



STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: Jan. 8, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: 4A

TITLE:

Library Director's Report

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTED BY:

Bonnie Pierson, Library Director

PROGRAMMING:

Bastrop Public Library's annual Open House was, once again, a big success. 822 people attended, and just under 300 graham cracker houses were given away that day, with 306 people choosing to decorate a house in the library. Additionally, 110 Take Home Kits were given away. Six live musicians performed holiday music throughout the day. The Friends of the Library provided refreshments. The Library is beyond grateful for the Friends, Library Board, and community members who volunteered their time to prepare and execute the event.

On December 12th, Bluebonnet Trails hosted their Community Services Parents as Teachers Information Fair at the Bastrop Hampton Inn and Suites. Youth Services Librarian Eva Bernal represented the Bastrop Public Library at the fair to provide information on library resources and programs that would help parents become better educators for their children. A total of 111 attendees visited the library's booth.

The annual Elves Workshop event took place on December 14th, during the library's weekly Teen Thursday program. A total of 7 teens participated this year and had a chance to make a variety of handmade Christmas gifts for their loved ones. The handmade gifts included a Christmas card, painted terracotta pots, customized tea towels, lavender sugar hand scrub, and a cookie mix jar.

Adult Programs beginning in January 2024.

- Knitting Group: Begins weekly starting Friday, January 5th from 2:45 pm to 5:15 pm.
- Meet at the Library: Every other Thursday in the Pressley Meeting Room from 1:00 to 3:00 pm starting January 11th.
- Beginning Sewing with Mary: Begins weekly starting Saturday, January 13th from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm and runs through Saturday, March 24th.
- Sewing & Quilting Group: Begins weekly starting Monday, January 22nd from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm.
- History Talks: The first program of this quarterly series will be taking place on Saturday, January 27th from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm. Robbie Sanders, chair of the Fairview Cemetery Advisory Board, will be presenting on Fairview Cemetery.

NOTEWORTHY:

Birdhouses provided by the Lost Pine Garden Club were installed at the library on Tuesday, December 19th. These birdhouses complement others installed in Fisherman's Park and show collaboration between the Lost Pines Garden Club and the City of Bastrop to support the natural environment as a Texas Bird City.



Library Services Circulation Associate Catherine Lombardo returned from medical leave on Wednesday, December 27th.

The Library Associate Children's Services position is still open. As of Friday, December 29th, nine applications have been received and reviewed. Interviews have not been scheduled.

Over ten new security cameras were installed in and around the library in the second half of December. These cameras will provide staff with more visibility of the building, particularly areas hard to see from the front desks, such as the Reading Room.

New library hours were approved by the City Manager. Since Tuesday, January 2nd, the Bastrop Public Library is now open from 12:00 pm to 9:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

UPDATES ON THE FOLLOWING:

Photo ID library cards update.

RFID feasibility update.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK:



Isaac Archer

1 review • 0 photos

★★★★★ 3 days ago

It's an amazing place for anyone wanting a little peace and quiet.

The staff is great and very friendly.

You can check out a ton of other things than books including movies, tv shows, board games, puzzles, cake pans and I just learned that you can check out wifi hotspots!

There's a room devoted to teenagers where you can just hang out with your friends.



Erin Baldwin Chandler

The take home kits are amazing! Thank you for offering them as an option!

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Hanna Little-Neuhaus

1 review • 0 photos

★★★★★ 11 hours ago

i attended the teen night program from 2020-2023(14-17). i've yet to turn 18 but this summer a lot happened and i'm unlikely to be able to attend before then, so i'd just like to say how much the program helped me. bethany, who ran the program while i attended, is an incredible person, as are all other staff.

thank you to the library for providing books and incredible experiences over the last three years.

editing to sign:

H. "Zee" Little-Neuhaus