



Timberland
Regional
Library

News Release

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Timberland Regional Library; Website: www.TRL.org; Information: 704-4636 in Olympia area, or 1-800-562-6022.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Contact: Leanne Ingle, Communications Specialist, (360) 704-4508. Outside Olympia calling area: (877) 284-6237, ext. 2508.

Meet Jan Walker, author of “Dancing to the Concertina's Tune: A Prison Teacher's Memoir”

Join Northwest writer and educator Jan Walker for a reading from her book [“Dancing to the Concertina's Tune: A Prison Teacher's Memoir.”](#) The event will be at the North Mason Timberland Library in Belfair on Thursday, January 27 from 3 to 4 p.m.

Ms. Walker will share her 18-year experience teaching adult felons in Washington State prisons and discuss how it has influenced her life. She will take the audience inside the Concertina – the rigid spirals of razor wire that top the high chain-link fences that enclose penitentiaries. In her book, Walker weaves the true stories of male and female inmates with reflections on her own life and career and reveals the challenges, rewards and emotional toll of her work. Her account also shows how education makes a difference in a prisoner’s rehabilitation and successful reintegration in society. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing.



Two of Walker’s books, *Dancing to the Concertina’s Tune* and her young adult novel *An Inmate’s Daughter*, were named “Washington Reads” books by the Washington State Library. Her parenting textbook for offenders, *Parenting from a Distance: Your Rights and Responsibilities*, is in its third edition and has been used in correctional facilities since 1985.

Walker currently serves as president of the Mission Creek Corrections Center for Women (MCCCW) Community Advisory Board. She also serves on the board of Rebuilding Families, Inc., an offender mentoring organization.

This presentation is sponsored by the Friends of the North Mason Timberland Library. The library is located at 23081 NE State Route 3, Belfair. For more information, please contact the library at (360) 275-3232.