

November 2017

Library Services Report

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.

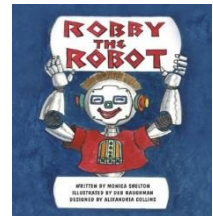
Youth and Family Services

Storytime Yoga



We moved **Storytime Yoga** to Wednesdays at 4:30 p.m. instead of Saturday mornings. This class is geared towards children ages 3-6 and highlights stories and movement with yoga poses that go along with the books. After stretching out leading Storytime Yoga, Sarah then teaches two **Babygarten** classes at 5:30 and 6:30 on Wednesday nights.

During the November **Sensory Storytime**, the library opened early for children and their families to explore in an open and quiet environment. Allison then led a special Sensory Storytime for children on the autism spectrum and other special needs followed by an author visit with Moncia Shelton, author of *Robby the Robot*.



Tween & Teen Services



The first session of the **Mother/Daughter Tween Book Club** wrapped up reading the story *Pumpkin Spice Secrets*. Melissa organized and led these sessions. Parents and youth bonded by reading the same book together and made crafts while enjoying treats.

Thanks to Becky's creativity and organization, tweens and teens had a **week of STEM activities** including coding, Star Wars Little Bits, slime, and fantasy map in the coffee shop space.

The **College & Career Prep** night with local college reps in attendance covered financial aid tips and other questions. In January, Becky will organize a follow up program to focus on scholarships.

The library hosted its first **History Lab** to support students participating in the National History Day Project. In the coffee shop space, Amy and Mallorie assisted students with their projects.

Youth Outreach Services

Allison **presented at the Nest** and focused on the positive things that parents are already doing with their children that are building blocks of early literacy. Individually, parents checked off such activities and, as a group, they discussed how these activities fit into the five building blocks of learning – reading, writing, singing, talking, and playing. She brought a small sample of the materials we have for checkout at the library. She also brought a letter with upcoming storytimes and events at the library. The following day, one of the mothers called to register her young daughter for Babygarten.

Becky hosted another **BCSD Homeschool** visit to the library and the homeschool families got to experiment with Star Wars Little Bits as a STEM activity.

Amy continued visits to BCSD 2nd and 3rd grade classrooms for the **Proud to Read Aloud** program.

Adult Education



The third annual **Sterling Lord Writers and Readers Festival** was held on November 17 with over 20 authors in attendance and seven sessions on writing and publishing. We experimented with some changes this year by hosting the event on a Friday rather than a Saturday because we have observed a significant number of retired and senior patrons attending daytime, work week programs about writing through this year. We also developed a framework to encourage visiting authors to attend the ongoing workshops in order to provide

opportunities for them to teach and grow. The Hawk Eye did a nice follow-up article highlighting the panel discussion on writing local history.

At the November **First Friday Series**, Leslie Goddard portrayed Jacqueline Kennedy in an excellent program. Goddard highlighted Kennedy's life as a wife, mother, first lady, and widow to a crowd of 78 people.



The library continually assesses areas for improvements in customer engagement and community utilization. Adult programs have adapted to meet library user needs. The **eBrunch: Holiday Apps** series transformed into one-on-one sessions which guided patrons through the process of downloading and navigating apps like Ask Karen (the USDA's informational guide for consumers about preventing foodborne illnesses), Libby (a user friendly, third-party application to access OverDrive ebooks) and Pinterest.



Burlington native and author of *Sutter's Soda Satisfies*, Jane Sutter Brandt returned to town and taught **Blogging 101** for fourteen people. She has already offered to teach another writing class when she visits in the spring.

Beyond the Book Club tackled timely social issues such as human trafficking and the thorny nexus of systemic racism and personal destruction with James Hannaham's *Delicious Foods*. Tiara has been essential in obtaining contemporary titles of interest through Interlibrary Loan. The Burlington group Promoting Peace, Healing and Community shares members with this club and they have offered their digital and physical spaces in the promotion of library events.



Linda McCann presented on **The History of Civilian Conservation Corps Camps in Iowa**. She has a new book on the CCC in southeast Iowa coming out in December that we look forward to adding to the collection. Locally, the CCC had a camp in New London and did a lot of work at Lake Geode as well as other projects focused on parks and soil conservation.



Community Outreach



Library staff, along with some family members, volunteered to walk in the **Lighted Holiday Parade** to promote the library.

The library is experiencing interest in its tech literacy assistance in places patrons organically inhabit in the community. **Tech Help** outreach at Hy-Vee on Agency will continue in November and staff are looking forward to planning more tech outreach for 2018.

Technology

The Iowa Communications Network (ICN) equipment and racks have been removed from the server room. This equipment was part of the ICN Mobile Cart we had for years that provided for video conferencing and video classes, a service similar to Skype or Facetime but using much older technology. Removing this once heavily used, but now outdated and unused equipment, we improved access to the server rack for when we need to do troubleshooting or upgrades.

Professional Development

Tiara, Melissa, and Allison completed a 5-week Public Library Support offered through the State Library of Iowa. This course covered topics such as relationships, communication, technology, online resources, collection development, and successful lifelong learning, both online and offline. They attended weekly webinar sessions and participated in discussion groups. They concluded with a final test at the end of the course. We now have five staff members who have earned support staff certification.

While on vacation in England, Samantha attended a library conference and presented on Burlington's Pumpkinpalooza event.

Other Activities and News

Rhonda attended the monthly Friends of the Library board meeting at which the board approved a donation to the library of over \$4,400 for newsletters, landscape maintenance, ebooks, and several upcoming classes and events. The Friends also held their 2nd annual Black Friday Book Sale to raise funds for the library and offer some inexpensive gift options for the community.

Rhonda presented the library's FY17 annual report to the city council at their November 13 work session.

The staff participated in demos for Apollo, Polaris and TLC. These are products that could replace Horizon, our integrated library system that handles cataloging, circulation, home delivery, interlibrary loan, and serials. Each staff member is submitting their thoughts on these alternatives.

Rhonda participated in the department meetings and the city's PRIDE and CARE team meetings. The library staff participated in the Adopt-A-Family program that the PRIDE team coordinates with Young House Family Services. Rhonda also attended the council meetings and work sessions.

Rhonda participated in the Community Volunteer Alliance meeting as they continue plans for the Mayor's Volunteer Awards in April.

Rhonda met with a Main Street Iowa Design Consultant about a potential outdoor mural.

Rhonda gave a tour to the three new city council members.

November 2017 By the Numbers

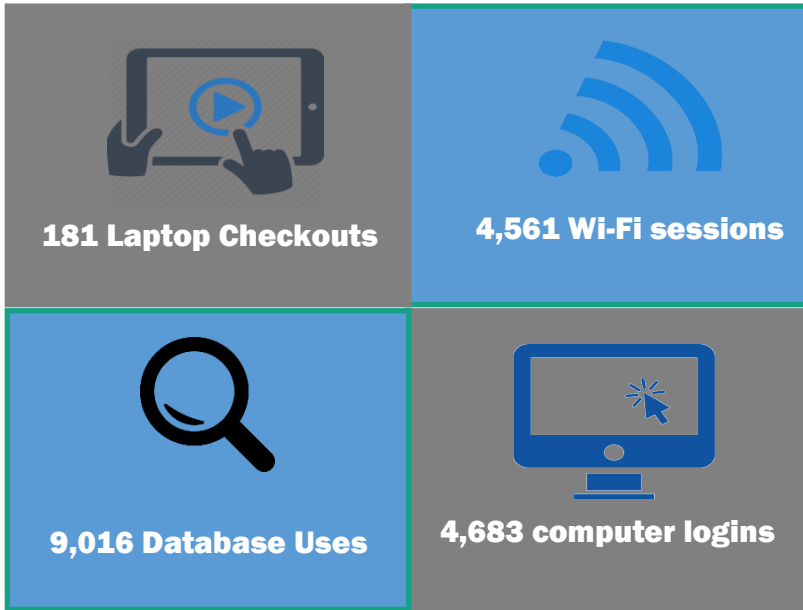
Visitors

0 1 4 3 5 3



539

Meeting Room
Reservations



Classes and Events

Adults 15

Youth 92



Participants

Adults 207

Youth 1886

Nonprint Items

Borrowed

Adults 11,788

Youth 1,487



73

New Borrower
Accounts Opened

Books & Magazines

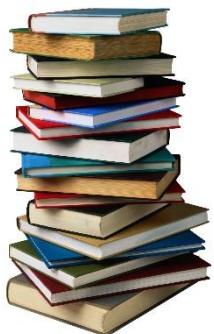
Borrowed

Adults 7,933

Teens 596

Tweens 274

Children 5,584



Downloads

Books 2,034

Music 620

Audio 567

Magazines 193

