

January 2017 Narrative - All Departments

Administration – Marcia Lewis

Library Director Marcia Lewis announced her retirement from the City effective April 14, 2017. Her immediate focus is managing the migration of the library's integrated computer system to the Flatirons Library Consortium (FLC) that is scheduled to happen February 20. A staff implementation team has been involved with data testing and staff training. Loveland cardholders will have access to the shared holdings of the FLC member libraries in Boulder, Broomfield, Lafayette, Louisville and Longmont while retaining our own loan rules and policies.

Marcia also was involved in capital project planning in preparation for the City Council planning retreat. An in-depth study of the library's future needs will be conducted later in 2017. Library division managers met with representatives from Risk, HR and Legal to discuss safety, security, library privacy policies and the types of incidents occurring in the library. Recommendations for additional security are in progress. Marcia and other library staff attended the Friends of the Library annual meeting where we had an opportunity to highlight activities funded by the Friends.

Adult Programming & Volunteer Coordination – Bobbi Benesh

Our patrons seem to be up and running this New Year! They attended our enrichment classes with vigor and an increase in numbers alongside a few snowstorms. A new program (sponsored by The Friends of the Loveland Library), called *Card & Coffee*, was added to our monthly calendar. This paper-crafting class was quite popular on its maiden voyage. The *Great Ideas Discussion Group* exploded in numbers in January. This group has changed its normal annual topic of *Great Ideas: A Lexicon of Western Thought* to the *Great Philosophical Issues of America*. Needless-to-say, this seems to be a very popular subject. It will be interesting to see if the spike in attendance continues.

Adult Services – Caroline Hilligoss

Adult Services welcomes Kimberly Disney as the newest member of the library Materials Handler team.

Adult Services Supervisor Amy Phillips started the new year with a presentation at the Good Samaritan Village on January 3rd about the library's eBooks and other electronic resources. A crowd of about 25 braved the snowy morning. She assisted Marcia with the staff training for the new PIKA Discovery catalog that the library will implement in February as a result of joining the Flatirons Library Consortium.

On January 28th, the Adult Services group hosted Ben from Creator Space in the iLearn classroom for the first adult-focused class on 3D printing. Eight people attended. There was a lot of interest so there are discussions of hosting another Introduction to 3D Printing later in the year.

The first Loveland Business Startup Week will take place in early April. Planning team member and Business Librarian Amanda Armstrong has been busy during January meeting with other organizers as well as representatives of the target audiences. Some of these included a tour of the Rocky Mountain Center of Innovation & Technology, a meeting with the CMO of *Kickfurther* in Boulder, and a roundtable at *Made in Loveland*. She also met with Andrew Schneider, co-planner of Ft. Collins Startup Week, with an eye toward making Startup Week 2018 regionally focused. She has participated with business owners and SBDC consultants in Loveland Chamber of Commerce brainstorming sessions geared towards the needs of the Loveland business community. She attended the AWE board meeting, the Loveland Chamber's annual dinner,

and the Stir retreat. A meeting between Amanda and Loveland Business Development Center executive Director Kelly Jones resulted in Amanda being given access to Business Analytics, a City GIS-based research tool, as well as plans for more collaboration between the library and the LBDC.

Amanda completed an analysis of the library cardholder data for elementary school children for the Children's Services department, and is directing data analysis aimed at determining the best location for a library kiosk in light of traditionally underserved library populations.

(<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/diversity/outreachunderservedpopulations>) To this end, she has met with Steve Holmes, GIS Manager for the City, who supports the use of GIS tools to identify potential kiosk locations, including geocoding of our library cardholder data. Customer Services Manager Jo McNeal is working with Amanda to advise on potential locations for the kiosk.

Business programming within the library during January included the *Money Matters: Tax Info* class with 23 attendees, and *Inside Edge of Hiring: Business Meet & Greet*, with 32 people attending.

Amanda, Danielle Stephens and Kathryn Jordan staffed a table at the Group Publishing Wellness Fair with information about the Consumer Health Database, Universal Class, and library downloadables. They spoke with approximately 50 people.

Dixie Huff, Senior Services Librarian, attended the board meeting of the Larimer County Office on Aging on January 12, 2017. Topics of discussion were the *Answers on Aging Resource Guide*, and the website, Network of Care. There was also a panel consisting of representatives from Lutheran Family Services and Colorado Legal Services. They help the most vulnerable population and have sliding fee schedule to aid many who cannot access professional help.

Jay Boyle collaborated with several area bicycling experts to present *Bikes & Burritos* on Friday, 1/27. The program advised adults interested in cycling but who have little to no experience. The speakers included a Chilson spin class director and competitive cyclist, a bike mechanic, a representative from the Loveland Pedal Club, a Bike Ambassador Program member, and two cycling enthusiasts (Jay & Robert) from the Adult Services staff. About 35 people attended, asked questions, saw several bikes & equipment first hand, and listen to the presenter's experience. They also enjoyed burritos, popcorn, & lemonade!

Robert Ayala, AS Librarian II, has completed the reorganization of the library music CD collection. Eye-catching new signage now directs patrons to popularly recognized musical genres such as Pop/Rock, Blues, Jazz, Classical, Latino, etc. Many thanks go to Technical Services, volunteers, and especially to Robert for this long-awaited change. Robert also worked with the Loveland Martin Luther King Day committee on the library MLK displays.



Both Robert and Amy attended the Friends of the Loveland Public Library annual meeting and dinner. Both spoke to Friends about services and programs of the Adult Services department. Robert told Friends about Latino-centered adult programs and outreach.

On January 3rd and 4th, *Readmore* adult book discussion groups celebrated eighteen consecutive years of bringing high-quality book discussions, as well as just plain fun, to the readers of Loveland. Appropriately, the book discussed in January was *The Storied Life of A.J. Firky*, a tale that, in the words of the publisher, celebrates “the joys and heartbreaks that happen in most of our lives and the books that make our lives richer.” This book inspired an upcoming series of discussions of short stories referenced in *Fikry*. Appropriately, this will be called “The Storied Life,” and will meet on the second Tuesdays of March, May and July. Many thanks to retired adult services librarian and library volunteer Janice Benedict for the continuing leadership she provides for the book discussion groups.

Adult Services launched a new book group on January 18th. *Buzzwords* will meet on the third Wednesday of the month, will focus on non-fiction titles, and will feature different members of the Adult Services staff as facilitators. The group meets at Grimm Brothers Brewing, in hopes of expanding the possibilities of reaching a different demographic of readers. Six people attended the first discussion of *The Burglar’s Guide to the City*, written by Geof Manaugh and facilitated by Amy Phillips. Upcoming titles include *Modern Romance*, by Aziz Ansari, and *Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life*, by William Finnegan.

Children’s Department – Beth Gudmestad

We heard back from Thompson School District in January about the first grade field trips. Instead of all nineteen elementary schools bringing their first graders to the library for a visit and tour, we've narrowed it down to just six to eight schools coming from March 20 - April 28. There was no way we could accommodate all nineteen schools in this small time frame. We're waiting to hear back from TSD with an exact start date and to see which schools will be bringing their students to the library.

We met as a department to begin planning for the 2017 Summer Reading Program, Build a Better World. Julie designed pins to give as prizes for elementary aged children. Our hope is that kids will enjoy collecting the pins and comparing them with their friends. We're also combining forces with the other library departments to offer a SRP Kick-off and Finale event that all departments will want to participate in. Julie has plans to include TSD Summer School sites in this summer's reading program. She'll be meeting with district officials to share her ideas and try to get a firm commitment from them to participate.

A goal of Lolly's for the last couple of years was to bring LapSit to Ferguson High School. She successfully reached this goal in January! Lolly is going to FHS twice a month bringing storytime to the babies of teenage moms. She's hoping to build relationships with the teen moms and share with them the importance of early literacy. Lolly also connected with Bright by Three; now Loveland Public Library distributes literacy information, books, and activities to parents and caregivers who ask about the Bright By Three program. Lolly gave out twelve bags in January.

Cynthia began a new outreach program in January. She is spending Tuesday mornings at the Life Center making connections with other non-profit organizations, sharing resources and materials with families, and connecting with the bi-lingual staff from Thompson School District. She's documenting conversations and using those conversations to guide what resources she brings to the Life Center the following week. Cynthia has also reached out to the Boys & Girls Club. She's met with the coordinator, TJ Daya, and is interested in bringing Budding Reading to the club as well as inviting the club to bring children to the library for different

activities including technology and science activities. We're hopeful that this partnership will take shape and be exciting for both us and the Boys & Girls Club.

Cindi was extremely busy with Battle of the Books in January. There were eight teams for both divisions -- Third Grade Teams and combined Fourth/Fifth Grade Teams. Cindi always has fun stories to share about the teams. This year's final battle will be held Feb. 11, 2017 at the Library. Four teams in each division will compete for the highly coveted Traveling Book Trophy.

Kris hosted twenty-seven storytimes this month including her Winter "More Than Storytime" Program. In "More Than Storytime" this month, families got to melt ice tunnels, play in the snow (shaving cream), and eat a snowflake (pretzels and marshmallows). She also held her annual Colorado Children's Book Award storytime where the kids voted for their favorite picture book. The winner this year was [This Book Ate My Dog](#) by Richard Byrne.

Sabrina continued to plan for Music & Movement at the Outlets at Centerra. She purchased a piano keyboard for the floor that her families will enjoy playing with during her program. Sabrina is considering offering Music & Movement four times a month this summer.

Jane presented Zirkel at the Colorado Council of the International Reading Association. Zirkel is the interactive reading game that Jane created with her business partner, Linda Leon, to motivate and encourage young readers to develop strategies and techniques that will assist them with reading. She presented the game to approximately forty participants at the conference.

Sabrina and Kris both attended CPR/First Aid training in January. Doby was dressed for the New Year!

Customer Service – Joanna McNeal

During January, the Customer Service Division spent time training on Sierra and PIKA in preparation for the migration to the Flatirons Library Consortium. Darlene and Lori spent time planning the logistics of receiving more materials and how best to process them. Lori has also been part of the implementation team for moving to FLC.

Darlene and Jo started planning with the rest of the Author Showcase committee for the 3rd annual event.

Cindi updated many of the Readers Advisory bookmarks and created a "reading bingo" for patrons to play and win prizes (you will see the bingo cards distributed around the library if you would like to join in).

Both display cases honored Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with the Loveland MLK Day committee displaying many materials regarding MLK and black history.

On the small wedding cake display, Kathleen created display named "Reading Fitness"

Library Subs – Amber Holmes

All staff trained on PIKA and Sierra in support of the library's transition to Flatirons. Sue created a brochure promoting artists in the first-quarter *Art in the Galleria* showing. She also ran the monthly safety meeting in Summer's absence and completed onboarding training for our new material handler, Kimberly.

Maribeth handled several delicate situations with grace and humor including a complaint about our homeless population, a request for information regarding transgender issues from a woman looking for TCBY (translated: LGBT) materials, and a distraught report of a missing phone. She also volunteered at *Museum Live* on January 28th, dressing in period costume while assisting children with watercolor paintings.

Kathryn coordinated a table at *Group Publishing's Wellness Fair*, ran Playgroup in Children's, and began training as a facilitator for the *Readmore* book club.

Library Technology and Innovation (LTI) – Jesse Lopez

LTI has been preparing for upcoming changes, the much anticipated rollout of the new Thin Clients is merely weeks away and will be followed shortly by the PC reservation changes for our lab. Kevin has been busy preparing an entirely new image for this as opposed to building on our old image, which will give us a fresh start. He has finished calibrating the new dual extruder on the 3D printer so that we can use dissolvable filament. Kevin also re-configured all of the libraries bar code scanners to read old and new cards correctly as well as document the process so no one has to "re-invent the wheel" to do it in the future. Kevin has been doing great at documenting everything he is doing so that we are not continuously starting from scratch on projects.

Erica has continued to create signage for various library events and maintain channel 16. She has created all new slides for channel 16, which at least gives the channel an update. It is difficult to display all the great work she can do given the SD resolution of the channel but we know that will change here in the coming weeks with the upgrade to the cable room will alleviate that. She has been focusing on the signage for promotional materials for the summer reading program, and is the LTI representative on the SRP Planning Committee. Erica was also instrumental in attaining the new acrylic display units that hold informational posters and program advertisements all around the library. These display units help portray a more consistent professional look in line with our new logo and marketing efforts.

The Aides have been doing great work and helping in any way that they can. Natalya will be the first person in LTI to teach a class. She has decided to do Circuits 101 since she has been learning so much while building the LTI robot. The class quickly filled up along with a waitlist that we had to stop adding people to because it got so large. After the first class is completed, we will evaluate from there and decide where to go. Christina has been helping Erica create signage and has been maintaining the library electronic bulletin boards.

LTI continues to move forward. With all the excitement I have for change, it is encouraging to be right on the fringe of many new positive changes.

Technical Services – Jesse Lopez

Mary and Lynn (and our volunteers Marian and Darci) continue to process and prepare discarded materials from all departments for the Friends to pick-up on Tuesdays. Not enough appropriately sized boxes for all the discards is a continual problem. Mary has kept up with her editing this month and helped preview records from the first test batch. She also decorates the office with seasonal things that makes it very cheery for all of us! Our processing volunteer, Karin, who fell on the ice and was out for a few weeks is back with us. We are up to full power on processing volunteer hours!

Lynn has been running lists and trying to get the database in good shape for the upcoming migration to Sierra in February. She is current in all her cataloging and had time again in January to help Amy out with cataloging. She also attended the monthly Safety Committee meeting.

Laura closed out her accounts for 2016 and is off and running with ordering for 2017. In collaboration with Marcia and the Division Managers, she tweaked the 2017 budget funds and was able to condense and rename a few of them.

Amy has been especially busy this month as part of the implementation team for the Sierra migration. On Jan. 12th, Amy and Jesse joined Marcia, Lori, Beth from FLC and Mark N. from Marmot to start mapping our information over to Sierra. It was a day full of meetings. All of Tech Services was able to attend the all-staff FLC kick-off at 8:00 that morning with Beth G. Then while Jesse and Amy attended the Implementation Team meeting, Mary was able to go to Louisville and attend the Cataloger's meeting. Amy also attended many meetings to hammer out the details of the migration. She also worked on the Statistical Category tables for Loveland Public Library that the FLC Cataloging Group is gathering. In addition to all of this Amy also got all the backlogs either cleaned up all together or decreased significantly. As if that still was not enough Amy has volunteered to be the Tech Services representative on the Committee for the Summer Reading Program Kick-off and Finale events.

Tech Services is also working on switching about 40 CDs out of the Spanish collection and into the regular CD collection (including new labels) along with cataloging and processing three smaller sets of Ozobot robots for Children's. FLC has also been keeping us very busy with everyone in Tech Services having preview and report problems with the first batch of test records from Millennium to Sierra. On Jan. 11th, Jesse, Mary, Laura and Amy went on a field trip to the Boulder Public Library where we saw Sierra in action! We learned a lot and the trip was a success.

There is a lot going on in Tech Services. They have been vital in the migration to FLC. With the migration date fast approaching, they will certainly have their hands full in February.

Teenseen – Amber Holmes

January brought with it a new year and a new look in the teenseen. This included a fresh coat of paint throughout, a green wall in the Chiquita room for video editing, new display posters, and a donated art piece from one of our regular high schoolers. New iPads and a Chromebook made an exciting addition to technology available for sign-out. Staff offered 10 programs to a total of 138 teens and hosted an incredible 1076 teens afterschool. For the first time since we began tracking, we hit the 100 count mark between the hours of 3-4pm.

Teens made snowglobes, decorated hats and gloves, experimented with essential oils and welcomed Julie as the new TAB (Teen Advisory Board) Coordinator. They also enjoyed button making, DIY bookmarks, papercrafting supplies and robotics on the makercart and logged 22.5 volunteer hours.

Staff began planning for the 2017 summer reading program, "Build A Better World." We're excited to offer teens a variety of events, presenters and prizes in line with this year's theme including activities that encourage civic engagement, environmental stewardship, and STEM.

In support of mental health, the teenseen bulletin board highlighted ways in which a library card can help with accomplishing new years resolutions. Becca also created a new booklist of fiction featuring protagonists with mental illness and a Pinterest board drawing attention to mental health and self care. These services are in line with our 2017 focus on promoting life skills in teens of all backgrounds and abilities.

Becca attended the CATS (Children and Teen Services) Winter Workshop at Library 21C where she gathered ideas on collection development, outreach, promoting diversity and programming. All staff trained on PIKA and Sierra for the upcoming transition to Flatirons Library Consortium.

Finally, Amber attended the Friends Of the Library annual dinner, where she was able to thank members for their generous support of teen services including the MakerCart, Food Bank snacks and an increase in afterschool attendance. Without our amazing Friends, we literally would not be able to do what we do!

