

Library Director's Report (February 2024)

Meeting Date: March 12, 2024

Prepared by Lori Stokem, Director

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

Financial/Donations: \$2,000

\$50

\$100

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 48 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.
- The Annual Report is now complete. Many thanks to Rebecca and Karen for all their help with the report.
- Karen continues to add some wonderful new books, games, and DVDs to our shelves that are available for our patrons.

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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:

- 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.
- Thanks to the Friends of Bancroft Library we will be offering a St. Patrick's Day program on Wednesday, March 13th at 6:30 p.m. 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.
- Our next Pop-Up Lunch will be Wednesday, March 20th.
- On Wednesday, March 27th, Anna Maxwell, the Washington County Dairy Princess will be our guest at Bancroft Book Buddies, our story time for Pre-K.
- On Saturday, March 16th Bill Fredrick of the Salem Astronomy Club will be offering a program at 2:00. Bill will talk about the upcoming eclipse and the library will be giving out eclipse glasses.
- An adult craft class is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12th. Volunteer/patron Sue Morrison will teach the class to those that have signed up for it.

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- The Courtyard Committee will be meeting on Monday, March 18th. Karin Foster will be joining us along with Douglas and Nancy from Indigo Iris Garden Designs.
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Programs:

- Our children's programming during school vacation week in February was a huge success! Monday was a holiday and the library was closed. On Tuesday, we had a "Trolls" sing along, Wednesday Bernadette from the Pember Museum and Library (sponsored by The Friends of Bancroft Library) presented an animal program, on Thursday Zakk Eastman led a lively "Introduction to Dungeons and Dragons" program, and Friday was our Lego Challenge Day. All the programs were well attended, especially the animal program. We had over 100 visitors that came to the library to see Bernadette's animals and listen to her program.
- Our monthly Senior Citizen Potluck Lunch was on Wednesday, February 28th. A delicious lunch was enjoyed by all followed by a program by Bill Frederick of the Salem Astronomy Club.
- 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 Scrabble group has grown this winter! The last few weeks we've had 6 - 9 participants!
- 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.