



Columbia County
Rural Library District

111 S. 3rd St, PO Box 74
Dayton, WA 99328

Report to the Library Board of Trustees, February 27, 2023

Director's Report by Todd Vandembark, MLS

Quote of the Month

I must say I find television very educational. The minute somebody turns it on, I go to the library and read a good book. – Groucho Marx

Staff and Programming

Discovery Kids

Attendance at DK is holding steady at 7-8 kids and 4-5 adults per week.

Lazer Tag

On January 15, our first “Lazer Tag” event since the pandemic began saw a total of 14 kids and 5 adults participating. Older children looked out for the younger kids, making sure they felt included by making sure each one didn’t stay “killed” for any length of time.

Family Story Time

January’s FST event welcomed 8 kids and 5 adults for pizza, good books, and fun activities.

Senior Center visits

On Tuesdays, the library drops off copies of the newsletter at the Senior Center for their visitors to read in case any of them do not receive it via email. On the 3rd Thursday of each month, I (Todd) take a wide selection of books to the Center for patrons to check out. About 3-5 people will browse the books I bring, with one or two getting checked out each week. Whenever I walk in the door, one of the folks at the center invariably comments, “Here comes the library guy.”

Humanities Washington

Charlie is currently coordinating with several other libraries to bring a guest speaker to our side of the state. He is also applying for a grant to help fund this program. Charlie was successful in getting a grant for the previous speaker, for which we are grateful.

Seed Library

Our annual “seed library” is a huge hit with the community. We run out of seeds as fast as we can put them in the cabinet. This month, Janet Lawrence from Nancy’s Dream Garden in

Waitsburg generously donated over 200 packages of flower seeds and over 400 packages of produce seeds to our seed library. We invite our patrons and friends to express their appreciation for this donation by visiting or shopping at Nancy's this season.

CCRLD in the Media

The children's book, *Pink, Blue, and You*, a children's book about gender identity, is facing challenges in Canada over its content. The author is from Montreal. In addition to interviewing the author, CBC Montreal sought out other libraries where this book is being challenged and interviewed our own library director about the controversy in our community.

Community

Library Success Story

A patron asked to use a computer but all 1st floor ones were in use. The patron had planned to meet someone here to help her with using the computer, so I (Todd) showed her the computers on the lower level. While downstairs the patron said, "This is the best library!" The patron also praised my staff, something along the lines of, "Great staff!" I agreed with her and said that my staff is the reason we have such a great library.