

# Library Director's Report (January 2024)

Meeting Date: February 13, 2024

Prepared by Lori Stokem, Director

**Monthly Statistics:** Statistical summaries for the month of January 2024 will be available at our meeting.

**Financial/Donations:**

**News/Issues:**

- I have been participating in virtual Director's Council meetings. Regular director's meetings will now be every other month. However, the small, rural library group will also meet every other month.
- Farm-2-Library Program Update: Last month we had at least 55 community members take a food item from our pantry (Most likely more as people come and go that we don't always see). The Comfort Food Community continues to provide our patrons with free, healthy food each week.
- Karen continues to add some wonderful new books, games, and DVDs to our shelves that are available for our patrons.
- Melissa has advised she would like to step back from working at the library for a while. She will fill in on occasion if we need help. Gayle has agreed to work Melissa's 5:00 - 8:00 p.m. shift on Tuesday evenings.
- The windows are decorated for winter.

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- 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.

### **Looking Ahead:**

- The Annual Report is now open. Many thanks to Rebecca and Karen for all their help with the report. The date for submission is Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>.
- We are currently making plans for some children's programming during school vacation week in February. Monday is a holiday and the library is closed. On Tuesday, we will have a "Trolls" sing along, Wednesday Bernadette from the Pember Museum and Library (sponsored by The Friends of Bancroft Library) will be presenting an animal program, on Thursday Zakk Eastman will lead an "Introduction to Dungeons and Dragons" program, and Friday will be our Lego Challenge Day. We're looking forward to seeing a lot of kids in the library that week!
- I'm in the process of scheduling a showing of "The Quiet Epidemic" during the month of May which is Lyme Disease Awareness Month. We are hoping Lyndsay Keys (Salem graduate and creator of the documentary) will be able to join us.
- We are planning on offering a program around St. Patrick's Day. SALS recommended it. The program will demonstrate the Irish martial art of "Bataireacht" and Shillelagh fighting. They will show the moves and explain why this art was such an integral part of life in Ireland long ago. There will also be music and storytelling. The program will be funded by the Friends of Bancroft Library.
- With the help of one of our patrons, we are scheduling an eclipse event for April. We already have the glasses and will be making further plans in the next couple of months.

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- An adult craft class is also being scheduled for the beginning of March. Sue Morrison has offered to teach the class.
- The staff will be meeting soon to plan programming for the 2024 year.

### **Programs:**

- Our monthly Senior Citizen Potluck Lunch was on Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. A delicious lunch was enjoyed by all. Our program was a lively game of Trivia!
- All of our regular programs continued throughout the month of December, Bancroft Book Buddies, Scrabble Club, Chess Club, Mahjong, Book Club, Writing Club, Kickin' Knitters, Tech Help with Noah and Tri-County Literacy.
- Our Mahjong group has grown this winter! We've had two groups of four the past couple of weeks!
- We continue to make available weekly "Take Away" craft bags for the children in our community. Thank you to Gayle Shaw for putting the craft bags together each week.