



STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: December 2, 2024

TITLE:

Library Director's Report

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTED BY:

Bonnie Pierson, Library Director

PROGRAMMING:

On Tuesday, November 19th, the library began building 300 graham cracker houses in preparation for Open House. Building was completed on Wednesday, November 27th.

Volunteers have been crucial in the building of the graham cracker houses. Roughly twenty adult volunteers have given their time to build houses, and Youth Services Librarian Eva Bernal held a Teen Volunteers Building party that took place on Tuesday, November 26th. The event brought together seven dedicated teen volunteers who helped make the evening a success. By the end of the night, the total number of houses built was brought up to 284. Many of these enthusiastic adult and teen volunteers plan to volunteer at the upcoming Open House.

On Saturday, December 7th, Bastrop-local Brad Weber will give a presentation on German prisoners of war that were incarcerated at Camp Swift during the Second World War. This talk will focus on the arrival of the famed Afrika Korps prisoners at Camp Swift, discuss aspects of their captivity and experiences of their time in Bastrop County until their eventual release in 1946. Brad Weber holds a master's degree in military history and is a volunteer at the Bastrop County Historical Society Museum specializing in Camp Swift history.

NOTEWORTHY:

Media Specialist Cary Kittrell celebrated nineteen years with the City of Bastrop on Thursday, November 7th.

UPDATES:

Information Gathered for November 21st Planning & Zoning Meeting

Open House update – contact Lillian Hibbert at lhibbert@bastroplibrary.org for volunteer opportunities

- Refreshments provided by the Friends of the Library
- Graham Cracker house decorating at 10:30, 11:30, 12:30, 1:30, 2:30
- Take Home Kits
- Coloring pages around the library

- Great City Decorating Contest (GCDC) Voting
- Performer lineup:
 - 10:00 Terry Lyne Trio
 - 11:00 Max Butler
 - 12:00 Ben Zuniga
 - 1:00 Honor Choir
 - 2:00 Mary Smith

Friends of the Library update.

Dr. Clementine Msengi author event on Saturday, January 18th

Angela Castillo author event on Saturday, February 7th

Photo ID library cards: no new information currently.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK:

“Thank you for finding out the answer to my question! That's so interesting to learn, and I will definitely come visit the library to read more from Ken Kesselus's book. I grew up in Bastrop and there's so much about the town's history I'd love to know. Being part of this community is so lovely, I appreciate the library and all that you do.”

- Kristie, patron



Susan Magdall

Thankful that I love reading and that we have a wonderful library and library staff!

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“I sure do appreciate you having Teen Thursdays. My daughter sure does enjoy it. They do a lot of good things”

- Angela, patron

“I really like the way the chairs are arranged, the angle of them. It makes it inviting for conversations to happen.”

- Patron, on seating near the new books