

# What's New in the South Valley Area

Serving Benton, Lane, and Linn counties

## Thanks All Around!

SMART Reading wouldn't be possible without our incredible community. In this year of so many changes and new challenges, we've been awed by the commitment and support of our volunteers, donors, educators, and partners who stand alongside us to bring a love of reading and learning to local kids. Thank you for being part of our family!

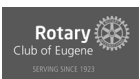
### Corporate and Foundation Sponsors

Many thanks to these businesses and partners for helping us spark a love of reading and learning for kids in our community:



## Sponsor A SMART School in South Valley

Our School Sponsors make a direct impact on a school in our community by providing the financial support and often the employee volunteers to help SMART Reading students thrive. Huge thanks to these local sponsors:



**James and Shirley Rippey Family Foundation**  
**The Cressey Family Charitable Trust**  
**WLS Spencer Foundation**

## SMART South Valley Area Staff

Kari Rosenfeld, *Area Manager*

Laurie McNichols, *Senior Program Manager*

## 2020-21 Local Impact



33  
Sites



2,686  
Students



19,270  
Books Given

## Celebrating Our South Valley Area Volunteer of the Year



César Chávez Elementary Site Coordinator Barbara George was named the South Valley 2020-21 Volunteer of the Year. Barbara has been a Site Coordinator for nine years at one of our largest programs, serving over 150 students each year. She has built

outstanding relationships with the teachers, volunteers and students she works with and is always ready to help. She volunteered more than 300 hours this year to support book distribution and the Pen Pal program at Chávez! Congratulations, Barbara, and thank you for all you do.

## Community Comes Together for Oregon Reads Aloud

The South Valley Area was well-represented in SMART Reading's statewide celebration and fundraiser held in February. Our portion of the read-a-thon included stories read by Allan Benavides, Ed Cator, Ruthy Hebard, Francesco Lecce-Chong, Marcus Mariota, and Andrew Moore. Big thanks to everyone who tuned in, gave, and helped make the event a huge success. Thanks as well to these local sponsors:



Book bundles ready to go out to students at McKenzie River Community School.