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Correspondence (summary)
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**Next meeting: 5:00pm, Thursday, June 15, 2017**

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## March 2017 Narrative - All Departments

### Administration - Therese Torpy

Library employees Laura Johnson, Lolly Light and Therese Torpy volunteered to collaborate with other City employees on the committee coordinating the City wide Food Drive. They coordinated a bake sale and burrito sale along with the collection of nonperishable food and monetary contributions. Lolly and Therese even made green chili to go with the burritos. All proceeds, over \$5k & 900 pounds of food, go to the Loveland branch of the Larimer County Food Bank.

Live interviews were held on March 31<sup>st</sup> for the four finalists competing for the Library Director position.

### Adult Programming & Volunteer Coordination – Bobbi Benesh

March was a busy month! Total attendees for our 39 Adult Programs was 1051! The CSU Master Gardeners Program contributed a lot to that number. A very successful and interesting 5-week program this year. Another new and well-attended program this month was “The Germans from Russia” brought to us by the *American Historical Society of Germans from Russia Northern Colorado Chapter* and in conjunction with the play “Beets” at the Rialto. Fascinating history.

Our new “Mahjong” group is proving to be a success and growing. On a sad note, however, the lady who brought the group to the Library has passed away. The group will continue to meet.

Genealogy classes presented by the *Larimer County Genealogical Society* have started again at the Library with March’s ***Brushing up on Your Genealogy Skills***. They will continue their classes monthly, with the summer off, and continuing again in the fall.

Each of our crafty groups continue to grow or remain steady in attendance. Our newly added Card & Coffee is well received and a lot of fun for those attending.

### Adult Services – Caroline Hilligoss

Senior Services Librarian Dixie Huff represented the Senior Advisory Board at the Loveland Boards and Commissions Summit on March 9<sup>th</sup> and attended the Senior Advisory Board presentation from Angel Flight, a free flight service for people needing air transport for medical purposes. She had the opportunity to participate in Senior Law Day at the State Capitol and interacted with Governor Hickenlooper and other legislators on senior issues.

Business Librarian Amanda Armstrong presented a workshop at the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC) Workshop in Grand Junction on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Her topic was “Tame Your Data and Find the Joy in Data Analysis.” She also participated in the two days of sessions at the conference. She attended the March AWE board meeting and the March Stir event, and was the liaison for the March 21<sup>st</sup> Money Matters event: *Buying a Home*, which had 13 attendees. In partnership with the Larimer County workforce, she helped facilitate *The Inside Edge of Hiring*, which drew 35 people on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. That same evening, the Teen Summer Employment Event had approximately 75 attendees. Amanda has also been busy this month as an instrumental planner of the first Loveland Startup week, coming up in April.

Jay Boyle and Robert Ayala led the March session of Buzzwords, the monthly nonfiction book discussion at Grimm Brothers' Brewery. The book was *Barbarian Days: A Surfing Life*, by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist William Finnegan. Eight people attended.

The *Readmore* discussion group read *Our Souls at Night*, the final work of author Kent Haruf. A record-breaking total of 53 people attended the three sessions. Caroline Hilligoss facilitated. *The Storied Life: Discussions of stories inspired by the Storied Life of A. J. Fikry*, kicked off in March with 17 people attending. Janice Benedict facilitated. Two more *Storied Life* discussions are scheduled for May and August.

Adult Services manager Amy Phillips hosted Patrick Palisance, Ph.D, Professor of Media Ethics at CSU with a timely presentation entitled "News or Not: How to Find Reputable News," on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. As the information center of the community, the library remains committed to helping citizens find and evaluate quality sources of information.

In preparation for National Poetry Month in April, approximately 35 poetry lovers and artists gathered in the Gertrude Scott Room on March 4<sup>th</sup> to create more than 150 poetry pendants. The pendants are laminated verses of poetry with artistically decorated hangers that will be hung outdoors throughout the community on April 8<sup>th</sup>. Each pendant, in addition to having a verse of poetry, says: "Celebrating National Poetry Month. Take Me Home!" Caroline Hilligoss liaised with the Columbine Poets of Northern Colorado and the Metaphors to coordinate to event. The library will host multiple poetry events during April.



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

In March, the Children's Department hosted 34 Storytimes (toddlers/preschoolers) with 1,267 people in attendance. We held 27 LapSits (birth – 2) with 1,417 attendees. Our elementary/family program offered 25 programs with 546 in attendance. We continued to plan and organize for the First Grade Field Trips that start at the end of March and run through April. Customer Service has been busy creating library cards for these tours. We are looking forward to passing out cards to first graders who don't currently have cards.

The library's new Spanish Services Librarian, Claudeth Castellanos, started in March. Everyone in the department took an active role in training Claudeth. During her first month at the library, Claudeth was already doing outreach including attending Edmonson Literacy Night, planning Bi-Lingual Storytime with Lolly, and playing an active role in Vida Sana's Community Night. Claudeth event assisted Lolly at this year's "Be Ready Fair" where they handed out library information and Lolly held a yoga storytime for attendees.

Other outreach opportunities during March included Cynthia and Jane bringing Buddy Reading to the Boys & Girls Club. This may turn into an opportunity for us to offer Buddy Reading regularly at the Club. Sabrina assisted with the 2017 Children's Day. She made sure that the events at the library operated smoothly including finding staff who were interested in providing storytimes. Julie hosted a "Cool" volunteer project for teens. They came in and created cat and dog toys for the humane society. Cindi collected gently used books and donated the books to a local group who records inmates reading. The recordings are sent on to the inmate's children so they can hear their parent reading to them.

The Children's Division has assisted Customer Service Division during the recent migration to Sierra/PIKA. Several staff have pulled materials for the daily pick lists that Customer Service receives. My staff enjoys helping when they have the time.

Summer Reading Program planning is continuing to evolve. Publicity information is being finalized, prizes have been ordered, and events are being added to ReadSquared. Julie has been busy making changes to the platform based on staff requests. Jane has been adding summer programming events and booklists to ReadSquared. Cindi finalized her Storyteller in the Park handout, Sabrina is planning on weekly Music & Movement at the Outlet Mall, and Cynthia will be offering Buddy Reading.

Several staff shared fun moments from March:

Kris wrote about a mom whose daughter only eats fruit at the library. It seems that Kris's presentation of the fruit is what motivates the preschooler to dive right in.

Jane was recognized at a local grocery store. The patron thanked her for leading Storytime.

On a sadder note, we lost one of our loved therapy dogs, Stryder, in March.

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

The library became active again in Prospector, which has increased the volume of materials coming into and out of the library. Patrons are very happy to be able to obtain materials from the Prospector libraries, particularly the academic libraries.

Jo spent time with the Material Handler (MH) supervisors and MHs to train MHs on their role in handling materials from FLC. The MHs now, pull the pick list (100 or more items that need pulling off the shelves to fulfill holds from our patrons and FLC patrons). The MHs also check in all of these items, sort them into the courier bins that will be picked up and taken to the other FLC libraries, and to process and shelve the holds for Loveland PL patrons. MHs also now process all the materials arriving by courier Monday through Friday (up to 15 courier bins filled to the brim with materials requested by Loveland patrons).





Figure 1 MHs and CS staff shelving holds arrived from FLC libraries

All the holds that have yellow labels are items that will not check out at the self-check machines. A staff person at the CS desk therefore must check out these items. The library is purchasing six new self-check machines that will be programmed to accept all of these items, which will reduce activity at the CS desk (shorter lines and less patron/staff frustration).

Because of the huge increase in volume and subsequent changes in workflow, Jo and Lori have been working with Facilities to knock through the wall of the Volunteer room so that we can have one place to pick up and drop off bins, check in materials, and store materials. Jo worked with the City Safety representative to ensure that our workflow is as safe as possible. Each bins weighs at least 30 pounds, so handling that weight safely is of utmost importance.



Figure 2 Staging area for sorting materials into courier bins to an out

Also in March, Joanna presented a session at the Colorado Library Consortium (CLIC) spring workshop in Grand Junction. Her presentation was entitled, "Career Development Ideas for Paralibrarians".



Figure 3 Knock through this wall to the volunteer room.

**Displays** - The Friends of the Library used the Galleria display case to advertise their book sale. The Rock Hounds, a geology club, displayed various items in the display case by the DVDs. On the small wedding cake display, Melissa created a display entitled "Caution, May Cause Tears!"

### **Library Subs – Amber Holmes**

March brought with it Spring Break, illnesses and vacant positions, requiring flexible coverage in divisions throughout the library. Subs did an excellent job of communicating with one another and supervisors to provide the greatest level of coverage possible. Maribeth jumped around as needed during the city's busy annual Children's Day event and Kathryn stepped in during her lunch break to help a co-worker who was dealing with an abusive patron.

All staff completed the assigned *City of Loveland Harassment Prevention Policy* training through City University. Sue finalized a webpage and brochure for Art in the Galleria, significantly expanding community awareness of this incredible collection. She also sent out a special edition of the monthly newsletter in honor of Marcia's retirement and facilitated the general monthly staff meeting. Maribeth delighted a patron by helping him find the sound recording of a 1940s piano piece and reported a technical glitch in Teens allowing adults to access computers. Kathryn assisted many patrons with tax questions and attended the director candidate presentations to provide feedback during the hiring process.

### **Library Technology and Innovation (LTI) – Jesse Lopez – No Report Submitted**

#### **Technical Services – Amy Fillinger**

Tech services is in full swing working with Sierra and learning the new FLC cataloging procedures. Many items did not migrate correctly, which requires the catalogers to have to go back and fix one by one. Lynn has been working closely with Marcia to help with the "Billed" and "Lost and Paid" problem that was affecting patron records. She has also been working on a new process for discards from the different departments. Unfortunately, Laura has not been able to download orders as Baker & Taylor and Sierra are not connected yet. After some frustrating communications among all parties involved, we are being as patient as can be expected. It is out of our control so all we can do is wait. She is ordering "by hand" and is getting carts ordered so kudos to her for limping along the best she can. This is by far the most pressing issue we have right now with Sierra. There is progress in pinpointing the problem to Innovative as of March 31st. Lynn and Amy attended the March FLC Cataloger's meeting this month and had some of our questions answered. We were given the latest drafts of three documents to go over in anticipation of our training day in April.

Kevin has gotten to a point in his programming of our new label printer where he needs our feedback. He printed off a label on the new printer of almost every location of materials and has given us these examples to go over. We will have a meeting with him in early April to fine tune the look of the labels and then we should be functional with it.

Kelsi from City IT did fix our RFID antenna this month. We received most of our order of RFID tags – there was a problem with the credit card sized tags and we did not receive those with the rest of the order. We are still waiting for them.

Mary passed her six-month probation review so congrats to her. Lynn attended the March Safety Committee meeting, Amy attended the SRP March meeting, and Laura volunteered to help with the city-wide Food

Drive/Silent Auction event. Laura made up a basket for the silent auction. Amy and Mary also made up a "basket" that was auctioned off for the cause.

Amy attended an Implementation Team meeting with Beth Gallinger where lingering problems were discussed. Overdrive records are still being sent to Amy to load so we hope to have that problem solved soon.

On March 31st, Laura and Mary were able to attend the Meet and Greet morning session with the candidates for the Library Directors' position. Amy and Laura attended the presentations later that day.

Beth G. from Children's brought us the Newbery/Caldecott books that she wants changed to circulating copies so Lynn, Amy and Mary are working on that project. Lynn consulted the Children's Dept. about changing our "Geisel" books to Dr. Seuss to conform to Consortium standards and they agreed. Lynn is pulling the books and relabeling them. Amy has started cataloging some juvenile paperbacks again. Mary is checking for existing records for Board Books and has been trained how to add an item to those records. Any Board Books that need cataloging are left for Lynn and Amy.

### **Teenseen – Amber Holmes**

March was a busy month in the teenseen with 16 programs offered to 261 teens. Becca coordinated an amazingly popular perler bead program, originally scheduled for one hour, that went on for several days! Julie coordinated the second in a series of volunteer service projects, this one dedicated to making cat and dog toys for the humane society. Teens logged a total of 48.25 hours this month, our highest number to date. Staff provided tours to Loveland High and TSD's K12 Online Schooling students. Summer offered outreach at Thompson Valley High School's wellness fair and reader's advisory at Platte Valley. The MakerCart included button making, DIY bookmarks, paper crafting, Sphero, Ollie, coloring pages, perler beads, 3D printing Pen, and origami with a total of 90 teens participating this month, another record high!

Two high school teens presented at the City Council meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> to share how the teenseen has impacted their lives. These "regulars" told a heart-warming story of the difference the library has made for them over the past six years including building friendships, succeeding in school, and giving back to the community. Teens from the Youth Advisory Commission presented an overview of last year's activities and future goals at the City Board and Commissions Meeting on March 9<sup>th</sup>, including plans to improve public transportation.



March was a fantastic month for technology. After the library's upgrade as a member of the Flatirons Consortium, teens have increased access to thousands of additional young adult materials. A sleek new catalog interface boasts YA booklists on the main page as well as the ability to search for items specifically in Loveland's Teen Collection. The teenseen debuted four new iPads (see pic above) to replace outdated versions and began customizing an upgraded digital platform for the summer reading program. This year, teens will have access to a variety of new games, avatars, and badges as well as a reader's advisory feature that links directly to our catalog.

Finally, we began the process for hiring a new Librarian I to replace Summer Maid. We're thrilled that Summer's personal business as a nutritionist is thriving and wish her the best for her future. Through the years, Summer has been an incredible advocate for teens and staff- establishing a partnership with Food Bank



for Larimer County, serving as Chair of the Safety Committee, launching outreach at Platte Valley Correctional Facility and spending day after day connecting with community members to improve their lives. We are proud to have worked side by side and to continue her work after she's gone.



## April 2017 Narrative - All Departments

### Administration – Therese Torpy

April was marked by the retirement of Library Director Marcia Lewis following over 34 years of service to LPL. We had a lovely party for her on April 14<sup>th</sup> which allowed staff, retirees, board member, city management and employees along with many others to say farewell. Following a long search and selection process, Diane Lapierre was chosen the new Library Director. She brings many years of library experience at Denver Public Library and joins us on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Adult Programming & Volunteer Coordination – Bobbi Benesh

April was exciting with a month-long history program about WWI entitled *Remembering the Forgotten War: In history, in Music, in Literature, and in Film*. The first evening was a packed house! In this presentation, Jim Found covered the motives of the countries involved and how the war changed the international boundaries. Beforehand, guests enjoyed rousing *Patriotic Songs of WWI*. So far, all of the films shown have been very educational and enjoyable to watch. By popular request, this program will repeat in October.

To introduce the lovely weather we had at the beginning of the month, was *Trails for Newcomers*. This program had an engaged audience and great information about trails in Rocky Mountain National Park, nearby State Parks and Open Spaces for Coloradoans and/or their guests.

The *Mahjong* program has continued to grow with newbies joining the experienced pros. All seemed to be engaged, focused, and enjoying themselves.

The *Passion for Photography* class has changed its line-up a bit. Michael Wilcox, instructor, is now running two back-to-back classes instead of one monthly class to help students retain all things photography.

Our crafty classes in knitting, tatting, loom knitting, origami, and card making continue to be successful as the participants enjoy learning something creative, the sociality of the group, and the opportunities for charitable work. The Origami and Crochet groups will move on with new instructors this summer.

### Adult Services – Caroline Hilligoss

Robert Ayala brought in Eva Sue Littleton with *The Racy Madams of Colorado: Mattie Silks and the Ladies* Saturday, April 15. Fifty-five people attended. Eva brought to life the character of Mattie, one of Colorado's most famous Madams. Mattie told stories of Cattle Kate, Laura Evans, Lillian Powers, and "Silver Heels".

Robert partnered with Loveland LULAC to create a Loveland Community Meeting on April 20th for Latinos of Loveland. The topic of discussion was immigration law and legal rights for immigrants. Special guests were Police Chief Robert Ticer, the Mexican Consulate from Denver, as well as Sonia Marquez with the Colorado Immigration Rights Coalition, and Samuel Ronquillo, immigration lawyer. Several service organizations in Loveland also had informational booths.

BUZZWORDS, the adult nonfiction book group, met at Grimm Brothers to discuss the New York Times bestseller *Just Mercy*, by civil rights lawyer and death row attorney Bryan Stevenson. Eight engaged people took part in a very thought-provoking discussion. One attendee said the book truly changed her position on the death penalty.

ReadMore adult book group discussed *All Quiet on the Western Front*, the classic WWI novel by German author Erich Maria Remarque. The discussion coincided with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the US entry into WWI. Forty-four people attended the three sessions.

Business Librarian Amanda Armstrong was even busier than usual during April with both Loveland Startup Week (4/3-4/7), and Money Smart Week (4/24-4/28). On Tuesday 4/4, she hosted the Money Matters/Money Smart Week meeting at the library for librarians who oversee that programming. On Thursday 4/6 and Friday 4/7, she oversaw Loveland Startup Week at the library. There was a total of 20 events and approximately 200 attendees to the library events. Overall, the event had approximately 500 attendees.

- The Resource Pitch Back Panel organized by Amanda on Thursday afternoon had about 20 attendees and had a great deal of good feedback and comments.
- The Social Media Marketing Workshops on Friday morning turned out to be one of the most popular portions of the event, with two people volunteering to help run them next year.
- On Saturday, Richard Toftness recognized the Startup Week planning team, including Amanda, during his introduction of Jared Polis.

Based on good feedback and attendance for *the Inside Edge on Hiring* program, similar events are scheduled every other month for the rest of the year.

During Money smart week, Amanda coordinated the following four programs at the library:

- Tues, 4/25 Divorce – 4 attendees
- Wed, 4/26 at 12pm Estate Planning – 7 attendees
- Wed, 4/26 at 6pm Estate Planning – 19 attendees
- Thurs, 4/27 at 6pm Social Security – 40 attendees

Amanda was pleased that Money Smart Week wasn't just for Adults this year. The Children's Department offered six money-themed story times, along with the Guess the Pennies game and a money-themed book display. Guess the Pennies will conclude over the weekend. Cindi Pfeiffer reported that feedback from parents have been very positive about these offerings.

April was also National Poetry Month. Caroline Hilligoss collaborated with Veronica Patterson and Lorrie Wolf of the Northern Colorado Chapter of the Columbine Poets and Lynn Kincanon of the Metaphors Poets to coordinate three events. On Thursday, 4/20, thirty-five people gathered to hear local poets pay tribute through original works to early American poets. On Friday evening, 4/21, National Book Award and Colorado Book Award-winning poet Aaron Abeyta read his poetry and essays, and on Saturday morning, Aaron conducted a writing workshop. Thirty-five people came out in the rainstorm to hear Aaron's moving performance on Friday night, and forty-two poets crowded the Gertrude Scott room on Saturday morning to attend Arron's workshop. Many thanks to the Friends of the Library for their sponsorship of these events.

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

The Children's Department and Customer Service were busy in April with First Grade Field Trips! During the eleven tours in April, over 500 students come through our doors. Thompson School District worked closely with Joanna McNeal to make sure that students had the necessary information to make library cards for each child. During each field trip, staff gave a tour of the library, provided a story time, and let students explore the iMake Room. The best part of each field trip was watching the children find books. Children left the library



with one book and their very own library card. We received positive feedback from the schools and look forward to continuing this program next year.

Julie met with the school district's new coordinator of libraries, Jo Conlon, and shared Summer Reading Program information. Jo was able to get our link to the reading platform loaded on Thompson School District's web site. Within days, our department was receiving calls from schools to come and present information about this summer's reading program. Jane and Sabrina have been busy entering data into the ReadSquared platform for this summer's reading program. Lolly updated the Children's web page to include SRP events and programming. Cindi finalized her plans for Storyteller in the Park. Julie held a review session for interested staff and highlighted some of the platform's new features. Library customers can begin registering for the SRP on May 1.

Claudeth and Cynthia attended a Latino outreach meeting at Lago Vista with Loveland Coalition partners. In attendance were Healthy Kids, TSD, U.C. Health Education, and Colorado Trust. The coalition outlined perceived needs of Latino families in Loveland. The needs included neighborhood based programming, adult education, and affordable (FREE) summer programs for youth. The Loveland Public Library will become a United Way funding partner later this year. United Way will be providing funding for the library to create and offer a bilingual storytime at Lago Vista. Claudeth, Cynthia, and Julie will collaborate on planning this program and begin offering it in the fall of 2017.

OneBook 4 Colorado kicked off in April. This year's book is *Mouse Mess* by Linnea Riley. The program's objective is to provide books to four-year-olds to promote early literacy skills. Cynthia requested the copies of books for this year's program. Kris, Lolly, and Claudeth shared program information with their storytime and lapsit families. Kris planned her More Than Storytime programming around this year's OneBook 4 Colorado.

The staff continues to weed the collection. In May, we discarded reference books. We moved the reference Caldecott and Newberry books into the normal circulating collection. We moved our magazines to a more prominent location near the Children's desk. We are hoping the magazines will circulate more since they are more visible to customers. We have done all of this reorganization hoping to make the iMake Room a dedicated space for creating for the younger crowd. Later this year, we are adding a magnetic ball run to the room. We have moved early literacy computers (AWE computers) in there with the light table, train table, and other activities. Our patrons really enjoy having a dedicated space for creating!

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

April was pretty much a repeat of March for Customer Service. We are still developing efficient procedures for the increased workload and tweaking the schedule to make things work even better. We are now revising our procedures and looking at reconfiguring the front desk area.

Also in April, Joanna presented again at the Colorado Library Consortium (CLiC) spring workshop, this time in Pueblo her presentation was the same as March, "Career Development Ideas for Paralibrarians".

**Displays** - On the small wedding cake display in the galleria, Holly created a display about poetry (in honor of National Poetry month). She also created a Poet-tree where patrons wrote poems on paper leaves and attached them to a large branch that had fallen from a real tree!

## **Library Subs – Amber Holmes**

April was an excellent month for training. All subs attended the SummitStone mental health training on patron de-escalation. Maribeth and Kathryn participated in the sexual harassment and rape prevention training through the Loveland Police Department. Kathryn also learned about social media and the VLP. Sue facilitated the general staff meeting, an adult movie night and a World War I program. Maribeth reorganized the Teenseen behavior log in chronological order, beginning with the most recent events, assisted a lost child in finding their parent and demonstrated basic computer skills in the LTI lab for a patron. Kathryn created digital booklists for the adult summer reading program and made significant progress on cleaning up the V:Drive, reducing the number of folders by more than half.

Maribeth and Kathryn declined multiple shifts to keep their hours within the allotted limit. This included juggling simultaneous requests from different supervisors, getting called in at the last minute and rearranging existing coverage. They did an excellent job, as always, of being flexible to meet the multitude of demands.

## **Library Technology and Innovation (LTI) – Jesse Lopez**

LTI had more change as in April we lost one of Library Aides who has decided to pursue her writing career full time. This coupled with Erica's maternity leave beginning at the end of April has caused our department to be a little short staffed. Luckily, Rebecca Coatney who has previous experience working as a Library Aide in our Customer Service Division has agreed to be a temp for our department to help cover desk time. This has been a great help as we scramble to get the Aide position filled and distribute Erica's workload best we can between all of us.

Erica has been working hard at getting as many things lined up for her leave as she can. She has updated documentation and created marketing content for SRP so that all we will have to do when the time comes is print the posters. She has worked closely with Christina on what will need to be done after she is gone. Christina has been fantastic at taking on what she can in Erica's absence such as the scheduling of classes, website maintenance, and updating the electronic bulletin boards. She will also be filling requests for creating new material for all library departments as needed.

Kevin spent a good amount of time working on the Scheduler for the library as issues began creeping up with it. The hosting provider had updated to a new version of PHP, which was not going to be compatible with our existing version of the Scheduler causing him to have to re-write parts of it to maintain functionality. He was eventually able to get it worked out but there were a few hiccups along the way. We appreciate the patience shown by library staff, as it is not easy to dive into a program someone else wrote and start making changes. Now that the Scheduler is back up and running the management team is looking at 3<sup>rd</sup> party solutions to replace the Scheduler as it became more and more obvious that the current iteration needs a complete re-write.

The next step for Kevin and our department is the roll out of the new thin clients and the subsequent lab changes that come along with that. Kevin completed the new image and has put one of the new thin clients running the new image out into the lab. As patrons use this computer, we will get a feel for what other tweaks need to be made to this image before the full rollout. Essentially, we are now in the testing phase of these new changes. We have added new signage to give patrons' ample warning of the changes to come.

I have been working on the department budget as it is that time of year! I have also been working with Joanna in Customer Service on selecting new self-check machines for the library. We have looked at several different

options and have settled on MK Solutions. The purchasing process is underway and we hope to have these in place in time for summer!

### **Technical Services – Amy Fillinger**

We had another busy and productive month in Technical Services in April. We all completed (and passed) our City-required trainings on Harassment in the Workplace through the online City University.

It was a bittersweet week when we had to say goodbye to Marcia Lewis. We enjoyed attending her farewell party on April 14th.

On April 19th, we all headed down to the Lafayette Public Library to attend an all-day training session with our Flat Irons Consortium colleagues. We feel fortunate that we had a day of training sessions that focused on cataloging and acquisitions. We all found it very useful, discovered things we need to start doing and stop doing, and learned more about Pika and RDA.

Right at the end of the month, Laura was able to figure out a way to get MARC records downloaded, complete with order records! We feel like we are finally functional for Acquisitions, which has been limping along since the migration in February. This gets us over one of the biggest hurdles we have had during the last 2 months.

Lynn continued to experiment with Create Lists to get a few things identified for us so we can fix them – very time consuming for her. She has also started tackling the project Children's gave us of changing the Newbery and Caldecott award winning books from Reference to circulating. She also changed most of the Theodore Geisel books to the Consortium preferred "Dr. Seuss". We also got another big project from Children's as they weeded their Reference collection. Many need to be changed to circulating copies.

Of course, when the catalogers tackle big projects, Mary gets to tackle them as well, making all the new labels and re-processing the books making them circulating copies. In addition to her regular duties, Mary is also helping Amy maintain our inventory of media cases. We are very excited that Kevin can focus again on getting our new label printer up and running. Right now, Mary has to work on two systems, with a lot of record manipulation, just to print a label.

Amy continues with cataloging, finally getting all Spanish materials cataloged and out to patrons. She devotes at least one hour per day to database maintenance. She also attended a Summer Reading Program committee meeting and will help set up and work the event at the SRP kick-off Block Party on June 2nd.

### **Teenseen – Amber Holmes**

In April, the teenseen offered 16 programs to 261 attendees. Teen Advisory Board members attended the 29th annual Teen Lit Conference on April 1st at Tivoli Student Center in Denver where they met bestselling authors Greg Neri and Gail Carriger, participated in writing workshops and visited with teens from libraries across the state. In addition to regular monthly programming, teens enjoyed making smoothies, crafting rainbow paper and entering a Worst Art Competition. Teens logged 54 volunteer hours. The makercart featured poetry, spheros, virtual reality, origami flowers, and papercrafts.

Summer reading program planning wrapped up with platform testing, prize purchasing, volunteer coordination, finalized marketing and outreach to local schools. Julie coordinated with Thompson School District to feature the summer reading program on their website. Staff attended a mental health training on

patron de-escalation with SummitStone and a self-defense and rape prevention training with Loveland Police Department.

The Teen Advisory Board coordinated an amazing bake sale where they were able to raise \$281 for this summer's author visit. The Youth Advisory Commission selected 9 new commissioners from 39 applicants. Two of the teens' regulars, Maya Bontrager and Avery Pflieger, were selected to represent Mountain View and Loveland High Schools respectively. The commission is currently in the process of assisting the Transportation Advisory Board with improved public transit and the Boys and Girls Club with increased attendance with plans to continue these projects through the following school year.

As always, staff took time this month to discuss important issues with teens, both one-on-one and in groups, including suicide, family problems, academic stressors and friendship. Despite a high workload shared between our small department, I'm proud to see relationship building prioritized above all else. This can be challenging with the demands of working a busy desk, meeting deadlines and addressing behavior issues. Each day, passion for our mission is demonstrated by every person on our team as we strive to meet the many needs that come through our door. This has an incredible impact on the lives of community teens and is the foundation of our success as a division.

Finally, we are thrilled this month to offer the Teen Librarian I position to Becca Hugues, our former Library Aide. Becca will bring her incredible love of teens, vast knowledge of YA lit, and strong tech skills to her new role. We look forward to hiring a new member of our team to fill the Aide position with a projected start date of June 5th.

