



SEPTEMBER 2020

MONTHLY REPORT

From the Director

Just when you think you have the 'new normal' figured out, the wildfires start.

Due to the wildfire smoke, the library was closed September 10 through 18. During that time, library staff continued to update the library's website and social media channels with information and resources, including evacuation checklists, air quality monitors, and library services available from home, as well as the status of library operations. When the library re-opened on Saturday, September 19, over 2,200 library items were checked out that day by library users. On a normal Saturday in pandemic times, the average number of checked out items is 600, and during non-pandemic times 800.

The Libraries in Clackamas County (LINCC) Directors Group increased holds and check-out limits per library card to 40 and 80 respectively. This change has proved popular, as evidenced by the increasing number of holds on our shelves.

The regular fall programs have returned. Storytime is now streamed live online, along with Toddler Time. A new addition to the children's programming lineup is "Spanish Read-Alouds for Niños," in which Outreach Librarian Deborah Gitlitz shares some great books from our children's Spanish section. Adult programs included Article Club, Book Club, a "Profiles" presentation about paleontologist Mary Anning, and a genealogy workshop "How to Write Stories Your Relatives Will Want to Read," which saw the largest adult online program audience yet at 22 participants. History Pub, a program in collaboration with McMenamins, was postponed.

Demand for the "Book Bundles" has been overwhelming. These bundles of 3-5 books based around a theme are available for children, teens and adults, and serve as a way for library users to 'browse' for books and DVDs without entering the library's stacks. Especially popular are the bundles for children, with many parents often picking up a few bundles at a time to take home.

The wi-fi hotspots purchased with the support of the Wilsonville Public Library Foundation are now in circulation and available to the public. So far the response has been positive to this solution for providing internet access to Wilsonville citizens.

The Friends of the Wilsonville Library held a Book Donation Drive on Wednesday, September 30. Over forty people brought bags and boxes of books to help restock the Friends' bookstore "Twice Sold Tales" in the library's lobby, which is currently selling books online.

-Pat Duke, Library Director