

Library Director's report

Prepared by Director Susan Getty

March 6, 2018

Monthly statistics: please see attached statistical summaries for the month of February 2018.

Financial/Donations:

- We received the check (\$2,359.44) from the SALS Library Services Seed Grant, for our Makerspace cart.

News/Issues:

- I've had recent conversations with Amy Maxwell about her landscaping class doing the work on our front bed and the back courtyard. I've also connected with Kay Tomasi of the Salem Area Women's Club. Kay has passed this off entirely to us, since she finds that she no longer has time for the commitment of taking care of the front bed. Amy will be investigating the front bed further with her class (i.e. taking measurements, digging some holes, etc.) and we'll be talking more. Her class will come up with some proposals for us, based on their explorations and our conversations.

Programs:

- All regular programs are going along as usual: Wednesday morning Story Time, Scrabble Club, Chess Club, Book Club, Lego Club, Herbal Study Group, Knit/Crochet Group.
- Irene Baldwin's Short Story Writing class wrapped up mid-February and went very well. We're planning for Irene to conduct a similar class over the summer. The participants in the recent class have gone on to plan an informal Writers' Group, which will be meeting every other Thursday here at the library.
- Sarah McFadden from CCE Rensselaer County offered a drop-in session for technology-related questions and a digital photography workshop during the month of February. Each class only had a few participants, but Sarah did feel the sessions went well. We are very lucky to have the opportunity to utilize her services! We are planning a few other technology-related classes for the near future; probably in the late spring. I have had several more people asking for one-on-one help, and we do our best to accommodate those requests.
- The February break programs did not have high attendance, but each program did have attendees: the teen movie had two kids; the Minecraft challenge had seven kids; the lip balm workshop had six kids; and the Friday afternoon movie had eight kids and two adults in attendance.
- Washington County Public Health program called "Creating Your Wellness Vision" happened on February 27, but only had two participants.

- We are planning a showing of the new movie *Wonder* on Friday, March 16th at 2 PM (this happens to be a half day of school). We are going to work together with the “Cool 2 B Kind” group at school to publicize this movie, the main message of which is to “choose kind”. We’ll be talking with the “Cool 2 B Kind” group about ways we can help reinforce this message.
- Sue Morrison is doing another craft class for us on March 22 from 6 - 8 PM.
- I have been working with two teen helpers to plan a *Hamilton* (the musical) program. This will likely take place in late March or April.
- Additionally, I have been working with the Washington County Office for the Aging to set up a regular, monthly lunch for seniors at the library. Our first one is tentatively set for April 11.
- We are planning an educational series offered by the Alzheimer’s Association, similar to the programs offered last spring. This will take place in May.