**DEPARTMENT/BRANCH REPORTS**

**MAY 2021**

**REFERENCE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

By Desirée Funston

**LRP Objective - Collect & disseminate quality literature in various formats for all users**

- Display Pods- Nearly New Fiction, Nearly New 700s, Locavore, Nearly New Travel and History, Business Resources, Missoula Reads: Nature

- Collection development & maintenance (ordering, weeding, mending, donations, memorials, requests)

- Every two weeks, sorted repair items with patron holds for staff and volunteers to mend more quickly

- Evaluated rush mending items for volunteer menders

- Provided readers’ advisory assistance and personalized reading lists

- Provided information on book chat bags

- Kirk and Christine spread out USGS quad maps again in map case and decided on wording for drawer labels that Kirk made.

- Accepted extra copies of multi-volume Lake County School History from author who was fascinating to talk local history with, and showed off the Montana Room to her.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**LRP Objective - Offer quality programs for all users**

- Facilitated the MPL Book Discussion – *The Muralist* by Barbara A Shapiro

- Randomly drew and announced the winner of the April Family History Scavenger Hunt.

- Participated in Drink and Draw Librarians

- Facilitated virtual seed saving workshop with Five Valleys Seed Library

- Facilitated Virtual World View Film Series discussion of “The Farewell”

- Planning and preparation for Summer Bingo Challenge and reading lists/logs/challenges to highlight our digital collections and resources; Bear Basics program with Great Bear Foundation; and Karelian Bear Dog Demo with Wind River Institute

- As staff liaison for 2nd Wednesday Book Group, set-up Zoom meeting, checked-in with group, and priced copies of books the Friends order for participants to purchase.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**LRP Objective - Provide quality public service to all users**

- Provided reference research; ILL assistance; resumed proctor, passport & notary services

- Provided home delivery services for seniors. Resumed in-person services this month for most stops.

- Met with Anne Little of the Five Valleys Seed Library to stock the seed cabinet and discuss logistics.

- Sent the first batch (8 banker boxes) of cemetery bio sheets to Litigation Abstract for scanning.

- Joleen received her notarial commission; Desirée renewed hers

- Put new pamphlet rack together and ordered new brochures and maps for it.

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**LRP Objective - Practice sound interdepartmental and external communication**

- Meetings- Reference, All Staff, Circulation

- Responded to inquires through the refdesk email account

- Website administration – various updates and change requests

- Wrote news briefs promoting the 2nd Wednesday Book Group (*Drive Your Plow Over the Bones of the Dead* by Olga Tokarczuk) for the library’s newsletter

- Updated bookmark handout promoting upcoming 2nd Wednesday Book Group selections

- Participated in interview panel for Big Sky Technician position

------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------**LRP Objective – Participate in statewide and national collaborative projects**

**-** Continued working through the Community Webs training materials.

- Attended the live portion of the National Genealogical Society’s virtual conference.

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**LRP Objective - Administer information literacy tools and instruction to all staff and users**

- Database administration

- instructed patrons on use of databases, on access to MtLib2Go and other electronic content

**MAKERSPACE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

By Ira Sather-Olson

-During the month of May, the Makerspace had 592 patrons visit the space.

-To date, this is the busiest the Makerspace has been since its inception at MPL in 2013.

-Many of these visits included tours of the space where I would highlight some of the equipment and tools patrons could use for personal, creative, or educational projects.   
-Other visits included patrons who used our equipment for:

-Printing various 3D models  
-Laser cutting and engraving various items (including laser engraving a Makita cordless drill, engraving various images for kids on small pieces of plywood)

-Working on creative paper cutting projects using our Cricut Maker die-cut cutting machine

-At the end of May, the Makerspace started hosting our first Artist-in-Residence as part of our partnership with the local non-profit arts organization Open AIR (<https://www.openairmt.org/>)

-The artist-in-residence is Mikale Kwiatkowski and she comes to MPL from Charlotte, North Carolina, where she teaches 2D and 3D design classes at Winthrop University.  
-During her tenure in the Makerspace, Mikale has utilized our 3D printers to create smaller sculptural prototypes for a larger art installation she plans to work on in the coming year. Mikale has also utilized our laser cutter machine, along with thin sheets of plywood, to create similar structural forms that are able to bend due to the pliability of the plywood. More information about Mikale can be found at: <https://www.winthrop.edu/cvpa/faculty/kwiatkowski-mikale.aspx>

**LOLO BRANCH REPORT**

By Erin Casey

I continued to process holds for the community and Lolo students and staff during the month of May. In addition to cleaning items, part of the month was a continuation of the three day quarantine of materials. However, at this point, I am just cleaning items and no longer quarantining. Community holds continued to be delivered curb-side during May. The Lolo library will open to the public on June 9, 2021, the same day the summer reading program begins.

The Town Pump Charitable Foundation has granted the Lolo library $1000 to purchase reading prizes and for programming. I spoke with the young woman who has taught tai-chi classes during the summers, in the past, and she may be willing to teach these classes again. I will meet with her again soon to firm up the details. I will have a Thursday story time beginning June 10th and will facilitate kindergarten readiness classes in July and August.

**POTOMAC BRANCH REPORT**

By Kirk Vriesman

Potomac School recently received a literacy grant, with approximately $6000 to be used this summer for the purchase of library books for grades pre-K to 8. MPL catalogers will process these books.

MPL librarians will staff the Potomac Library Branch on Wednesdays throughout the summer for public hours from 1-4pm.

The library was open for 15 hours this month.

**SEELEY LAKE BRANCH REPORT**

By Susan Stone

The library continues to be open for curbside service on Saturdays from 10am-4pm

Let the public know that the library will open its doors to the public on Tuesday, June 15.

Continued to work on SRP.

**SWAN VALLEY BRANCH REPORT**

By Colleen Kesterson

Spring is coming to the Swan Valley and there has been a bit of a drop in patrons.

We had a lively book chat this month.