



Genealogy Lock-In

This exclusive after hours event gives genealogists a chance to research and learn about the collections. Three staff members and two community volunteers were on hand to answer questions, give research advice, and help with technology. Several people left with new information about their families and one plans to become a library volunteer to work on the obituary index project. Thanks to Nancy for spearheading this program. We'll begin hosting the program regularly throughout the year with the next one planned for October.



Summer Program Sign Up Starts

The staff team is trying out something new for summer this year with early registration. While the program officially begins June 6th, sign up began on May 16.

Double Dutch Popping Up This Summer

Tiara and Stephanie have double-dutch programming planned for summer reading. The jump ropes were delivered in May. They will be used for summer reading events and will be available for patrons to check-out.



Pollinator Garden

The pollinator garden got cleaned up for spring. Thanks to funding from the Friends of the Library, the garden also added more variety of plants. Our family of master gardeners deserves the most credit for all their hours of work and planning to make this garden better each year.



Sidewalk Obstacle Course Grows

Thanks to the traffic paint donated by Diamond Vogel, the sidewalk obstacle course from last year stayed looking great. This year the team was able to add on to the existing one and make the course longer. The addition reflects this year's summer reading theme and more.



May By The Numbers

20,354 physical items borrowed & 4,682 items downloaded
2,721 participants attended 68 programs
58 new borrower accounts opened
5,666 uses of online databases
163 items borrowed and loaned through interlibrary loan
253 meeting room reservations made

Farmers Market Outreach Begins



Farmer's Market started in May and, barring one cold and rainy day, the library has participated with a booth each week. Friends members along with library staff use this opportunity to showcase the library, promote summer reading, and encourage library card sign-up & usage.

More News and Projects

The library joined the city's phone system with new phones after over 15 years on a dated system that was beginning to fail.

Brittany presented to the Delta Kappa Gamma group about summer reading and the library's sensory accessibility initiative.

Allison & Brittany were interviewed by Katie Nieves of the Assembling Inclusion Podcast and our episode will air this August on Pod Bean, Google Podcast & Apple Podcast. This interview focused on the inclusivity initiative here at BPL and came about in response to the Hawkeye article on the same subject that came out in April.

After much work by Lois, we received some of our ECF funding.

A team of staff members used the RFID reader wand that we are testing to scan the entire collection. They found any items that were not checked in, marked as lost, or had other issues.

May was focused on preparations for summer reading. At the customer service desk, we looked at where staff are located to be of the most help to our patrons. The library's traffic flow has improved since last year and we now have both sides of the customer service desk open. We have left the youth services desk to the bears and brought the summer reading desk back over to the west side of the customer service desk. This allows staff to flex where the patrons assistance is needed the most at any given moment, either signing families up for the summer reading program or helping them checkout materials.

Also in preparation for summer reading we have repurposed the signs at the front of the library to highlight programs and activities for separate age groups. These slat wall dividers are a great way to advertise upcoming events and prominently display them for patrons coming and going from the library.



Be Kind to Bees

The Kindness Club continued their focus on pollinators and gave out 50 kits in May

Community Comments

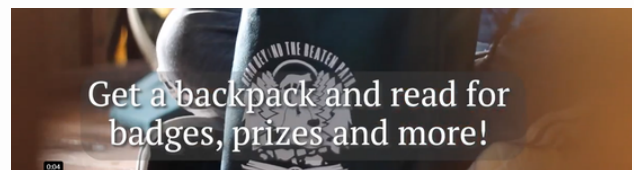
A parent shared "Quote of the day goes to Judith: I JUST LOVE THE LIBRARY!"

"A few weeks ago, a patron stopped by the help desk to check out of a study room and reported that she had just secured a job for which she had interviewed while using a study room." -- story shared at the Help Desk



Summer Reading Video Partnership with SCC Students

SCC multimedia students completed their summer reading promotional video as their capstone for the semester. They've been working closely with the library team since January on creating this video. We've used it on social media and in school end-of-year pep rallies.



Friends News

At their May meeting, the Friends board granted the library funds for newsletter postage and printing costs, program expenses, and landscaping maintenance.

The Friends volunteers held their spring book sale in May raising over \$2,000 for library programs and services. Many hours of volunteer time go into preparing for, setting up, holding, and taking down a book sale.