

Librarian Notes June 2021

Janet Phillips

- Patrons are appreciating the library being back to regular hours and having in-person programs again!
- The summer series of programs has been well-attended and appreciated by families and individuals. It is still difficult to get word out about programming so please share with your friends and neighbors... there is a lovely series of art programs for adults & teens happening every Saturday just after the farmer's market, book club, writing & poetry workshops for adults, yoga & Zumba, and three weekly programs for children. Thanks to Billy Ehret, Ashlee Redmond, Nancy Swanson, Linda Sweet, Anita Punla, Corey Coomes, Kiva Lucero, Nora Sutherland, and Amanda Lewis! And thank you to the Friends of the Library for providing funding for all library programs!!!
- A highlight for this week is a joint program for adults & teens with partner Explora. Explora is providing funding via a grant to bring artist Sean Wells to Jemez Springs to teach some of her sculpting and casting techniques! Sean is a 5th generation Hispanic artist of many talents and a great teacher and personality – come to this if you can and tell your friends even if you can't attend!
- The library continues to also offer contact-free services such as curbside pickup, lockers for 24/7 hold pickups, laptops to use outside the library, and of course reference via phone or email for those individuals who need or prefer contact-free services.
- New mask and gathering rules are being well accepted for the most part.
- Touch-free devices were installed successfully in one bathroom and will follow in the second bathroom at the library. This will improve the sanitation long term since the library has only weekly cleaning.
- Material quarantining procedures have changed with our hours and with the knowledge that transmission risk via surfaces is low. Materials are now quarantined in a single layer in a room with air flow overnight. More materials are being checked out as the hours and traffic at the library has increased.
- A significant effort is going into budget reconciliation for the annual report required for State and Federal funding for the library. Statistics collection and detailed finances are part of this effort for the online report which opens July 1st. For this reason there is no Library Board meeting in July
- Training and preparation efforts for using the grant funds from ALA for the "Libraries Transform Communities" grant cycle for small and rural libraries continue. Thank you to Barbara Stone, Anita Punla, and Suzanne Swetnam for your time and energy dedicated to this process!
- Preparation for creating a float for the July 3rd parade and another month of programs is ongoing!
- JVPS has been contacted about how best to get the word to families about the summer reading opportunities at the library and also an offer to get kids started on reading logs went to teachers of the younger grades.
- The FOL continues to meet and be creative about fundraising and continues to provide excellent support to the library. More locals are donating cars to the Friends of the Library via the system <https://jsplibrary.org/fol/#donate> and scroll down) they worked so hard to set up – very rewarding! Thank you to the many community members who contribute so generously!