

Narrative Report for December 2012

Adult Services

The adult book group read the book, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, by Rebecca Skloot; 43 people attended the three sessions. The InterLibrary Loan librarians processed 554 requests, borrowing 322 items for our patrons out of 411 requests, and loaning 115 items to other libraries out of 143 requests. The program, Scrooge, Grinch, or Magi? with Nancy Patton from Public Service Credit had three people in attendance. We had displays featuring political books and on Native American month.

Customer Service

- Lupe accomplished Year-end Evaluations.
- Kathleen put up a book display themed "Prize Winning Fiction".

Technical Services

Category	This Month	Last Month	This Mo. Last Yr	YTD
Items ordered	1030	1057	616	11421
Items cataloged	1403	2091	1360	20800
Items mended	216	296	218	3671
Items discarded	554	802	195	6703
Items released	1015	1287	1096	13215

Administration –

December started with the return of Loveland Lights and the Gingerbread Challenge to the library. The Friends of the Library decorated and organized activities for the whole family December 1 – 2 that were quite successful. Several library employees created a gingerbread house based on the 44 Scotland Street series by Alexander McCall Smith which won one of the prize categories. Books or a DVD on gingerbread house making will be purchased with our winnings. Seventy people attended Noontime Nature in December.

Marcia Lewis created a short slide presentation on the library expansion that was presented to the Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Loveland class.

Amber Rupp-Moody presented results of the library survey she conducted in November. The report is on the library's webpage and will be used as we develop the strategic plan in 2013.

Teen Seen

In December we hosted 12 programs with 121 teens in attendance. We were able to offer some new programs that the teens enjoyed. Michelle planned and implemented the program, "You're Not Too Old for This," where teens spent time coloring with crayons, creating with Play-Doh, and playing some old favorites including Candy Land and Hungry Hippo. Our APPLE group facilitated a Christmas party for teens that included a Cookie Decorating Contest and a blind Santa drawing competition. Teens wore blindfolds and tried to draw Santa with no visual assistance. Prizes were awarded to the teens that decorated the best looking cookie and to teens that drew something that resembled a Santa. Another fun program included Michelle's "Blind Dating with a Book". Teens read excerpts taken from wrapped books and had two minutes to decide if this would be a book that they would want to check out and continue reading.

We spent part of the month training our new Library Aide, Lora VanDenBerghe. She has been busy learning how the teenseen Room operates and what her role is in the department. She's already starting to implement new ideas for the teen web page and is creating a book display featuring the most talked about young adult books of 2012. It is exciting for me as a supervisor to have two dynamic librarians working in my department!

We're going to meet as a department in January to discuss Amber's survey results for the teenseen Department. We need to address the ever pressing problem of how to draw in teens to our programming and encourage them to grab a great book and read.

As the teenseen evolves, we've had to address some policy issues that have surfaced within the department. In December, we had an encounter with a teen looking at inappropriate material on the internet. After hearing from all parties involved, we created a policy for handling such situations.

With an additional person in the department, we're looking forward to reassigning tasks within the department and creating a new work plan and new goals for 2013.

Children's Department

Service Provided	Sessions	Usage
Toddler/Preschool Storytime	25	719 attended
Lap Babies Storytime	27	1141 attended

Raise-A-Reader/Outreach	6/9	99/154 attended
Programs	11	433 attended
Tours	0	0 attended
AWE Computers	1360	580 hours
TumbleBooks	1771	-----
Mt. Meeker Study Room	9	10 hours

Artwork this month was provided by Community Preschool. Book displays featured Caldecott Winners (to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the award), Winter Holidays, and Second Chance books. The latter display contained books that have checked out very infrequently. Before weeding the books we decided to give them another chance at library life. Included with the book was a slip on which the patron could write his/her own review of the book.

Dobby was dressed as a Christmas elf and is currently celebrating the snowfall. The smaller bulletin board in our department promoted the Winter Reading Program which ends soon. The Winter Reading Program had 102 sign-ups between the teens and the elementary children. We will soon be notifying winners of the Colorado Eagles hockey tickets as well as Fanboni ride winners. Thank you to FOL for helping to purchase the hockey tickets for kids who read 5 books during the month of December.

We had two programs this month presented by Patrick Canny, a local high school student who is very proficient with yo-yos. He drew a great crowd at his last program and there was a write-up in the Reporter-Herald as well as a video interview posted online. Linda Osmundson, a local author, worked with 4th graders from Winona in an interactive workshop about cowboy art of the old west. Also this month, Cindi and I started first round battles at the schools in our newly formatted Battle of the Books competitions.

Because of the horrible Connecticut school shooting, and a plethora of violence in the news lately, we had a division meeting to discuss safety – both that of staff and patrons. We would certainly like to think that we are safe here in Loveland, but we also know that violence like this can happen anywhere at any time. We need to feel prepared about what to do if, and when, an emergency of any kind occurs. It was not a fun topic but it was a necessary conversation to have and one that will be ongoing as there are always more questions than answers.

And, lastly, on a lighter note some of us had the opportunity to participate in a little holiday frivolity. You may be familiar with the Elf on the Shelf – a little guy from the North Pole who creates a fair amount

of havoc in homes at Christmas. Seems we had to call a family because their elf was apprehended in the Children's department trying to leave with a book that was not checked out. And, not only did he not have a library card, but he had cut an application for one into a big, 'ole fancy snowflake. Sabrina and Cindi did an admirable job of playing along and answering a few impromptu questions from the young man who came running in to retrieve his impish elf. Yes, Virginia, there is a little magic in the air around Christmas – especially at the library!

Library Technology and Innovation

No report