

Librarian's Report

October 2025

Programming:

Kids:

- ✚ September was the kick-off to Reading Dragons and Friends Program. We have had a great response with 115 reading logs given out and over 170 "families" of mythical creatures given out. Thirty-one (31) of the kids were able to collect all four families of cards and earned a bonus card.
- ✚ A Reading Dragons and Friends craft activity was held on September 24, and had a fabulous attendance of 54 kids!
- ✚ Both Music Makers sessions are full.
- ✚ Story times are back in full swing – both in the library and out!
- ✚ Re-labeling and sorting the picture book collection is about half way done.
- ✚ The plan for non-fiction and chapter books is in the final stages.
- ✚ Coming up is the Star Wars Spooktacular party on Saturday, October 25 with special guests from the 501st.
- ✚ We will again be at the Gracepoint Trunk or Treat on Friday, October 31.

Teens:

- ✚ Now that school is back in session, YA programming has slowed down a bit, but teen offerings are still plenty.
- ✚ 10 teens made watercolor bookmarks last month.
- ✚ Teens thoroughly enjoyed diamond painting magnets and asked to have the program again.
- ✚ Furniture for the YA area has been ordered!
- ✚ 70 people attended Jenny's Tri-Conference presentation on Tech-less Teens!
- ✚ Coming up:
 - the teens are making spooky paper shadow boxes for Workshop Wednesday, on October 15.
 - Graphic Novel and teen book club are meeting On October 22.
 - Geode skull making teen craft for Halloween on October 29.
- ✚ Partnering with Nancy and Mikaela for Decades Night on October 23.

Adults:

- ❖ There was a full roster of teams for Pie and Puzzles, again catered by the Valley Restaurant.

- ❖ The Pet Parade, while not our best year, was still a blast. There were 52 attendees, and 20 pets. The winners were Sitka (Judges Choice) and Yuki the cat (Community Choice) – check out the pictures on Facebook.
- ❖ The Fairytale Escape Room was a hit! 22 teams went through which added up to 103 participants total!
- ❖ Coming up we have the:
 - Decades Night for all ages on Thursday, October 23 from 6 – 7:30 pm. Drop in any time! There will be activities celebrating the '80's, '90's, and '00's.
 - On Thursday, October 30 is an all-ages Halloween Cake Decorating competition beginning at 6:00 pm. (registration is required for decorating teams)

Tech

- Lowe's Hometowns Grant: Nancy and Jenny are working with Rachel Funk from the Arts Council on designing a mural for the YA area as part of the Lowe's Hometowns grant. As part of the grant, we have to have a Lowe's employee volunteer day, and we're hoping to have the employees paint the mural once Rachel sketches it on the wall. This is tentatively planned for late October, but we need a date confirmation from Lowe's.
- Lowe's Hometowns Grant: LFI is tentatively planning a late November/early December install for the shelving and furniture purchased with the Lowe's Hometowns grant. We had to get an extension on the grant to accommodate delays in shelving arrival, but the organization facilitating the grant for Lowe's was OK with extending the date until the end of the year for us. We'll likely need to be closed for a couple of days due to disruptions from the shelving install.

Other:

- Mikaela presented at SDLA's Branch Out, a day-long conference for library support staff. She's presenting on Marketing Basics and Intro to Canva at Branch Out in both Sioux Falls and Huron.
- Mikaela is also presented "Programming for Inclusion" on Wednesday, October 9, at an ALA webinar as part of the ALA Peggy Barber Tribute grant we received. The grant funded the VisABILITY events we held over the last 2.5 years focused on programming for and about disability awareness.
- Furniture has been ordered to replace the soft seating throughout the Library.