

CITY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT
September 10, 2009
DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

CITY LIBRARIAN: Another busy month has flown by, summer reading club has ended and we have started Sunday hours. We celebrated being open 10 years in this location with an open house. Patrons enjoyed cake and live music that was very well received; we even had people dancing to the music! We had someone burst out the front sliding door and break the glass. We were able to identify him with a witness and on video. The case has been turned over to the police to press charges. In addition to my regular meetings and doing interviews, I managed to volunteer some at the Farm Progress Show.

FOUNDATION: Has not met.

FRIENDS: The annual book sale was a huge success, grossing \$18,126. Until the Library Annex is ready they will be back upstairs in the main library in unused space that is currently being painted.

PNG: We received \$12,500 from the state for PNG last week. We will start the fall session in October.

RPLS: Is facing huge budget issues due to the state cuts. The Governing Board is considering options to try and help them.

STAFF: I am sad to report the passing of Mark Mangold, custodian and 15 year employee, to cancer. Rae Ann Campbell, part-time circulation clerk is out with a broken foot. Interviews have been conducted for the Head of the Adult Division and Amy Hanaway has been promoted. 97 applications have been taken by the city for our part-time custodial position; interviews will be conducted later this month for those who pass the test. Margie Wollitz, part-time library assistant has retired after 17 years. Chris Wrigley was terminated as the Head of the Adult Division, and Noah Tipton has been promoted to that position.

ADMINISTRATION: We received a \$1,000 grant from Target for an upcoming program. The gate count for the month of August is 28,455. Library meeting rooms were used 75 times and booked 22 times earning \$990.

ADULT DIVISION: Storm Chasers was a hit and found patrons very interested in the presenter and all weather related topics. The program was covered by WAND and the Herald and Review. Our 3 programs had 149 attendees, 230 patrons used the database computers, while staff assisted patrons 5,498 times, and answered 6,080 phone calls. Our 14 online book clubs were accessed 21,420 by 1,071 members. Our Local History room had 122 visitors, 28 from out of town.

BUILDING DIVISION: Assisted the Friends several days with their book sale, while continuing to work short staffed. We are waiting for glass that had to be special ordered for the front door. The HVAC system has been cleaned and checked, getting it ready for winter. There were also electrical issues in Extension. Noah took and passed his CDL driving test and is now able to drive the bookmobiles.

CHILDREN'S DIVISION: The SRC had 1,518 kids signed up, a +9.6% increase over 2008 and 638 kids (42%) completed all six goals of the program, and received their reward book, thanks to the Friends of the Decatur Public Library. That's a +25% increase in finishers. In addition, our 20 programs had 563 attendees and 2 groups used the library. There were 466 kids who used the computers and 849 staff assists.

CIRCULATION DIVISION: Total number of checkouts during the month of August is 48,328 items, down -21% as compared to the 60,721 items checked out in July 2009, and up +15% as compared to 41,997 items checked out in August 2008. There were 6,189 items checked out of the DPL by patrons from other libraries and DPL patrons checked out 3,563 items at other libraries. Of the 3,563 items checked out by our patrons at other libraries, 1,805 of those items were checked out on our bookmobiles. 3,045 items were routed into the DPL from other libraries to fill requests for pick-up at the DPL and 4,242 items were routed out of the DPL to fill requests at other RPLS libraries. When all items routed out of the DPL to fill requests at surrounding libraries is added to the total checkouts for the month of August, the combined circulation total is 52,570. We placed 6,362 requests in August, up +30% from last August. We resolved 8,646 requests and of these, 4,795 items were picked up at the DPL. Overall, request volume is up +20% from last year at this time. 257 new accounts opened in August, down -6% from August 2008. New library accounts are up +9% overall from 2008 at this time

EXTENSION DIVISION: The bookmobiles were off the road for a week to prepare for the return to school. All of the bookmobiles had mechanical trouble this month and we replaced the alternator on 549. We had 21 volunteers donate 116 hours of service.

GATES COMPUTER LAB: Our 14 computer classes had 74 students of which 64 were Decatur residents.

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION: We are finalizing revisions and updates to our new webpage. Patron wireless had 81 users who were connected for 215 hours and downloaded 3,620 megabytes while uploading 541 megabytes. We had 1,257 patrons logged on to CybraryN computers a total of 4,995 times and used a total of 2,727 hours. 2,540 work orders were received from staff.

TECHNICAL DIVISION: Acquisitions processed 208 invoices, and barcoded 1,402 items. Of these items 1,116 were new titles and 1,340 were new items. 268 newspapers, 547 magazines and 78 reference periodicals were processed, while 26 were deleted. We received 37 bins of mail and 293 bins from RPLS. Of the 166 packages received 50 went to other departments in the library. Our patrons requested 209 items on ILL, up by +19%. OCLC requests to us were 643 and we were able to fill 271. Due to a glitch in OCLC, we found it necessary to change the methods we used to import OCLC records by the Cataloging staff. Instead of using the Connexion browser option, we are now using the client to import OCLC records. We cataloged 1,382 items, made 271 database changes, imported 281 OCLC records, and did item work on 1,468 items. There were 2,400 withdrawals, 39 recats, and 14 reinstatements. Processing worked on 1,989 items.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Ann Fisher

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City Librarian

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