



Timberland Regional Library's 245 staff, 29 public libraries, and mobile services provides services to the 550,000+ residents of five counties in Southwest Washington State: Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston Counties.



## GRAYS HARBOR

Aberdeen, Amanda Park, Elma, Hoquiam, McCleary, Montesano, Oakville, Westport



### CONTACT

Timberland Regional LIBRARY  
415 Tumwater Boulevard SW  
Tumwater, Washington 98501-5799  
asklib@TRL.org • 360.943.5001 • TRL.org

FOLLOW



*Timberland Regional Library (TRL) recognizes that we operate within the traditional territories of the Nisqually Indian Tribe, Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation, Quinault Indian Nation, Skokomish Indian Tribe, and Squaxin Island Tribe who have been stewards of these lands since time immemorial. TRL provides library services to Indigenous tribes, extending beyond the geographic limits of Lewis, Mason, Thurston, Pacific, and Grays Harbor Counties. This acknowledgment reminds us to strive for respectful partnerships with all people as we search for collective healing and learn how to be better stewards of the indigenous lands we inhabit.*



## MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Vibrant, interactive, and fun** are 3 words that describe the new services, collections, and programs our staff introduced in 2023. As I reflect on the 4th and final year of TRL's current Strategic Direction, I want to share some highlights of the amazing things that TRL did this past year as we worked together with the support of our staff, volunteers, local communities, and partners to provide the best possible services to our patrons and supporters that know the value of a public library in their communities. Check it out -

- **Expanded Access Hours** came to Westport, Elma, Tenino, Ilwaco, and Ocean Park Libraries, providing library access beyond regularly staffed hours for eligible patrons ages 14 and up.
- **Anywhere Library - mobile services** launched in Thurston, Pacific and Mason counties - visiting Head Starts, ECEAPS, Senior Centers, Churches, and more; Anywhere Library services for Lewis/Grays Harbor counties will be coming in early 2024.
- **McCleary, Ilwaco, West Olympia, North Mason (Belfair), and Hoodspout Libraries** underwent building improvements to enhance and revitalize their spaces to benefit their patrons and communities.
- **Library Card Design Contest for three age groups: Birth-5, 6-11, and 12-18** with 3 winning designs selected in time for September Library Card Sign Up Month.
- **Books by Mail** service expanded to increase ease of access for patrons with transportation and other barriers.
- **New Website** launched with beautifully redesigned interface, improved user-experience, and user-friendly features translated into Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese and Chinese.
- **Increased Social Media Reach** with engaging content, and viral reach on multiple platforms.
- **Korean and Vietnamese physical materials** added to collections at Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater libraries.
- **Purchased land in Randle for the construction of a new Mountain View Library** with construction scheduled to be completed in 2024!

TRL's approach to workplace excellence with an eye towards continuous improvement, extends into the 29 libraries, community outreach, and mobile services.

**Every day**, we connect with people in our communities across our 5-county district.

**Every day**, we strive to provide 21st century services, diverse resources, and innovative programming to all residents.

**Every day**, we work with community partners across the region and in our local communities. Together we are moving our communities forward.

It is also exciting to see that our work and what we do is being noticed by many of our partners, within our local communities, and our patrons. One example of this, is in 2023, TRL received the Nancie Payne Workplace Excellence Award from the Pacific Mountain Workforce Development, recognizing TRL for "Demonstrating workplace excellence and customer service, meaningful employee engagement and a constructive, diverse and progressive workforce culture that works to better business management."

Thank you to the staff and to the Board of Trustees for an eventful year.

See you at the library!

*Cheryl*

# 2020-2024 STRATEGIC DIRECTION

The Timberland Regional Library Strategic Direction for 2020-2024 was developed through community and staff participation with our Board of Trustees strategic planning committee.

We appreciate the time and effort that was given to understand the needs within the community, identify areas of focus that we assist with, and then align our resources to create positive change in those areas.



## MISSION

Welcoming everyone to a vibrant world of possibilities.  
Connecting people, places, and ideas.  
Evolving to meet the needs of our communities.



## VISION

Libraries connecting to our communities.



## WE VALUE

Access for all. Working together.  
Diverse communities and ideas.  
Responsible use of public resources.



### BORROW

Assistive Devices  
eBooks and Books  
Movies  
Audiobooks



### PARTICIPATE

Storytimes  
Book Groups  
Arts & Crafts  
Meeting Space



### DISCOVER

Legal Forms  
Auto Repair  
Homework Help  
History & Genealogy

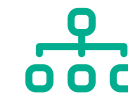


### CONNECT

Wifi  
Printing  
Computers  
Job Search



ILWACO GRAND OPENING



## LOCAL COMMUNITIES

- Sharing local culture.
- Increasing our presence in under-served communities.
- Creating opportunities for inter-generational connection.



## EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

- Reaching those with disabilities and other access barriers.
- Reflecting under-represented groups in our collections, staff, and services.
- Partnering with local agencies and organizations to support diverse communities.



## CHILDREN FROM BIRTH TO FIVE

- Providing appealing spaces and engaging experiences.
- Clarifying what they need and how to provide for those needs.
- Empowering them to build relationships with the library & within their communities.



NORTH MASON CLASSROOM VISIT

Physical Checkouts .....2,701,351  
 OverDrive Total.....1,853,704  
 Kanopy.....85,128


**Total Circulation..... 4,640,183**

Computer Session.....205,804  
 Wi-Fi Sessions.....145,063

Physical Collection Total..... 705,589  
 New Items – Orders .....108,018  
 New Items – Added .....104,991

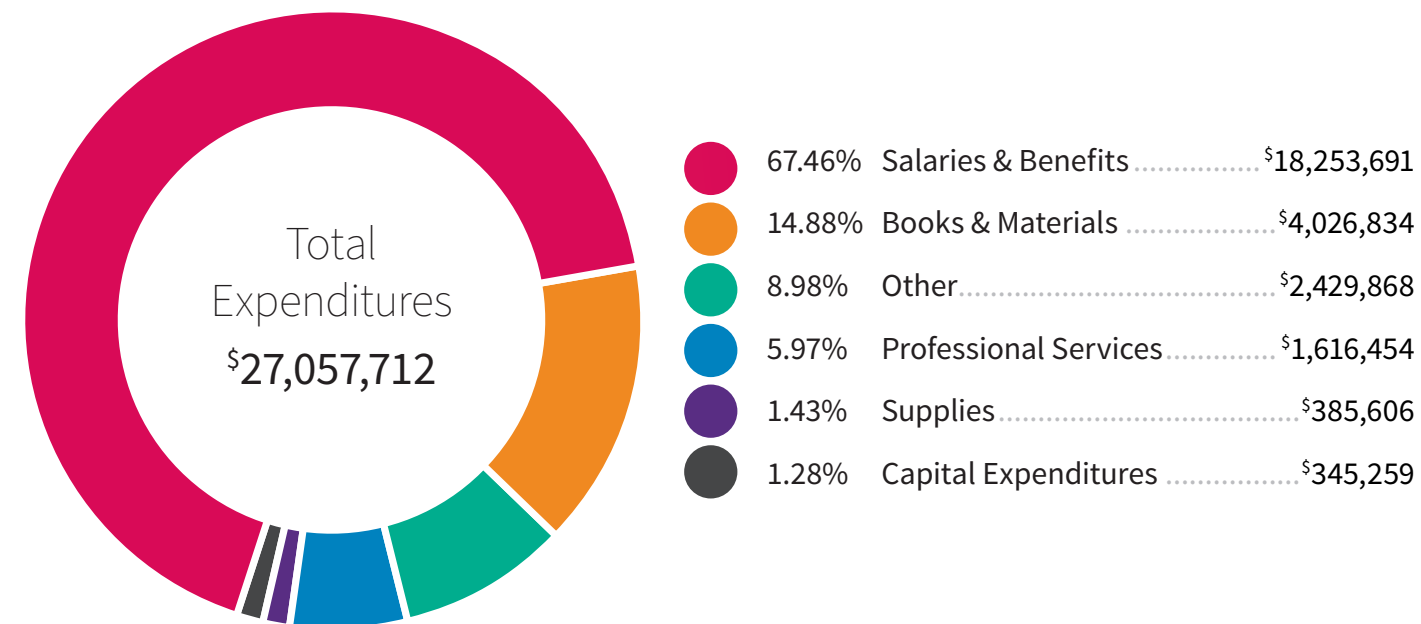
Print Jobs .....632,239  
 Sheets of Paper Used .....2,663,548

New Patrons .....96,680  
 New OverDrive Patrons.....13,892  
 Active Patrons.....274,938

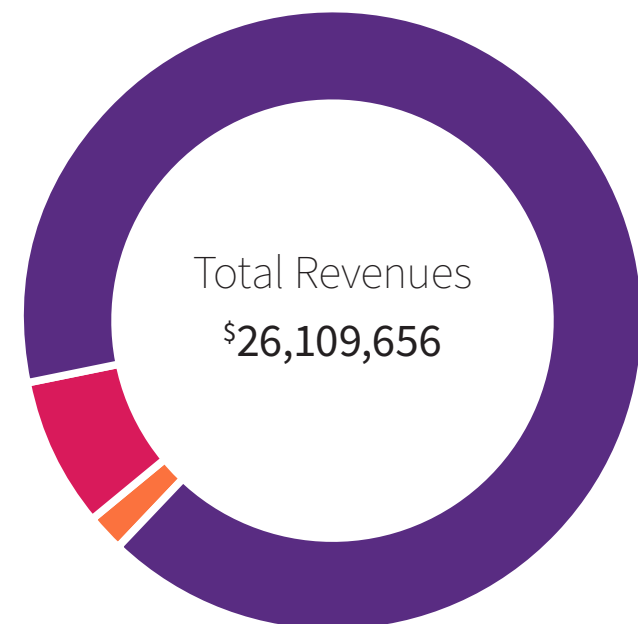
 **AskLib**  
3,443 emails

 **Live Chat**  
7,042 Chats

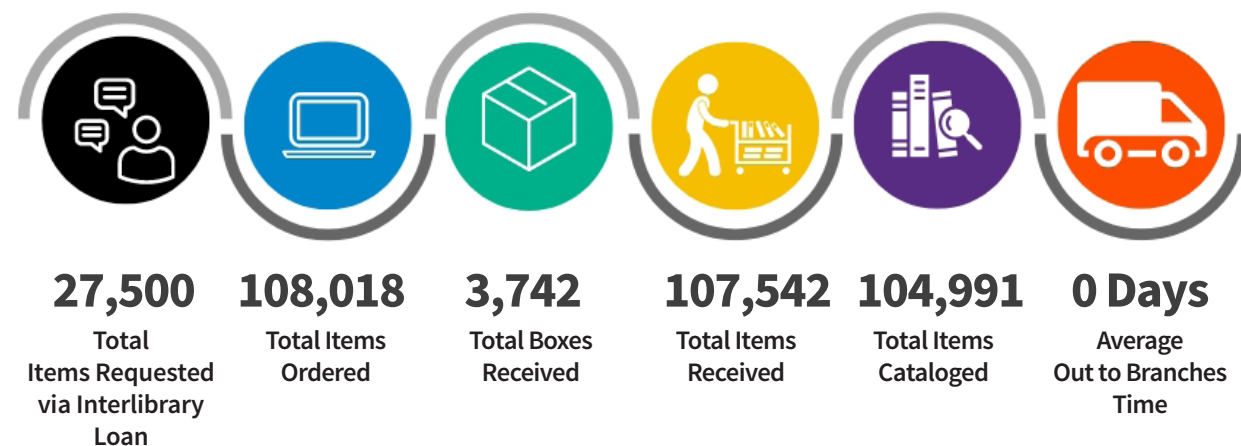
 **Grab Bags**  
239 Bags

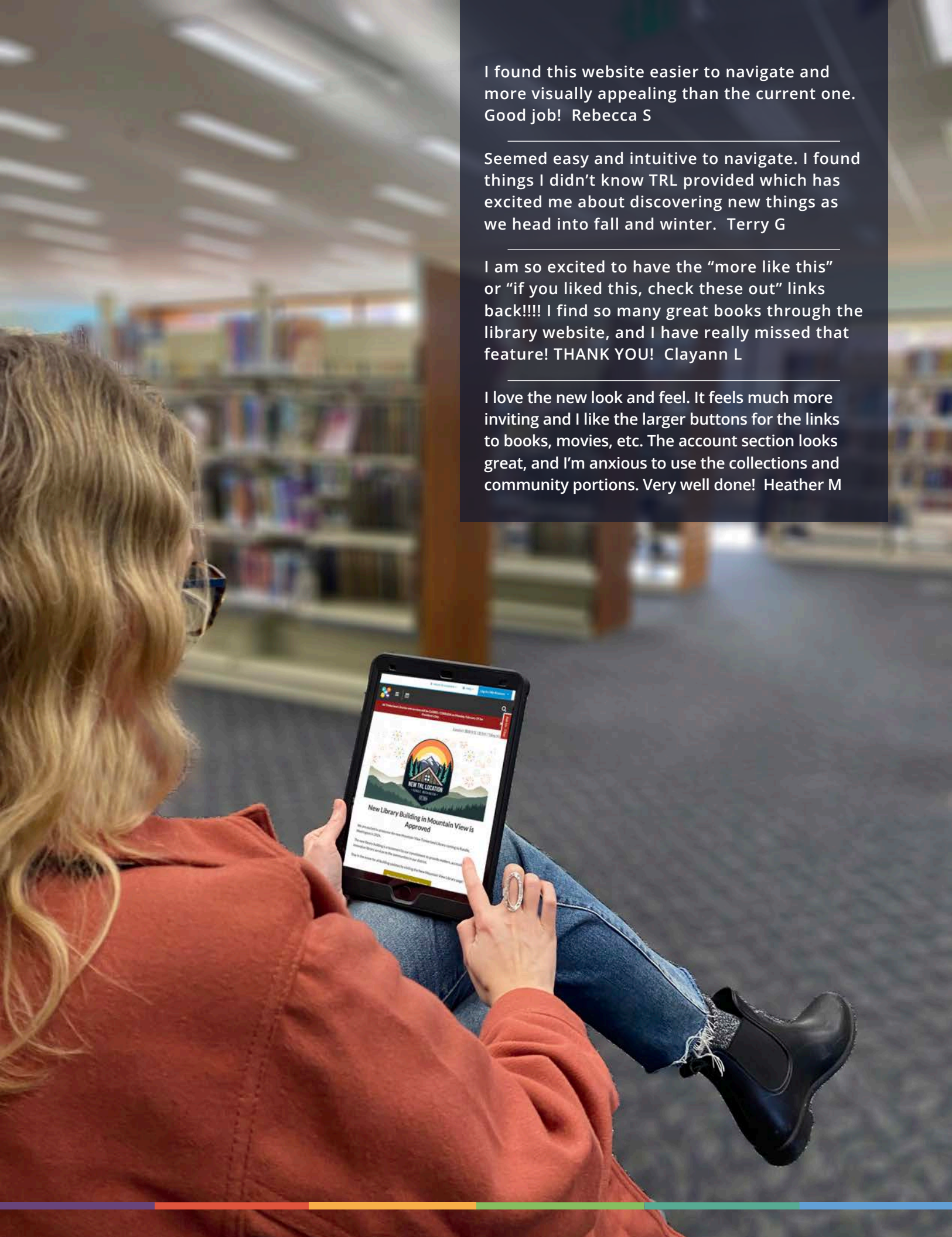


\$23,846,819 Property Taxes ..... 91.3%  
 \$1,855,777 Timber .....7.1%  
 \$407,059 Other..... 1.6%



**Turnaround Time for New Collection Items**





I found this website easier to navigate and more visually appealing than the current one. Good job! Rebecca S

Seemed easy and intuitive to navigate. I found things I didn't know TRL provided which has excited me about discovering new things as we head into fall and winter. Terry G

I am so excited to have the "more like this" or "if you liked this, check these out" links back!!!! I find so many great books through the library website, and I have really missed that feature! THANK YOU! Clayann L

I love the new look and feel. It feels much more inviting and I like the larger buttons for the links to books, movies, etc. The account section looks great, and I'm anxious to use the collections and community portions. Very well done! Heather M

# NEW CATALOG, WEBSITE, & APP

LIVE OCTOBER 23

Dynamic Tools for Engagement:

**Staff Blogs:**

Our dedicated staff share their expertise, experiences, and passions, offering you a unique glimpse into the vibrant world of TRL.

**Staff Lists:**

Curated collection of recommendations crafted by our staff. Covering a wide array of genres, topics, and formats.

Visit: [TRL.org/Explore](http://TRL.org/Explore)

I am totally psyched that you have a 3D printing feature now. What a great library!

Susan L



Awesome, love the new look, especially the colorful buttons to find specific items. I also like reading the staff picks, there's nothing like a good book recommendation from a fellow reader.

Louise R

Download our new app!



I like the easy access to audiobook CDs! Very colorful website. Thank you!

Alice D



The new layout looks fresh and new - beautiful and easy to locate books/authors. I also liked the info provided with each book regarding copies available, format and requesting a hold.

Good job by our library staff - we are very fortunate.

Julianne A



“Big” history was made this January when one of the most prestigious awards in children’s literature, the Randolph Caldecott Medal, was awarded to Vashti Harrison, illustrator of the picture book, Big.

TRL Deputy Director, Kendra Jones, had the privilege to serve on the 2024 Randolph Caldecott Committee. Committee members review every eligible picture book published in 2023, which was around 700 titles.

## SOCIAL MEDIA



### Facebook

REACH **↑ 740%**  
 VISITS **↑ 364%**  
 NEW LIKES/FOLLOWS **↑ 73.8%**



### Instagram

REACH **↑ 9.7K%**  
 VISITS **↑ 469%**  
 NEW LIKES/FOLLOWS **↑ 47.6%**  
 REELS VIEW **838,351**



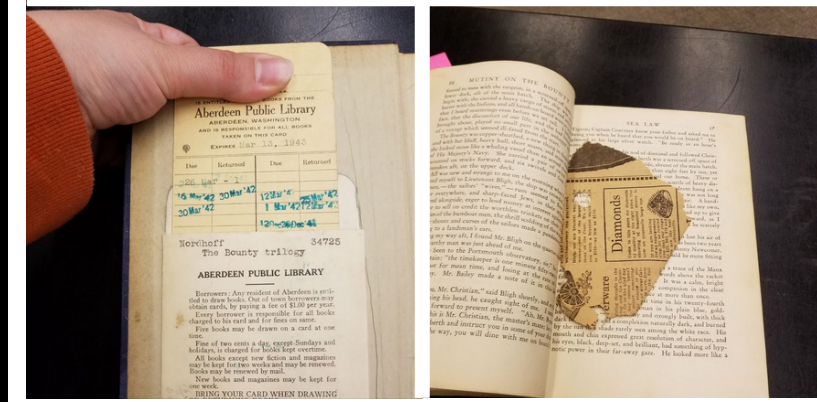
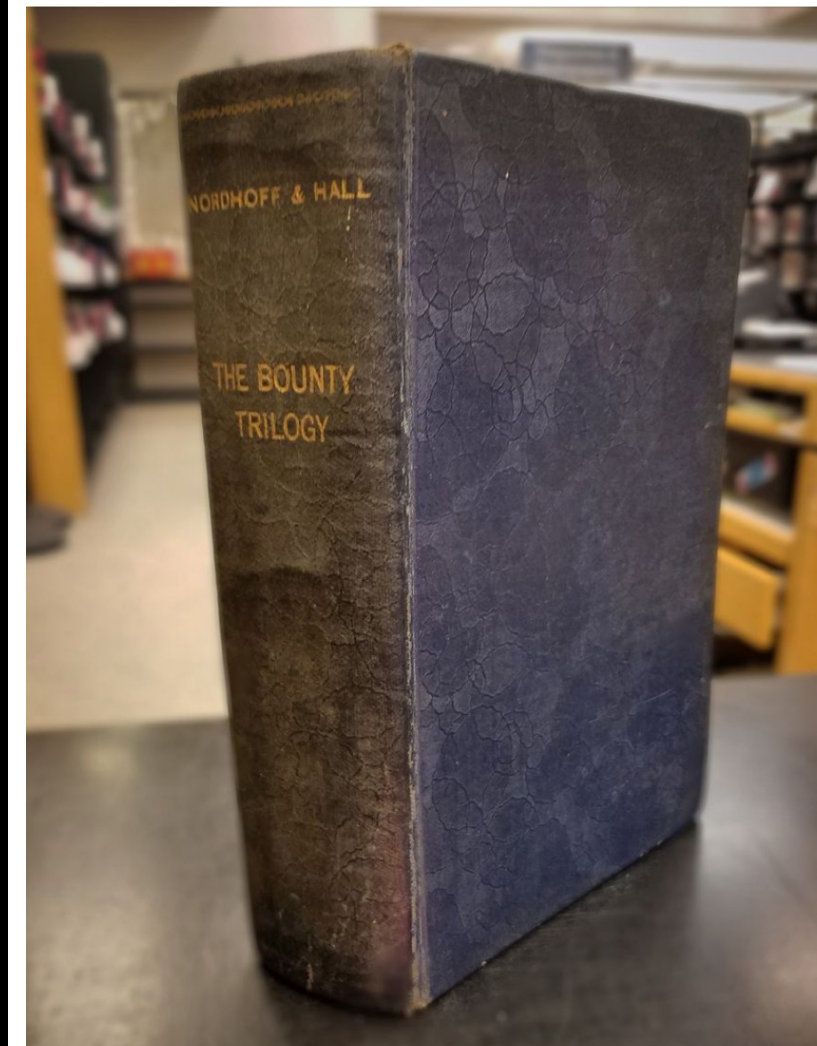
### TikTok

**1,179,994**  
 TikToks amassed views in 2023



### 17.1M

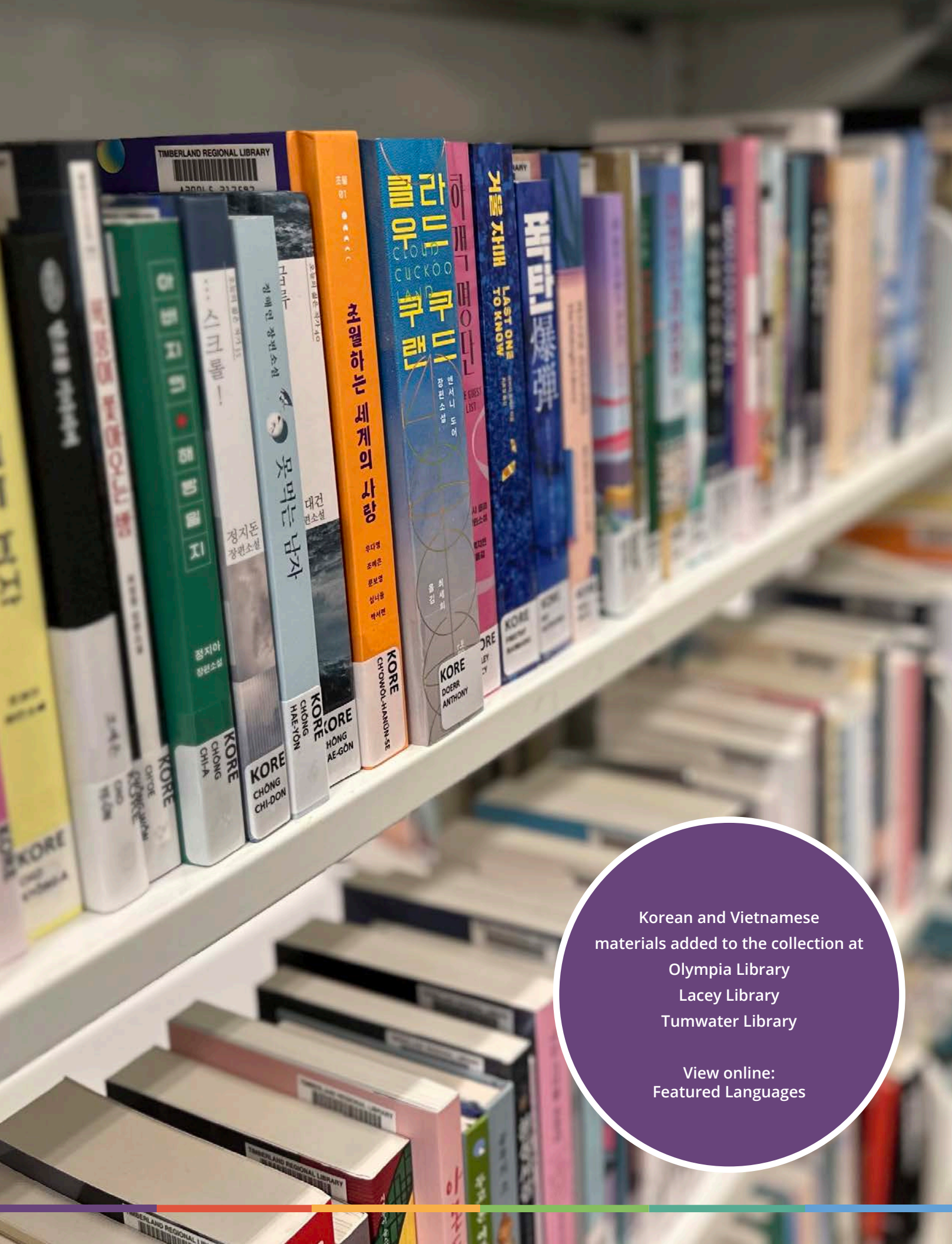
GIF VIEWS



[\(View Post\)](#)

#### Viral Facebook Post about the Overdue Book

The story of a patron returning a book to the Aberdeen Timberland Library 81 years overdue garnered a local, national, and even international audience. Within days of the story being posted to TRL's Facebook Page, Kiro 7 & King 5 had both traveled to Aberdeen to run a story on their 5 o'clock news.



Korean and Vietnamese materials added to the collection at  
 Olympia Library  
 Lacey Library  
 Tumwater Library

View online:  
 Featured Languages

# ANYWHERE LIBRARY



Anywhere Library is a mobile library that brings TRL materials and services directly to community sites.

Visit: [TRL.org/Anywhere](http://TRL.org/Anywhere)



We're looking forward to it!  
 Rochester UMC



Thank you to Nisqually Indian Tribe for the generous donation of laptops to give away at our Thurston County Anywhere stops for developing digital literacy.



Awesome service provide by TRL!  
 Ron G



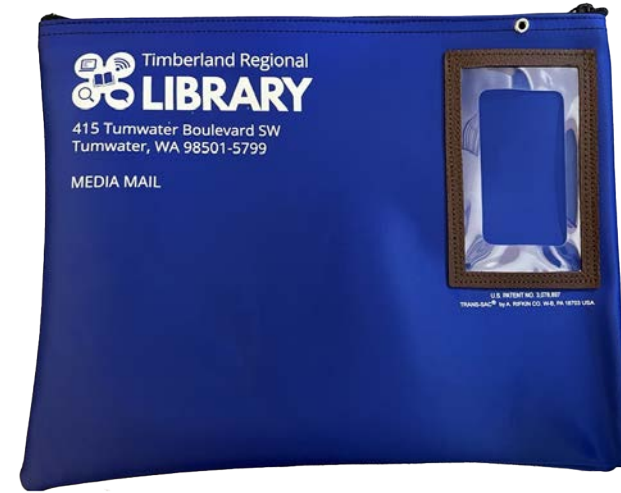
JUNE - DECEMBER		
<b>93</b> LIBRARY STOPS	<b>4,100</b> ATTENDANCE	<b>369</b> SUMMER LIBRARY BOOKS DISTRIBUTED
<b>25</b> SPECIAL EVENTS	<b>17+</b> LAPTOPS GIVEN AWAY	<b>600</b> ECLIPSE GLASSES DISTRIBUTED
<b>1,150</b> CHECKOUTS	<b>58</b> STORYTIMES & CLASSES	



# DOLLY PARTON'S IMAGINATION LIBRARY



This kiddo just got his first library card at the Lacey Timberland Library AND received his first book in the mail from the Dolly Parton Imagination Library!



I'm homebound and this is my entertainment, so if I couldn't get things from the library I'd be so depressed and lonely.

Thanks to everyone who works on this!

# BOOKS BY MAIL SERVICE

## Expanded Service: Books by Mail

Launched June 2023.

The Books by Mail service helps remove barriers and increase ease of access for patrons who cannot visit their library due to physical disability or lack of transportation.

Visit: [TRL.org/books-by-mail](http://TRL.org/books-by-mail)

# 896 MAILINGS

JUN - DEC



Dolly Parton's Imagination Library mails free high-quality, age-appropriate books to children from birth to age five!

County	Enrolled	Eligible Population
Grays Harbor & Pacific Counties	1,773	37.6%
Lewis County	2,816	59.7%
Mason County	1,202	30%
Thurston County	4,640	28.2%



Thank you for all that you did to keep my Mom in books, she was an avid reader! It was wonderful for her to receive the books in the mail, she looked forward to their arrival. What a wonderful program for seniors-thank you!



Toy shopping carts make selecting library books even more engaging for kids!

Toy shopping carts are a fun way to encourage brain development, interaction, literacy, and STEM learning through play. Count the number of books in the cart, look for items on the list and more.

## EXPANDED ACCESS HOURS



Expanded Access Hours (EAH) is available from 7 am until the library opens and after the library closes until 8 pm, seven days a week (including holidays). During EAH hours, staff will not be in the building.

The Board of Trustees approved the age eligibility to 14 years old.

Locations added in 2023;

- Elma Library
- Ilwaco Library
- Ocean Park Library
- Tenino Library
- Westport Library

**1,391** EAH CARD HOLDERS

**157** PATRONS WITH OTHER HOME LIBRARIES

**9** LOCATIONS

## LAND PURCHASED IN RANDLE



Mountain View Timberland Library has leased space in Randle since March 1988.

For updates to the project, visit:  
[TRL.org/new-mountain-view-library/](http://TRL.org/new-mountain-view-library/)

## GRAND OPENING: ILWACO

Libraries are vibrant because our communities are vibrant! The Ilwaco Library had a major refresh this year, and you can see their patrons and community members are still LOVING the updated space!

Holly Beller, city administrator for the City of Ilwaco, which owns the building, gave the collaborative program a huge thumbs up. "We would like to thank the library for everything they provide for our community," said Beller. "This is such a great thing. I congratulate you."

1,642 people came through the Ilwaco Library doors during July, checking out 2,160 items. New library cards have been issued to 196 people this year.

Updates to the Ilwaco Library building also prepared the library for Expanded Access Hours (EAH) which will allow library patrons to utilize resources at the library beyond standard operating hours.



I love you guys!  
Susan S



Such an amazing asset to  
our community!  
Dylan's Cottage Bakery  
and Deli



Omgosh it looks amazing!  
Danielle Lefor W



A Healthy Community should always include a thriving library system! I am so grateful that Timberland Regional Library system serves so many communities, families and individuals in our geographical area.

Sandy C

## GRAND OPENING: MCCLEARY



"More than 30 people came to see what the library had to offer visually and to celebrate the joyous occasion. From new lighting, flooring, wiring, furniture and staff rooms among other items, an argument could be made that the library interior is more modern in its design than any other building in the rural East County town."

The history of the McCleary Timberland Library spans back to 1969. After 20 years in their current space, a recently completed \$250,000 upgrade, with countless hours of help from staff, has resulted in a beautifully refreshed space.

The McCleary Library also offers expanded access hours (EAH) from 7am - 8pm daily, including holidays, to truly serve as a "community living room."



Wow! It looks amazing!  
Riley M



Wow, how exciting! Can't wait to see the end results.  
Paula K



I like to seeing all those hands on activities in a library.  
Mary Ellen K



Wonderful news for our students!  
Gladis M

# West Olympia Timberland LIBRARY



## GRAND OPENING: WEST OLYMPIA

The new early learning space at the West Olympia Library is a must-stop at the Capital Mall!

The library had its grand reopening showcasing doubled floorspace, new lighting, an innovative new child's area, fixtures, artwork, and more!

Complete with a life-size "Lite-Brite", a computer workspace with an attached play space for families, and items and features that encourage social emotional development, fine and gross motor skills, independent and collaborative play, and a love of all things library and literacy.

The Library is open 7 days a week from 10 am-6 pm!



Wow this looks amazing!!  
Definitely gonna take my  
2 year old.

Cassie F



I love all libraries but  
especially my home TRL!!

Tyra L



Yay! We can't wait! The  
space looks amazing.

Capital Mall



My customers at Terra Firma Cosmetics & Spa at Capital Mall love this place so much.  
We love it too!

Meridith C



I am so grateful for the library. One of the few places that is truly for everyone. Thank you.

Tracey H.



**Sunday Hours Added**  
 In 2023, in effort to expand and adapt library access to the needs of local communities, Hawks Prairie and Shelton Libraries added Sunday Hours.

Locations with Sunday hours:  
**Mason County:**  
 Shelton

**Thurston County:**  
 Hawks Prairie  
 West Olympia

## REFRESHED SPACES



**Aberdeen Library**  
 Security Fencing.

**Chehalis Library**  
 Staff Workroom refresh.

**Elma Library**  
 Bathroom refresh.

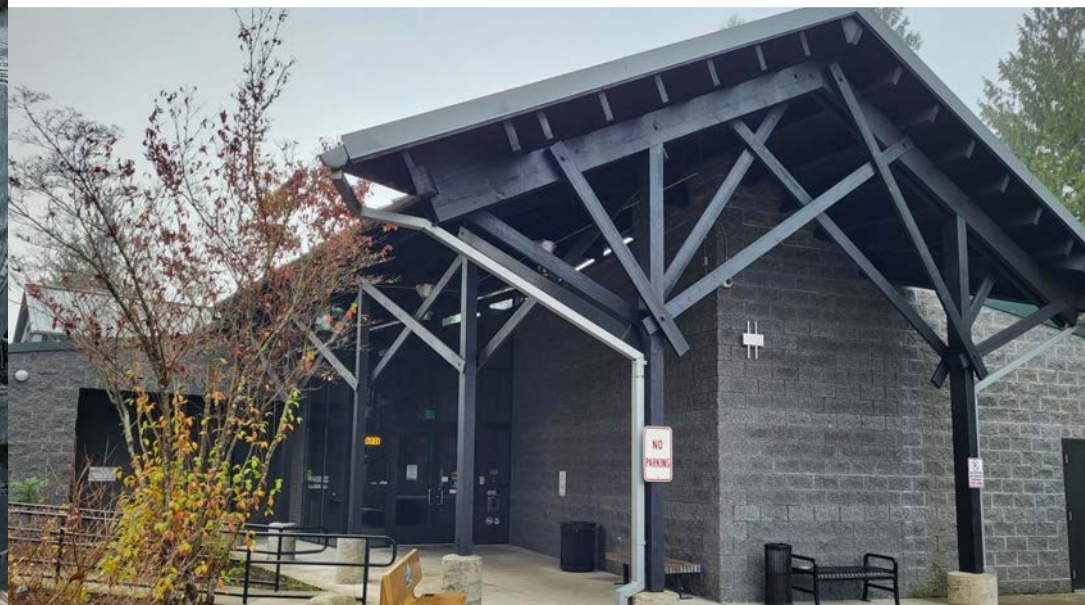
**Hoodsport Library**  
 New Manger's Office, deck improvements, and bathroom refresh

**Lacey Library**  
 New interior painting provided by the City of Lacey.

**North Mason Library**  
 Exterior repainted.

**Packwood**  
 Bathroom refresh.

**TRL Headquarters**  
 New office spaces, improved Youth Services space, meeting room refresh, and new flooring.



"We deeply appreciate the City of Lacey's care of our Library," says Library Manager, Holly Paxson. "As the building's owners, they make sure the facility is clean, safe, and always looks fantastic. The City has done everything in their power to ensure the interior painting is completed as quickly as possible."



Enjoy watching [TRL Highlights: Renovations and Refreshes](#) on YouTube Channel.



# SUMMER LIBRARY PROGRAM



JUNE 1 TO AUGUST 31

Summer Library Program (SLP) is about more than reading, it's about exploring nature and our imagination, creating crafts and new opportunities, and learning about new things and about ourselves.

I love @timberlandlibrary. Your core mission is a culture of creative generosity which is so rare and precious in these times.  
rebeca\_jane



Looks like great fun, and easy to fill your activity log. I had some kids tell me they played Rock 'Em Sock 'Em Robots at the Air BnB where they stayed. Old school games.  
Stefan A



I love how TRL engages the WHOLE community!!  
Diane Marriott F



**StoryTrails**  
Area residents looking for a unique outdoor experience this summer should try Timberland Regional Library StoryTrails, interactive outdoor events. Visit [TRL.org/Storytrails](http://TRL.org/Storytrails)



**22,363** ATTENDED PROGRAMS    **906** PROGRAMS    **9,500+** BOOKS DISTRIBUTED



# LIBRARY CARD CONTEST

SEPTEMBER IS LIBRARY CARD SIGN UP MONTH

**3,053** NEW CARDS ISSUED  
IN SEPTEMBER

Over 600 submissions across 5 counties.

From June 1- July 15, library patrons ages 18 and under were invited to participate in a library card contest.

In September, three new library card designs were unveiled, featuring artwork submitted during the contest. Entries were divided into three age groups: 0-5, 6-11, and 12-18 providing opportunities for children of various ages to take part.

Madison's Mom, Gloria, on the experience of the library card art contest: "It was a great home-school teaching experience for her, and I think this will be something she can look back on to see all the learning that was involved, the self-growth, and the rewards that come from putting a lot of effort into something"

Ari on their inspiration for their design and interpretation of the prompt: "Libraries really do bring you together. Reading is a great way to learn about different cultures and different aspects of life that you aren't going to get elsewhere. Often times we are afraid of what we don't know, so reading for me is the easiest way to get to know the world."

Patron response to Isaac's card design:

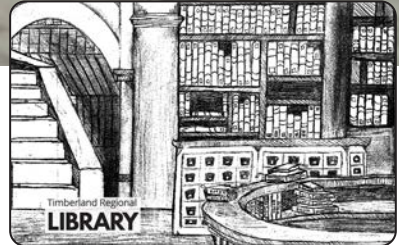
"This is my favorite library card design! It inspired me to get a library card again. Thanks, Isaac."

"Can we update our card with his? It's amazing!"

"Just got my library card 2 weeks ago and this was the design I picked for it!"



0-5 Age Group:  
Madison N.  
Lacey Timberland Library



6-11 Age Group:  
Isaac F.  
Centralia Timberland Library



12-18 Age Group:  
Ari K.  
Olympia Timberland Library



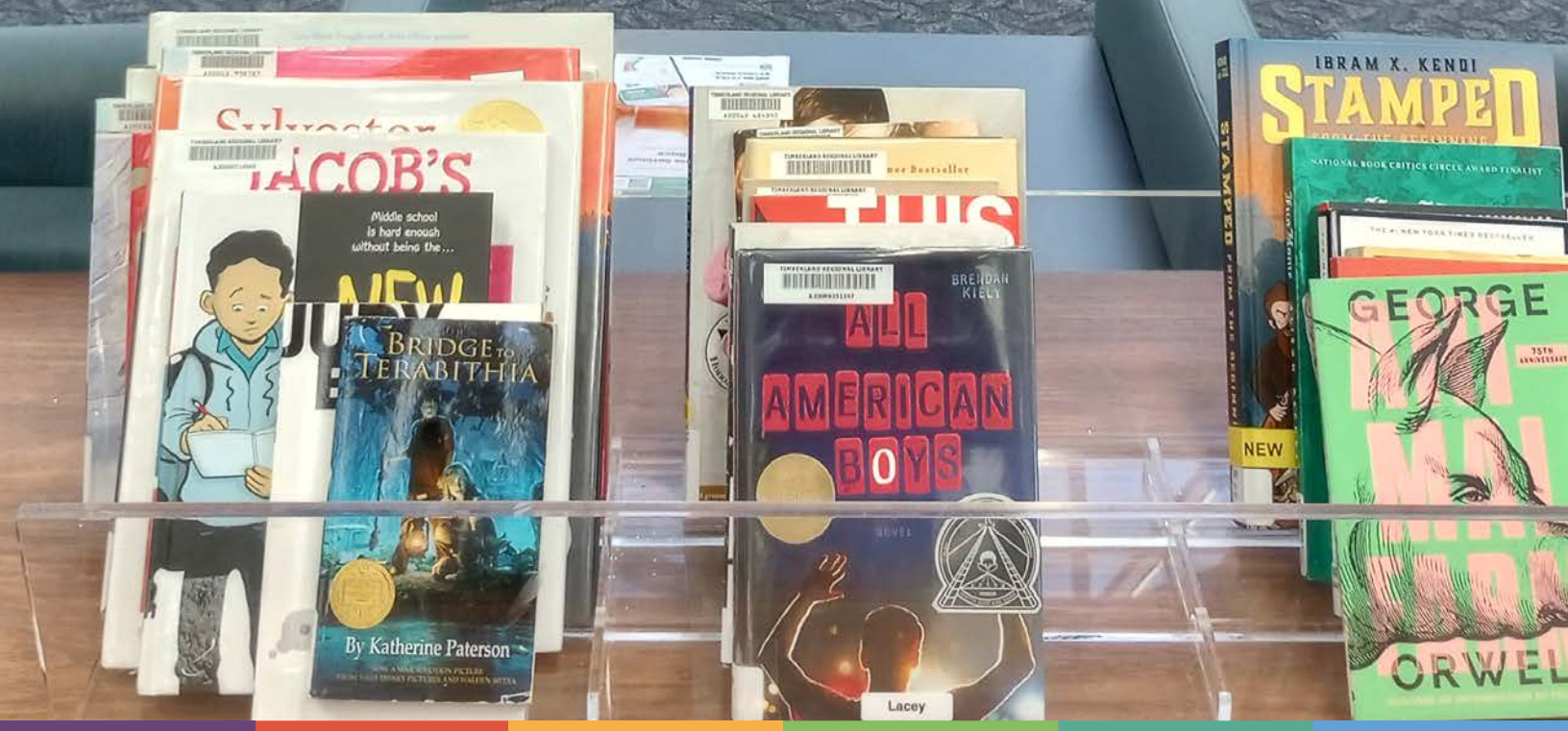
Meet the 2023 Library Card Contest Winners. ([Watch on Youtube](#))

Enjoy watching all the submissions on our [YouTube Channel](#).





# BANNED BOOKS WEEK 2023



## BANNED BOOK WEEK

OCTOBER 1 - 7, 2023

I'm glad you are leaving it up to the individual what to read and to decide what their children can read.

Marsha H

As we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Freedom to Read statement, Timberland Regional Library encourages all citizens to support the fundamental right to read freely. The library system invites the public to participate in Banned Books Week, taking a stand for intellectual freedom and the unimpeded exploration of diverse ideas and perspectives.

"Timberland Regional Library promotes and defends the principles of intellectual freedom based on the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. We believe that the ability to freely choose what to read is a cornerstone of democracy and of a free society."  
-Executive Director, Cheryl Heywood

So grateful for our banned books that my wife and I got today. This is a community I'm proud to raise our daughter in.

Whitney K

**ALA.ORG/BBOOKS**  
ALA AmericanLibraryAssociation

## MILLION+ CHECKOUTS

- We're celebrating -  
**1 MILLION**  
digital book checkouts in 2023

Libby.  
The library reading app

1.9 Million to be exact. For the second year in a row Timberland Regional Library readers have checked out over 1.5 million digital items!!

We are delighted to serve readers of all interests and ages with this free, always growing, and diverse digital collection and proud to share that Timberland is in the top 55 public library systems worldwide in total digital circulation.

In the top 55 public libraries worldwide is such an amazing accomplishment, we love Timberland library!

mrs.crystalspencer'

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## Library Giving Day Tuesday, April 4

Thanks to your efforts, Library Giving Day was a huge success with donations doubling from last year to \$11,676.

One-day, national, fundraising event that encourages people who depend on and enjoy public libraries to donate to their individual library system.



**MARY BETH HARRINGTON**  
President  
Thurston County  
Term expires: 12/2030



**TONI GWIN**  
President Elect  
Pacific County  
Term expires: 12/2028



**NICOLETTE OLIVER**  
Member-at-Large  
Thurston County  
Term expires: 12/2026



**KENNETH SEBBY**  
Mason County  
Term expires: 12/2024



**DUSTIN LOUP**  
Grays Harbor County  
Term expires: 12/2027



**HAL BLANTON**  
Member-at-Large  
Lewis County  
Term expires: 12/2025



**BRIAN MITTGE**  
Lewis County  
Term expires: 12/2029

## GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

- Aberdeen Timberland Library**  
121 East Market Street; 360.533.2360
- Amanda Park Timberland Library**  
6118 US Highway 101; 360.288.2725
- Elma Timberland Library**  
119 North 1st Street; 360.482.3737
- Hoquiam Timberland Library**  
420 7th Street; 360.532.1710
- McCleary Timberland Library**  
121 South 4th Street; 360.495.3368
- Montesano Timberland Library**  
W.H. Abel Memorial Library  
125 Main Street South; 360.249.4211
- Oakville Timberland Library**  
204 Main Street; 360.273.5305
- Westport Timberland Library**  
101 East Harms Drive; 360.268.0521

## PACIFIC COUNTY

- Ilwaco Timberland Library**  
158 1st Avenue North; 360.642.3908
- Naselle Timberland Library**  
4 Parpala Road; 360.539.3327
- Ocean Park Timberland Library**  
1308 256th Place; 360.665.4184
- Raymond Timberland Library**  
507 Duryea Street; 360.942.2408
- South Bend Timberland Library**  
1st and Pacific; 360.875.5532
- Shoalwater Bay Tribal Community Library**  
4115 State Route 105, Tokeland; 360.267.8190

## MASON COUNTY

- Hoodsport Timberland Library**  
40 N Schoolhouse Hill Road; 360.877.9339
- North Mason Timberland Library (Belfair)**  
23081 NE State Rt 3; 360.275.3232
- Shelton Timberland Library**  
**William G. Reed Public Library**  
710 W Alder Street; 360.426.1362

## THURSTON COUNTY

- Hawks Prairie Timberland Library**  
8205 Martin Way; 360.252.9658
- Lacey Timberland Library**  
500 College Street Southeast; 360.491.3860
- Olympia Timberland Library**  
313 8th Avenue Southeast; 360.352.0595
- Tenino Timberland Library**  
172 Central Avenue West; 360.539.3329
- Tumwater Timberland Library**  
7023 New Market Street; 360.943.7790
- West Olympia Timberland Library**  
625 Black Lake Blvd SW; 360.764.4440
- Yelm Timberland Library**  
210 Prairie Park Street; 360.539.3330
- Book Return - Fire District 3, Station 35**  
3701 Willamette Drive, Lacey
- Book Return - West Olympia**  
1313 Cooper Point Road Southwest
- Rainier Book Drop at Rainier City Hall**  
102 Rochester Street West, Rainier

## LEWIS COUNTY

- Centralia Timberland Library**  
110 South Silver Street; 360.736.0183
- Vernetta Smith Chehalis Timberland Library**  
400 North Market Boulevard; 360.748.3301
- Mountain View Timberland Library (Randle)**  
210 Silverbrook Road; 360.497.2665
- Packwood Timberland Library**  
109 West Main Street; 360.494.5111
- Salkum Timberland Library**  
2480 US Highway 12; 360.539.3328
- Winlock Timberland Library**  
322 Northeast 1st Street; 360.785.3461
- Morton Centralia College East Kiosk**  
701 Airport Way; 360.496.5022
- Toledo Community Library Kiosk**  
241 Cowlitz Street ; 360.864.4247

*As a convenience to you, most checked out items can be returned to any TRL book returns. A few specifically labeled items need to be returned to their original location.*