

# Library Director's Report

March 2, 2021

Prepared by Lori Stokem, Director

**February Monthly Statistics:** Statistical summaries for the month of February 2021 will be available at our meeting

## Financial/Donations:

We have received a few more memorial donations for Ruth Foster. The total amount received is \$2,310 and donations are still coming in. Thank you notes have been sent. I will be meeting with Karin Foster next week to discuss ways to honor Ruth's memory here at the library.

We have received a check for \$29,000 from the Town of Salem (tax money).

## News/Issues:

- I have been participating in virtual Director's Council meetings. I have virtually attended the SALS meeting on how to do the Annual Report and another one that shows you how to access and use Census numbers in relation to the library. I also attended a Courtyard Committee meeting last month.
- I will be sending you a copy of the Annual Report for your review. As you are looking at it, please remember our numbers will be very different from past years and there is a new section (Section 8A). This section shows data related to how COVID impacted the library over the past year.
- Beginning March 1<sup>st</sup> the quarantine time for SALS will be reduced to 2 days (48 hours).

- Recently I met with Todd DeSoto who is the Chess Club advisor at Salem School. The library is partnering with the school to offer this activity to the kids in our area that may be homeschooled. Todd also advised he would be happy to help the library with any other projects we might have in the future.
- Christine Michael contacted me about possibly doing a Narcan training. Some of the business owners in town will be taking the training and will have a Narcan kit at their place of business. She wanted to know if the library would want to be included.
- Karen continues to add some wonderful new books to our shelves that are available for our patrons. These books are being checked out quite often. Many of the new books and DVD's are currently featured in the library's windows.
- We continue to keep our patrons informed of new books and library news through the use of the library's Facebook page, our webpage, and our newsletter. A press release about our charter approval was sent to the Eagle and the Journal/Press.
- Curbside service has been running smoothly and patrons have been very appreciative of the fact they can still order and pick up books. As of right now ILL services are also still available.
- The library has received tax forms from the IRS to have here at the library. Patrons may request them.

### **Looking Ahead:**

- With COVID numbers still being a concern in our county we will continue to offer curbside service for our patrons.
- It looks like we may be able to start the Farm-2-Library Program earlier than first planned. I'll be meeting with Ashley Bridge from the Comfort

Food Community toward the end of March. She will bring the refrigerator to the library and when we are ready, will start providing us with some fresh veggies for our patrons.

**Programs:** All in-person programs are currently on hold.

- We have made available weekly "Take Away" craft bags for the children in our community. All the grab and go craft bags are usually gone by Friday. These have been very popular and we have people asking for them each week now. We have received a lot of positive feedback.
- We are also offering free craft kits once a month from the Council for Prevention for kids Pre-K - Third Grade. The packets support social-emotional learning in fun way.
- Our February "Take Away" adult craft bags were Heart Books. We had 20 patrons take one of these bags to enjoy.
- During February the windows of the library were adorned with a New Year/New Books/Valentine display that our patrons were able to enjoy. Each of the windows displays some of our new books, DVD's and audio books. We've had multiple patrons take out books they have seen in the windows. Since we will still be curbside this month, we will continue to feature the books in the windows.
- I'm meeting virtually with Chrys Nestle from Cornell Cooperative Extension soon to discuss us possibly doing some programming together.