



Director's Report

March 2025

1. Circulation update (from Alanna Maddox, Circulation Supervisor):
Evening Shelver Sam Herrera resigned February 18. I worked with HR to get the job posting up for her replacement. We received 91 applications! We narrowed it down to 5 whom we will be interviewing next week.

Working with Tech Services, we've changed the way we process New materials. This required some rearranging of the sorter bins including changing the Location Codes for each bin. I (with some help from Daytime Shelver Sarah Swanson) reconfigured the bins to include the correction Location Codes. After a few hiccups, everything seems to be sorting correctly again.

We are preparing storage space for all of our new Library of Things items. We asked maintenance to clean out and paint an old janitor's closet that wasn't being used. This will be our "Tool Shed" and should provide plenty of room for our new tools such as the power washer and nail gun. It will also house items that are too big for the shelves behind the Circulation Desk. Circulation Attendant Tracie Peksa is working with Adult Librarian Katie Jentges to reorganize the art room to include Library of Things "tags" that patrons will bring to the Circulation Desk to exchange for the actual item. This work will include cleaning and adding a fresh coat of paint to both the walls and hanging pegboards. It will also coincide with the spring art sale where the art collection will be weeded to a more manageable size.

2. Young Adult update (from Katie Jentges, Adult Librarian):
After a brief hiatus at the beginning of 2025, young adult take-and-make kits made a comeback on March 1. This month's kit contained everything needed to make glittery St. Patrick's Day slime. As in previous months, the take-and-make kits were gone by the end of the first week of March. Kits for April, May, and June have already been planned out and supplies have been purchased. A big thank you goes out to volunteer Sue Martin-Steiner for always putting these kits together.

For March's YA book display, I put together approximately 15 YA Surprise Book Grab bags. Each grab bag contained three YA books of a particular theme, a fun pen, mini notebook, bookish stickers, Oreos, and tea. Three books, along with the goodies, are all placed in a bag that's stapled shut. The person choosing the bag picks solely based on a theme. Themes

include books made into movies, remixed classics, mystery/thriller, dystopian, and more. The grab bags have gone over really well and are almost gone.

Summer program planning has begun. Like in previous years, this year's schedule includes a mix of crafty, food-themed, and STEAM activities. Once again, the very talented Jennifer Klemens agreed to teach three teen art sessions, starting with her always popular Graphic Novel Art session. It should be a fun summer!

3. Building update (from Assistant Director Robert Trunley):

Library staff have begun working with EBI to plan for new furniture for the offices of the director and assistant director. The offices will also be painted to match the rest of the administrative area. The board should expect a request for Library Agency Trust funds in April.

4. Adult Library update (from Shellie Anderson, Adult Library Supervisor):

Income tax time is here. We are referring people to agencies that will fill out the forms for free. We provide the basic state and federal forms and print out schedules and other less common forms. Laurie Fels keeps track and orders the forms for us. This is a difficult job. She has to deal with delivery delays and how many to order each year.

Our seed library was very popular last year and we are bringing it back. We repackage the nursery's seeds so there are about ten in an envelope. People then have the opportunity to try something new in their garden. We have a tie-in display of gardening books in the atrium.

We also have a display of dog books in the Student Commons hallway that ties in with the Tosa Reads! Book, "What the Tide Leaves Behind" by Malcolm McDowell Woods. We had six programs that they held in the library this month, as well several others in other locations.

5. Children's Library update (from Abby Bussen, Children's Library Supervisor):

In-Person Programs: 22; Total attendance: 859

Passive Programs: 8; Total attendance: 861

February was a lean month in terms of programming as we dialed back many of our standard storytime programs while we prepared onboarding materials for our new Children's Librarian. Librarian Sharon Long took on the bulk of the early literacy programming, doing a phenomenal job of helping our young patrons transition to their new storytime format. While it was not a busy month of programming, the Children's Library reference desk remained as active as ever especially since our Tonies collection officially launched the last week of February! With 100 Tonies for families to check out and use on

their own Tonieboxes, plus three of our own Tonieboxes available for checkout from the Library of Things, this collection made a *huge* splash. Nearly every single item was checked out within the first week of their availability. Assuming they would be quite popular, I managed to snap a photo right after shelving all the individual Tonies and they look quite attractive on the shelf!



6. March anniversaries:
12 years Michelle Salm, Shelver
7. Upcoming meetings:
Library Board: Wednesday, April 16 at 6:30 PM
Library Board: Wednesday, May 21 at 6:30 PM