

## May Board Meeting – Bancroft Public Library

### Director's Report

#### News/Updates & Issues

- **After-School Coordinator candidate began after the April meeting.** So far, coordinator has created a wonderful schedule of programs.
- **Lunch, Learn, Play Planning** is in process (see more below).
- **Monthly Groups on the Rise!** Bancroft has seen five new regular programs come to the library this year: Herbal Study Group regrouped/restarted this year, Growth Collective Book Club, What's Up With That? Book Club, **Yoga at the Library** (new monthly program offered by Venus Jancek), and a Homesteading Group (first meeting was in May)
- **Music by Caffe Lena** (Program with Courthouse and School) - Thanks to Herb Perkins and Gail Bearup for getting a grant to bring music to Salem seniors and students. There will be one more of these programs at the library on May 28, 2025 during the senior potluck.
- **Book Donation Bin Being Used** – The book bin has been filled ten times and emptied. We are currently on our 11<sup>th</sup> bin, which is fantastic.
- **Melissa Away** – Melissa will be on vacation from May 24 – June 1.

#### Follow Up from Previous Meetings

#### Circulation Statistics

- See website for the April Circulation report.

#### Program Stats

- **Narcan Training** – 6 people
- **Trash Pick Up** - ?
- **Choice Connections:** 10 - 12
- **Potluck** – 12+ people
- **Yoga** – 12 people
- **Farm – to – Library** – averages 15-20 people each week.
- **Weekly/Monthly programs** – Book Groups, Scrabble, Tech Help, Book Club, Mahjong, and Chess all have a consistent number of people who attend.

#### Upcoming Programs and Ideas

Upcoming Programs	Date	Details
Dinner and a Documentary	May 16, 2025	Bring your own dinner and come to watch a documentary with others! Showing for May is Queen of the Sun: What the Bees are Trying to Tell Us
Caffe Lena and Historic Salem Courthouse	May 28, 2025	Music from Caffe Lena comes to Salem courtesy of Historic Salem Courthouse. This time, music will be in tandem with Senior Potluck.

<b>"Car"dboard Box Car and Drive-In Movie</b>	5/31/25	The last Saturday in May, Mrs. Stokem and Mrs. Hickland will lead <b>a fun class for kids: making a car out of a cardboard box.</b> After the boxes have been painted, paper plate wheels added, and cars adorned with fun embellishments, children can "park" in their cars to watch Disney Pixar's <i>Cars</i> shorts film (approximately 38 minutes)
<b>Build a Bluebird House</b>	June 7, 2025	Bancroft Library will provide pre-made bluebird house kits courtesy of volunteer Mark Cooney and the Bancroft Bird Watchers group. Families or individuals are welcome to come to this program and assemble your birdhouse. Paint will also be available if you would like to decorate your constructed box! <i>Participants will leave with info on bluebirds and instruction sheets to build future birdhouses.</i>
<b>Bancroft Birders Watchers Club: Avian Research in the Albany Pine Bush</b>	June 26, 2026	Neil Gifford will provide a synopsis of the individual studies and conservation work being conducted there and share that their efforts have had a positive impact on the local shrubland bird community.

## Outreach in the Local Community (and Beyond!)

- **Climate Smart Initiative and Compost Buckets:** Continuing the conversation stemming from Melissa's meeting with Sue Clary about the Climate Smart Community initiative: We are now working with the Courthouse to have our library compost go the Community Garden compost. We will be adding two small compost buckets into the Library and Proudfit spaces.
- **Storywalk at SAW:** Melissa emailed with the new director, Jim Letts, at SAW to ask about possibly doing a storywalk or two there this summer. She is waiting to hear back on that.
- **Courthouse – Library Collaboration:** Marissa Perkins (Courthouse) and Melissa have been in regular communication about programs, which feels very positive! We are working to do a few programs together this summer including co-sponsoring/paying for them). One of these program includes a music program for families and younger children.
- **LLP:** We are planning on having programs for each grade level this summer.

## Financials and Donations

- **From SALS regarding loss of funding to/from IMLS:**
  - With the gutting to IMLS it will cut all construction funding (DAZNEY). It will cut technical assistance, and it will cut funding for each of the libraries, and it will cut funding to the state library, which means cut jobs, and the trickle down will be felt. Virtual library can go away. Trustee training opportunities may be far more limited.

## Staff & Volunteers

- **Staff:** Chaylyn has been doing great as the after-school coordinator!
- **Volunteers:** Tina Fleming has taken over for Lori Stokem for Storytime! Thank you, Tina!

## Facility Update

- **Printer Issues:** Printer has been having some issues. It seems to have resolved, but we just want to keep board apprised in case anything goes wrong in the weeks ahead.
- **Lobby Changing:** Melissa started working on the lobby: To really clean the space deeply; to reorganize it so that items are easily accessible; to make the space welcoming and attractive. She'll finish out there after the windows are installed.

## Technology

- **Patron Notification by Text is Removed:** SMS text messages are being discontinued by most providers, so several people will not be able to get text messages about books and due dates. JA is looking for other options at this point
- **Computer Orders and Tariffs:** Another computer order was due May 5. We did not need to upgrade anything this time around, but pricing is wild right now due to tariffs, and during the fall order, I may order a new staff computer if the pricing seems reasonable.

Submitted by: Melissa Carll, Library Director, May 12, 2025