September 2018 Director’s Report

Marketing & Communications:

Library & Friends of the Library Receive Grants:
The Cumberland County Public Library has received a $5,000 grant from the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County for the 10th Annual Cumberland County Storytelling Festival. Additionally, the Friends of the Library was awarded a $1,000 grant from the Arts Council for the Artrepreneur @ Your Library program. Both projects further the library’s long-range goal of offering all citizens access to materials and programs that foster and stimulate the imagination and provide outlets for creative expression.

Library Outreach:
Due to a suggestion from YS Library Associate Sarah Thornton, the library delivered collections of discarded books from the Friends of the Library to the shelters for those families who had to evacuate before and during Hurricane Florence. The collections were welcomed by shelter staff and the families.

Headquarters Library

Success Stories:
★ During Librari-Con, YS Library Associate Jared White dressed as Clark Kent. When he assisted a little girl with a craft her mother said, “I just captioned a photo on Instagram, ‘Clark Kent is helping my daughter!’

★ After enjoying the Let’s Roar for Dinosaurs program, a mother told YS Library Associate Ines Page, “You will see me back at the library for story time.” She said that her six month old was very engaged and her three year old said the program “made his day.”

★ Circulation Library Associate Wendy Olsen helped a gentleman with directions to Florence, SC by helping him find an alternate route. His train could not go further south so he decided to acquire other transportation and knew I-95 was closed due to Hurricane Florence. After assisting him with a map he said, “I wish everyone was as helpful as you are.”

★ Executive Editor Matt Leclercq from the Fayetteville Observer contacted Local & State History (L&SH) staff asking for articles about the destruction caused by Hurricane Hazel in 1954. IS Librarian I Gaby Kienitz made digital copies and sent them to him. The Observer made an online photo album on their website of the articles. Leclercq specifically gave credit to L&SH staff and each image featured a stamp that indicated the copy was from L&SH.

Highlights:
On Saturday, September 1, the Headquarters library hosted the 12th Annual Librari-Con event for almost 1,500 participants. The staff and guest presenters ran 26 panels, Chibi & Teen corners, gaming lounge and photo booth. There was also an Artist Alley that allowed people to sell their original arts & crafts. The gaming lounge featured video games run by Stop Button and tabletop games were run by volunteers Joe and Toria. Tokyo Retro Gaming provided a virtual reality game. Chad (the owner of KITT, the famous car in the popular TV series, Knight Rider) also did several demonstrations and Q&A’s throughout the day. Below is a sampling of the comments posted on various social media sites during and after the event:
“I love seeing some of my current and former students doing cosplay. As an anime fan, it’s always fun!”
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“I had a lot of fun cosplaying as Momo at #libraricon2018 there were so many awesome cosplayers today.”
“Fun little con, short and sweet and have gone for years.”
“Having a blast with the kids!”

IS Manager Amanda Dekker hosted the first two sessions of the scholar-led discussion series, Let's Talk about It. Even though there was a hurricane on the way and Swansboro was under a mandatory evacuation, Scholar Billy Yeargin made the trip to Fayetteville for the September 11 session. An even larger amount of people attended the next session on September 24 lead by Michael Brantley a first time scholar and visiting Fayetteville for the first time. He told Dekker how much he enjoyed the experience and that the library was very nice.

Bordeaux Branch Library

Success Stories:
★ YS Library Associate Jessica Ferron assisted a couple having trouble saving a video of their son playing piano from Facebook onto on a flash drive. Ferron was able to help them get the task done and was then told by the grateful couple it was the last video of their son playing piano before he was KIA in Afghanistan and they wanted it shown at the memorial ceremony that his unit was holding for him. They thanked Ferron, telling her that the libraries here always have such nice and wonderful people.

★ A library customer shared that she did not know how to use the modern online card catalog. Library Associate Tracey Pelletier assured her that it is very easy to use and helped her look up a couple of titles. After going to the shelves to pull one of the books, Pelletier returned to the terminal to find the customer happily typing in another title. The customer told Pelletier that the online catalog system was wonderful and that she loved it and thanked Pelletier for being such a good teacher!

Highlights:
Clifdale Regional Branch Library

Success Stories:
★ Clifdale staff were very excited to be voted the Best Library Branch by the Up and Coming’s Best of Fayetteville. One customer specifically told IS Library Associate Joselyn Williams, “You’re a big part of the (branch’s) success.” In the accompanying article a customer is quoted saying, “The librarians and assistants are always courteous, knowledgeable and professional as they are at all the branches. The Cumberland County Library is one of the most important services in my life at this time.”

★ “Oh this is awesome! I found exactly what I needed,” a Fayetteville State University student said to IS Librarian II Nathan Whitt after he showed her how to find journal articles for a class. Upon leaving she thanked Whitt for helping her learn not only how to find articles but also how to generate citations and email them to herself.

★ Library Associate Carina Chun taught a Dad how to copy and paste pictures from NCpedia online to MSWord, saving the family nearly $10.

Highlights:

The Pirate Party had the cutest “scoundrels” imaginable.

At the Banned Book Art program, IS Library Associate Joselyn Williams helped customers combine their creativity and enthusiasm for protecting the right to read.

Kids Science: Juice Spheres had children creating juice spheres using spherification. These three had the largest juice sphere as most are the size of a bead.

The Pre-K & Toddler Story Time programs ran a color theme. Two colors were highlighted each week through books and a craft.
**East Regional Branch Library**

**Success Story:**
★ In the week following Hurricane Florence, a child who regularly attends story times gave YS Library Associate Sherrie Simmons a big hug and told her how much he missed her. When he went to play with puzzles, his mother told Simmons that while the library was closed the boy had created his own story time area and had her read stories to him.

**Highlights:**

At the **Homeschool Crafting** program, participants made **Geometric Ornaments.** The homeschoolers were focused on making **Himmeli Ornaments.**

Everyone agrees that **Paws for Reading** always makes reading more fun.

Ms. Sherrie had these children so excited about story times, they want to make their own books.

One of the weekly programs in Chillax was **What’cha Makin’ Wednesday.** In the **Makin’Stone Mandalas** program, teens used dotting tools to create meditative designs and patterns on river stones.
In the *Let’s Do a Science: brush bots* program, teens learned how to complete a simple circuit and created small brush bot robots.

The *How to Thursday* programs focused on STEAM centered creations. In the *Thermochromic Slime* program, teens learned about temperature sensitive, color-changing leuco dyes, chemical reactions with weak boric acid and how fun it is to make slime. The leuco dye makes the slime change from purple to pink with body heat.

**Hope Mills Branch Library**

**Success Stories:**
★ One of our regular library customers thanked Library Associate Trina McNeill for the annual Summer Reading Program. The mother said that because of it, her eight year old pulled her reading grade up from a low ‘D’ to a high ‘A’ and had read almost 100 books over the summer.

★ A man came in because his printer at home was broken and YS Library Associate Sarah Thornton helped him print his document. He then said, “You’re all about internet access here, aren’t you. I mean, aren’t libraries dinosaurs?” Thornton enlightened him about some of the many things that our libraries offer such as the *Job & Career Center* or the helpful *LibGuides* and databases. Before leaving, the man got his first library card and was looking forward to exploring *Fold3* and *Films on Demand* at home. He said, “I had no idea, did I?” Thornton responded, “No sir, but now you do!”

**Highlights:**
Excited children presented their paintings to their grandparents on Grandparents Day.

North Regional Branch Library

Success Stories:
★ After YS Library Associates Robin McKoy and Sharon Goforth helped a grandmother find AR books for her grandson, she told them her grandson was second in his school last year in AR books read. She went on to say that she was sure it was because of all the help they received from the library in finding books on his reading level.

★ IS Librarian I Heather Heady helped a gentleman needing to print out pictures of a tree that had fallen on an elderly neighbor’s car during Hurricane Florence. She needed them for her insurance claim since she didn’t have a printer and her family couldn’t assist her. The customer was very grateful for the assistance.

Highlights:

During Fall Leaves Animal Craft, children were able to explore their creativity by taking leaves and simple craft supplies and turn them into an animal masterpiece.

Attendees learned all about types of rocks during Explore and made their own geodes out of eggshells.

Spring Lake Branch Library

Success Story:
★ A female customer approached Library Associate Ginger Hewett to say she has been using Mango languages to learn French. She told a co-worker who was having trouble learning English about Mango and he began using it as well. He has become more fluent in English and even started French lessons so they can converse in French!

Highlights:
YS Library Associate Stephanie Clamor had two different adults of former story time regulars tell her that the children, now attending preschool, missed coming to story times. One of the adults shared told Clamor she had enjoyed the story times as much as her grandson.
West Regional Branch Library

Success Stories:
★ Two customers at the Writing a Killer Resume class felt they had been re-energized to work on their resumes. One had been trying to find ways back into the medical office support field after a lengthy gap in employment. IS Librarian I Robin Deffendall suggested she try volunteering, perhaps at the Veterans Administration. She later emailed Deffendall to say, “You inspired me in your class. Thank you for the presentation. I will pursue the volunteer tip at the VA ASAP. One of my past supervisors is working at the Ramsey Street location now, so that may be another positive resource.”

★ A soldier, who is new to Fayetteville, was given a tour of the library and a brief introduction to library resources. He was very impressed with the amount of available resources. He then proceeded to get his library card and promised to bring his wife and children to visit and attend some of the weekly children’s programs.

Highlights:

Teen Scene Stem Day: Solar Oven S’mores
Teens and tweens learned all about the power of the sun and made their own solar powered oven in which they cooked their very own S’mores.

Bilingual Story Time: Cuentos de Hada or Fairytales
Children and families listened to cuentos de hada or fairytales in English and Spanish and then made their own fire breathing dragon.

Teen Scene Create Day: Tie Dye Handkerchiefs and Design Your Own Shirts
Tweens and teens tie died handkerchiefs with sharpies and designed their own shirts with puffy paints and bleach pens.

Teen Scene STEM Day: Catapults and Squishy Circuits
Teens and tweens created and launched catapults. Then they made homemade Play-Doh.
LIBRARY PROGRAM STATISTICS FOR

*September 2018*

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The library opens windows to the world by encouraging expression, enlightenment, and exploration.