

Deputy Director Updates

- See Separate Attachment

Education & Skills for Life

Recent Accomplishments

- Summer Discovery wrapped up our annual reading and learning program. **3,626 people participated** which is **up 28% from 2021**. 1,209 people finished their reading challenge which is 36% of all who started (higher than last year's 34% completion rate and the national average of 25%). **In our target population of Elementary School students, 40% of them completed the challenge!**
- Loussac Youth Services takes a mini-break without weekly storytimes in August. We had special events including events to kick off the school year. Highlights include:
 - Start with Art Storytime and hands-on art focused on Frida Kahlo (Kelsey Skrobis)
 - Bite Sized Science Storytime (Samantha Blanquart)
 - An end-of-summer preschool music celebration with Timbre Music House Band
 - Raven Homeschool tour and library resources session (Kelsey Skrobis)
 - I'm Ready for Kindergarten Storytime and craft, 34 people came to this celebration only days before they got started on their new Kindergarten journeys (Samantha Blanquart)
 - Back to Learning Homeschooling celebration – a tour and introduction to the library plus craft activity brought in 50 people (Lisa Bricker and Elizabeth Nicolai)
 - Teen LEGO engineering got started and we will have a series of monthly events this Fall
- Youth Services, at all locations, has reached the letter Z in our in-library scavenger hunts! Every two weeks we put out a new scavenger hunt with a pre-reader letter hunt (finding photos that start with that letter and that letter around the library) and a reader catalog hunt (looking for book clues by learning to use the library catalog). These have become increasingly popular. A mother approached the youth desk at Loussac to tell us that her daughter was searching the catalog and placing her own holds. She learned to do so from the scavenger hunt! We will restart the hunt with A in September! Almost **8,000 people** have participated in the scavenger hunts in the first year
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) coordinated with the Anchorage Genealogical Society to provide a help session for patrons interested in doing genealogical research and/or preserving documents and photos via scanning
- Muldoon's *Good Morning Storytime*, Saturday August 27th, was well-attended (20+ people) and proves there's community interest in an early Saturday morning storytime. Red will repeat the event twice in September
- Mountain View's teaching garden in cooperation with Anchor Gardens held a Planning for Next Spring Gardening class with 15 attendees
- Gerrish Library book club discussed a work of fiction that included a topic relevant to Alaska, the reintroduction of wolves to an area, and the reaction of nearby human inhabitants

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- *Senior Saturdays* will return to Muldoon after Labor Day, and we begin basic computer skill training for Seniors, using Northstar Digital, on Thursday afternoons
- Fall youth programs at Loussac Library will include 5 days a week of storytimes (6 different storytimes offered), weekly afterschool programs, Saturday LEGO engineering, teen financial literacy, and much more.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) is working with the Anchorage Genealogical Society to schedule more help sessions this fall
- Golden Afternoons senior programming at Loussac, returns the 4th Wednesday of every month

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- None at this time

Bridge to Information and Resources

Recent Accomplishments

- Chugiak-Eagle River circulated **17,239 items** in August. This is equivalent to 27.76% of Loussac's circulation, and 19% of APL's total circulation for August
- Mountain View, in partnership with Alaska Public Media, hosted a Voter Listening Session to help inform the public about the new Ranked Choice Voting system
- Loussac Adult Services displays included Safe Foraging, Pirates, Award Winners & Nominees, Gardening, National Dog Month, Art, Small Business, Manga, New Alaskana, and Animals
- Loussac Adult Services saw a 10% increase in computer reservations comparing August 2021 and August 2022, and a 2% increase from July 2022. We've also seen an 18% increase in in-person interactions from August 2021, and a 10% increase from July 2022
- Jon Ebron (Teen/Youth Services) and Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) attended the Covenant House opening event for their new Covey Academy which is a facility for training and life skills. They signed up library cards and helped people learn about library resources

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Library Card Sign Up Month (September) will see the return of Baby Yoda cards benefitting the Friends of The Library, plus new accounts will receive a Free Ride Pass courtesy of Anchorage People Mover.
- Misty Rose Nesvick (Community Relations) is working with Virginia McClure (Contractor) to wrap up the State Library ARPA grant for the APL Mobile Library, while the vehicle has not arrived, the collection will be circulating this fall to fulfill the grant requirements with the help of Jim Curran (Muldoon), Meneka Thiru (Adult Services), and Samantha Blanquart (Early Literacy/Youth Services).

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- With Chugiak-Eagle River's circulation and programming increasing, continued turnover has begun to impact services.

Building Community

Recent Accomplishments

- Muldoon Library was invited to Cook Inlet Housing's car seat giveaway. Staff was able to engage with 45 CIHA residents
- As staffing permits, Muldoon is still attending the Muldoon Farmer's Market, 30-40 area residents each visit.
- Mountain View Youth Services Librarian, Keelin participated in community events, the Back-to-School Fairview Heath Fair (**578 interactions**) and the United Way sponsored Cradle to Career event (**400 interactions**.)
- Gerrish Library's Timbre Music and Button Making programs both drew a variety of age groups, were well received, and will definitely happen again this winter (pending funding)
- Misty Rose (Community Relations) and Kristie Nelsen (Adult Services) coordinated a social media campaign highlighting memoirs by authors with disabilities for Disability Pride Month

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Chugiak-Eagle River has been planning the Great Alaskan Book Signing event for September 17. At this time, we have 20 authors confirmed, and will be using 2 rooms divided between children's and adult books
- This fall Samantha Blanquart (Early Literacy/Youth Services) will again be visiting KCI Headstarts and other preschool programs to do storytimes and offer early literacy information.
- Jon Ebron (Teens/Youth Services) will be working with Anchorage School District librarians on activities around the Alaska Reads celebration this fall. The chosen book is a teen book, *Surviving Bear Island* by Paul Greci
- Book club meetings are returning to Loussac this fall. Nicole Levinson (Adult Services) will lead the Loussac Book Club to discuss *The Unexpected Inheritance of Inspector Chopra*, and Tamzan Barnes (Adult Services) will lead the Mystery Book Club in a discussion of library and bookstore-themed mysteries
- Gerrish Branch is excited to welcome Marine Biologist David Scheel for a talk on the Giant Alaskan Octopus September 10th and a 'favorite stuffed animals' sleepover September 23rd
- *Senior Saturdays* will return to Muldoon after Labor Day, and we begin basic computer skill training for Seniors using Northstar Digital, on Thursday afternoons
- *Bear Cam "Your Moment of Zen"* will return to Loussac Library just in time for Fat Bear Week

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- None at this time

Internal Goals and Strategies

Recent Accomplishments

- Ariel Murrills (Adult Services) is training with Lina Kianipour (Interlibrary Loan) to learn ILL procedures in order to serve as backup during leave or other times additional coverage is needed
- Andi Allard (Adult Services) submitted the grant that funds the 800# service to the Alaska State Library
- Brendan Farrell (Facilities), Rick Henderson (Facilities), and Celia Hartz (Automation) moved the Computer Help Desk on Loussac's 3rd floor to allow for better sightlines and security for Adult Services staff

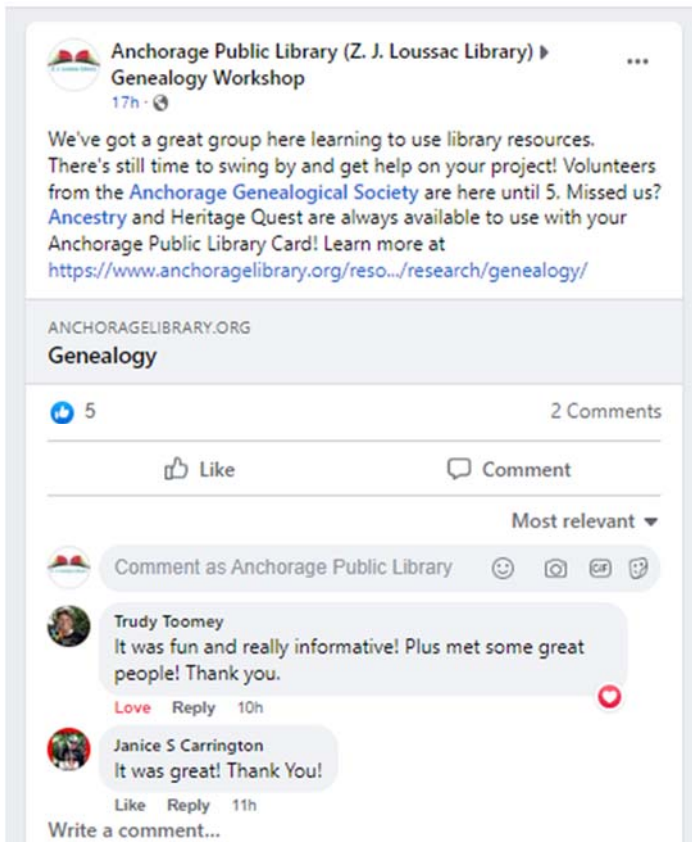
Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Chugiak-Eagle River's last full-time Library Assistant II vacancy is being offered to a candidate. However, Jennifer Groves will be leaving her part-time Library Assistant II position on September 9, leaving the branch with 2 vacant part-time positions
- The Professional Librarian II position in Loussac Adult Services has been reposted
- Brendan Farrell, Rick Henderson, and Celia Hartz plan to move the Media Desk on Loussac's 2nd floor
- Gerrish Library is looking at possible grant funding for specific furniture to make parent-child reading more accessible in our youth section
- Brendan Farrell, Rick Henderson, Celia Hartz, and Misty Rose Nesvick are coordinating the move of the Dimond Transit Center Express Library (DTX) from its current location in the Dimond Transit Center to inside the Dimond Center Mall. We hope to have it back online by November
- The RFP process for selecting a primary materials vendor continues lead by Nathan Howes (Collection Management Services)
- Misty Rose Nesvick (Community Relations) is coordinating the advertising campaign for Library Card Sign Up Month including radio, print (Senior Voice, Sol De Medianoche), AWWU utility bill inserts, and social media

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- The current book vendor for APL (Baker and Taylor) experienced a cyber hack resulting in limited materials being delivered to libraries. This combined with a lack of incoming vendor may result in fewer new materials being available on shelves in a timely manner

Photos/Social Media



Anchorage Public Library (Z. J. Loussac Library) ▸
Genealogy Workshop
17h · 🌐

We've got a great group here learning to use library resources. There's still time to swing by and get help on your project! Volunteers from the [Anchorage Genealogical Society](#) are here until 5. Missed us? [Ancestry](#) and [Heritage Quest](#) are always available to use with your Anchorage Public Library Card! Learn more at <https://www.anchoragelibrary.org/reso.../research/genealogy/>

ANCHORAGELIBRARY.ORG
Genealogy

👍 5 2 Comments

👍 Like 💬 Comment

Most relevant ▾

Comment as Anchorage Public Library 📷 📹 🗨️ 🗑️

Trudy Toomey
It was fun and really informative! Plus met some great people! Thank you.
Love Reply 10h

Janice S Carrington
It was great! Thank You!
Like Reply 11h

Write a comment...



BACK TO LEARNING CELEBRATION!

WED, AUG 31 AT 2 PM
Homeschoolers Back To Learning Celebration
Anchorage
6 Going · 38 Interested

👍❤️ 8 1 Comment

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share 🗑️

Most relevant ▾

Comment as Anchorage Public Library 📷 📹 🗨️ 🗑️

Rami Pagel
❤️❤️❤️
We have been a homeschooling family for many years and LOVE the library #907LibraryLove we encourage other families to take advantage of everything the library has to offer 📖 this event is wonderful! thank you
Like Reply 3h