Summer Reading Prize Pickup Begins August 1

This year’s Summer Reading Challenge has been a bit different from years past due to the pandemic, and we appreciate everyone who has joined us for a “Summer to Imagine” and stayed motivated to read great books.

You still have until August 16, 2020, to set up your online account and record the minutes you’ve spent reading. Just visit www.poudrelibraries.org/src to get started.

Everyone who has signed up to participate in the Summer Reading Challenge is eligible for a great signup gift — Summer to Imagine seed packets. Then, once you’ve read and logged 10 hours, you’ve qualified for a reading prize. Pick up both beginning August 1 among the libraries’ Grab-and-Go Hours.

Babies, Kids, Teens 10-Hour Reading Prize Book

The 10-Hour prize books will be available for pickup at the libraries between August 1 and September 30 during Grab-and-Go Hours. Any baby, toddler, kid, or teen who has reached the 10-hour milestone is eligible for a free book.

You can preview the list of available books in your online Summer Reading account. We encourage you to review the list and come to the library with a few top choices in mind. That way, if we’re out of a particular title, you’ll have other options already picked out.

When you arrive at the library during our Grab-and-Go Hours, you’ll see signage directing you to the prize pickup area. Staff will be available to answer any questions you might have.

Adult 10-Hour Reading Prize Drawing

Adults who have read and logged 10 hours or more as a part of the Summer Reading Challenge will be automatically entered into a drawing to win one of twelve $20 gift cards to Old Firehouse Books. Winners will be notified by the Summer Reading Team in August.

Remember: August 16 is the last day to log hours in your online Summer Reading account. Signup gifts and book prizes can be picked up through September 30 while supplies last.

Participate in the 2020 Virtual Summer Reading Challenge and support the community at the same time!

The Poudre River Friends of the Library have pledged to donate $3,000 to the Northern Colorado COVID-19 Response Fund for 200,000 hours of summer reading through the Reading Makes Cents fundraiser.

Reading Makes Cents

Sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge at www.poudrelibraries.org/src

WELCOME BACK!

The library is open with reduced hours & limited services.

Face coverings are required for entry.

Grab-and-Go IN-LIBRARY BROWSING

Monday – Friday, NOON – 6:00 PM
Saturday, NOON – 5:00 PM

Dedicated Hour for High-Risk Customers

Monday – Saturday, 11:00 AM – NOON

Curbside Pickup

Monday – Saturday, 9:00 – 11:00 AM
Sunday, 2:00 – 5:00 PM
There’s no doubt that COVID-19 has upended people’s work and school routines, changed summer vacation plans, and flipped the ways we interact with friends and family. To find some semblance of “normal,” many of us have turned to technology. We’ve become Zoom participants and Google Classroom students, Teams gurus and e-book readers.

Technology has become indispensable during this pandemic. For information. For education. For social connection.

When the libraries, schools, and other local organizations closed their buildings in March, the community saw an urgent need for new ways to access information and resources. The District’s Systems Administration (SA) team worked diligently to retool library systems and add new technologies that enabled the Library to offer new resources to the public, empowered library employees to continue their work from home, and kept the community connected at a time we could not be together physically.

You might not see the SA team when you visit the libraries. Much of their work is behind-the-scenes, but as the current pandemic has demonstrated, the work is critical.

Work-from-Home

When the library buildings closed, staff was asked to work from home and were provided resources to support remote work, such as laptops from the mobile computer cart at Old Town Library. Our tech team also helped staff connect remotely to their desktop work computers, which are protected behind a network firewall, so they could gain access to files and resources from home.

Staff used tools like Microsoft Teams and other connected platforms to plan the phased reopening of library services, deliver virtual programs and Summer Reading activities, respond to customer questions and needs, and consult with small business owners, nonprofits, and job seekers.

Keeping You Connected

Throughout the past few months, the SA team has worked closely with Collections Development to add new digital download services and online databases and learning platforms including TeenBookCloud, Creative Bug, and TumbleMath. The use of these and other digital eMedia resources like OverDrive and hoopla increased 46% in the two weeks following the closure compared to the same time period last year and continues to remain expanded.

The Systems Administration team recently shared their remote meeting. Top: Victor Zuniga, Peggy Shaughnessy; Bottom: Mark Huber, Christopher Bauman

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“Adjusting the entire library catalog for an extended closure was not a challenge we’d faced before now. There are layers of technology and integrations with third-party systems that needed to be modified in order for the catalog to work effectively...

– Mark Huber, Systems Administration Manager

Fort Collins Comic Con goes virtual in 2020!

Join us from the comfort of your laptop or smartphone for our very first VIRTUAL Fort Collins Comic Con, August 29 -30, as we attempt to take over the world through Zoom alongside voice actors Maurice LaMarche and Rob Paulsen (also known as Pinky and The Brain). Also on tap, thrilling heroics and tales of scientific daring-do by scientists, creator demos by local artists and authors, and a props showcase by local cosplayers and crafters.

A virtual event for all ages!

For more information and to register, visit www.fococomicon.com.

During the closure – and even as the library begins reopening buildings – technology has been the main platform for delivering library services and providing consistent access to resources.

“Adjusting the entire library catalog for an extended closure was not a challenge we’d faced before now,” says Mark Huber, Systems Administration Manager. “There are layers of technology and integrations with third-party systems that needed to be modified in order for the catalog to work effectively in light of the closures.”

Within the catalog system, loan periods were “frozen” so customers wouldn’t accrue extended-use fees or receive overdue notifications while the libraries were closed, and functions like placing holds on materials and requesting items through Prospector were temporarily suspended until the library was able to offer curbside pickup and interlibrary loan service was available again.

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high as customers find new digital options for reading, listening to audiobooks, watching and streaming videos, and researching information.

Even after the initial building closures, the SA team has remained busy supporting new library services like Bag o’ Books and curbside pickup of print jobs, both of which required customized online forms and workflows to make them easy for the community to access and for staff to fulfill.

During the month-long Bag o’ Books pilot program, 516 online requests were made with 923 bags of books delivered to customers using curbside pickup. That means, 9,230 children’s books in the hands of young readers.

Several other new services have launched that required leveraging a hosted, or virtual, phone service. This meant that staff wouldn’t need to use a physical library phone to connect with customers or provide services. Services like the free virtual legal clinic, Information Guides, Homebound Delivery, and Phone-a-Story/Cuentos por teléfono all used or continue to use this hosted phone setup.

Library services aren’t the only area where Systems Administration has been essential. They have also helped deliver virtual programming to the community, including moving the entire annual Summer Reading Challenge online. This year’s summer program is completely virtual, from reading logs to STREAM badges, and also offers a complete program website in Spanish.

The SA team created the new Spanish-language summer reading website in a short amount of time with the assistance of Community Services. With in-person programming unavailable because of the pandemic, Community Services was seeking a way to deliver the summer reading program to Spanish-speaking families in an online format.

As people searched for tools to connect to online learning and video conferencing, Zoom became extremely popular. The District purchased several Zoom licenses to support online learning and video conferencing, as people searched for tools to connect to each other.

“We continue to look for ways that technology can better deliver library services and programs to our community, and we’re evaluating how to help bridge the digital divide that many people are experiencing right now.”

– Mark Huber, Systems Administration Manager

Published: Tuesday 4th August 2020

PoudreLibraries.org. And be sure to visit the Library’s website: PoudreLibraries.org. And be sure to visit the Library’s website: PoudreLibraries.org.

A Council Tree Library staff member prepares a Bag o’ Books order. 923 bags of books were delivered to customers using curbside pickup during the one month pilot program.

Lunch Bunch Live, and Showing Up for Racial Justice. Zoom also became the preferred platform for hosting bilingual town halls about COVID-19, community health and safety, and other important community topics.

“We continue to look for ways that technology can better deliver library services and programs to our community, and we’re evaluating how to help bridge the digital divide that many people are experiencing right now,” says Huber. “We’ll be taking a step by offering Hotspots for check out through the Gadgets & Things Collection.”

You can access digital eMedia and online resources through the Library’s website: PoudreLibraries.org. And be sure to visit our online Events calendar for details on virtual programs.

**CURBSIDE PICKUP PRINTING**

All Libraries now offer FREE printing - up to 10 pages!

Simply submit a printing request using the form to upload your .pdf, .doc, .docx, or .png file. You will receive an email when your document is ready for pickup. Black and white documents only at this time.

https://read.poudrelibraries.org/contact/printer/
**ADULT PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

**Great Decisions Zoom Meetings**

**Topic 3: Red Sea Security,**

*Tuesday, August 4, 7:00 - 8:30 PM*

With major nations like China, France, Italy, and the U.S. building large ports and bases in the region, what does the future of the Red Sea look like? Registration required.

**Topic 4: Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking,**

*Tuesday, August 18, 7:00 - 8:30 PM*

What is the international community doing to combat slavery and trafficking? For more information, see www.fpa.org/great_decisions. Registration required.

**Virtual Book Club for Mortals**

*Wednesday, August 19, 3:00 - 4:30 PM*

August’s Book: *The Art of Dying Well: A Practical Guide to a Good End of Life* by Katy Butler. Join us in powerful, joyful and even humorous discussions about the end of life journey and how others have navigated this event. Email mrickard@healthdistrict.org to register and receive the Zoom link to participate.

**International Night: Australia, Bali, Papua New Guinea**

*Tuesday, August 11, 7:00 - 8:30 PM*

Thursday, August 27, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Please join Klaus Lorenz for a Zoom presentation on his travels. Klaus has traveled to over 100 countries and shared many of these adventures with us at the Library Program. Registration required.

**Home Buying 101 (Money Matters Series)**

*Wednesday, August 19, 6:00 - 7:00 PM*

Ready to buy a home or refinance your mortgage? Discover the current local market, the cost of renting versus buying, how to choose a realtor, loan types, down payment options, closing costs, fees, and more. Registration required to receive Zoom meeting link.

**Healthy Eating with Pantry Staples**

*Wednesday, August 12, 6:30 - 7:30 PM*

Join local food educator Sapna Von Rech to learn some tips and tricks on saving money while shopping and planning homemade meals. Zoom links will be provided by email to registered participants. Registration Required

**Old Town Library Book Club**

*Monday, August 17, 6:30 - 8:00 PM*

Join us tonight for a Zoom Old Town Library Book Club discussion. We will discuss *Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston. Free and open to the public, but you must register to receive link information for the Zoom meeting.

**Fort Collins Book Fest Poetry Contest: Ode to Beer**

*Deadline for submitting: September 15*

Help us celebrate our world-renown craft brewing industry by sending us your “Ode to Colorado Beer (or Brewing).” The winning odes will be read by local, beer and brewing celebrities in a session that will include virtual beer tasting and singalongs. See www.focobookfest.org for info.

**The Gnome Zone Challenge**

*Mondays, 10:00 AM, through August 10*

Activities announced each week. Share using #PoudreLibraries.

**Lunch Bunch LIVE**

*Noon, Mondays & Wednesdays through August 12*

See the online calendar for Zoom link and to preview titles.

**ALL AGES PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

**Banned Books Contest: Art Against Censorship**

*Submissions accepted August 24 to September 7*

Age 10+. The Teen Council is sponsoring an art contest in honor of Banned Books Week (September 27-October 3.) Artists are encouraged to create an original art work based on a banned or challenged book. You can use any media, you like. There will be prizes! Visit http://www.ala.org/advocacy/bbooks for a complete list of books to inspire you. See event calendar listing on August 24 or September 7 for details.

**TEEN & Tween PROGRAMS**

**Teen Amazing Race: Star Wars**

*Monday, August 3, 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM*

Solve puzzles, complete challenges and use your creativity to save the galaxy. Participants will be divided into teams, and will work with their team to decode clues, race through the galaxy, and defeat the Empire. For ages 12-18. Registration is required. This event will take place using Zoom. Please register with a valid email address in order to receive a link to the meeting.

**Virtual Escape Room: Babysitters Club**

*Sunday, August 9, all day*

Joining the Babysitters Club would be a dream come true, but it’s not going to happen unless you can escape the playroom without your spirited charges and defeated. The room will be posted in this calendar entry and our Facebook page on August 9, but it can be completed any time.

**KIDS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

**Virtual Summer Storytime**

*10:00 AM, Tuesdays & Saturdays 10:00 AM, Thursdays, Spanish/Bilingual 7:00 PM, Thursdays, Bedtime Stories through Saturday, August 15*

Library storytime staff share virtual storytime activities, songs, rhymes and read-alouds. Don’t forget... Time spent in storytime counts toward the 2020 Summer Reading Challenge. YouTube links are posted in the online calendar.

**Phone-A-Story (970) 829-1301**

New stories are available each week in English or Spanish beginning on Sundays at 10:00 AM.

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