

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT – February, 2014

World Book Night

Homer Township Public Library has been selected as a distribution site for World Book Night that will take place on April 23, 2014. Various staff and residents could register to become a book advocate. If chosen these community members receive a shipment of 20 books to deliver to selected recipients, such as Marian and Victorian Village, teens, homebound, etc. all to encourage giving materials to light or non-readers to encourage literacy and an appreciation of books. We had eight (the maximum allowable) people choose our library. In recognition we will have an event to thank all participants, such as an open house/reception the week before World Book Night. I am very pleased that we have undertaken to join World Book Night and spread the joy of receiving a free book to read.

Per Capita Grant

We have been awarded the Illinois Public Library Per Capita and Equalization Aid Grant in the amount of \$48,823. This year we received approximately \$8,000 more than in the preceding year.

The annual application is due each fall. ISL presents a three year list of requirements so libraries can plan accordingly to meet them. For next year we will review and report on Progress in meeting Chapter 7, "Collection Management and Resource Sharing," of Serving Our Public 3.0: Standards for Illinois Public Library, 2014. In addition, one staff member must attend an instructional course from one of the Regional System Agencies or the Illinois State Library. Lastly, one staff and board member must attend an informational webinar or in-person session about The Edge Initiative (www.libraryedge.org).

The Edge Initiative was developed by a national coalition of leading library and local government organizations, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and led by the Urban Libraries Council. It was created with the vision that all people should have opportunities to enrich and improve their lives through open access to information, communication, and technology services provided by public libraries. Edge is a groundbreaking, first of its kind management and leadership tool, helping libraries create a path for the continuous growth and development of their public technology services.

Through an easy to use suite of tools, Edge supports libraries in making strategic decisions and identifying areas for improvement. The Edge Toolkit gives libraries a look into their local data, from operations to partnerships and programming, to assess how their community is using the technology and how best practices can be put into place to align future growth and services with community priorities. It also provides useful resources to package and showcase the data to other community leaders. More details to follow.

Financial

We continue to operate conservatively and have expended approximately 50% of the library's working budget over the past seven months (through January 31). Areas to note include:

1. Supplies and materials –expended 65% (for seven months).
2. Capital expenditures –expended 43% (for seven months).
3. Personnel –expended approximately 59% (for seven months).
4. Operating and contractual services –expended 56% (for seven months).

It is a high priority to anchor or reduce expenses in a logical and manageable manner and I am planning long range to continue this trend.

Programs & Events

We have several upcoming new initiatives, such as programs during Money Smart Week and tie-ins for water and conservation. These directly correlate to our two sponsors, Illinois American Water and BMO Harris Bank. Sponsorships help us provide extended programming, materials, and initiatives to community residents. We greatly

appreciate and thank I American Water and BMO Harris for their courtesy in joining our partnerships for the benefit of library users. Here are the programs and upcoming events. As you can see we have a full and active schedule for all ages.

February

- ◆ February 1 Winter Program Registration begins
- ◆ February 1 Olympic Games
- ◆ Feb 1 – March 3 WINTER READING CLUB – OLYMPIC READERS Read for the Gold
- ◆ February 3 Adult Movie Matinee
- ◆ February 4 Teen Book Club
- ◆ February 5 Know the 10 Signs
- ◆ February 7 Basic Yoga
- ◆ February 7 Sit and Stay Fit
- ◆ February 10 Mystery Book Club
- ◆ February 11 Paying for College Workshop
- ◆ February 12 Chess & Checkers Club
- ◆ February 12 Calling all Chocoholics
- ◆ February 12 Prairie Smoke
- ◆ February 13 Teen Advisory Board
- ◆ February 14 Armchair Traveler
- ◆ February 15 Babysitting
- ◆ February 17 LIBRARY CLOSED – President’s Day
- ◆ February 18 Crafternoons
- ◆ February 18 Teen Movie Night
- ◆ February 19 Lego’s
- ◆ February 19 Adult Book Discussion
- ◆ February 20 Youth Advisory Committee
- ◆ February 20 Teen Manga/Anime
- ◆ February 21 Adult Bingo
- ◆ February 25 Lego’s
- ◆ February 25 Chick Lit Book Club
- ◆ February 26 College Application Essay Workshop
- ◆ February 27 Raw Food 101
- ◆ February 27 Family Fitness Fair (assisted in partnership with Dist. 33C)

March

- ◆ March 1-8 Dr. Seuss Raffle
- ◆ March 3-13 Dr. Seuss Raffle (on the Bookmobile)
- ◆ March 3 Story Time
- ◆ March 3 Intro to Internet
- ◆ March 3 Adult Matinee
- ◆ March 3 Simply Stories
- ◆ March 3 Mother/Daughter Book Club

- ◆ March 4 Story Time
- ◆ March 4 Special Needs Story Time
- ◆ March 4 Teen Book Club
- ◆ March 5 Simply Stories
- ◆ March 5 Music & Movement
- ◆ March 5/6 Wiggles & Giggles
- ◆ March 6 Polish Story Time
- ◆ March 6 Rainbow Rubber Band Club
- ◆ March 6 Teen Advisory Board
- ◆ March 7 Basic Yoga
- ◆ March 10-22 Lucky Shamrock Drop-In Craft
- ◆ March 10 Intro to Power Point
- ◆ March 10 Mystery Book Club
- ◆ March 11 Teen Gaming
- ◆ March 12 Chess/Checkers Club
- ◆ March 12 Prairie Smoke Writer's Club
- ◆ March 14 Armchair Traveler
- ◆ March 15 Pokémon Day
- ◆ March 17-27 Luscious Lips or Silly 'Staches (on the Bookmobile)
- ◆ March 17 Spring Program Registration
- ◆ March 17 Yoga
- ◆ March 18 Crafternoons
- ◆ March 19 Intro to Excel
- ◆ March 19 Intro to Word
- ◆ March 19 Lego's
- ◆ March 19 Adult Book Discussion
- ◆ March 20 Youth Advisory Committee
- ◆ March 20 Teen Mange/Anime
- ◆ March 21 Bingo
- ◆ March 22 ACT Practice Test
- ◆ Mar 24-Apr 5 Search for the Golden Egg
- ◆ March 25 Youth Bingo
- ◆ March 25 Lego's
- ◆ March 25 Chick Lit Book Club
- ◆ March 26 Youth Movie
- ◆ March 26 Social Media for your Business
- ◆ March 27 Drop-In Easter Egg Craft
- ◆ March 27 Dress to Impress
- ◆ March 31 Story Time
- ◆ March 31 Simply Stories
- ◆ Mar 31-Apr 10 Who's Your Favorite? (on the Bookmobile)

April

- ◆ Mon & Tue Story Time
- ◆ Monday Simply Stories
- ◆ Tuesday Special Needs Story Time
- ◆ Wednesday Simply Stories
- ◆ Wednesday Music & Movement
- ◆ Wed & Thu Wiggles & Giggles
- ◆ Thursday Polish Story Time
- ◆ April 1-5 Hunt for the Golden Egg
- ◆ April 1-10 Who's Your Favorite? (on the Bookmobile)
- ◆ April 1 Teen Book Club
- ◆ April 2 Intro to Genealogy
- ◆ April 3 String Dolls
- ◆ April 4 Basic Yoga
- ◆ April 5 Babysitting
- ◆ April 7 Adult Movie Matinee
- ◆ April 7 Mother/Daughter Book Club
- ◆ April 8 Understanding Today's Real Estate Market: Short Sales & Foreclosures
- ◆ April 9 Chess/Checkers Club
- ◆ April 9 Intro to Credit
- ◆ April 9 Prairie Smoke Writers Group
- ◆ April 10 Rainbow Rubber Band Club
- ◆ April 10 Teen Advisory Board
- ◆ April 11 Armchair Travelers
- ◆ April 12 National Drop Everything and Read Day
- ◆ Apr 14-24 What Bugs You? (on the Bookmobile)
- ◆ April 14 Mystery Book Club
- ◆ April 13-19 National Library Week – Dewey See It?
- ◆ April 15 Crafternoons
- ◆ April 15 Brunch in Spring Time
- ◆ April 16 Lego's
- ◆ April 16 Adult Book Discussion
- ◆ April 17 Youth Advisory Committee
- ◆ April 17 Teen Manga/Anime Club
- ◆ Apr 21-May 3 Mother's Day Craft
- ◆ April 21 A Journey through White Sox history
- ◆ April 22 Chick Lit Book Club
- ◆ April 24 Best Garage Sale Yet
- ◆ Apr 28-May 8 Happy Mother's Day (on the Bookmobile)
- ◆ April 29 Lego's
- ◆ April 29 Introduction to Budgets

May

Saturday, May 3rd is our 1st Craft/Home Fair, run by our library teens. Bake sale, too! We are partnered with Gleaners Homer Twp. Oak Chapter in this new endeavor to add more books and programs for area teens.

E-Rate

As we have a newly signed contract, we will be unable to request e-rate funding consideration this year.

2014

We encourage residents to make Homer Township Library their first choice for information and learning in 2014 in a bright and expanded facility for their use. As always, we want to provide the best in services, collections and programs that bring value to the Homer community both now and in the future.

We received notice that we were awarded a FY2014 Illinois Public Library Per Capita Grant in the amount of \$48,823. Other grant writing continues.

These reports are intended to give you a good overview and pertinent information on local and regional issues. If there is any issue that you would like information about or need detailed more fully, please let me know. I have invited Dave Lennon to attend the March board meeting to discuss our monthly compilation report and answer any questions.

Lastly, I appreciate the courtesy and professionalism you each bring to the board. Your thoughtfulness and willingness to do our best for the Library and the Homer Community is wonderful. Thank you.

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Library Director

2/20/14