

Education & Skills for Life

Recent Accomplishments

- Kelsey Skrobis (Youth Services Librarian, Loussac) hosted the return of PAWSitive Reading to the Loussac Library and had a full slate, with 12 enthusiastic children reading to dogs and 20 attendees overall.
- Mountain View Library is working with the Alaska Department of Labor to provide hands on resume assistance and workforce development. The Alaska Department of Labor staff are available on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays for individual assistance to library patrons.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- The second full month of Summer Discovery will include STEM programming with Mission to Mars (partner Anchorage Museum) and storytelling through comics with workshops by Lee Post. Summer Discovery encourages reading AND learning through a variety of activities to help fight summer slide.

Limiting Factors/Concerns (none at this time)

Bridge to Information and Resources

Recent Accomplishments

- A world language learning resource - Transparent Languages - has been added to the library's digital offerings and goes live July 1. It offers access to more than 110 languages, including ESL and several native Alaskan languages including Yup'ik, Gwich'in, Holikachuk, Hän, Deg Xinag, and others.
- Kristie Nelsen (Virtual Services Librarian) gave a presentation on how to use the library's digital resources to access journal and news articles and how to request materials through Interlibrary Loan. Attendees included Anchorage Assembly members and municipal staff and was also open to the public. A training video covering the same content will be available soon.
- Kristie Nelsen (Virtual Services Librarian) and Lina Kianipour (Interlibrary Loan Specialist) coordinated with the Los Angeles Public Library and the UAF Rasmuson Library to provide recordings of traditional Inupiaq songs and stories to a film production company in Los Angeles that is making a documentary about Anaktuvuk Pass.
- Sandy Knipmeyer (800# ILL Service) filled 303 requests this month. This is an increase of 3% from June 2023. APL is submitting our annual grant request to the State of Alaska to fund this position with an expectation of higher user and material numbers than last year.
- Mountain View Library, in partnership with Alaska Public Media, hosted Ready Jet Go! PBS Summer Camp with 14 participants. Mountain View Youth Services Librarian, Kim Cameron, worked with camp facilitators engaging campers in STEM activities and sharing library resources over 3 days.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- A legal forms/templates database - LawDepot – has also been added to the library's digital offerings. It will go live in mid-July.

- Kyrie Rhodes (Early Literacy Outreach Librarian) will present a literacy skills refresher with the educators from Cook Inlet Native Head Start.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- The new digital resource LawDepot has a notary services available for patrons to utilize but there is a cost per notary transaction to be paid by the user. To offer an online notary service at no cost to users is currently cost prohibitive and would require dedicated computers, cameras, scanners; a private room; and extensive staff time.
- The wireless connection at Loussac Library was very slow this month. This resulted in issues with printing, patron computer use, and program presenters having difficulty presenting videos.

Building Community

Recent Accomplishments

- Summer Discovery programming has been successful systemwide. Some highlights include:
 - Outstanding attendance at the Gerrish (Girdwood) Library with Alex Zerbe's Zaniac Comedy show drawing 52 participants and Bird TLC drawing 44 participants.
 - Chapter book author Christine Day hosted an evening writing workshop at Loussac Library for 21 people.
 - Lisa Bricker (Youth Services Librarian, Loussac) hosted an Afternoon of Art program for 45 people who tried out several new art techniques and projects.
- Kyrie Rhodes (Early Literacy Outreach Librarian) assisted Kim Cameron (Youth Services Librarian, Mountain View) with a tabling at the Alaska Regional Safety Fair, discussing Summer Discovery and distributing flyers.
- Keelin Baughman (Teen Services Librarian, Loussac) attended the Pride Pop Up Artist Alley at Grow North Farms, checking out books, signing folks up for library cards, and passing out "You Belong @ Your Library" pins.
- Amanda Andros (Reference Librarian / ILL Supervisor, Loussac) hosted Michael Englehard at Loussac Library on Tuesday, June 4 from 5 - 7 PM This longtime wilderness guide, anthropologist, and Fairbanks author read from his new book *Arctic Traverse: A Thousand-Mile Summer of Trekking the Brooks Range*. The visit included a visual presentation with video clips highlighting his various experiences in the remote Alaskan wilderness. Patrons participated in a captivating Q&A session, and many purchased copies of his books complete with a personalized signing.
- Nicole Levinson (Reference and Programming Librarian, Loussac) ran outreach events at the Anchorage Museum's Lunch on the Lawn series as part of the Growing Together summer gardening program. Between Summer Discovery sign ups and gardening activities, there were 89 total interactions combined for the two events. Nicole was accompanied by Sandy Lukes (Outreach Librarian, Loussac) and Meghan Malone (Reference and Programming Librarian, Loussac).
- Andi Haley (Adult Services Supervisor, Loussac) hosted I Read What I Want book club on June 11. It had ten attendees for the best turnout since its return in September 2022.
- Kim Cameron (Mountain View Youth Service Librarian), Teresa Churchel (Mountain View, Associate Librarian), and Sandy Lukes (Outreach Librarian, Loussac) participated in the World Refugee Day event sharing information about the library resources and services offered to the community, as well as engaging over 60 young attendees in games and button making.
- Partnering with ASD's summer extended learning program, Red Coffey (Muldoon Youth Service Librarian) held an inclusive storytime for visually impaired students and their families. They read *On Account of the Gum* by Adam Rex and engaged in a slime-making activity.

- This past month Sue Sommers (Chugiak-Eagle River Youth Services Librarian) hosted her 6th annual Books with Chinooks event. Members from the local Eagle River baseball read books and participated in storytime activities.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- The Gerrish Library will be holding a Deconstruction Program in August where participants take apart technology and learn how they work. The program will be in collaboration with Robert Zamarron (Information Center Consultant II, Loussac).
- The Gerrish Library is working on setting up an Author Visit in September with Arran Forbes, author of *Pluto Cove*, a novel set in the Kenai Peninsula and holding a PAWSitive Reading program.
- Amanda Andros (Reference Librarian/ILL Supervisor, Loussac) will host Monica Hall, author of *Practically Still a Virgin: An Adoption Memoir* at Loussac Library on July 24 from 5:30 - 7 PM

Limiting Factors/Concerns (none at this time)

Internal Goals and Strategies

Recent Accomplishments

- Misty Rose Nesvick (Communications Coordinator) traveled to San Diego to attend the American Library Association Annual conference where she accepted the John Cotton Dana Award for Library Public Communications on behalf of APL. APL was recognized for our “Booch For Books” program and was one of 8 libraries selected for this award out of over 100 nation-wide. Misty Rose also presented at the PR Exchange showcasing the campaign to conference attendees. The award comes with a \$10,000 prize that will be used for future marketing efforts that promote library services and access for our community. On a fun note, she also met internet influencer and library super star Mychal Threats (Library Joy!). (PHOTOS BELOW)
- Collection Management Services by the numbers [June]

| Task | Number of Items |
|---|-----------------|
| Collection Maintenance- Updates to existing items | 516 |
| Donations- Added to the collection from community donations | 22 |
| New Item Processing- Books, movies etc, added to the collection | 1390 |

- Sarah Preskitt (Adult Services Coordinator, Loussac) and Virginia McClure (Library Director) met with members of the Anchorage Library Foundation on June 21 to give a tour and overview of the Alaska Wing and discuss plans for the upcoming capital project to rebuild the space to be welcoming and accessible for all patrons. Those in attendance went over the project budget and plans for the next step toward launching the capital fundraising campaign.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- The new Chugiak-Eagle River Library branch manager will start with APL in July

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- Security report: 14 people were trespassed following incidents in the Anchorage Public Library. One window in the Alaska Wing was smashed at the Loussac Library.
- In mid-June Library Director Virginia McClure tendered her resignation from APL citing the need to care for her mother who is suffering from dementia. Elizabeth Nicolai (Assistant Director) will be Acting Director effective July 6. We look forward to working with the new administration to find an excellent candidate, however we recognize that any vacancy, including executives, will mean stretched human resources in the short term.

Library Board Updates

Recent Accomplishments (none at this time)

Next Steps/Coming Soon (none at this time)

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- The Library Advisory Board is down to two members and will not have quorum until new members are appointed. No meeting was held in June, and no meeting is planned for July.

Social Media/Photos

Misty Rose Nesvick at ALA with Mykal Threatts

John Cotton Dana Award Winners

