**DEPARTMENT/BRANCH REPORTS**

**JUNE 2021**

**REFERENCE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

By Desirée Funston

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

- Display Pods- Nearly New Fiction, Pride, Water, Enjoy a Road Trip, Dog on the Cover

- 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

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- Facilitated the MPL Book Discussion – *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls

-Facilitated the first library sponsored program held in the Cooper room-Bear Basics with the Great Bear Foundation

-Implemented the Adult Summer Learning Program and Summer Bingo Challenge via ReadSquared

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

- Provided home delivery services for seniors and trained volunteers for homebound assistance

- Interviewed, trained and supervised volunteers

- Finished a tour of the new building for Bitterroot Public Library staff in Honore’s absence

- Refreshed the PARG manual for passport agents

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- Meetings- Reference, Steering, Adult Programming, Public Relations, All Staff, Circulation

- Responded to inquires through the refdesk email account

- Website administration – various updates and change requests

- Wrote news brief promoting 2nd Wednesday Book Group (*American Spy: A Novel* by Lauren Wilkinson) for the library’s newsletter

- As staff liaison for 2nd Wednesday Book Group, set-up Zoom meeting and checked-in with group at beginning of discussion

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

-Planned training for practicum student to spend time with each Reference Librarian learning their special tasks as well as general department responsibilities

- Joined the Montana State Library’s new Core Services/Professional Development committee; attended initial meeting.

- Continued Community Webs internet archiving training.

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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

- Created basic “Getting Started in Genealogy” handouts for users

**CHILDREN’S DEPARTMENT REPORT**

By Pam Carlton

**Month: June 2021**

Comments: The Youth Services Department is very busy with Summer Learning Programs. We started handing out our summer reading logs on June 1st and our first program was on the 5th. Weekly summer programming began after school let out on the 11th. The summer is a very busy time for us on the kids’ floor and with the water table and spectrUM available it is even more so.

**LRP Objective: Provide quality literature in various formats for all users**

-Juvenile Materials: Ordering, weeding, mending, donations, memorials, requests, reports.

-We all stay current of trends and issues in juvenile literature by reading journals and blogs.

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**LRP Objective: Join in outreach programs including at least one large-scale community partnership event per year; use bookmobile in at least one new outreach event per year.**

-Pam is now the host of MTPR’s Pea Green Boat on Mondays. I continue to advertising library programs and read books on air. As soon as guests are allowed in the studio, the other YS staff will come over on Mondays as before COVID.

-We hand out reading logs for our summer reading challenge to families daily.

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**LRP Objective: Offer programs and services for teens and children of all ages each year**

-We now offer in person Storytime and Tiny Tales. We record the live events and offer on our YouTube channel weekly.

-We offered three summer programs in June. The Summer Learning kick-off program, The Sunflower Project, was on June 5th.This program was the first of three that are scheduled for this summer focusing on a citizen science project on bees and other pollinators. On the 22nd, the Humane Society came to talk about first aid tips for pets. Animal Wonders came to the library on the 29th for two events about exotic animals.

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

-Provided positive public service in all interactions on the telephone and during curbside.

**MAKERSPACE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

By Ira Sather-Olson

-During the month of June, I interacted with 892 patrons in the Makerspace

-To date, this is by far the busiest the Makerspace has been with people entering the space since its inception.

-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 for children and adults  
-Working on creative cutting projects using our Cricut Maker die-cut cutting machine including making custom stickers from adhesive vinyl  
-3D scanning items for patrons for 3D printing. Some recent 3D scans we completed include zoological specimens such as falcon and eagle talons. These items were brought into the Makerspace by two artists who were participating in the Open AIR artist-in-residency program at two other residency sites in Missoula. Once we scanned the items for the artists, we 3D printed out the resulting scans for them.   
-Laser cutting and engraving various items for patrons. Some examples of what patrons have used the laser cutter and engraver for included: making puzzle pieces from thin sheets of plywood, making custom earrings from thin sheets of acrylic, laser marking on rocks from the Clark Fork River, as well as laser engraving custom images and text onto plywood.  
  
*Other Makerspace happenings:*  
-During the majority of the month of June, the Makerspace hosted our first Artist-in-Residence for the summer as part of our partnership with the local non-profit arts organization Open AIR (<https://www.openairmt.org/>)

-The artist-in-residence was Mikale Kwiatkowski from Charlotte, North Carolina, where she teaches 2D and 3D design classes at Winthrop University.  
-During her tenure in the Makerspace, Mikale 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 were able to bend due to the pliability of the plywood.   
-Mikale also gave an Artist-in-Resident talk on June 16 that brought 22 people into the Makerspace for its first public event since the library opened on May 3.

**LOLO BRANCH REPORT**

By Erin Casey

Lolo Summer Reading programs and summer schedule began on June 9th and with the new summer schedule I have seen a significant increase in walk in attendance. In addition, a local preschool visits the library two days a week. They have a weekly theme, so I pull books, plan an activity and read them a story based on their weekly theme. We have explored bugs, hiking and biking and space in the month of June. There is also a Thursday story time that draws in a few kids with their parents or caregivers.

I am still cleaning books as they come in but no longer setting them up on tables for the three day quarantine. I am also cataloging new books (in the school collection), printing spine labels, covering and stamping with Lolo School and placing them on display for users to check out. Last, there continues to be a big demand for holds, specifically hold pickups. I frequently hear how glad the Lolo community library users are at having this library here and open to browse for books once again.

**FRENCHTOWN BRANCH REPORT**

By Jane Guest

Summer hours started the 8th of June. We are open three days a week. Story time is Wednesday at 10:30 out on the lawn. Sack lunches are distributed from 12 to one on those three days.

We had eight kids for story time the first week and none since due to the weather. Lunch is serving up to 40 kids but fell off the last week since camps were over with for early summer.

**POTOMAC BRANCH REPORT**

By Kirk Vriesman

Public hours (which are Wednesdays from 1-4) remain at the Potomac Library over the school’s summer break. Members of MPL’s cataloging department plan to travel to Potomac for a day this summer to do a single session of cataloging the library’s new books obtained through their literacy grant.

The library was open for 12 hours this month.

**SEELEY LAKE BRANCH REPORT**

By Susan Stone

The library is now open to the public Tuesdays-Thursdays.

Handed out several SRP bags filled with activities and reading logs.

**SWAN VALLEY BRANCH REPORT**

By Jenny Kauffman

Summer has come to the valley with lots of returning summer people and visitors using the wifi.