

Director's Report – February 24, 2026

Operations & Services

- Completed targeted weeding in Juvenile Non-Fiction, Teen Fiction, Alaska Collection, and DVDs to improve access and make space for updates. Teen and DVD inventories are complete.
- Preparing for Chris's April 30, 2026 retirement. A 12–14 hr/wk Library Clerk position is open to support hiring and training ahead of internal transitions.
- Passport Acceptance Facility: Barb is leading and coordinating agent recertification. Hours have been expanded to 9-4 M-F.
- Staff are using Notion AI/ChatGPT to streamline admin work (planning, tracking, documentation, marketing drafts), freeing time for patron services.
- Library Website: vendor selection and funding exploration underway, with a focus on ADA accessibility.

Grants, Budget, & Finance

- Rasmuson grant request submitted (self-check + website improvements).
- Friends of Petersburg Libraries donated \$5,000 toward replacing the self-check kiosk.
- First Bank Community Development Grant application submitted (2026 Summer Reading).
- IMLS Native American Basic Grant: resolution goes to Tribal Council Feb 18; if approved, application will be submitted.

Programs & Community Engagement

Youth & Children's Programs

- Wiggle & Giggle! moved to Wednesdays to avoid swim conflicts; attendance improving.
- Good Beginnings/Head Start continue weekly storytime and free-play visits.

- Baby Raven Reads resumed monthly; planning support provided through a Sealaska Heritage Institute grant.
- LEGO Club meets 1st/3rd Tuesdays; creations displayed in-library.
- Summer Reading 2026 planning underway (gamification model). Kari is partnering with Sunny Rice and Alaska Sea Grant to develop a middle school science camp tied to Summer Reading.
- Teen space work is in progress: Barb is running a teen survey and planning a new teen craft/social program.

Adult Programs & Services

- Ready, Set, Puzzle! launched in January; additional events planned.
- Ongoing series/classes include Mama-To-Mama Milk Meet-Up, Yoga, and Rainforest Writers.
- Year of Reading Challenge continues with monthly themes and recognition.
- Petersburg Science Series continues monthly in partnership with Alaska Sea Grant.
- Listening Project: Kari published 28 oral history interviews from the 2025 Senior Alaska History Class; audio formatting for KFSK broadcast is in progress.

Outreach & Marketing

- Program feedback process created (Google Forms for registration classes + QR cards for drop-ins). Early feedback is very positive.
- Art display program launched; current exhibit Ashley Lohr) through Feb 19, with the next featured artist (Suzanne Fuqua) scheduled.
- Kari and Barb are developing social media content highlighting services and collections.