

## **August 2015 Narrative - All Departments**

### **Administration – Marcia Lewis**

Outreach this month started with staff and the LIMO participating in the Mehaffey Park dedication. The LIMO was decorated for participation in the Corn Roast parade and won First Place in the non-profit category, thanks to the “corny” cheer performed for the judges. The LIMO was at Runza Restaurant during the lunch hour in support for the restaurant’s Great Books for Great Kids fundraiser. \$558, representing 15% of sales on August 25, will be donated to the library to purchase children’s books.

Projects worked on this month included a City IT department disaster plan, fundraising planning with the Friends of the Library, planning for new library brand and logo rollout, evaluation of the staff engagement survey and budgeting for a possible staff reorganization. Marcia is working with the Loveland Center for Business Development and Loveland Youth Gardeners to host a community marketplace October 24. She also attended the United Way Youth Success meeting at Poudre River Library, a Retirement Ready session and a Kaiser Community Health seminar.

Staff participated in Library Tech Day August 28 with opportunities to learn about 3D printing, robotics, sewable circuitry and digital photography. This was a great day for learning, collaborating and having fun. Special thanks to Tyera Eulberg and Amber Holmes for planning the program and to Therese Torpy for organizing the food. The one hour staff meeting on August 19 was a fire drill to test recent procedure changes.

### **Adult Programming & Volunteer Coordination – Bobbi Benesh**

Most of our regular adult programs had steady attendance. Joe Bowden presented information on meteorology and airplane flying. Interesting and scary at the same time! Kevin Cook drew in hot and weary people to talk about nature authors. Classic movie night was an old 1939 Western. Good movie and a hit with our movie crowd.

### **Adult Services – Caroline Hilligoss**

August brought several innovative and exciting events to the Library. In collaboration with the Northern Chapter of the Columbine Poets and the Loveland Museum and Gallery, the Library and the Friends of the Library brought Colorado Poet Laureate Joe Hutchison to Loveland on August 22<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Caroline Hilligoss and Marcia Lewis worked with Veronica Patterson and Lori Wolfe of the Columbine Poets to publicize and facilitate the event. Sixty-eight people packed the Gertrude Scott room for Hutchison’s reading on Friday evening, and 43 people attended the writing workshop he conducted on Saturday morning. A high point of Friday evening was a dual reading from *Marked Men*, Hutchinson’s narrative poem about the Sand Creek massacre, by two members of the Columbine Poets. All who participated agreed that it was worthwhile collaboration that will be continued with future poetry collaborative events.

The Library made a very successful foray into music programming on August 29<sup>th</sup> with *Poetry and Music: Where Words and Music Meet*, featuring Colleen O'Brien on voice/cello and Chris Lee on vibes/percussion. Fifty-four people attended the hour-long event of chamber jazz inspired by poetic works from Shakespeare, Li Po, Robert Frost, Gary Snyder, and others. Audience and musicians alike were enthusiastic about the evening. The event utilized our beautiful Galleria, and promises to be a model for other innovative programming. Robert Ayala conceived and hosted the event.

Another innovative use of the Galleria by Adult Services staff came from Jay Boyle, with help from Caroline Hilligoss, when we used our white board and laptop to stream the live coverage of the USA ProChallenge 2015 bicycle race. Jay developed a coordinating display of bicycling books, tips, Loveland Recreation/Bike Trail maps, and a large poster of the Stage 6 Route which started at the Ranch and went through Loveland. Many customers stopped to watch and ask questions. (Patrons particularly enjoyed the flashy bike jerseys worn by several staff members on the day of the Loveland leg of the race.)

As always, business Librarian Amanda Armstrong was busy in August. She attended the Networking Extravaganza at the Ranch, as well as the Social Media Roundtable and STIR. At STIR, she met Jacque Wedding-Scott, with whom Amanda will pursue a discussion about how the library and the Loveland Downtown Partnership can work together. As a service to local businesses and their potential clients, Amanda is developing the Local Business List project. The first list completed is for local marketing businesses. Other lists under development include Web Design and Development, and Copy and Print Services. The list is available in the Business Center and online. Starting in September, as an adjunct to the lists, the display case in the Adult Services area will feature one of the local businesses.

Robert Ayala continues to meet with the MLK Day committee, a partnership with the Loveland Museum and Gallery, Thompson Valley High School, and other community organizations, to plan programming for Martin Luther King Day, 2016. This is the first time that the library and the City will have an active role in planning this event. Robert provided outreach to the ArtSpace Artists Collective on August 24<sup>th</sup>, when he presented the new Biblioboard platform now available through our website. The event was designed to create awareness as to how local artists can publish their work through the library. He participated in the hiring of our two new Library Pages, and joined Teen's and Children's on the Library LIMO at the August 1st Grand Opening of Mahaffey Park, where he handed out popsicles and promoted Adult Services digital platforms as well as upcoming events.

The Adult Book Discussion Groups met in August to discuss the William Faulkner classic, *The Bear*. A total of 29 people attended the three sessions.

### **Children's Department – Beth Gudmestad**

August wasn't a restful month for the Children's department as the staff spent a lot of time and energy preparing for fall programming. Kris and Lolly continued to meet with their Storytime and LapSit families. Kris is excited to facilitate a Saturday Storytime for families once a month that will incorporate learning centers that focus on a book or theme. Lolly trained our new Library Aide, Haley Squires. Together, they are looking forward to designing a program for teen moms and introducing a Yoga Storytime. Cindi held her first evening storytime for families and hopes to continue meeting outside as long as the weather remains decent. Cynthia and Jane spent time discussing Kids Read programming which will take place at the library, Maple Terrace, Lago Vista, and Corner2Corner sites. They focused on communication with Kids Read volunteers and creating a fall schedule. Sabrina offered her "Who Wants to be...a Librarian?!" program. She received feedback from participants and staff and is looking forward to hosting the program again in the fall. Amber assisted with the planning and implementation of the first Staff Tech Day at the library. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to try out the library's newest technology!

During August the Children's Staff participated in many activities above and beyond their normal duties. Lolly and Kris attended the Thompson School District Preschool Fair where they made contact with new families who weren't aware of all the library has to offer. Cindi attended the Grand Opening at Mahaffey Park where she rode the LIMO and passed out Otter Pops to the crowd. Cynthia met with the on-site coordinators at Lago Vista to discuss plans for offering computer classes for the adult residents. Amber coordinated with local

technology entities including Loveland Creator Space and SparkFun to make final plans for Staff Tech Day. Sabrina offered a new Waggin' Tales time to the schedule. Jane cleaned up and organized the work area after the Summer Reading Program. Kris and Cindi participated in the Corn Roast Parade where they passed out candy and performed the coolest cheer ever!

Dobby is dressed for school!

### **Customer Service – Joanna McNeal**

We have some staffing changes in customer service – Haley left us to go to the Children's department where she will prove to be an asset. We interviewed internally for a replacement to Haley and hired Holly Mellas who was a Page. Holly has her MLS degree and we are excited to have her with us. We are also sad to say farewell again to Rebecca Coatney who is leaving us after her 6 month assistance as a temporary employee. Rebecca came back to the library to fill in while two other staff were out on disability.

Our book fair fundraiser at Barnes and Noble went very well. Haley organized the event through her connection as a former employee there. We raised \$668.43. This money will go towards funding the Author Showcase event in November for which we already have 36 authors signed up.

Darlene created a superb training manual and program, which she has been using successfully with Holly. Darlene put the finishing touches on our updated Procedures manual and used the information to create the training program – all her own initiative. Darlene has also just been accepted to San Jose State University for her masters in Library and Information Science.

Cindi has been working diligently on removing old paperbacks and replacing them with newer titles and featuring displays based on genre and series. It's great for patrons to see new titles on display.

Lori has been creating new schedules not only for Customer Service but also for Pages. This has not been a straight forward task since we have been on hold for replacing retired staff and staff who have left the department for other reasons – Vera left the library to travel to England and visit family for an extended period.

Kathleen has taken over handling both damaged items and items returned missing parts, e.g. audiobooks missing discs and such. Kathleen contacts patrons to alert them to the problem and she makes sure that items are returned or if not that charges for replacement appear on patron's accounts. Kathleen is still coordinating articles for the Reporter Herald, the latest of which appeared August 31<sup>st</sup>, written by Christina Kennedy in LTI. Christina wrote about the computer classes that we offer and has received a lot of interest from the public.

### **Displays**

The display in the Galleria during August was a celebration of Constitution Week and was provided by the local chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution

## **Library Subs – Beth Gudmestad**

The Tech Day for staff was well received by those who attended. Sue and Kathryn were excited to have the opportunity to create a project using the 3D printer from beginning to end. In the past when they have substituted in LTI they haven't felt comfortable assisting library users with the 3D printer. In taking this class, they hoped they would have a better understanding of 3D technology and be able to provide better customer service to library users. Maribeth enjoyed participating in the digital photography class and we all enjoyed seeing the beautiful pictures that they took and edited. A fun day for all of the staff!

The subs are gearing up for a busy fall. There are quite a few library staff who are taking vacations in September and October. At the September 3, 2015 TEAM Meeting, I mentioned to Marcia and supervisors that it was inevitable that subs would have to go over the 29.9 weekly limit to fill all upcoming sub requests. Everyone agreed that in order to meet staff needs this would be necessary.

## **LTI – Shane Adamson**

We continue to stretch the boundaries in LTI. We successfully completed the Library's first Tech Staff Day. It was an amazing day and we learned a lot about putting on a training. Hopefully, we get the chance to apply what we have learned next year. Thanks to Tyera for her planning and inspiration.

We have purchased and installed a dual extruder for our 3D printer. It will give us the capability of printing objects using two colors instead of one. The 3D printers continue to be a draw for the public and other city departments. So much so, the Museum has started to investigate getting their own printer. Thanks to Kevin for all his hard efforts on getting this technology done.

In addition we purchased a 3D scanner. Soon we will be able to scan and print replicates of small objects.

Shane and Kevin have been assisting the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the City of Loveland. They designed an AV system that will allow sharing of one screen to multiple projectors. It has been a fun project.

This August Tia Povsha accepted a position with Thompson School District. They can offer a work schedule that matches her kids' schedules. Something we just could not do. We appreciate all she did for the Library and wish her the best of luck with the new position.

## **Technical Services – Shane Adamson**

Tech Services and Adult Services met to discuss changing how the Audio CDs are cataloged. From now on we will use genres to separate the Audio CDs. Call numbers will no longer have a Dewey number. They will have artist and genre in the call number. Shane and Robert are working on the procedure to redo all of the current CDs. We are starting with a small genre to help define steps to be done.

## **Teenseen – Beth Gudmestad**

In August, the teenseen hosted 5 programs with 48 teens in attendance. Becca planned and implemented a Divergent Party where teens picked which faction represented them the most. She incorporated other activities that tied in with the series and got teens excited about the movie release this fall. Summer and Becca had fun hosting the first and not the last "Chopped" program for teens. This program incorporated two important program factors for teens: food and competition. If you are not familiar with the TV program, chefs are given certain items to make a meal with a wildcard ingredient thrown in to make it interesting. The teens

enjoyed themselves and asked when the next “Chopped” program would be held. To celebrate the first day of school, we hosted a Henna Tattoo program that was very successful. The artistry was beautiful and the tattoos lasted two weeks before disappearing.

Amber continued to meet with Thompson School District officials to discuss opportunities for outreach. She and Jeri Crispe, Director of Secondary Education, discussed the Thompson2Life program. This program aims to develop real-world skills from early childhood on. Summer contacted librarians and counselors in the district to see if we can provide support for any of the programming that they are currently doing with teens. She’s hoping to continue her mentoring program, ALLY, this year. She is in need of high school mentors to pair with the middle school students.

Amber, along with other staff, planned and implemented the first Staff Tech Day at the library. Staff could participate in 3Dprinting, robotics, digital photography, and sewable circuitry workshops. It was a great opportunity for staff to participate in programming that focused on new technologies.

Becca Hugues, our new library aide, started in August. She’s done an incredible job creating eye catching displays, ramping up our social media numbers, and learning the daily routine of the teenseen. Becca is working hard at building relationships with our teen regulars and they really like her.

We’re looking forward to a busy fall. Amber is continuing her monthly Robotics program, Summer is bringing back TEAInk, and Becca has fun programming planned, too. The new school year has brought in new teens. We’re enjoying meeting them and making them feel welcome in the teenseen. We met as a department to start discussing our wants in a new teen supervisor. Staff would like someone with 21<sup>st</sup> century technology skills, true passion for teens, and knowledge of current trends/programs/needs of teens.