



LIBRARY BOARD COMMUNICATION

DATE: May 22, 2024

FROM: Laura Klenke, Library Director

AGENDA ITEM: Librarian's Report

SUMMARY:

General News

We're happy to report we've seen an increase in program attendance and overall interest in library events. Many are seeing our programs advertised on Facebook and learning about events through word of mouth. We have benefitted from the consistency of marketing efforts both online and in person. We hope this trend continues to grow over the summer and attracts new library patrons. We're excited for this summer.

Digital circulations are on the rise. Looking closely at possibly joining the Texas Cloudlink Group. The group requires an interlocal agreement, and a commitment to purchase at least 10% of what our physical materials budget is allotted. It will require more investigation on our part due to City Council approval. Our Hoopla usage is still high. We rolled back the checkouts to three hoping it would help control our budget, but it is not having as big of an impact.

The City has installed panic buttons throughout City offices, including the library. In addition, our smoke alarms were installed at the same time, by the same vendor at considerable cost savings due to using the existing equipment for the panic buttons.

Summer Reading 2024 News

We are finalizing plans for our Summer Reading Program. June's calendar is finalized. We have a wide variety of programs for both June and July. We're still waiting on confirmation on two art related programs for July. We will be advertising our Excel High School Program in June for an August launch.

The Blackland Prairie Raptor Center will kick off the event on June 1, 2024, at 10:30 AM. Volunteer participation has increased, with Steve Parker teaching Spanish and open language classes, and Kayla Monschke offering coding classes for grades 3-8 and high school throughout the summer. We are partnering with EBR HR Experts for a resume class for high schoolers and college students, and a salary negotiation session for women. We will have special guests for pre-school storytime, public works, fire, police, electric and possibly the post office. We will have two family game nights one on Thursday night and another on Friday night in June and July.

July's calendar will feature a local artist who will be teaching participants how to make a bolo tie. Dallas Weaver's Guild is scheduled to visit our UFO club to demonstrate different looms to our fiber arts enthusiasts. In preparation for the new school year, we will be having a program on how to prepare and make bulk freezer meals. David Slick the juggler will end our Summer Reading Program.

May 2024

We kicked off May with Star Wars Week, featuring crafts and activities for all ages, including a glow stick lightsaber craft and a scavenger hunt. Participants entered a prize drawing for a Lego Star Wars bookset, a Yoda bookend, and lots of Star Wars socks. We also collaborated with the Sanger Police Department's Cones and Cops event. Staff member Carissa Malmgren had a great idea for a Traffic Stop 101 simulation using a real car and sirens. Officer Wallenburg was terrific at walking the teens through all aspects of a traffic stop which was well-received by teens and parents. Due to high interest, we plan to repeat the program after school starts and during National Night Out on October 1, 2024. Additionally, our book page wreath program for adults was a hit. Participants had a great time and expressed interest in future wreath programs.

April 2024

In April, the library buzzed with celestial excitement and artistic celebration. We introduced Earth Day trash cleanup kits, providing safety vests, trash grabbers, and more. National Poetry Month inspired patrons to craft magnetic poems and share verses on our poetree. Quilter Beth Patton led a class on no-sew mini landscape quilts. A glow-in-the-dark paint party drew 11 adults, 3 teens, and 21 children. Our eclipse watch party attracted 48 adults, 4 teens, and 30 children. Teen hangouts featured origami wishing stars, and Sanger Studio Saturday explored self-portraits. Lego Club showcased unique creations. The library sponsored a pop-up pottery class with Yahweh Pottery. It was well attended with 8 participants. Our City-wide Art Exhibition saw 63 artists and 98 pieces, doubling last year's participation. Denton County United Way's VITA Tax assistance served over 90 clients.

March 2024

In March, the library introduced a new regular program and revived some favorites. Quilter Beth Potter led another vibrant no-sew mini quilt class for teens and tweens. The annual Dr. Seuss Birthday Party drew a crowd for scavenger hunts and celebrations. Sanger Studio Saturday taught by staff member Theresa Hammond debuted, offering mixed media techniques. Preschool Music and Movement saw increased family participation. Master Naturalist Cathy Milliger taught about whooping cranes. Lego Club and knitting gatherings continued to engage attendees. Teen and tween handouts featured creative button-making. Workshops on chain mail and one on one resume reviews enriched the community. Denton County United Way's VITA Tax assistance program provided essential support throughout the month.

March Monthly Statistics:

- 2,063 physical items were checked out.
- 488 digital items were checked out.
- 56 new cardholders, for a total of 3,454.
- 2,146 visits to the library.
- 79 reference questions answered.
- 61 computer-related questions answered.

April Monthly Statistics:

- 2,222 physical items were checked out.
- 539 digital items were checked out.
- 54 new cardholders, for a total of 3,477.
- 2,648 visits to the library.
- 72 reference questions answered.
- 61 computer-related questions answered.

FISCAL INFORMATION:

Budgeted: YES/NO

Amount: \$0.00

GL Account: XXX.XX.XXXX

RECOMMENDED MOTION OR ACTION:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A