

Library Director's Report (September)

Meeting Date: October 11, 2022

Prepared by Lori Stokem, Director

September Monthly Statistics: Statistical summaries for the month of September 2022 will be available at our meeting.

Financial/Donations:

We were just notified that the library has been awarded a 2022 Washington County Home for Aged Women Grant. The grant is in the amount of \$3,050.00.

News/Issues:

- I have been participating in virtual Director's Council meetings. We are meeting monthly.
- Farm-2-Library Program Update: Last month we had at least 82 community members take a food item from our pantry (Most likely more as people come and go that we don't see). Every month I have people tell me how much they appreciate the Farm-2-Library program. One of regular senior citizens told me last week that this is a wonderful program and she appreciates it very much!
- Karen continues to add some wonderful new books, games, and DVDs to our shelves that are available for our patrons. Baker & Tayler are back up and running again so we're getting our new books in a timely manner again.
- During September SALS installed the rest of the new public computers along with our desk computer. Again, thank you to the Friends of the Bancroft Library for the funding of the new computers. As of right now, there is no new news about when the new printer will arrive.

- Congratulations to our Summer Reading winners: Adults - Laura Harrison (gift card) and Crystal Paul (autographed book). Jeffrey Oswald won the kids' gift card.
- We continue to keep our patrons informed of new books and library news through the use of the library's Facebook page, our webpage, newspaper articles, and our newsletter. A fall newsletter went out since our last meeting.
- The first artist/patron that displayed his artwork in the hallway, Chris Smith, advised that it was very difficult to hang his art with the way things were set up in the hall. He recommended a system that would make it very easy for anyone to display their work. Many thanks to the Friends of the Bancroft Library for purchasing it for us and also many thanks to Mark Cooney for installing it.
- A replacement part for the defibrillator (\$105.96) needs to be ordered along with a basic subscription to Cardiac Life (\$50). The subscription covers monitoring your AED. The system will send you reminders when your AED supplies will expire. It will also send you notifications when it is time to complete your monthly inspections. As the defibrillator is in Proudfit Hall/Court Room, we might want to consider splitting the cost with the Town.

Looking Ahead:

- I have tentatively scheduled a meet and greet for the new teachers for Monday, October 17th. This would give them a chance to see what the library has to offer.
- We will once again be participating in "The Great Giveback." It is a day of service for many libraries across the state. On Saturday, October 29th we will be partnering with Books In Kids' Hands, the Salem Food Pantry and the Salem Historic Courthouse for the "Trunk or Treat" event that will take place at the Courthouse from 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. We will be giving away free books, a simple craft, and a healthy snack or treat. Many of the libraries in Washington County are participating. You can go on-line to see what other

libraries are up to. Our Great Giveback event is called, "Eat, Read, and Be Scary."

Programs:

- Bancroft Classics, our weekly social hour for our "vintage" patrons, began in June and we had a great schedule for the month of October.
- All of our regular programs continued throughout the month of September--
-Scrabble Club, Chess Club, Bancroft Classics, Mahjong, Book Club, Kickin' Knitters, Tech Help with Noah (part of the month) and the Bird Watching Club.
- Rachael Armstrong has volunteered to lead two adult programs in October that have to do with growing succulents.
- There will be an Office of the Aging Pop-up Luncheon on Wednesday, October 19th.
- Debi Craig and Dorothea Casey will be offering two Perler classes during the month of October. Each participant can make one Perler item and a second one to be given to someone else. The programs will take place off-site at the churches in Hebron.
- 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. A big thank you to Gayle Shaw who has volunteered to make many of these crafts for the library.