

Research Resources Available at the Library Kris Wiley for The News Review

Researchers interested in local newspaper archives may want to stop by Roseburg Public Library.

The library has microfilm of historic newspapers dating to the Roseburg Ensign in 1867. We have issues of the Plaindealer, the Roseburg Review and the News-Review through 2014.

Viewing these resources is easy with the library's modern microfilm reader and computer, which allows patrons to capture images in a number of digital formats, including TIFF and PDF.

Users still have to load the microfilm and turn a wheel to advance the film. In other words, there is no magic dial that forwards the film to the correct article. However, once the desired information is located, advanced features such as precise cropping and enhanced focus and brightness help produce the best image possible.

Users then may print the image or save it to a flash drive, which they must provide.

A Roseburg Public Library card is not required to use the workstation, and staff is available to help get patrons started. My experience is that it takes about 10 minutes to demonstrate the basics, and then we are available for troubleshooting.

The library has a number of other resources for folks researching the area. One of my go-tos is the Umpqua Trapper, which launched in 1964 and continues to publish quarterly. Special thank you to editor Dale Greenley, who updates the index annually. The index is available on the library's website at www.roseburgpubliclibrary.org; click on "Library Resources."

Patrons with a valid Roseburg Public Library card may check out issues of the Trapper for three weeks; two three-week renewals may be possible.

We also have a case full of historic maps. The most popular subset is topographic maps of the greater Douglas County area that were published between the 1960s and 1980s. Most of the collection consists of 7.5-minute maps, which show an area that spans 7.5 minutes of latitude and 7.5 minutes of longitude.

The maps do not circulate, but patrons may study them in the library and take photographs.

Because the library focuses on providing access to new, popular, circulating material, we often refer researchers to other organizations.

The Douglas County Museum (umpquavalleymuseums.org) has an amazing research library, including an extensive photo collection. The Genealogical Society of Douglas County (gsdci.org) maintains obituaries, cemetery records and more. The Douglas County Historical Society (douglascountyhistoricalsociety.org) works with historical material related to the county.

I am grateful for their expertise and encourage researchers to take advantage of the work curated by our dedicated local historians.

This Week's Library Events

Tuesday, February 6, 10 a.m. – Grab-and-go craft kits while supplies last

Wednesday, February 7, 10:15 a.m. – Storytime with Aurora

Wednesday, February 7, 3 p.m. – Artist exploration for kids in K-5th grade

Wednesday, February 7, 6:30 p.m. – Land-Sea Conservation Issues & Strategies in partnership with Umpqua Valley Audubon Society (Facebook Live @[roseburglibrary](https://www.facebook.com/roseburglibrary))

Thursday, February 8, 11:15 a.m. – Storytime with Aurora

Thursday, February 8, 3:30-5 p.m. – Building & Legos for all ages