

Education & Skills for Life

Recent Accomplishments

- Mountain View Youth Services librarian is conducting a successful Storytime at Peratrovich Park in Downtown Anchorage as well as Storytimes in 2 neighborhood parks.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) & Ziona Brownlow (Community Resource Center) coordinated with AKPIRG to do presentations at APL locations around various financial literacy topics this summer.
 - Loussac hosted a presentation about debt and payday loans.
 - Mountain View Library hosted “Know Your Rights: Debt Collection” educational and informational talks by local expert on debt, and Alaska Public Interest Research Group AKPIRG consumer advocate, Graham Downey.
- Red Coffey (Muldoon’s YS Librarian) appeared on ABC Fox 5/Channel 13 after storytime at Peratrovich Park. He promoted Summer Discovery and storytime at the library.
- VolunTEENs started at 4 Library locations providing support for a variety of projects
 - Shoutout to Carissa Mayfield Muldoon’s summer VolunTeen! They can count on her for efficient and accurate shelving, a positive, can-do attitude, and a welcoming and helpful presence at Summer Discovery events.
- Summer Discovery is on pace to be APL’s best year yet. By the end of June, system-wide:
 - 3,323 readers registered (half of whom are the target audience of Elementary students)
 - 457 people have already finished their reading log
 - Readers who finished their first reading log, and staff readers, have read 91,936 extra minutes for Readers to the Rescue
- Loussac Youth Services hosted 39 programs for 1,333 people in June. These included 9 storytimes, 16 community events, 7 classes, 1 outreach, and 2 game programs. Highlights include:
 - Teen Life Skills Programs – June started our systemwide new program series for teens. The first two classes were CPR/First Aid and a Job Interview Classes. These are very well attended at all locations. In July we will have bicycle maintenance and financial literacy. (Jon Ebron)
 - Samantha Blanquart visited Lake Otis Elementary school for their 21st Century Learning summer program, she signed up 63 students for summer discovery.
 - A pen pal program with a library in Virginia.
 - Our LENA class families continue to see up to 5 months of language gains in their babies and toddlers during the 10 week classes. In June we had 5 families finish a class and 5 new families begin a class.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Muldoon is looking forward to offering Northstar Digital’s online computer literacy tutorials starting in the fall. Currently, we are planning a mix of classes and independent study opportunities for Seniors.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) is coordinating with a volunteer from the Anchorage Genealogical Society to provide two help sessions this summer in July and August for patrons interested in doing genealogical research and/or preserving documents and photos via scanning.
- The final LENA class cohort will begin in July. (Samantha Blanquart)

- Summer Discovery will end July 31st. Youth Services staff is readying for fall programming and surveying patrons and partners for possible programs.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- Time & bandwidth for programming with being short-staffed

Bridge to Information and Resources

Recent Accomplishments

- In June, library staff talked to more than 300 community members through outreach.
- Gerrish (Girdwood) Library did outreach to Girdwood Food Pantry and Girdwood Farmers Market.
- Mountain View Library performed outreach at the Anchorage Concert Association Summer Concert Series at Davis Park. Over 300 people attended.
- Mountain View staff is actively partnering with community organizations in Fairview, Mountain View, Russian Jack, and Airport Heights for outreach, education, and promoting Summer Discovery.
- Muldoon staff attended Northeast Community Council's Spirit of Muldoon Picnic. Over 150 neighborhood residents showed up at the annual event. We will continue summer outreach at the Muldoon Farmer's Market.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) tabled at several events around town including Jazz in the Park, the pre-Juneteenth Health Fair, and Juneteenth.
- Meneka Thiru, Ziona Brownlow (Assistant Community Resource Coordinator), and Rebecca Barker (Community Resource Coordinator) also virtually presented to the Community Health Workers working with Alaska Primary Care Associates.
- Loussac Youth Services provided books and Summer Discovery materials to families at Clare House.
- Loussac Youth Services staff answered 911 readers and reference advisory questions in June.
- Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) and Misty Rose Nesvick (Community Relations Coordinator) organized "Books Get Our Vote 2022" to provide adults the chance to practice ranked-choice voting. Loussac, Mountain View, Gerrish (Girdwood), and Muldoon libraries participated in the Pick One Primary beginning June 27.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Chugiak-Eagle River Library will be offering incentives for library use (stickers) and library card registration (drawstring bags) attached to an exclusive app being premiered for the Bear Paw Festival July 14-16, as well as participating in the Teddy Bear Picnic with the help of Meneka Thiru (Adult Services). This is usually the slowest week of the year for the branch, and we hope this will bring new people into the library and spur membership and usage.
- "Books Get Our Vote 2022" continues with the Ranked Choice General Election July 18-31. Patrons who vote will receive a limited-edition hologram sticker.
- Loussac is hosting a summer visitors promotion highlighting the art of the Alaska Collection. Visitors who visit the Galleria to view the paintings will receive a free Sydney Laurence print through September 3.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- Time and desk coverage to be at all the outreach events happening this summer.

Building Community

Recent Accomplishments

- Gerrish (Girdwood) Library had 61 patrons attend our Krambambuli Puppet Theatre program.
- The 6th annual Books With Chinooks event at Chugiak-Eagle River Library was a success with 49 people attending. Chugiak Chinooks baseball players read picture books aloud to families and signed autographs for their young fans.
- Mountain View Library is working with the Fairview Rec Center and Anchorage Parks department on the Fairview Bikes & Books Slow Roll program. Youth are encouraged to ride their bikes to the rec center and read.
- In partnership with the Anchorage Museum and YWCA Alaska, Meneka Thiru (Adult Services) kicked off a series of events with author Patrice Gopo with a panel discussion with the author. The recording is available here: <https://www.crowdcast.io/e/gopo>
- Tamzan Barnes (Adult Services) found a handmade bookmark in a book. It was made by a child and had the child's age and name on the back. It said "our family at the library." Tamzan was able to track down the child and contact the parent. They were very happy to have the bookmark back.
- To make the library more welcoming, Kelsey Skrobis (Loussac Youth Services) has been creating interactive wall displays. The June display had children and caregivers sharing their favorite summer activity. They are very popular with many people adding to them or stopping to read. Photo below.
- Nicole Levinson (Adult Services) created an interactive display for adults visiting Loussac. 50 responses were recorded for the prompt "Library Treasures-Share with us the best thing you ever found in the library" Patrons gave kudos for staff, security, the collection and library displays.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- The series with the Anchorage Museum & YWCA Alaska will continue with book club discussions and a writing workshop in July.

Limiting Factors/Concerns

- Time & bandwidth for programming with being short-staffed

Internal Goals and Strategies

Recent Accomplishments

- CMS Staffing Updates
 - Nate Howes was promoted to Collection Management Services Coordinator
 - Taylor Keister was promoted to Professional Librarian I/Collection Management. He was previously a Library Assistant at Chugiak-Eagle River
- Jared Vollstedt joined the staff at Chugiak-Eagle River Library as their newest Library Assistant II. Thank you to all the departments and locations who have helped with staffing in recent months!
- Muldoon staff member, Kyle Travis accepted the position of Library Assistant III at the Chugiak-Eagle River branch. This is a well-deserved promotion for Kyle, who started serving Muldoon Library patrons as a teen volunteer over 15 years ago.
- Interviews were completed for the Library Assistant III/AMEA 9 vacancy at Mountain View.
- Misty Rose Nesvick (Community Relations Coordinator) coordinated the first round of wrap designs for the new Mobile Library. Staff feedback was collected, and a second round of designs has been requested.
- Technical Services processed 2568 new items during the month of June.

Next Steps/Coming Soon

- Chugiak-Eagle River Library’s last remaining full-time staff vacancy is in the process of being posted for applications.
- Andrew Allard (Adult Services) is working with Sandy Knipmeyer (800#) on the 800# Grants finalization this month for the ending report due Aug 1st.
- Lina and Andrew will work with Ariel to get her set up with ILL training as Lina’s backup ILL staff.
- Loussac Youth Services will be interviewing in July for the Professional Librarian II full-time position and will be bringing on Suzanne Metcalfe as a part-time Professional Librarian I
- Loussac Adult Services will be bringing on Juniper Dobson as part-time Professional Librarian I

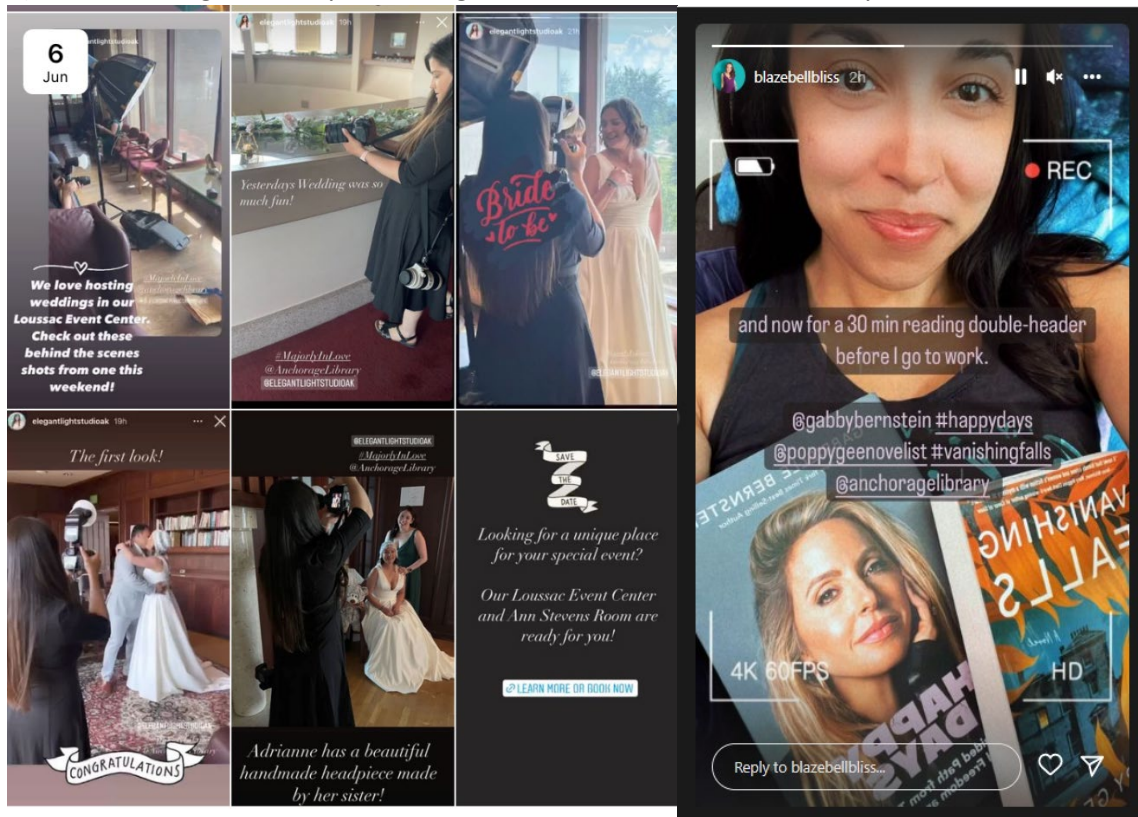
Limiting Factors/Concerns

- Muldoon’s Community Resource staff position continues to be vacant, and as of 7/1/22 Rebecca Barker will have left her position as the CRC program coordinator. This leaves Ziona Brownlow (Assistant Community Resource Coordinator) as the single remaining CRC staff member. Muldoon will be greatly impacted by the continued loss of knowledgeable staff.
- As Loussac Youth Services continues to be critically understaffed, they have had to close the youth desk on Monday evenings. This results in storypackets, STEM kits, and other special collections being unavailable. Additionally, no one has been able to order E and J fiction (board books, picture books, chapter books, beginning readers). Elizabeth Nicolai (Youth Services Coordinator) was able to make a half order to try to answer patron requests and get new releases, but it has been 3 months without a full order going in. They are hopeful that continued hiring will relieve some of these issues.

Social Media/Photo Ops

L) Instagram photos posted by a wedding party that rented the Loussac Event Center

R) Patron sharing what they’re reading thanks to books from their library



Library Board Updates

**** NO UPDATES TO INCLUDE***