the role of victimization in girls, increasing their acceptance for assault and ignoring the need for consent," she said.

Community member Michael Watts also spoke. Watts addressed the Garfield County commissioners, suggesting that action is needed by the BOCC over LaRue's employment and revisiting the appointments of the current library board members.

"You guys have a responsibility for hiring Mr. LaRue and appointing this board," Watts said.

Garfield County Commissioner John Martin said, however, the commission does not have control over the library district.

"It is a special district unto itself," he said. "At one time, there used to be a governing body by the BOCC in the library, but once that district was formed, we relinquished all control; other than we get to review the budget — we don't approve the budget. The only requirement is because (the board) receives funds, we review their budget to see where their dollars are going."

BOOK, A7



PHOTOS BY WESTLEY CROUCH/POST INDEPENDENT

Rifle resident Trish O'Grady raises her arm during a Garfield County Libraries meeting in Carbondale on Thursday.



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

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## BOOK

from page A6

Martin added, "Yes, we have applications from the board to replace a member (of the board) or put another member on. But that is it and that is our total authority over the board."

LaRue has been a central target of the proponents for the book restrictions due to LaRue denying the initial requests made by O'Grady and Lepkowski.

LaRue said previously that the library exists to provide information to the community, not to restrict access and it's up to those in the community to decide what they would like to access and how to use that information when visiting the libraries.

LaRue has written a book that covers the issue of censorship. The book is titled, "On Censorship: A Public Librarian Examines Censor Culture in the U.S." Such topics found in the book include personal prejudice, parental panic, demographic panic, and will to power; the latter addresses issues related to political victory and the intoxication of a mass movement.

LaRue will be hosting a book signing at the 6-7 p.m. Sept. 21 at the Carbondale Branch Library.

The majority of those who spoke during the public comment period were proponents of restrictions and even a possible ban on the books in question. But the majority of people in the room were opposed to any such restrictions, which was made clear as things began to heat up and the heckling began.

Opponents of the book restrictions do not want a few people dictating what others can read and access. Statements from most opponents say the library is a place for everyone in the community to access the history and culture that is represented in the collection of books found in the libraries.

"Books bring up important conversations between children and guardians," Community member Miles Cook said.

May Gray, an opponent and community member out of New Castle, echoed this sentiment.

"Restrictions are a slippery slope," she said. "We begin with restrictions today and end up with bans tomorrow. The library staff is well equipped to make these decisions and we should respect the decisions they have already made through denying the initial request made by Trish O'Grady and her proponents."

As the rest of the proponents continued, however, they began to crowd the front of the room to showcase pictures of the illustrations found in the library's Manga book collection. The presenters at this time refused to sit or take down the illustrations, and the crowd began to get visibly upset over the group of speakers who were in violation of the rules first stated before the public comment period commenced.

Gray later went on to respond to the displayed images.

"If you don't want kids to be seeing this adult book content, then do not blow it up and display it publicly in the very library where you are trying to restrict content," she said.

The library board on Thursday concluded by saying that it does not address any public comments until the board has had time to review and discuss all that was said and heard. The board normally addresses the public comments during the next board meeting, which is set to take place 2 p.m. Oct. 5 at the Rifle Branch Library.

LaRue has said, however, that a special forum will be held to offer a formal discussion, including a review and response to statements made on book access. The board will also address the petition presented by O'Grady.

Both proponents and opponents will be able to speak during this time and the forum is open to the public. The special forum is expected to be held sometime in October, but day and time have yet to be finalized.





WESTLEY CROUCH/POST INDEPENDENT

The final product of international artist Matt Willey's mural at the Rifle Branch Library.

## That's a wrap: artist Matt Willey finishes Rifle Library paintings

**Westley Crouch**  
For the Post Independent

The Rifle Branch Library held a wrap-up party for The Good of The Hive Mural painted by Matt Willey on Saturday.

The mural will be a continuation of Willey's The Good of the Hive project. Started in 2008, Willey is committed to hand-painting 50,000 bees globally.

Willey spoke to a packed room about his journey while in Rifle and what led him to paint this mural in the first place.

"I could not have done this if it wasn't for the people on the ground," he said, "I wanted to give a proper thanks to the Garfield County Libraries, James Larson, Alex Garcia-Bernal, Lydia Labelle de Rios and her family, and others."

"This is your community and your place.

It has been an amazing honor to be here," added a grateful Willey.

Willey began his speech by telling of an encounter he had with a person while painting at the Rifle Branch Library.

"I had a conversation with a person on why we, as humans, are different than bees. Normally my conversations are the other way around; as we all work together for the good of our hive," he said. "As the conversation started, the person began by saying that we are blessed with a light in each of us, but also burdened with a shadow.

"Some call that shadow the devil. Others call it ego, addiction, greed, or racism. It takes infinite forms and is very tricky to maneuver."

Willey asked them if they have something like this in their hive, like "a shadow."

"They said yes they do, but it's not quite the same," he said.

Willey went on to explain that the person then said, "We are one being that has thousands of eyes, minds and hives."

"We learn who and what we are in the darkness of the hive," the person said to Willey. "We are born into our own shadow. We grow in the darkness of the shadow with others we love and trust. We do not experience aloneness until we are ready."

"Ready for what?" Willey responded.

"The light," the person said.

According to his speech, Willey wants all of us to find that light that each of us has. His mural in Rifle, like many of his murals that have come before, which can be found all over the world, is a reminder that we are

**WILLEY, 4**



## WILLEY

Continued from page 1

all in this together. He also highlighted we must find our light and pass it on to others so we can do what is best for the good of the hive.

Food was served for the event at the Hille Branch Library and music was performed by Queen Beez — female-headed music for the heart and soul. More about Queen Beez can be found on their website thequeenbeezband.com.

Latelle de Rios hosted Willey with her and her family during his time here and said she has learned much from this experience.

"While I was originally nervous to have an international artist live with us, Matt has been very humble and kind and gracious. It's been one of the best experiences ever," she said. "We have done a lot of sharing and growing through some challenges throughout the project. Our intention of what originally connected us has grown into something so much more and here."

She is excited for the friendships and relationships that bring the Good of the Hive to life has been woven within the community, Latelle de Rios added.

Willey's mural will be on display at the Hille Branch Library for all to see. The patio, where the mural can be viewed, will be used as an education center for pollinator readiness program.



More of international artist Matt Willey's work at the Hille Branch Library.



A close up of a honeybee painted by international artist Matt Willey at the Hille Branch Library.



International artist Matt Willey didn't just paint a mural at the Hille Branch Library. Now, a honeybee and flowers painted by Willey decorate another section of the building.



International artist Matt Willey gives a speech at the Hille Branch Library.



Insects painted by international artist Matt Willey at the Hille Branch Library.



Folks listen to a speech by international artist Matt Willey at the Hille Branch Library.

GARFIELD COUNTY

## Residents call for restricting access to certain books

at libraries

BY WESTLEY CROUCH

FOR THE POST-INDEPENDENT

Garfield County Libraries is facing opposition to having free access to certain books on the shelves.

The books in question are Japanese Manga graphic novels. Manga is said to have depictions of violence and sexual situations that can include references to LGBTQ+ culture.

Manga is a part of Japanese culture that dates back to the 12th century. In Japan, people of all ages read Manga, which can range from action and adventure to romance, comedy and even erotica. The latter is better known as Hentai.

Children having access to Manga books is the main issue for opponents. They would like to see restrictions put in place to keep the books out of the hands of children.

The opposition efforts are being led by Garfield County residents Trish O'Grady and John Lepkowski.

O'Grady has filed a petition asking that the Manga books not be banned but relocated to a separate room where one would have to present identification and age verification to library staff to access and check out the books.

"Garfield County Libraries have these adult Manga-style graphic novels," O'Grady said. "The pictures depict what I could consider pornography. The issue is that there is no state policy keeping children from checking them out."

When asked about wanting other books, besides Manga, to be placed in this proposed separate room, O'Grady replied that anything with an explicit content warning should exclusively be for people who are 18 years of age or older.

Content warnings are generally issued by the author or publisher at their discretion for anything considered to be difficult topics or dark themes.

O'Grady went on to explain that it's the images that are of more concern to her and that those images are what represent pornography.

"It's typically the drawings more than the words. Words do play into it but these kinds of books have as many drawings as they do words," she said. "Every single page has a drawing on it, and

every third page has what I would consider to be pornographic.”

Lepkowski began his efforts almost a year ago when he first learned about Garfield County Libraries carrying Manga books. The original goal was to have all the books placed on the top shelf, out of the reach of children, who he feels are too young to be exposed to such content.

“It appears that a lot of people are pushing gay pride on children, and a lot of people do not agree with that,” Lepkowski said of the issue. “If you want to be gay, that’s fine, but at 18 or 20 years old. Do not try to push that on a 5-year-old.”

Lepkowski was joined by O’Grady a couple of months ago, who heard about Lepkowski’s efforts through a friend.

Lepkowski and O’Grady have brought multiple requests and complaints to Garfield County Libraries, including its executive director and board of trustees. The main request is to have the books be put on the top shelf, in a back area or room, or in a locked box.

But so far their requests have been rejected.

Garfield County Libraries executive director Jamie LaRue has used this opposition effort to highlight the purpose of public libraries.

“The reason (public libraries) exist is to say, ‘Hey, here’s everything that is going on,’” LaRue said. “We are not writing these books, we are not creating them, we are simply presenting them to the community so they can look at all the information and make up their own minds.”

LaRue, when asked about these challenges, reflected on how the publishing of books has changed over time, and how we see that change reflected in library content.

“Most of the books we see in libraries — about 80% — were published in the past by mostly white, straight folks whose books represented their lives,” he said. “In the past 10 or 15 years, we started to see this rise of new voices (3% of total new books). These (voices) are from the traditionally marginalized. It’s LGBTQ, it’s people of color, it’s kind of these stories that start to reflect these emerging populations in America.”

LaRue highlighted that society is seeing a rise in challenges to library materials all across the country, not just in Garfield County, and almost all of these challenges have focused on books represented by those 3%.

When asked about this trend, Trinity Azuncena Stebleton, Latino outreach director for the Garfield County Democratic Party, said the library is one of the few areas where LGBTQ+ people should feel safe. She also said librarians are not our children’s parents.

Azuncena Stebleton said it should be up to the parents to talk with their children about these topics or supervise their children if they do not want them to access this kind of material.

“Do you want them to read or go watch a bunch of videos online?” Azuncena Stebleton said.

LaRue said libraries exist for people of all ages — not just children — but that library books with adult content are marked with red stickers. He reiterated that the Manga books in question are nowhere near the children’s section and that the purpose of public libraries is to present books and information to the whole community, and not restrict what people can and cannot access.

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According to Garfield County Libraries policy, parents who do not wish their children to have access to certain materials should accompany or otherwise advise their children.



Post Independent – 9/20/23 La Noche Latina – GCPLD was the co-sponsor along with the City of Glenwood Springs



Advertisements – *Sopris Sun, Sol del Valle, Post Independent, Citizen Telegram*



## THE GOOD OF THE HIVE MURAL RECEPTION

Join us in celebrating the unveiling of our new mural at the Rifle Branch Library. Come meet the artist, Matt Willey, as he presents his mural project. Enjoy raffles, refreshments, and a concert featuring The Queen Bees.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9  
10 AM • RIFLE BRANCH LIBRARY**

For more information  
call the library at  
970-625-3471.

Find Your  
**STORY** GARFIELD COUNTY  
LIBRARIES



## CELEBRACIÓN DEL MES DE LA HISPANIDAD

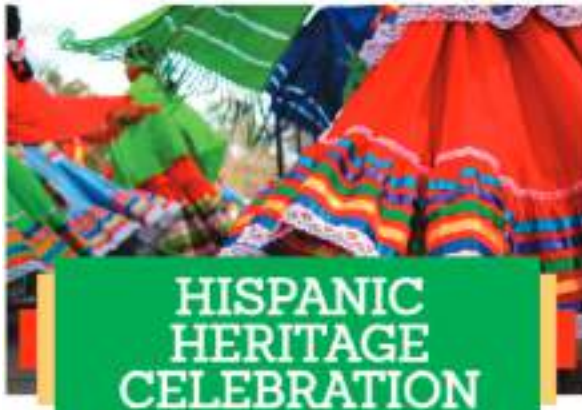
Celebra el comienzo del Mes de la Herencia Hispana con actividades, arte, música en vivo y más! Tendremos una hora de cuentos con Raising a Reader y también presentaciones por Mezclas Sociales Dance, Aspen Santa Fe Folklórico Ballet, y Rodrigo Arreguin.

**DOMINGO 24 DE SEPTIEMBRE  
2 PM • BIBLIOTECA DE RIFLE**

[GRATIS]



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## HISPANIC HERITAGE CELEBRATION

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with activities, art, live music, and more! We'll feature Storytime with Raising A Reader along with performances by Rodrigo Arreguin, the Aspen Santa Fe Folklórico Ballet, and Mezclas Sociales Dance.

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24  
2 PM • RIFLE BRANCH LIBRARY**

FREE!



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## CELEBRATE LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH WIN A KINDLE

Your Garfield County Libraries are giving away three Kindles to library card holders this September for Library Card Sign-Up Month!

If you already have a library card from the Garfield County Libraries you will need to call or visit your local library in September and ask to renew your library card. Once you renew, you will automatically be entered to win.

If you do not yet have a card from the Garfield County Libraries you can apply for one online or by visiting your nearest library. Once you register you will automatically be entered to win. You will also receive a small gift (while supplies last).

[WWW.GCPLD.ORG](http://WWW.GCPLD.ORG)

Find Your  
**STORY** GARFIELD COUNTY  
LIBRARIES

**REPRESENT THE RIFLE BRANCH**



**MAKE AN IMPACT**

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE  
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

[www.GCPLD.org/trustees](http://www.GCPLD.org/trustees)





## Events August 2023

Alex Garcia-Bernal, Education & Events Manager

August is an official rest month from most big events and programs, since our attendance dips due to the back-to-school season. We use this time to evaluate and regroup for the second half of the year.

### Special Events:

GCPLD held an annual Events Summit on Thursday, August 10th. Staff from across the District came together to discuss the direction of events and programming in the district. The Glenwood Springs and Carbondale libraries hosted a concert by New York-based musician Marc Berger on Sunday, August 20th, and Monday, August 21st. The Silt Library hosted a hybrid virtual and in-person presentation on Recycling on Thursday, August 24th.

The Rifle Library hosted a special story time event with Amy Tonozzi in honor of The Good of the Hive bee pollination mural on Saturday, August 26th.

### Partnered Children Events:

The Rifle Library hosted a weekly parenting group with Great Expectations each Tuesday in July.

Bolsitas Rojas, the Spanish language story time program with Raising a Reader returned to each branch in August. Each library has a weekly Spanish or bilingual Storytime. Parachute has an additional English language Storytime per week, hosted by Raising a Reader. The Carbondale library hosted their Paws to Read Storytime on Tuesday, August 15th.

### Library Children Events:

Storytimes, school-out programs, and early childhood development programs also returned to each branch through the month of August. The Parachute Library hosted its monthly Homeschool Parent Advisory Board on Friday, August 11th.

### Teen/Tween Events:

The Rifle Library hosted its monthly Teen Tech Club on Friday, August 4th. They also hosted the Art Thing tween art club on Wednesday, August 9th and 23rd. The Carbondale library hosted their Coding Club with the Aspen Science Center on Thursday, August 10th. The Glenwood Springs library hosted its monthly Dungeons and Dragons gaming program on Saturday, August 19th.

### Family Events:

The Parachute Library hosted their Piece It Together puzzle club each Sunday in August. The Silt library hosted their bilingual family game night, Loteria, on Thursday, August 10th.

### Book Clubs:

The Parachute Library hosted its monthly Western Colorado Book Club on Tuesday, August 8th, and its Food For Thought Cookbook Club on Thursday, August 10th. The Glenwood Springs library hosted their monthly Spanish language book club on Saturday, August 12th, and their Teen Book Club on Monday, August 14th and 28th. The Carbondale library hosted their Third Thursday Book Club on August 17th, and their GSA Book Club on Friday, August 18th.

### Partnered Adult Events:

#### Adults Arts and Crafts:

The Carbondale library hosted a program on Nature Journaling on Friday, August 4th. The Parachute Library hosted their monthly Crochet Club on Saturday, August 5th. The Carbondale library hosted their "In Stitches" knitting club each Monday in August. The New Castle Seasonal Wreaths craft club had its final meeting of the season on Monday, August 7th. The Rifle Library hosted its adult ukulele class each Monday in August.

#### Adult Education Events:

The Rifle Library hosted a special presentation on Medicare on Saturday, August 5th, the Silt Library hosted theirs on Wednesday, August 16th. The New Castle Library hosted their weekly Spanish language computer classes each Friday in August. The Rifle Library hosted its monthly Spanish/English conversation circle on Wednesday, August 9th. The New Castle Library began its ESL classes program on Wednesday, August 23rd, and continued each Wednesday of the month.

#### Social Events:

The New Castle Library began their new Pilates series on Wednesday, August 16th, and will continue each Wednesday of the month. The Glenwood Springs library hosted their monthly Chess club on Thursday, August 17th, and their Pride Social on Friday, August 25th. The New Castle Library hosted its monthly New Castle Convos program on Wednesday, August 30th.

#### Author Events:

#### 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.

The Glenwood Springs Library will be hosting the Raising a Reader Children's Art and Literature Festival on Saturday, October 7th. All our libraries are also preparing to host our annual pumpkin carving extravaganza through the month of October.

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.



## Facilities September Report

Jon Medrano, Facilities Manager

The Facilities Department oversaw several projects and repairs. The Facilities Manager would like to highlight and thank the Facilities Technician for doing a tremendous job while the manager was out on paternity leave. The District continues to see employees shine and make GCDPLD great. The following are worthy mentions from the Facilities Department from the month of September.

### Library Reconfiguration for Parachute & New Castle Branches - UPDATE

The professional library planner and internal team met at the end of September to finalize the drawings for each library location. Items such as patron and staff furniture were also decided. An important note is that during the Parachute Library's initial demolition phase, the staff will adjust services to a drive-up method moving the book collection to the large community room. The main entrance will be inaccessible to the public. For this short period, staff will work with the community to conduct library programming at a variety of public meeting spaces such as the Parachute Rec Center. The time has come to reach out to area General Contractors for competitive bidding.

### Door Repair at New Castle Library Branch

The New Castle library's main key FOB entrance was compromised due to a failed mechanical door latch. The specific equipment no longer held the door in a locked position. The Facilities Technician bolted the door shut temporarily until the replacement part arrived. The door has been serviced and is back to its normal operating function.

### Repairs on District Library Vehicles

Thanks to the Facilities Technician two of the District vehicles received new windshields. These were for the library truck (Ford F-150) and the "Bookmobile" (Ford Escape). He worked with a local business company to schedule onsite service.

### Fire Alarm Panel Repair in Glenwood Springs - UPDATE

The Facilities Manager worked with a company out of the Denver area to repair all of the error/trouble codes on the Glenwood Springs fire panel. This was extensive work for several reasons. The current panel was dated and very few vendors serviced them. The original software and physical key adapter for computer access were nowhere to be found in the District. At this time the fire panel has been reprogrammed correctly and all trouble codes have been corrected. There is still one more physical piece of equipment that needs to be replaced. That part is on order and will be installed as soon as possible.

### Elevator Repair at Rifle Library Branch

The Facilities Manager called for elevator service to address Rifle Library's elevator #2. After some diagnosis, it was found that the main start contactor was no longer functioning. This specific part begins the initial start-up sequence for the elevator car to move. The elevator company has placed this part on order, and it will be installed as soon as it has been received.