



STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: Feb. 3, 2025

TITLE:

Library Director's Report

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTED BY:

Bonnie Pierson, Library Director

PROGRAMMING:

City Manager Sylvia Carrillo-Trevino held a "Sit with Sylvia" session during Coffee & Friends on Wednesday, January 8th. This served as an opportunity for the program's regular attendees and other community members to meet with the City Manager in-person about upcoming challenges and opportunities for the City of Bastrop, along with an open forum question and answer time to talk with the City Manager about topics as desired. With sixteen total attendees, the program was well received for providing a space to interact with the City Manager in a small group setting.

On Tuesday, January 14th, Youth Services Librarian Eva Bernal and Children's Services Associate Ariel Dirienzo attended an outreach event at Red Rock Elementary, where ninety-six people stopped by the booth to learn about library services. Information about the upcoming ESL class, bilingual programs, and other events was shared with attendees. During the event, the library was invited to participate in a Literacy Night happening in early February.

The Bastrop County Audubon Society and Bird City Bastrop have partnered with the Bastrop Public Library to provide an Introduction to Birdwatching program series led by local Master Birders and expert guides. Running four consecutive Fridays from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., the program's first session was held on Friday, January 17th and the last will be on Friday, February 7th.

Louisiana Folk Roots' Musical Petting Zoo was back at the Bastrop Public Library for the second year in a row on Saturday, February 1st as part of the City of Bastrop's Mardi Gras celebration. Attendees were able to interact with traditional Cajun and Zydeco instruments from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the library's Pressley Meeting Room. More information about the event will be available during the meeting.

The library will be providing a six-week English Second Language course led by library volunteer Miriam Mustelier, an experienced ESL instructor. Beginning on February 15th and concluding on March 22nd, the course will take place every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Registration is required and is limited to fourteen people.

NOTEWORTHY:

To abide by standards set by the American Library Association, the Bastrop Public Library began incorporating Christian fiction books into the other genres on Tuesday, December 31st. The incorporation was finished in early January.

On Monday, January 6th, Bastrop Public Library acquired a one-year plan for Better Impact, a volunteer management software. Volunteer coordinators and the Supervisor of Access Services have begun working together to incorporate the software into the library's existing volunteer program.

On Wednesday, January 8th, the library's video relay phone was updated by Sorenson Communications to the latest model.

The Friends of the Library and Bastrop County African American Culture Center and Freedom Colonies Museum co-hosted author Dr. Clementine Msengi at the Bastrop Public Library on Saturday, January 18th. Twenty-six people attended Dr. Msengi's powerful, informative presentation of her book, *Spared*, and her inspiring story of surviving the genocide in her home country of Rwanda. A signed copy of the book will soon be made available for checkout as part of the Bastrop Public Library's collection.

On Monday, January 27th, the Bastrop Public Library held its second Quarterly Staff Training from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Staff discussed Fiscal Year 2025 goals and Fiscal Year 2026 budget ideas and plans.

Public Services Librarian Bethany Williams, Public Services Lead Lillian Hibbert, and Public Services Associate Karen Caldera attended Demco's Book Repair workshop at the Georgetown Public Library on Thursday, January 31st.

UPDATES ON THE FOLLOWING:

Photo ID library cards update.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK:

"I was scrolling through Facebook and saw that y'all had faxing. My grandmother's fax machine doesn't work anymore, so it was perfect timing!"

- Diane, patron

"This was my first time ever at the Bastrop Library, and the ladies in there were the most pleasant, helpful people I have met in a while. I enjoyed my visit."

- Vanessa, patron

"Thank you for having Sewing Machines 101! It was wonderful!"

-Patron

"I like how the Christian genre books are now incorporated amongst the other genres!"

- Patsy, Volunteer