

# YOUTH SERVICES NARRATIVE

SEPTEMBER 2017

We've survived September, which seemed to race by. The fair is over and fall programs have begun. Danger Club got off to a great start, the kids each taking home a homemade kaleidoscope. The October Danger Club will feature paper plane Olympics, so it's gonna get crazy on the 21<sup>st</sup>! And Banned Books Week's Blind Date with a Banned Book went extremely well, with 20 of the 36 wrapped books being checked out. The news coverage really helped create interest, I think. Patrons were having fun trying to guess the books. Finally, the 2017 Art Symposium, run by the Teen Leadership Group, went extremely well. The winners can be found on our website.

In outreach news, the partnership campaign with St. Joseph's CHI Children's Health has begun and will run through December 11. We've given out almost 100 kits thus far! I've begun my 2017-18 outreach story times, and the book bins for the preschools and head starts. This year, Willow Street PreK and Quarryville Head Start are both taking advantage of the monthly book bins. I'm also creating classroom kits—sets of books—for two teachers at Linville Hill, so there will be between 30-40 books going to the fourth and sixth grade students there each month.

Some general updates:

Because of lack of attendance, the preschool story time led by Susan Bonekemper has been discontinued. The low attendance, only a handful of children per story time, was not worth the time that she spent prepping. Susan will now be representing the library at monthly story times at Willow Street UCC Preschool (taking over for me), since it is closer to her home and she is guaranteed some excited children for each program. Susan is taking the WSUCC ones, and I'll be visiting Shining Stars once per month through May.

Another change to Youth Services this fall is an overall decrease in library programming in favor of increased attendance at community outreach events, especially those offered through the school district. Cheri and I feel it is a more efficient use of time, especially given the low attendance numbers at our programs during the fall and winter. We hope these outreach events will increase our community visibility and stir up more interest in the library. My visits started during the Fair, when I manned the Solanco Transition to Kindergarten table for a couple hours. My next visit is to Smith MS Career Day in October, with three more school district visits lined up in November. I'm also planning to take part in a STEAM night in February and a Literacy Week in March. Busy busy!