

June Youth Services Board Report

Meeting Date: July 18, 2019

In June, we offered 29 children's programs. Our children's programs served 382 children & 104 adults. We also offered 8 teen programs that served 47 teens. We had 10 teen volunteers this month that worked a total of 42 hours. The programs with the highest attendance were our many field trips from Cooke and Rutherford Schools. Some photos of the school visits made the Democrat and there was an accompanying article about how much fun the kids were having on their visits.

Our Battle of the Books team has decided to compete again in the September system-wide battle and has already started preparing. One of our team members moved and another one has joined so as of now we still have 8 team members/two teams competing. The most popular teen program of the month was Alex's YouTube Paint Night. The teens watched a tutorial to paint their own galaxy scene. They loved it and many asked when they could do it again.

We are deep into summer reading sign up now, with only 10 days of registration left. Thus far there are 175 children and 42 teenagers signed up. If we continue at this rate, I expect that we will register more students and read far more minutes that we did last summer. We are about to start visits to the town of Bethel camp for the RCLS mini-grant that I spoke about last month and Alex and I are excited to include children who usually cannot make it to the library in our summer reading fun. I am also pleased to announce that Aileen Gunther and her incredible staff were able to secure some addition funding for the summer reading program as well. We will receive enough money to cover 2 of our performers and are, as always thankful to Aileen for her support.

We had our last Paws & Read event this month, as the pup will be returning to "puppy college" to finish her service dog training. This program is always so popular and I love that it is beneficial for the dog as well as the children. Barbara, the service dog handler is going to get a new puppy to raise soon and will let us know when the dog is ready to start reading with children here again.

The Friends last met on June 25th for their annual meeting. They have been busy tabling at all of the various races and festivals this spring and are gearing up for farmer's market tables and the bagel fest. They had a successful membership drive which brought in a few new members and renewed many existing friends memberships.

Overall, as is the case every June, we are very focused on getting everything ready for summer reading and boom in library usage that comes when children are out of school. This summer's theme is "A Universe of Stories" and we have many space themed programs on deck. Chelsea is running a story writing contest this summer. We will "publish" the winning entries in our Fall Newsletter and make the available throughout the library once the winners are chosen. Alex is running all of the teen programs this summer and is using a Harry Potter theme. Each week is a different "class" and teens will be sorted into their Hogwarts houses and will compete to earn house points by reading and participating in programs. The reward is a pizza party at the end of the summer.

The computers in the children's room were used 59 times throughout the month of June, and the teen computers were used 77 times. The WiiU was used by 119 teens before it crashed and will no longer read disks. I will be replacing it with either a refurbished WiiU(they no longer make them new) or another system shortly. The children's program room was used 6 times for tutoring/testing/group study purposes this month.

Submitted by: Cheryl Jones
July 5th, 2019