

Library Services

April 2017

Mission Statement:

The Burlington Public Library creates opportunities for people of all ages to connect with others, to learn about the world around them, and to imagine the futures before them.



Youth Services



Children in a recent Wiggly Time class saw how a caterpillar turns into a butterfly. The current session of weekly classes will end in early May.

Friday Friends continues to have a steady attendance and is a supportive environment for parents/caretakers to bring children up to age 5. Stations in the story time room include toys that are educational and fun.



This month Sensory Storytime & Reading Buddies were held on the same morning to encourage attendance. Sensory storytime is designed for children on the autism spectrum and with other special needs. This class incorporates all 5 senses as well as stories, songs, and rhyme in a relaxed, flexible environment. Angie from City Hall brought in her dog Hero to read with the children as part of Reading Buddies.

Amy is close to completing this school year's Proud to Read Aloud visits to all the 1st and 2nd grade classes in the Burlington school district. Next school year she plans to expand visits to 3rd grade. The book with a black cover in the picture to the right was read with 2nd grade classes and the book with the white cover was read with 1st grade classes. Both books are designed for the children to read parts as a group, trading back and forth with Amy and practicing their reading skills and understanding how punctuation gives clues that impact how we read aloud.



Becky had a booth at the STEM festival at SCC on April 22nd. Youth were able to turn bananas into controllers to engage with STEM skills. A short video on Facebook is available to view.

The AWE Early Literacy Stations have been used for 554 sessions since January. Unfortunately, we don't have a way to track usage at the iPad station or on the AWE tablets, but they are observably popular.

Tween & Teens

Tween classes gave these late elementary and early middle school students opportunities to be creative. For one class shortly before Easter, they used a piece of block wood and turned it into a chunky bunny decoration. Because April is National Poetry Month, the second class allowed tweens to embellish old clothes by writing poems directly on them.

April's author visit with Dan Wells included a writers' workshop and book signing. His workshop was well received and Chris at Burlington By the Book supplied books for the book signing. Our visitor from Utah was welcomed with a gift basket and experienced the town that he refers to in his *Partials* series as the town across the river from Gulfport, Illinois. The Foundation sponsored this visit.

The Teen class on plantable seed papers ended up looking like blue textured cookies that looked good enough to eat.

Amy attended the YouthNet meeting at BHS. They discussed creating promotional videos this summer to highlight our library services. Parents in the district will have access to these videos to become more connected to our services.

Adult Education

The second day of the 15th annual genealogy workshop was held on April 1st at the Capitol Theater. The speaker gave four presentations at this all-day event. Plans are already started for the 2018 event where Maureen Taylor will be the speaker.

Seventy people attended the Specifically for Seniors program “Straight-laced Girls, Uptight Ladies, and Loose Women” presented by Kathy Wilson. Kathy took the audience on an historical tour of the Victorian era and how the cultural ideals of that time period are still evident today. The title of the program relates to women who wore tightly laced corsets and those “loose women” who did not.



Meeting Room A was overflowing with people interested in Straw Bale Gardening. Hawk Eye reporter Craig Neises interviewed Lois and wrote an article about her experiences with using bales for gardening. Forty-five people attended with more telling us they wished they could’ve come to the class. Lois is considering having a Straw Bale Gardener reunion class in the fall. Lois also has been asked by a Kiwanis member to present her class in Henderson County.

Technology

Lois has ordered eight computers and two laptops to replace staff computers that were up to eight to ten years old. She also has two laptops that will replace the aging check out laptops.

Professional Development

Lois attended webinars on Horizon Acquisitions and a new electronic book product from Bibliotheca that uses a per-use lending model and/or the option to purchase a license like we do now with Overdrive. The per-use model charges a fee anywhere from \$.99 to \$5.99. The 19,000+ eAudio titles they have are mostly older titles.

Community

Special thanks to American Legion Burlington Post 52 for donating flags and stands for the large meeting rooms. We previously only had one that was moved between the rooms. That one is now in the local history room.



The library hosted our annual volunteer appreciation brunch to honor and thank our volunteers. The library was blessed with 220 volunteers who contributed over 7000 hours in FY16. Many of the volunteers work at the Friends book sales or in the Friends shop. Others do a wide variety of projects, such as assisting with classes, serving on boards, helping with maintenance, dusting and arranging the shelves, and sorting through local history collections.

We nominated library volunteer Fritz Goeckner for the Mayors' Volunteer Awards event. Fritz has spent the last year scanning and rehousing the library's glass plate negative collection which will be available online at iowaheritage.org. There are 149 images currently online that can be found in the Ernest Wyman Hanson Glass Plate Negative Collection using the browse feature.



As a member of the Community Volunteer Alliance that organizes the event, Rhonda helped set-up and present at the Mayors' Volunteer Awards dinner. Attendance was higher at this year's event, in part, due to the change to a dinner event instead of a lunch. Many family members and friends were able to attend and help honor the nominees.



Other Activities and News

The library added chess kits for checkout. We've had ones for use in the library and, in nice weather, often have people using the large pieces on the outdoor chessboard. Adding these kits allows people of all ages to have a chess set to use at home as they learn or practice their skills. Thanks to Stephanie for organizing this project.

Rhonda spoke to the YMCA's Keenagers group about library services.

A new SCC work study student started assisting with straightening the collection and other projects. She will be assigned to the library until early May.

Becky participated in the PIECES advisory board meeting.

Rhonda attended the PRIDE team meeting.

Rhonda attended the city council work sessions and meeting as well as the city leadership team and department staff meetings.

Rhonda attended the Library Foundation's quarterly meeting. The Foundation board contributed over \$50,000 for collection purchases, teen summer internships, an author visit, technology purchases, and the genealogy workshop.

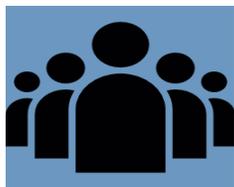
Rhonda attended the Friends of the Library Board monthly meeting. The Friends contributed over \$4,000 for the newsletter, a new laminator for processing books, summer reading, outreach storytimes, landscape maintenance, and the volunteer brunch.

The Friends held their annual meeting dinner on April 28 with Lisa Knopp as their guest speaker. The Friends fiscal year runs from May – April. In their last year, they contributed a total of \$38,865.06 to support library services. This community group raises funds through three annual book sales, a used book store, an annual trivia night, and membership dues. Their contribution over the past year supported books for literacy classes, outreach visits to area preschools, access to ebooks for kids, STEM kits for classes, upgraded microfilm reader-printers, landscaping maintenance, monthly newsletters, staff training, and more. Nearly anytime someone attends a class at the library, it is thanks to sponsorship from the Friends. The group elected their new board members and officers at the meeting. Bob McAnally is the new Friends Board president.

April 2017 By the Numbers

Visitors

0 2 3 7 7 7



568

Meeting Room
Reservations



201 Laptop Checkouts



6,675 Wi-Fi sessions



4,879 Database Uses



4,980 computer logins

Classes and Events

Adults 7

Youth 92



Participants

Adults 182

Youth 2,412

Nonprint Items

Borrowed

Adults 11,393

Youth 1,244



90

New Borrower
Accounts Opened

Books & Magazines

Borrowed

Adults 7,990

Teens 616

Tweens 314

Children 5,575



Downloads

Books 1900

Music 671

Audio 577

Magazines 126