



One City Square, Suite 100
Warren, Michigan 48093
(586) 574-4564
www.warrenlibrary.net

**Warren Public Library
Library Commission Meeting**

December 20, 2012

7:00 p.m.

Mark Twain Room

Commissioners:

Frank Pasternak, Chairman
Chris Doeblar, Vice Chairman
Annette Coach, Treasurer
Don McIntosh, Secretary
Carolyn K. Moceris, Trustee
Richard Palmer, Trustee

Interim Director:

Oksana Urban
ourban@cityofwarren.org

All meetings are open to the public.

**WARREN PUBLIC LIBRARY
LIBRARY COMMISSION MEETING
INFORMATION PACKET**

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Items included in pre-board electronic delivery for the REGULAR BOARD
MEETING SCHEDULED for THURSDAY, December 20, 2012, 7:00 p.m.

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1 Agenda	12/14/12
4 Library Commission Meeting Minutes of 11/15/2012	12/14/12
5a Summary Statement of Budget, Expenditures, and Encumbrances	12/14/12
5b Suburban Library Cooperative Centralized Purchasing Expense Report	12/14/12
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WARREN PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

One City Square, Warren MI 48093

AGENDA – REGULAR MEETING

December 20, 2012

7:00 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Roll Call**
- 3. Approval of Agenda**
- 4. Approval of Minutes – Regular Meeting of November 15, 2012**
- 5. Financial Reports**
 - a. Monthly Line Item Budget Report
 - b. Suburban Library Allocation Account
- 6. Director's Report**
 - a. Statistics/Output Measures**
 - Unique Management report
 - Overdrive statistics
 - Monthly Stats
 - b. Current Projects**
 - DSLRT Survey completed and filed
 - Public FAX machines for all branches – eliminate Televend project. IS Department will have a company drop an analog line at the reference desk at WAM.
 - WCV chairs – Council denied Worden chair purchase – now investigating different options with Art Van and Goscha (Amish) chairs. Will provide an update at the next regular meeting.
 - RFID Project
 - WCV self check upgrades, WAM self check purchase on hold; possibility of relocating one unit from WCV to WAM

- Strategic plan/Review of policies – update from each supervisor regarding research and recommendations for inclusive policy updates:
 - Bieszka – Dress code
 - Knecht – AV Checkout periods, fees, fines (esp. \$1 fee for DVD rentals)
 - Lambert – Patron Behavior, Claims Return
 - Urban – Meeting Rooms

c. Services

- SirsiDynix system migration status
- SirsiDynix public catalog upgraded to Enterprise (from eLibrary)

d. Staffing Issues

- MLA Conference Reports
 - WCV: Babcock, Faba
 - WMB: Bieszka
 - WDB: Knecht, Mucha
 - WAM: Linsday, Willard, Kroenig
 - WHQ: Lambert, Robertson
- Vacant LTA position posted and there is a list available.
- Vacant Librarian position at WAM posted and there is a list available.
- Evanced programming calendar – Each branch is assisting patrons by registering them for upcoming programs.
- Evanced Study Room reservation management – Administrative office handles all room reservations.
- Training of new hires and probationary employees
- Cross-training of staff

e. Marketing/Outreach

- eNewsletter update
- Upcoming Events: 12/11 Robert Conroy; 12/19 Fiddlers ReStrung
- Spring edition of Newsbeat 2013

f. Discussion Items

- Jeans Day – as of 12/14/12 we collected \$189.00 to donate to the Macomb Literacy Partners

- Examining materials at checkout, charging for wear and tear on materials
- Personal Property Tax

7. Audience Participation

Members of the audience who would like to address the Library Commission this evening may do so under the Audience portion. You will have 3 (three) minutes to speak.

8. Action Items

- a. Discussion and consideration of a parking lot, green space or pocket garden development at 5951 Beebe.
- b. Discussion and consideration to reinstate library privileges of Joseph Domish.
- c. Discussion and consideration to reinstate library privileges of Karen Schanta.
- d. Discussion and appointment of Library Director.

9. Friends of the Warren Public Library

10.S.L.C. Report – Frank Pasternak

11.Commissioner's Comments

12.Next Meeting Date – January 17, 2013

13.Adjournment

WARREN PUBLIC LIBRARY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

November 15, 2012

1. Call to Order:

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chris Doebler.

2. Roll Call:

Commissioners Present: Richard Palmer, Annette Coach, Chris Doebler, and Carolyn Mocerì.

Palmer moved to excuse Pasternak, McIntosh, and Sherwood, supported by Coach; motion carried.

Also Present: Deb Lambert, Library Director

3. Approval of Agenda:

Coach moved to approve the agenda, supported by Mocerì; motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes—Regular Meeting of June 28, 2012 and October 18, 2012.

Doebler moved to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2012 with the correction that Carolyn Sherwood was not excuse as she was in fact present, supported by Mocerì; motion carried. Mocerì moved to approve the meeting minutes of October 18, 2012, supported by Coach, with Palmer abstaining; motion carried.

5. Reports:

a) Monthly Line Item Budget Report: The Monthly Line Item Budget Report for the period ending 11/01/2012 was reviewed. Mocerì moved to receive and file the Monthly Line Item Budget Report, supported by Coach; motion carried.

b) Suburban Library Allocation Account: As of October 31, 2012 the balance of the Allocation Account was \$40,361.27. Coach moved to receive and file the suburban Library Allocation Account, supported by Mocerì; motion carried.

6. Director's Report:

a. Statistics/Output Measures:

- Unique Management Report: The Unique Management Services Report, including accumulative totals, was reviewed. From April 2009 through October 2012 cash and material recovered totaled \$102,148.13. The total cumulative expenditures paid out were \$46,099.47.
- Overdrive Statistics: Not available.
- Monthly Stats: Not available.

b. Current Projects:

- AWE Early Literacy Station Statistics and Upgrade: Upgrades have been included in the budget which considers maintenance items for next year.
- Marketing checklist: Noting new but making sure that all of our programs are being advertised.
- PFLAG Collection Development Donation to SLC Libraries: Materials to be donated to all SLC libraries.
- WCV Lights Update: Light repairs completed without the repair of the lift.
- State Aid Application and Annual Report: Report is underway
- DSLRT Survey: It is a survey done on wages.
- Public Fax Machines for all branches on Order: Will be available in four to six weeks.
- WCV Chairs: The new chairs have been selected and the plan was to go to city council for approval as a sole source purchase. However, it did not appear on the city council agenda.
- RFID Project: Waiting for 3M quotes in order to go to city council for approval.
- LCD Projector and Screen: To be ordered for WDB and WMB.
- Newspaper Rack for WDB: On order.
- Slatwall Accessories for Literature Racks: On order.
- Miller 2012 Wish List Item: Task chairs will be in next year's budget.
- Networking Copier/Printer/Scanner/Fax for WAM: Color printer to be networked and will permit eliminating the jet printers and save on ink cartridges.
- Magazine Order has been place on MITN: Bids were due 11-14-2012 and we will be able to place our order for magazines next year.
- Tumblebooks ebooks Subscription: On order.
- Burnette/Busch Renovations: The RFP being drafted is on hold and will be discussed later.
- Beebe Demolition Update: The equipment is in place to tear down the building.

- Strategic Plan/Review of Policies: The following supervisors will update the noted policies:

- * Bieszka—Dress code (to obtain consistent policy for all library branches)
- * Knecht—AV checkout periods, fees, and fines (esp \$1 fee for DVD rentals)
- * Lambert—Patron behavior and claims return
- * Urban—Meeting rooms

c. Future Projects:

- WAM Circ Desk Cut: Looking for woodworkers and carpenters.
- Featured Collections eNewsletter—New or librarian recommended titles (Bools, DVDs, CDs, and eBooks: To be assigned to staff to match collection development duties.
- Cash Handling Audit:
- Security at Burnette:
- Office 365 Team Site for Library Intranet:

d. Services:

- SirsiDynix System Migration Status: This was scheduled for November 12-14.
- SirsiDynix Public Catalog Upgraded to Enterprise from eLibrary.

e. Staffing Issues:

- Staffing Audit:
- MLA Conference Attendance (Cyndi Knecht's poster session): Eleven members from the Warren libraries attended. They will be asked to summarize the sessions they attended and identify at least two things they would like to implement at our libraries.
- Vacant LTA Position:
- Vacant Librarian Position at WAM: This resulted from Lynnette Schmooch retiring from her position. This will result in a number of other position moves within the library staff.
- New Announcements: Oksana Urban informally announced her retirement effective next month. Also Deb Lambert announced her resignation as Library Director effective December 21, 2012. There was a discussion to ask Sharon Lindsay to take the position of interim director—and she joined the meeting at which time she was asked if she would be willing to become the interim director. She agreed. It was

noted that we would review her interim appointment with the mayor before it became official.

- Advanced Programming Calendar:
- Advanced Study Room Reservation Management:
- Planned: Work Study Students: To be worked on in the future.

f. Marketing /Outreach:

- eNewsletter Update: The eNewsletter is a success with over 100 subscribers at this time.
- Developing Marketing Checklist for Programs:
- Upcoming Events: Dr. Youn (11/15), Alzheimer's Workshop (11/8 & 11/15), Miller Scrapbooking Program (11/19), Face Reading (11/28), and WAM e-reader petting zoo (11/20).

g. Discussion Items:

- Priority Projects: It was suggested that Lambert prepare a list of the projects that should be completed before she leaves as well as the ones that should be continued and completed after she leaves.
- Wage Study: The discussion was primarily related to the maximum wages of the pages. Any wage increases would have to be reviewed with the mayor and approved by city council. Lambert will prepare the wage increase proposal for review and approval by the library commissioners at the December commissioners' meeting.
- Jeans Day/Dress Code: The code definition is available.
- Examining Materials at Checkout, Charging for Wear and Tear on Materials: There is a proposal to reduce examination of library materials when they are being checked out to speedup the checkout process, and to do an examination for beyond normal usage of the materials when they are checked in.
- Repeal of Michigan's Personal Property Tax Proposals: The Library could loss up to \$700,000 annually.

Moceri moved to receive and file the Director's report, supported by Coach; motion carried.

7. Audience Participation: The following comments were made by a member of the audience:

- There was continued comments from the previous meeting regarding opposition to the DVD rental charges.
- Progress with the work being done at the library and the successful implementation of several projects was acknowledged.
- There were comments related to the library budget and whether the moneys in the budget are being used to support the primary purpose of providing materials for the library patrons.

8. Action Items:

- a. Discussion and Consideration of Closing libraries on the following Sundays: 12/23/12, 12/30/12, and 12/29/13: Coach made a motion to approve these closure dates and revise the library calendar, supported by Mocer; motion carried.
- b. Discussion and Consideration of closing all branches at 5:00 PM on Wednesday 11/21/12: Mocer made a motion to approve the closing of all branches at 5:00 PM on 11/21/12, supported by Palmer; motion carried.
- c. Reappointment of Commissioners: This item was deferred as the commissioners could not take any action on the reappointment of commissioners.
- d. Approval of Sharon Lindsay as interim Library Director: Palmer suggested that the commission talk to the mayor first and approve her interim appointment at the Commissioners' December 20 meeting.

9. Friends of the Warren Library:

- Lambert indicated that the "Friends" were discontinuing their relationship with Michigan Based Books.

10. S.L.C. Report—Frank Pasternak:

- Lambert stated that the system upgrade has being completed. In addition, they are looking at adding a resource module that would put eBooks into a library's catalogue with a linkage to the eBook website.

11. Commissioner's Comments:

- Palmer stated that it was nice to see small groups of students in various parts of the library.
- Doeblar stated that he (as well as the other commissioners) was sorry to see Lambert resign but did support her decision to leave.

12. Next Meeting Date—December 20, 2012 at 7:00 PM

13. Adjournment:

Mocerì moved to adjourn the meeting, supported by Coach; motion carried.

Donald J. McIntosh, Secretary

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SUMMARY STATEMENT OF BUDGET, EXPENDITURES, AND ENCUMBRANCES

CITY OF WARREN-LIBRARY
PERIOD 07/01/12 - 06/30/13
as of 12/01/2012

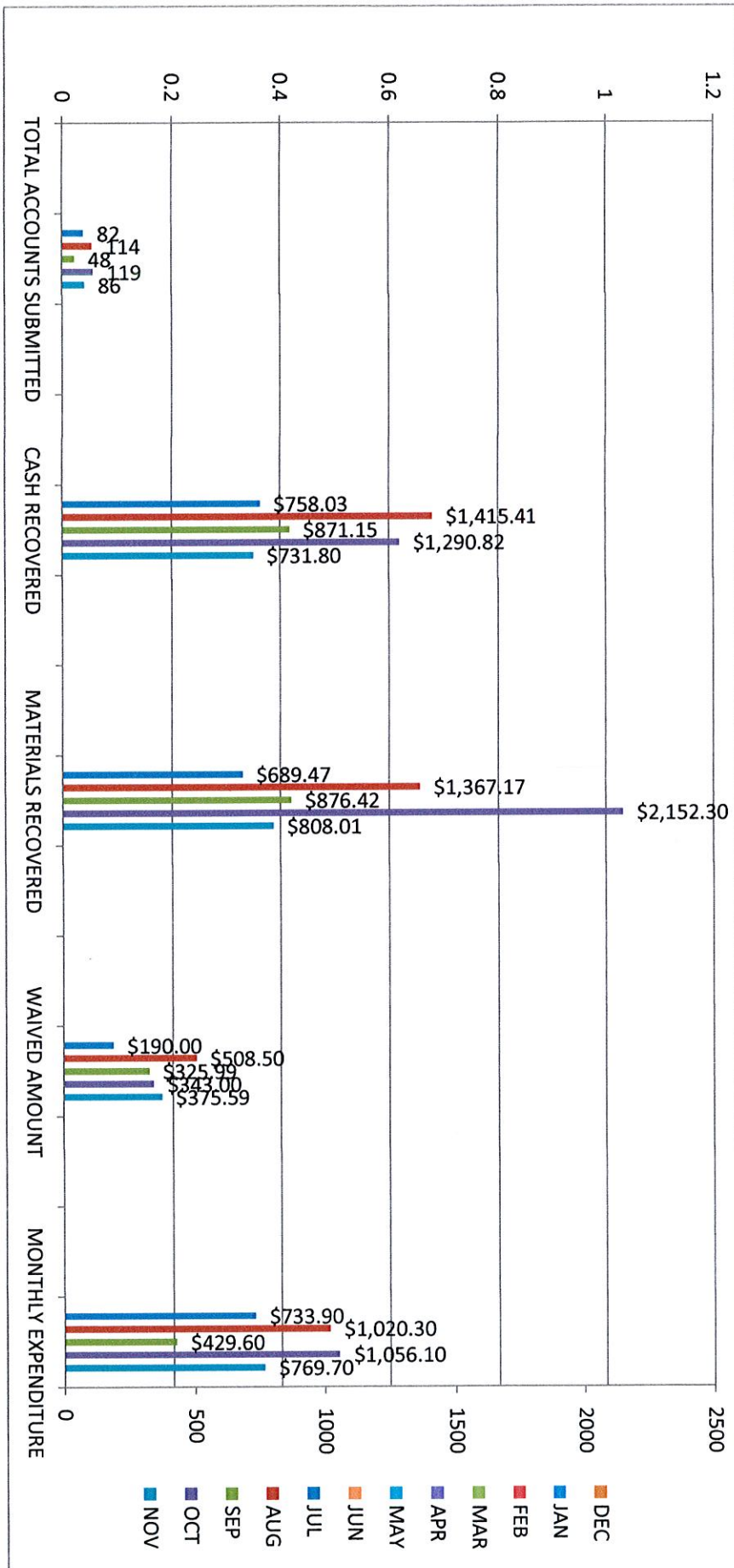
	BUDGETED	ADJUSTMENT	CURRENT BUDGET	YTD EXPENDITURE	YTD ENCUMBERED	YTD UNENCUMBERED	% REMAINING
9271 70300 APPOINTED OFFICIAL	91,911.00		91,911.00	36,764.41	1,587.78	40,846.09	68.08%
9271 70600 PERMANENT EMPLOYEES	1,084,088.00		1,084,088.00	467,499.79	1,587.78	107,674.94	74.79%
9271 70700 TEMPORARY EMPLOYEES	-		-	330.00	33.413.77	107,674.94	82.56%
9271 70714 PERM. PART-TIME	321,056.00		321,056.00	98,349.59	391.54	9,964.41	39.86%
9271 70900 OVERTIME	23,857.00		23,857.00	11,124.69		1,410.80	70.54%
9271 71000 SHIFT PREMIUM	11,656.00		11,656.00	2,268.89		90.05	3.90%
9271 71302 EDUCATION ALLOWANCE	9,200.00		9,200.00	10,500.00		12,347.98	82.30%
9271 71500 SOCIAL SECURITY	121,870.00		121,870.00	47,782.00		28,046.95	72.85%
9271 71900 EMPLOYEE INS.	232,091.00		232,091.00	101,547.33		17,000.00	100.00%
9271 71904 RETIREE HEALTH INS.	350,557.00		350,557.00	136,455.59		6,476.23	64.76%
9271 71905 H.S.A. EXPENSE	-		-	1,962.41		780.03	78.00%
9271 71906 SUPPL. LIFE INSURANCE EXP	-		-	346.57		2,708.23	90.27%
9271 71907 HEALTH INSURANCE CO-PAY	-		-	5,804.17		(145.98)	-7.30%
9271 72100 LONGEVITY	30,730.00		30,730.00	9,238.90		200.00	100.00%
9271 72200 RETIREMENT	513,529.00		513,529.00	155,399.80		-	0.00%
9271 72201 DEFINED CONTRIBUTION EXP	-		-	35,027.77			
9271 72400 COST OF LIVING	-		-				
9271 72700 OFFICE SUPPLIES	60,000.00		60,000.00	13,191.59	5,962.32	40,846.09	68.08%
9271 72702 COPY MACHINE EXP.	14,000.00		14,000.00	1,941.98	1,587.78	10,470.24	74.79%
9271 80100 CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	158,380.00		158,380.00	17,291.29	33,413.77	107,674.94	82.56%
9271 80117 COOPERATIVE SERVICES	175,000.00		175,000.00	30,516.50		144,483.50	82.56%
9271 80130 CO-OP SERVICES-INDR AID	25,000.00		25,000.00	15,035.59		9,964.41	39.86%
9271 80200 POSTAGE	2,000.00		2,000.00	197.66	391.54	1,410.80	70.54%
9271 80301 UNEMPLOYMENT COSTS	2,300.00		2,300.00	2,209.95		90.05	3.90%
9271 82201 VIDEO CASS & TAPES	15,000.00		15,000.00	2,652.02		12,347.98	82.30%
9271 82202 LIBRARY CIRCULATING MAT	38,500.00		38,500.00	10,453.05		28,046.95	72.85%
9271 82207 PERIODICALS	17,000.00		17,000.00	-		17,000.00	100.00%
9271 85300 TELEPHONE	10,000.00		10,000.00	3,523.77		6,476.23	64.76%
9271 86100 MILEAGE	1,000.00		1,000.00	219.97		780.03	78.00%
9271 86300 AUTO EXPENSE	3,000.00		3,000.00	291.77		2,708.23	90.27%
9271 86400 CONFERENCES-WRKSHOP	2,000.00		2,000.00	2,145.98		(145.98)	-7.30%
9271 90200 BOOK BINDING	200.00		200.00	-		200.00	100.00%
9271 91000 INSURANCE/BONDS	31,800.00		31,800.00	31,800.00		-	0.00%
9271 92000 PUBLIC UTILITIES	215,000.00		215,000.00	80,369.66		134,630.34	62.62%
9271 93000 REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	138,000.00		138,000.00	57,057.47	13,712.22	67,230.31	48.72%
9271 95000 ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	200,600.00		200,600.00	200,599.92		0.08	0.00%
9271 95804 LIB COMM. DUES & EXP	500.00		500.00	-		500.00	100.00%
9271 96401 REF TAX PD UND PROTEST	30,000.00		30,000.00	10,692.55		19,307.45	64.36%
9271 96470 BUILDING AUTHORITY BONDS	138,000.00		138,000.00	108,419.42		29,580.58	21.44%
9271 96850 ACCUMULATED SICK LEAVE	97,000.00		97,000.00	-		97,000.00	100.00%
9271 96855 ACCUMULATED COMP TIME	7,000.00		7,000.00	-		7,000.00	100.00%
9271 98000 OFFICE EQUIPMENT	57,470.00	59,545.00	117,015.00	60,277.47	6,387.45	50,350.08	43.00%
9271 98200 BOOKS	285,000.00		285,000.00	69,069.35	2,276.60	213,654.05	74.97%
9271 99000 EST UNCOL TAXES	5,000.00		5,000.00	-		5,000.00	100.00%
TOTAL	4,519,295.00	59,545.00	4,578,840.00	1,838,358.87		2,676,749.45	58.46%

**SUBURBAN LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
CENTRALIZED PURCHASING EXPENSE REPORT
(11/1/2012 – 11/30/2012)**

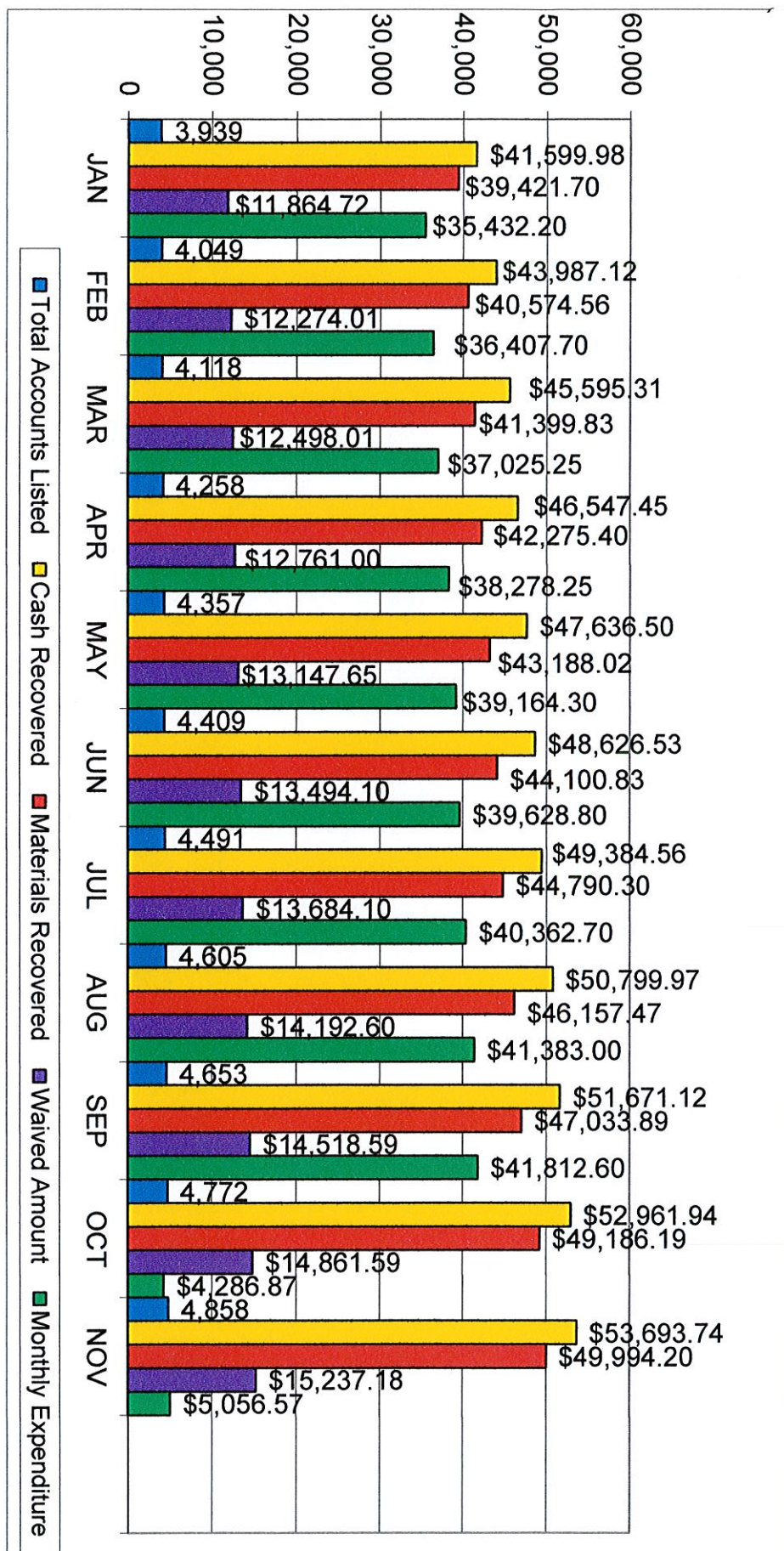
Beginning Balance	40,361.27
No expense requests	
Ending Balance	40,361.27

Unique Management Services Report July 2012 - November 2012

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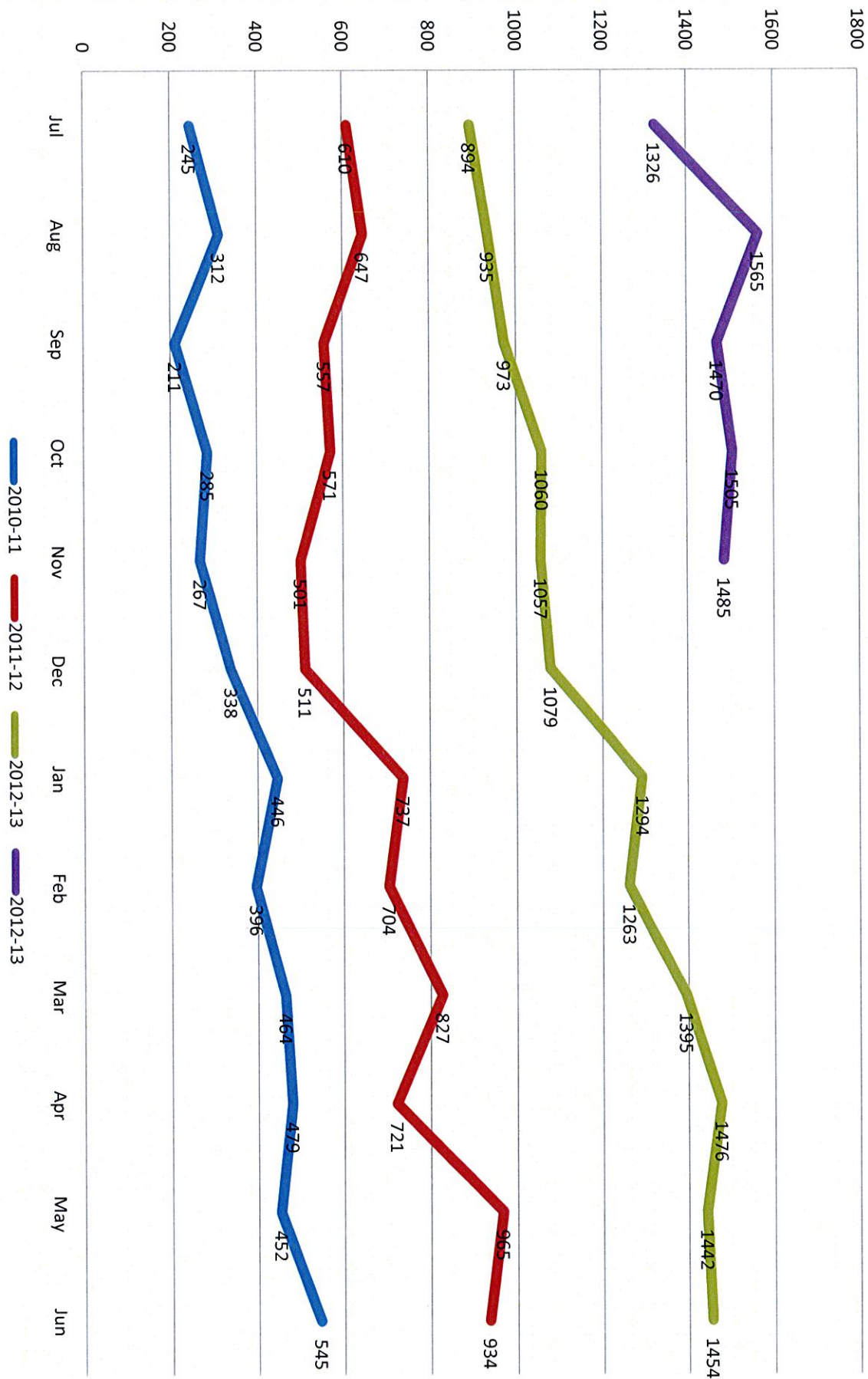
Unique Management Services Cumulative Report January - November 2012



The total expenditure from April 2009 - November 2012 was \$43,638.40

Graph indicates January - November 2012, but figures are cumulative from April 2009.

OverDrive eBook Usage Warren Public Library



Conference Report
Jamie Babcock
Warren Civic Center Library

2012 MLA Annual Conference – Detroit
Wednesday, November 7, 2012

Thingamabobs and Doodads: Tech Support IS Reference **9:00 – 10:00 a.m.**

The session presenter emphasized that making technology "unavoidable and relevant" to staff will keep libraries relevant by exceeding the expectations of library patrons. As reference librarians don't have a choice with either patrons or reference questions, having staff well-versed in basic technology creates a starting point for assistance. At very least, as with legal and tax questions, staff can offer options rather than answers for patrons, rather than closing the reference interview prematurely. The presenter also stated that "if your target market is doing that, then you need to do that," proposing that basic knowledge of social media, e-readers, and other methods and devices is necessary for a librarian to relate to and assist the patrons within a community. Suggested core competencies for hiring tech support and a list of resources for tech training were provided.

Construction Zone – Building Computer Class Programs **1:15 – 2:15 p.m.**

The presenter gave a practical session for creating computer class programs. She suggested that library staff first determine why they want to offer computer classes. Staff then needs to evaluate the needs of one's community and adapt computer classes to accommodate those needs. The presenter made recommendations, and provided rationale, for length of computer class sessions, books for patron usage, registration and class fees or lack thereof, no-show fees, administering exit surveys as "charge" for class, size of class, and repetition of information, as well as other practical matters. She also advised using screenshots for patrons, creating PowerPoint presentation with copious notes for other staff to use, and creating and issuing certificates for those re-entering the job market. Moreover, the presenter suggested that libraries "promote shamelessly" by both endorsing library resources, such as e-books and upcoming programs, and

garnering support for the library, such as responding to patrons' opinions of classes and consistently showing appreciation for attendees.

Lean Mean Circ Machine

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

The presenters of this session illustrated how the lean business model, normally an approach used in manufacturing, can and should be applied in libraries; though the example used was for providing MeL service, it can be applied to other aspects of the library as well. Rather than a mere model of efficiency, the lean process encourages highest quality at lowest cost in the shortest delivery time through the implementation of the "5 Ss." The 5 Ss are all stages of a single process that should flow: sort (know what is available and what is needed), systemize (organize materials and processes), sustain ("if you open it, close it"), straighten (discard unnecessary papers and materials), shine (maintain a clean environment). Lean promotes added value, continuous improvement, and the complete elimination of waste to consistently improve operations. Some library examples of waste range from misprinted labels to the time that lapses from receiving an item at the library to making that item available to patrons. According to the presenters, staying committed to the lean process took MeL turnaround at their library, within just a few months, from three weeks to three days through just tweaking and streamlining the process and without adding staff. They discovered that small changes can have big results; for instance, using hand-strap tape dispensers instead of desktop tape dispensers made packing MeL items easier and faster for staff. The presenters also encouraged cross-training library staff, as it is valuable for all staff to be prepared to assist where needed.

Beyond Duct Tape: Programming for Today's Teens

4:15 – 5:15 p.m.

[Unfortunately, I left halfway through session because I had to present a storytime at WCV that evening.]

The joint presenters offered ideas for teen programming from two economic perspectives: one very well-funded and the other much less so. Both suggested that librarians should define your target "teen," whether the target falls at the upper or lower end of ages and/or grades. Both agreed on a few very important rules: *no* to parents attending; *yes* to serving food; and *yes* to scheduling teen programs for the same time each week, month, etc., so that teens know that *something* is going on. They also agreed that teen programs should be safe spaces for teens, and

that programs should not mix teens and adults or teens and younger kids too often.

Unfortunately, teens "lie": they may say that they're interested in a program that staff proposes and that they would attend, but not necessarily; a teen advisory council with "bribery" of candy, for instance, will often yield legitimate program ideas. Making "bad" teens work for the library can be beneficial, as teens who are given responsibility may exhibit fewer behavioral problems. The presenters gave some inventive ideas for teen programs: having teens make cat toys for the Humane Society; adapting successful children's programs, such as Lego parties, for teens; a graphic novel book club; and events with activities, crafts, and contests based upon pop culture, such as The Hunger Games, Dungeons and Dragons, and Comic Con.

One significant thing that I learned was from the computer class session: when planning a session, begin with an outline and, with this outline, answer all the questions that you expect students to be able to answer when they leave. Essentially, what is the purpose of this program? What do I hope to accomplish with this class, this program, etc.? I hope to consciously use this tactic when I plan storytimes, children's programs, and any other events for which I'm responsible in the future. It seems to be an obvious step, but I think it's one that's often overlooked.

Another significant thing that I learned was the entire lean business approach. Lean promotes continuous improvement through the complete elimination of waste, not merely efficiency. Rather than a static definition of "good" or "good enough," the lean process encourages constant evolution, a constant desire to improve. This could be implemented in several areas of the library in several different ways, though it certainly would not be a simple task. My "baby-step" efforts in my own work since the session have shown me that the process is more challenging than I expected, particularly when trying to change my own habits, no matter how counterintuitive those habits can be. Nevertheless, I appreciate that the lean approach is a process to *continue* rather than a job to *finish*.

Michigan Library Association Annual Conference 2012

Wednesday, November 7, 2012

Submitted by Lynn Bieszka

Adapting the Youth Room: Programs & Services for Kids with Different Needs

The first program I attended dealt mainly with providing story times for special needs children. I had previously attended a one day seminar on that subject and had hoped that the MLA session, which had a broader description, would provide ideas beyond story time. Because we had not done programs to target this population in the past, we decided last summer to plan an Inclusive Story Time. It was advertised through the Newsbeat, website, flyers, and emails to staff at the MISD and several schools with special needs programs. However, in three months, we have had no one attend. So, what I am taking from the MLA session is the idea of working sensory activities into "regular" story times. We can either change our currently scheduled Inclusive Story Times into a Family Story Time and just follow a Sensory Story Time format with a visual schedule and sensory activities and/or we can incorporate more sensory activities into our current story times. I know that the bean bag activities that Connie does during Preschool Story Time could easily be tweaked to make them more sensory.

Tech Trends for Kids

The presenter began by saying that kids are content creators. She said that 7 out of 10 children use tablets. They make movies, post pictures, do pod casts, and make music. The presenter briefly described several websites. Simplebooklet was one site which is free (unless you don't want the ads). It is similar to PowerPoint but with more options. You can add images and sound and then link it to Twitter, Facebook, and Google+. Other websites described were Comic Master which provides formatting to create your own comics and My Storymaker which introduces children to the ideas of character, setting, and sequencing. There are many apps available including a simple one called Little Skywriters that children can use to practice writing using their fingers. The presenter mentioned that a school district in Maine recently gave IPADS to half of their kindergarten students in September and gave them to the other half in December. Testing found a huge difference between sound and letter recognition between the two groups. While we did see a vendor who was selling machines that would allow patrons to check out IPADS, the start-up cost was over \$20,000. This may not be a service we can afford to provide but our staff needs to be aware of and comfortable using devices like an IPAD.

Supporting Adult Literacy in Your Library

In Westland, a literacy program did not exist. In Macomb County, we have Macomb Literacy Partners. But how can we help our patrons who cannot read well, or at all? One suggestion brought up should be obvious: never assume. A patron may be very slow using a computer or appear to just be staring at the computer screen because they cannot read or understand what they're looking at not because they're "high" or asleep. If a patron asks you to help them with something that "is right on the sign" or that "they should be able to look up themselves" or refuses a print version of a book that they ask for on disc, staff members need to stop and think before they react. We do put out literature about Macomb Literacy Partners but we are passive. If someone asks us, we tell them about Macomb Literacy Partners but many people may be too embarrassed to ask. So how do we help people who cannot read the literature but are too embarrassed to ask for help? Maybe a display with very simple wording and hi/lo books for beginning adults readers would be a start.

Several websites were mentioned during the presentation including proliteracy.org, which gives information on agencies in the area, and proliteracyednet.org, which offers tutorials for people with low literacy.

Beyond Duct Tape: programming for today's teens

While one of the librarians doing the presentation reported large turnouts at her programs, I took some solace in the fact that the other librarian, from an affluent Oakland County area, had trouble getting teens to attend her programs. Even when both librarians did very similar programs, there was a large difference in the number of attendees. Surprisingly, the librarian from Clinton Macomb had a much larger budget, \$7500 per year, than the librarian from Rochester, \$1000 per year. One thing mentioned, which we learned first-hand at the Teen SRC Closing Party in August, was to keep the teens busy. Some programs that have worked well are an Alternative Prom, Comicon the week before the "big Comicon" so they can try out their cosplay costumes, Dungeons & Dragons, Pizza and Paperbacks, and any after-hours programs when the teens can be in the library when it's closed. Especially popular games after-hours are hide-and-seek, capture the flag, and sardines. VOYA often gives information on teen programs as well. A general rule of teen programs: "feed them and they will come." We know from experience that this is not always true but it helps. One suggestion was to check the local schools' websites to see what kind of clubs they have so you know that there is at least some interest in a subject. At Clinton Macomb, full size candy bars are a much sought after prize. Other ideas are money, gift cards, and theme baskets. Rules should be simple like "leave things as you found them" and "no disrespectful language". In general, I was glad to hear that programs can be hit and miss at any library.

The exhibit hall was quite small compared to ALA and NAEYC. I did talk to a vendor about leasing best sellers like Cyndi currently does at WDB. Also, theft of DVDs has been a problem both at WCV and WMB in the past few months. Before we started to RFID items, we had discussed putting the tag on the disc versus on the case but Amy decided against it. It is labor intensive for us to keep all of the discs behind the circulation desks. So, in lieu of tagging the discs, we may want to consider purchasing a different type of security case in the future. One type of case that we saw has a hub lock on it to keep the disc in the case versus a sliding lock that keeps the case closed. I am not sure how hard it would be to cut the hub lock off. The vendor said that the thief would destroy the disc if they tried to cut off the lock. The cost is about \$1.50 each. I don't know what locking cases cost but I believe we pay about \$1.00 for replacement locks. I also saw a demonstration for Mango which I found interesting especially since patrons can download it to their mobile devices.

In general, it was nice to be at a statewide conference, be exposed to different ideas, and interact with librarians outside of our "cocoon".

MLA Post-Conference Report

The first session I attended was called Thingamabobs and Doodads. The purpose of the session was to describe core technology competencies required by library staff to help library users. They strongly made the point that reference librarians have as much responsibility to help patrons with their questions about technology as they do any other reference question. While a librarian does not need to be an expert of every type of device, he/she needs to be able to at least get a patron started and have suggestions of where to go for more help. The presenters stated that the most important factors in making sure that librarians are savvy enough to help patrons is for librarians to have a variety of devices available to them and enough training and time with the items to learn about them.

The presenters also suggested we consider making very short 2-3 minute videos for patrons to watch about common things we are asked about a lot—for example, getting on a browser or finding a website. In addition, we should consider having social media classes to introduce patrons to Facebook, Twitter, and other sites. (It occurred to me that a class like this may also make patrons more aware of our presence on these sites.) They also made the suggestion that staff be allowed to attend any of these classes.

Finally, they mentioned several different websites where we can find information on how to use various devices:

- <http://webjunction.techatlas.org/tools>
- <http://downforeveryoneorjustme.com>
- www.sonicwall.com/phishing
- www.Youtube.com
- www.Instructables.com
- www.5min.com
- <http://TeacherTube.com>
- www.slideshare.net/hhibner

I would love to see us devote more time to training—especially in this area. I am sure it will be difficult to schedule and purchasing different devices will be expensive. But it is very important. Hopefully, we can be fully staffed soon and find a way to manage this.

In the session called Going Bananas for Appeal Factors in Multi-Type Reader's Advisory we learned about taking a patron's interest in one item and finding other items in various media that the patron may like as well. We considered books, movies, music and videogames.

The presenters strongly indicated that Novelist is best for finding the next book a patron may like to read. Novelist allows you to search appeal factor terms that try to capture the atmosphere or emotion of a book—words like steamy, creepy and happy. If Novelist is not available to us we were advised to try www.goodreads.com, www.librarything.com, <http://booklamp.org>, and <http://www.openingthebook.com/whichbook/>.

For music suggestions, we were advised to try <http://musicoverly.com>. For movies, www.jinni.com was suggested. In both cases, you can search by mood. In Musicoverly, for example, you can search anywhere along a continuum between calm and energetic and between dark and positive moods. Videogames reviews are harder to find. We were advised to try www.metacritic.com or just do a Google search for the best videogames.

This is one of my favorite areas of responsibility! I will try to get better at these sites and maybe find some others. I also wonder if we could reconsider Novelist.

The next session I attended was called Where will Michigan Libraries be in 2017 – Michigan's New Federal Five-Year Plan's Goals and Programs. We learned that:

- About 90% of the federal money received by the Library of Michigan goes to finance Mel and MelCat.
- LSTA is the Library Services and Tech Act – the money is provided through Museum and Library Services
- Michigan allotment has dropped \$100 million because our population is decreasing. States that get more money get it because their population is increasing.
- An annual report is put together by Karren Reish (reishk@michigan.gov) and can be found at www.Michigan.gov/LSTA. This report shows how the money is being used.
- The plan includes 3 goals
 - o Michigan residents will have equal access to resources and material in various formats for lifelong learning (trying to focus on rural libraries with very small staff and money)
 - o Michigan residents will have opportunities to gain new skills and improve skills to engage in the 21st century community and economy (Learning Express and other databases, author tours, train librarians at MLA workshops, webinars)
 - o Michigan libraries will actively pursue partnerships and initiatives that support community development and engagement (helping schools, homeschoolers, promoting business databases to attract business and entrepreneurs to the libraries)

The last session I attended was called Navigating Legal Information: An Introduction to the new Michigan Law Help website for the Public Librarian. This site is located at www.MichigaLegalHelp.org. We were told that there are not enough Legal Aid offices anymore since funding has been cut so much. Therefore more and more people are trying to handle some legal issues alone without a lawyer. Often these people come to the library for help. This new site is the result of several years work by legal professionals and librarians. The site continues to be improved but at this time it covers five main subjects: Family law, Protection Orders, Expungement, Consumer law, and Housing. The site and the forms have been written at a sixth grade level. A patron clicks on their county first, which ensures that the information they find will pertain to their particular county. The site provides a checklist for patrons to follow and the forms they will need. The site also directs patrons to one of the four self-help centers that have been set up to provide more one-on-one assistance to people. There is also a way to find a lawyer in the patron's area that handles their particular problem.

We get plenty of questions about filing for divorce and writing rental and lease agreements. I think this site could be very helpful. It will require more exploration.

I talked to a representative from Mango Languages. It looked like a very impressive system. Many languages are available. There is a feature that allows the user to tape his/her speech and compare it to the model. I understand there is an annual fee. I think John Robertson talked to them as well and has some experience with them. I know there is great interest among our patrons for learning other languages—including people who want to learn English. We still get a lot of requests for Rosetta Stone. I think this may be worth a look.

Submitted by - Kathy Faba
Branch Librarian
Warren Civic Center Library

Cyndi Knecht – WDB Branch Librarian Supervisor
Michigan Library Association Conference Report
Date Attended : Wednesday, November 7, 2012
Program: Technology Track

What You Should Know About Library Mobile Apps 9-10 a.m.

Program organizer and presenter Paul Gallagher provided a listing of the issues surrounding the latest mobile “app” craze and the impact this is having on libraries. Wayne State University has been doing research about the current trends and what mobile users are actually doing. One discouraging note is that presently there are not a great deal of library applications to choose from. He also discussed the potential pitfalls of investing in this technology. We have a couple of apps that I’m aware of, one from Sirsi/Dynix called BookMyne 3.0 (<http://www.sirsi-dynix.com/bookmyne>) that lets you scan the barcode of a book with your mobile device to check the library catalog and place the book on hold. (I’ve not used it myself). Useful for patrons checking out new titles in a bookstore. Also, you can download Overdrive to many mobile devices to download audiobooks from our collection of Overdrive titles.

All-Conference Opening Keynote Speaker:

Will Manley (retired librarian, author, columnist)
10:15 – 11:30 a.m.

I attended, but did not take notes of his presentation. Will Manley was a public librarian for over 30 years. I used to read his columns regularly. He currently writes the “Manley Arts” column in Booklist and the “Will’s World” column every month in the ALA’s American Libraries Magazine. Some of his articles are available online if you Google him.

EXHIBITS: I examined most of the booths that were presented by exhibitors during the break between sessions. I picked up material from World Book, Borroughs Corporation - Wilsonstak (copyright) Library Shelving, Recorded Books, Norwood House Press (representative Lauren Bowman gave me a free children’s book for the branch), Proquest (Statistical Abstract of the United States 2013), Reference USA Consumer Lifestyle Database and the Mango Languages booth.

Construction Zone – Building Computer Class Programs 1:15-2:15 p.m.

Program Organizer: Shirley Blackler (Kent District Library)

This program focused on the development of programs for public computer classes – such as where to start, which classes to teach, how to find resources to begin or modify material, and much more. Years ago I went with a small group of WPL staff to Seattle for staff training when we obtained our initial grant for the computer lab from the Bill and Melissa Gates Foundation. At that time we learned about building computer class programs, among many other things. I taught several beginning computer classes (one time sessions) at WAM, until the Parks and Rec Dept. began to offer them (with a fee) at the Warren Community Center.

Putting Multimedia Exhibits in the Palm of Your Hand 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Program Organizer: Rachel Clark

The most relevant part of this particular program was the discussion of the best practices related to marketing and outreach, but I thought WPL pretty much has this covered.

Building a Library Website with Wordpress

Program Organizer: Robbie Bolton

(Assistant Library Director at Spring Arbor University)

<http://sites.arbor.edu/whitelibrary/>

I attended this program out of curiosity since John Robertson created our own WPL website using Wordpress. This program demonstrated how a smaller library, with a smaller budget and staff, could build a library website on the Wordpress platform. In the program description, it was stated “if you can add photos to Facebook, you are capable of building a Wordpress site.” I couldn’t stay for the whole presentation as I needed to finish setting up for my poster session presentation.

POSTER SESSION 5:00 – 6:00p.m.

Barb Dinan of the Plymouth District Library asked me to present a poster session with her at MLA. We were given a posterboard to showcase how we started our scrapbooking/papercrafting programs. (See handout “Creating a Crafting

Community at the Warren Public Library”) On the posterboard and in front of it we had samples of cards, scrapbook layouts and mini albums that had been made during our crafting programs, as well as a “make and take” – a “Happy Thanksgiving” card they could assemble in under 2 minutes .

Creating a Crafting Community at the Warren Public Library

About 5 years ago, the Warren Public Library began developing two scrapbooking clubs, one for teens, and one for adults at all skill levels. The Adult Scrapbooking Club meets at the Miller Branch, while Teen Scrapbooking moved to the Busch Branch in the spring of 2011.

Each group meets once a month from January through November on a Monday night when the library is closed to the public. Teens meet from 6 – 8 p.m. at the Busch Branch, and the adults from 6 – 8:30 p.m. at the Miller Branch. Located in the Warren Community Center, Miller has an area where furniture can be moved and 10 6-foot tables and 20 chairs can be set up. The Busch Branch, quite a bit smaller, sets up additional tables to provide work space.

Information about these groups is on the library web site, the calendar page, as well as Facebook and Twitter. Library programs are featured in the City of Warren publication, Newsbeat, published quarterly and also available online. The local newspaper, the Warren Weekly, is also a good avenue to advertise these programs. Average attendance is 12-15 for adults (with a high of 29 one month!) and under 10 for teens. Teens are welcomed at the Adult Scrapbooking Club if accompanied by an adult, and the same goes at Teen Scrapbooking for adults.

. The participants are provided exposure to all sorts of paper crafting tools and techniques. Tools include basics such as trimmers and punches, as well as die cutting machines, embossing machines, binding machines (for mini albums) and score boards. Techniques are demonstrated, such as how to stamp with rubber and acrylic stamps, how to heat emboss, design scrapbooking layouts and more.

Materials are supplied through the generosity of the Friends of the Warren Public Library. They provide an annual budget that staff members use to shop the craft stores over the course of the year and receive reimbursement. Careful attention is given to sales and coupons to stretch these dollars to the fullest. Each library was provided with funds for a Cricut die-cutting machine, which is used extensively both by the public and by the staff preparing various projects for the clubs each month. Each meeting an agenda is handed out with a list of materials they can select, the next meeting date, and instructions for the monthly project (sample provided). Lately, as awareness has grown, members of the public have donated scrapbooking supplies.

In the beginning, the entire emphasis was on scrapbooking. Over time ~~it's~~ we've added making a special project each month, such as a card, a mini album or 3D object such as a box or bag. Most of the ideas for these projects have been found on YouTube, using search terms such as mini albums, Cricut projects, scrapbooking, etc. When instructions for projects are handed out, a link to the creator, their blog and YouTube channel is given.

The Teen group is being re-named "Teen Paper Crafting" to reflect the variety of projects and hopefully attract more teens each month. Additionally, the Miller Library has a program called MASK (Miller After School for Kids) for grades 1-5, which has a variety of activities, including some crafts (this month the kids will learn to make basic paper airplanes and have a paper airplane contest). The Warren Civic Center often includes crafts after storytelling, or special events, such as a Manga drawing class. For more information, contact cknecht at [cityofwarren.org](http://www.warrenlibrary.net/) or check the Warren Public Library web site at <http://www.warrenlibrary.net/>

SAMPLE INFO SHEET

ADULT SCRAPBOOKING

March 26, 2012

Warren Arthur Miller Branch

Supplies provided:

4 pieces of 12" x 12" paper

3 pieces of 8 ½" by 11" paper

2 pieces of matting paper (4 ½" x 6 ½")

Scrap paper as needed from the scrap paper box

Ask if you need to borrow scissors, edgers, trimmers, punches, adhesives or stickers.

Next meeting – Monday, April 23rd 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

DOUBLE POCKET CARD

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3CQc3lZ9Upw&feature=related>

from maestra2121

8 ½" x 11" sheet of patterned paper (best if doubled-sided)

Using a score board, with the short side of the paper at the top, score down the length at the half-way point (4 ¼")

Turn the paper so the 11" side is at the top. Find your middle point (5 ½") and score the length downwards.

Turn the paper so the 8 ½" side is at the top, and on the left-hand side of the paper, find your score line and cut until you meet the center score line.

Next, go to the bottom right hand corner and fold the corner up until it meets the center score line. Crease the fold.

Go up to the top left corner and fold the corner down until it's about 1 ½" away from the center score line. Fold the top from left to right in the center – this creates your front pocket.

1st FOLDING INSTRUCTIONS – DOUBLE POCKET CARD WITH INSIDE PANEL FOR SENTIMENT: Flip the bottom of your paper up, and it makes the second pocket. Fold the left side flap to the back. This is your card base. Add a little adhesive to the left and right side edges so things won't fall out.

ALTERNATE TWO POCKET CARD WITHOUT AN INSIDE PANEL. Bottom left side flap – fold BEHIND. Now fold the bottom right triangle UP to the left edge and use a bone folder to crease it. (This makes two times that paper is folded up in this corner). Flip the bottom section up. Adhere on left side and right side of pocket so things won't fall out.

Fill pockets with tags (use for journaling, stamping, or photos), gift cards, money, tickets, etc.

DOUBLE SIDE STEP CARD

(as used in the Asian themed card)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8OfIjrjG5w&feature=channel&list=UL>

**Base Card Style Series Video #5 Double Side Step
from maxandshoji on YouTube
February 19, 2012**

TWISTED EASEL CARD

from www.cardztv.blogspot.com <http://cardztv.blogspot.com/2011/05/twisted-easel-card.html> *SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2011*

CARDSTOCK MINI ALBUM

Uploaded by [tkdgalsamm](#) on Nov 24, 2010

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZtPBpzc-Bw&feature=related>

MEANDER Mini Album

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_zXKBx4mt3M

HOW TO MAKE A POP-UP GIFT CARD WALLET

(from www.cardztv.blogspot.com on 19 December 2011)

Thingamabobs and Doodads

We must remember that patrons' tech support questions ARE reference questions. We wouldn't turn away a reference question; we shouldn't turn away a tech question and certainly should never say "That's not my job". We may know more than we think and just making an effort can go a long way to relax a tech frustrated patron. Library staff must be open minded, willing to embrace changes in technology, and maintain certain technological core competencies. Management should be willing to train staff or make sure to hire staff with these important competencies:

- Attitude--kind, open, helpful tones. Remember to use reference interview
- PC Basics
- Computer Security
- Data Management
- Fundamentals of Web Pages
- Internet Sources
- Social Web
- Understand how your ILS operates across departments and/or shared libraries

Going Bananas for Appeal Factors in Multi-Type RA

Multi-type Readers Advisory crosses between fiction, non-fiction, movies and TV, and graphic novels. One should use appeal factors to find items with a similar "feel" to something the patron enjoyed. Great example of types of appeal factors are the NoveList categories: Storyline, Pace, Tone, Writing Style. Also, look for Mood and Plot.

If library has access to NoveList, it's great for books. Just look at the appeal factors then throw them into the search and use the Boolean "or" in place of the "and" if there are lots of terms. If library doesn't have NoveList, you can find appeal factor terms from Goodreads, Booklamp, whichbook.net and Library Thing or pick them straight out of the reviews on Amazon.com. Also, don't forget to pick up on appeal terms from the good old-fashioned references interview.

Jinni.com is great for movies and TV shows. It has topic groups of mood, plot, genre, place, time/period or you can type in an appeal term, such as atmospheric, and see results that fit that mood.

Musicoverly.com can be used to find music. It functions a little oddly as appeal factors fall between 4 terms, dark, positive, energetic, and calm, similar to quadrants. However, you can also search by artists for similar artists.

Metacritic.com is recommended for games as there isn't a lot out there for recommending game titles. You can browse by genre types and the site gives a metascore pulled from reviews of the game.

Supporting Adult Literacy in Your Library

63 million adults can't read at the 8th grade level and 50% of children of illiterate parents will also be illiterate. In general, adult literacy is different from children learning to read, as they need different reading materials than children's books. Also, adults tend

to have goals they are working towards such as being able to get a job or be a better reader, not a certain grade level. A library can be a great choice for setting up a literacy program, since people will often come to the library looking for help and it keeps the library relevant with the community.

The Westland library set up a literacy tutoring program with the use of volunteers. The volunteers would commit to 15 hours of training provided by Washtenaw Literacy. Then the library would schedule a tutor with a learner and provide tutoring materials and books.

What the library learned while providing this service:

- Low literacy interferes with computer literacy
- A high school diploma doesn't mean you can read
- Some people will reach out for help after a big life event (having children of their own, kids are starting school, losing a job, losing a spouse)
- Illiterate people are often very skilled in other areas to compensate for their lack of reading
- Study rooms are important, since some people feel ashamed for their low literacy skills
- Their biggest challenge is keeping a balance of tutors and learners, often they'll have more of one group or the other

Beyond Duct Tape: Programming for Today's Teens

Despite budget or group size, teen programming can be created to suit your library and your population of teens. Super small budgets can be accommodated with a focus on free programs and thus the only money spent is on cost of snacks. (Feeding teens is a must. Feed them and they will come!) Ways to come up with program ideas include asking the teens themselves, borrow ideas that have worked in other libraries, have TAB plan some activities, adapt popular youth programs for older audiences, and do things you are into yourself (free presenter!).

Some interesting program ideas were Pizza and Paperbacks, like a book club, but casual, more like having a conversation about a book or even other books they're reading. Sarah found that teens are more likely to stay involved if they're given a paperback copy (she got a grant from Wal-Mart for this) and suggest starting with a John Green book, they'll be hooked. Also, I found it surprising that they have large regular Dungeons and Dragons groups; perhaps if our teens are fans of Dungeons and Dragons or other role playing games and we could provide them the space to regularly game. The most common program failures seem to be things that the teens specifically asked for but then fail to show for, so remember not to take a failed program too badly.

Two Suggestions

I think NoveList could be a real asset to the staff if we were to consider purchasing it again. However, I do think some training or awareness as to what NoveList can do to help with Readers Advisory should take place to make the most efficient use of the database.

Depending on the interest of the teens, I think a simple, causal book club could work out well since it would not require a lot of study or prep for the teen librarian. Or if the teens do not seem terribly interested, perhaps we could try a book discussion group with younger adults/college kids while they're home for the summer?

2012 MLA POST CONFERENCE REPORT

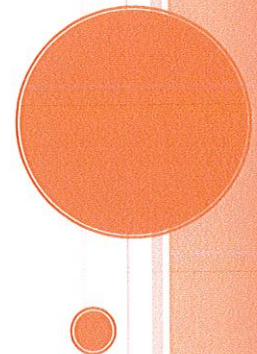
Attendance Date: Wednesday, November 7, 2012

Sessions/Presentations attended:

- From Airships to Zombies: the Best of Urban Fantasy and Paranormal Romance
- Going Bananas for Appeal Factors in Multi-Type RA
- Lean Mean Circ Machine
- Beyond Duct Tape: Programming for Today's Teens
- Keynote Speaker
- Poster Sessions, ConverStations, Tech Petting Zoo
- Exhibit Hall

Andrea Mucha

Warren Public Library, Dorothy Busch Branch



FROM AIRSHIPS TO ZOMBIES: The Best of Urban Fantasy and Paranormal Romance (presented by Amy Cochran, GRPL and Jessica Trotter, CADL)

Paranormal Romance can be summarized as having a 'happily ever after' ending, a main relationship taking center stage, action/adventure, varying levels of fantasy, romance and sex, and storyline directions that just aren't possible in the regular world. The main couple must be together by the end of the book and ongoing series narratives take a back seat to the relationship. Paranormal aspects can include everything from slightly psychic powers to a complete fantasy world with places and beings not found in ours.

One of the appeal elements is that of romance in general. This includes the expectation of a happily ever after ending, couples that stay together no matter what, and sex, of course. The genre also allows fantasy and horror lovers to get their fix as well. Current trends include angels, futuristic, post-apocalyptic, and immortals.

Urban Fantasy is a combination of generally distinct genres: Mythic Fiction in a contemporary urban setting, folklore, and horror to list a few. Common characteristics include supernatural beings, urban/modern settings, first person narrative, well-developed characters, and backstories often spread over multiple volumes. The sub-genre 'Steampunk' belongs in this category.

Each presenter also included lists of authors and series that fit into these genres.

GOING BANANAS: Appeal Factors in Multi-Type RA (presented by Kathryn Bergeron, Baldwin Public Library)

Readers Advisory tends to fall into recommending books to readers. There is an occasional movie lover looking for a read, or reader looking for a movie. But, it can be so much more. Going beyond the plot/setting can reveal deeper themes and appeal factors, leading to the discovery of books (Fic and Non-Fic), movies, tv shows, music, and video games.

There are many tools available to assist in crossing over genres to locate recommendations. Some of them are:

- NoveList Plus
- Jinni.com (movies)
- musicoverly (music)
- Metacritic (video games)

Many of the tools allow for the breaking down of appeal factors into additional categories to further assist in locating similar items. Appeal factors to look for can include: storyline type, pace, tone, and writing style. Each of those factors and then be broken down into sub-factors such as romantic, character-driven, witty, funny, strong sense of place, richly detailed, suspenseful, inspirational, bleak, intricate plot, and more.

During the majority of the session, various titles were analyzed using the listed tools, giving the audience a chance to see how the various programs work. Additional tools suggested by the audience included:

- Goodreads.com
- booklamp.com
- openingthebook.com/whichbook
- whatshouldireadnext.com

THE LEAN MEAN CIRC MACHINE: Lean Principles, 5S Strategies, and Aide Consolidation (presented by Jennifer Cornell, Kevin King, and Susan Linderman, Kalamazoo Public Library)

Lean is an operational philosophy of pursuing complete elimination of waste aimed at ever improving quality, cost, productivity, safety, and morale. Any activity that does not add value to the product or service is wasteful. A number of visual aides were presented that reflected the LEAN principles in a simplified manner.

The 5S's of LEAN are: Sort, Straighten, Shine, Systemize, and Sustain. It is vital that each step be fully analyzed.

KPL used LEAN principles to redo their MelCat processing. A minimum three-week start to finish timeline was no longer going to be accepted. They began by COMPLETELY emptying out the room MelCat is processed in. Then, each step was analyzed and the best possible method developed to complete it. Some of the steps included were supply organization and type, time for each step, and staffing. Even the simplest step was not overlooked, from labels on carts to changing to a new type of tape dispenser. When the LEAN process was 'completed', KPL went from 3 weeks to 3 days for MelCat processing. What a great accomplishment!

LEAN is both simple and complex. It involves a continual process of improvement, even after the main event has been completed. It would be impossible to summarize everything presented in just one page, but the potential is amazing!

BEYOND DUCT TAPE: Programming for Today's Teens **(presented by Sarah Jones, Young Adult Librarian, Clinton-Macomb PL and Krickel Hoekstra, Teen Services Librarian, Rochester Hills PL)**

Crafts are great, but do not appeal to all teens. It is important to provide activities that will entice/involve teens with many and varied interests. Activities will vary based upon budgets, current participation, and marketing. A variety of programming ideas were presented that ranged from small to huge! Ideas can come from asking other Teen Librarians, 'stealing' ideas from others, finding out what kind of clubs are popular at the high school, and from asking the teens. Talk to the teens! Find out what THEY want, not what you think will work.

It is important to trust the teens, allow them to come up with ideas, and reach a point where they do not need an adult present at all times. Some programs are more easily run in libraries with separate rooms. Make sure there are ground rules set up that cover pretty much any contingency but are simple and easy to explain/follow. Don't bother anyone. Use Respectful language. Leave things the way you found them.

Programs will either be a success or a failure, either outcome is okay as long as something is learned from it!

SOME of the ideas presented were:

- Making cat toys for the Humane Society
- Decorating Cupcakes
- Anime Club/GN Club
- Munchkin (card game)
- Dungeons & Dragons
- Movie nights
- Themed parties
 - Comicon (with costume contest)
 - Summer reading finale theme (ex: Hunger Games)
- Pizza & Paperbacks (get donations/grant, teens get to keep the book, get together and discuss.)
- Afterhours Events
 - Hide & Seek
 - Noise at the Library (bring in local teen bands)
- Writers' Workshop

Programs will either be a success or a failure, either outcome is okay as long as something is learned from it!

POSTER SESSIONS, CONVERSTATIONS, TECH PETTING ZOO

I found this portion of the conference to be an interesting concept. I also found it difficult to cull useful information from all 20 displays due to both the short amount of time allotted and depth of information available. The presenters all did wonderful displays and some had handouts available. Many just did not seem relevant for my branch, and possibly WPL as a whole. The four summarized below are the ones I had the most interaction with.

Beth Martin from Finlandia University presented on donations and what to do with them. We discussed the importance of donations with historical value to the community. Oftentimes, papers can be digitized, but the library will still need to store the paper documents. If the library is actively building a collection, individuals and businesses in the community may be willing to donate towards the development of a storage location. We also discussed how the type of collection can influence donors. (Finlandia is in Hancock, with a high Finnish population, and has a large collection reflecting the Finnish history in the area.)

Preservation Detroit and Wayne State University presented on how to use Flickr to catalog special collections. This looks like a time consuming process, but it is being done by volunteers. It is hoped that making images available and cataloged will increase usage of the book collections included, but is too early for data results.

Matt Fredericks of Wayne State University presented on how libraries are the Vibrant Hub of their Creative Communities. It is vital that libraries work with local artists of all kinds to encourage and support such endeavors locally. One way to do so is to speak with local artists directly and figure out the ways the library can benefit both the artist and the community. It may be as simple as inviting local writers, poets, singers to showcase their talents. It can be presentations for the community highlighting the available artistic outlets/venues/talent.

Geek the Library had a huge table with many great ideas for utilizing the program. Some ideas were custom posters, coloring pages for kids, contests, and more.

EXHIBITS

There were many exhibitors and I took the time to view each display and spoke with many of the presenters. There were a number of publishers that we already have a relationship with. Booths that I found the most interesting are summarized below.

3 Branch Products showcased display solutions. It consisted of mainly of various size clear 'boxes' or trays. The periodicals solution would allow the most recent item to be displayed, previous items 'stored' behind, and fit easily onto shelving. They also had 'trays' for display, but that did not seem like an option that would allow for ease of finding items. I really liked the stackable options for paperback books of all sizes.

MCLS and the Library of Michigan each had booths. It was wonderful to be able to review some of the resources available in person rather than online. I found it a bit confusing to find some resources referenced by both. I will have to take some time to figure out the specific purpose of each organization and how they interact. I definitely will be going over the many handouts from both booths to become more knowledgeable about what each offers to libraries and to patrons.

Wayne State University School of Library and Information Science had a booth. The materials available will be useful in determining future educational goals.

TWI Landmark Audio showcased Audiobook Leasing. It sounds like a great program similar to McNaughton's book rental program. My only concern is that the representative mentioned that items are sent for 3 month intervals. This would seem to be too short of a time frame as it would only allow for 4 checkouts.

IDEAS RECOMMENDED FOR UTILIZATION/FURTHER REVIEW IN WPL

1. Taped Editions, Inc. (TEI) and McNaughton have audio lease programs that would be worth further exploration. It would be great for items that are popular over the short term. I know that Busch has had great success with the Adult Fic items leased from McNaughton.
2. Magstak from 3branch is a stackable module system that would be great for paperback display. It would be large enough to hold the 'tall' paperbacks. It appears to be sturdier than the current spin racks.
3. I will be utilizing some of the websites/techniques recommended in sessions that will further develop my Readers Advisory skills. I will also be referring to the genre based author lists for RA and to recommend for purchase.
4. Application of LEAN principles to functions with long turn times and/or a multitude of steps would be a great idea to increase productivity, reduce turn times, and increase overall efficiency.
5. Research/discovery of the types of teen programming popular in the schools and community organizations is a great idea. It may also be fruitful to talk with teens directly about their interests. It should reveal some programs that are popular with teens from ages 13-19 that could be run at one or all of the branches. It is important to figure out what will draw the teens into the branches. The most difficult challenge to overcome in WPL is lack of space at all of the branches for programming.
6. Expansion of the 'Geek the Library' program into more than just flyers/brochures at all of the branches may generate some interest from the patrons. I know that WCV has used personalized posters, contests, etc. I think it would be great at all the branches. One activity example shown was a simple drawing activity for kids where they used a preprinted sheet to draw what they 'geek'. The results are then displayed at the branch for a set period of time and returned to the kids. Patrons can also be made aware they can purchase personalized Geek products online.
7. I recommend that summaries from all of the attendees be compiled and shared with the full WPL staff. There were many sessions available over the three days. I am certain we could all learn something from each of them. Sharing could be done without showing the name of the attendee who wrote it if that is a concern. (I would be willing to assist with compilation.)
8. I know that I greatly enjoyed attending the MLA Annual Conference. I was able to interact with library staff from all over Michigan, learn from the presenters, and come away with some great ideas. I recommend that WPL have staff from each branch attend in future years.

MLA 2013 Annual Conference Report - 11/7/2012
John Robertson
Technology Librarian, Warren Public Library

Session Summaries:

Construction Zone – Building Computer Class Programs

Presenter: Shirley Blackler, Community Education Coordinator, Kent District Library

In her presentation, Ms. Blackler described the steps to take to develop computer classes at your library, including program development, class development, classroom tips, and program evaluation.

Libraries should look at computer skills people need to know to be employable when deciding which classes to teach. Classes in basic computer skills, MS Office products, and Internet skills are useful. If possible, other classes should be developed that help people use technology in their everyday lives. Kent District Library (KDL) does this by adding digital photo classes (editing, sharing) and classes on file management.

In creating classes, you need to determine the resources that you have available. If you don't have a dedicated lab, perhaps you can offer a class where patrons bring in their own laptops. Classes should be around 1.5 to 2 hours. Classes should have handouts so that patrons have something to refer to later, and handouts should be comprised of screenshots so that patrons can visually see how to accomplish a task. A separate instructor handout should also be prepared, so that other staff can teach the class if needed. The class should cover the material in the handout.

Computer classes in general are very popular and pre-registration is important. Patrons should notify the library 24 hours ahead of time if they can't attend a class so that someone else can be found to take their place. To discourage no-shows, KDL charges patrons \$5.00 if they do not show for a class and do not provide a cancellation notice.

When teaching classes, demonstrate first, and then have the students do the exercise. This eliminates students getting off track and allows them to focus on the task. When teaching, you should refer to the page on the handout so they can see the steps and take notes. Also, you want to make sure that students get their hands on the keys as soon as possible.

It is important to measure the success of your classes. KDL uses Google Forms through Google Drive. This allows them to create statistics to better evaluate the success of their current classes and to evaluate the need for additional classes. In addition to having online forms, paper copies should also be available. For Warren, I was initially considering using Survey Monkey to create surveys, but now plan on using Google Forms.

Putting Multimedia Exhibits in the Palm of Your Hand

Presenters: Rachael Clark, Librarian I, Wayne St. University; Damecia Donahue, Librarian I, Wayne St. University

During this presentation, Ms. Clark and Ms. Donahue explained how they have created exhibits for the Wayne St. University Libraries that incorporate multimedia elements. When creating exhibits, Ms. Clark and Ms. Donahue used QR codes extensively. These codes would link to web content such as exhibit related websites, items in their catalog, YouTube videos, etc... to bring the exhibit to life. Additionally, exhibits should be promoted through a variety of different ways. Social media sites such as Twitter, Facebook, and Pinterest are important, as is creating awareness and collaborating with different departments of your organization to further promote your exhibits.

When creating web content, it is good to continue to host websites for the exhibit even after the exhibit it is over. The presenters have found that people still continue to refer back to the websites of previous exhibits. Additionally, you want to make sure that your web content for exhibits can be found. Using metadata for better search engine optimization is important.

Building a Library Website with WordPress

Presenters: Robbie Bolton, Education Librarian, White Library, Spring Arbor University; David Goodrich, eProducer, vuDAT, Michigan State University

Mr. Bolton and Mr. Goodrich (who formally worked at Spring Arbor University) demonstrated why they choose WordPress to develop the website for the Spring Arbor University's White Library. Reasons include the easy ability to add content to a WordPress site without needing to know code, the ability to manage different levels of user roles, and the ability to extend WordPress' core functionality and look with the addition of plugins and themes.

In addition to talking about WordPress, they highlighted several examples of good website design by looking at examples of other library websites. Some best practices include planning on how to organize information, make sure the website is visual, and avoid the use of jargon the users may not know. You should also try to avoid clutter and consider tightening up the website by eliminating pages that users are not accessing. As a reference, they recommend reading the book *Don't Make Me Think* by Steve Krug.

Exhibit/Vendor Summaries

OverDrive - OverDrive is our vendor of downloadable eBooks and eAudiobooks, and I was interested to hear about the timetable and see a demonstration of their new OverDrive Read platform which should be released by the end of December. OverDrive Read is a program where a patron will be able to checkout and read OverDrive eBooks directly within a web browser. This will work on devices such as tablets, computers, and smartphones that use a full-featured web browser. It will not work on eInk eReaders. The OverDrive Read process should streamline the ability to access OverDrive books, and will make it easier to demonstrate OverDrive eBooks to the public on library computers considering there is no additional software and registrations required. When OverDrive Read is launched, I will update all of our handouts to reflect the changes.

Mango Languages – Mango Languages was a possible database consideration this past fall. I talked to sales contact Robert Thayer who demonstrated some of the new features of Mango, included the addition of ancient languages (Latin, Greek), as well as the addition of an app for Android devices (to go with the already released iPhone app).

ProQuest – I talked briefly with Bill Bauer. We recently purchased two databases from ProQuest (Historical Detroit News and Historic Map Works) and I wanted to meet our sales representative.

Midwest Collaborative for Library Services - I talked with Brian Austin from MCLS. He is our OverDrive contact and asked him if he knew specific details on when OverDrive Read may be released.

Ideas Learned to Implement at WPL

I learned several things at this year's MLA conference that I would like to implement at the Warren Public Library. I plan on creating a survey through Google Forms to measure and evaluate computer classes that I currently teach. I plan on revisiting our website and seeing if there are places where jargon may be distracting (such as 'databases' and 'catalog') and to see if other words may be more user-friendly. Also, promoting library activities on social media was a common idea across several sessions. I plan to continue monitoring our social media use and making

sure that we are reaching as many people as possible with information about library offerings, events, and programs.

Based on materials that I picked up in the exhibit hall, I plan on editing and updating our OverDrive handouts, as well as editing and adding additional content and resources to our database listings.

MLA Conference 2012
Thursday, November 8
Summary Report
Jennifer Willard
Miller Branch Library

I attended three seminars at the Michigan Library Association 2012 Conference: Remixing a Classic: Totally Messing with Summer Reading, Fearless Friending, and Literature OUT loud: A Guide to Young Adult Literature for Trans* Teens. I also spoke with two exhibitors.

My first seminar, Remixing a Classic, was presented by a duo from the Canton Public Library. I was fascinated by their Summer Reading concept, but though I would like to incorporate some of their ideas into Warren's Summer Reading program, I don't think their system as a whole will work for our library. Canton's program centered mostly on the idea that libraries are not just about books, and that is also not the message that we should be focusing on during the summer. Summer should be about fun, and about family and community interaction.

They used the concept of badges as both reward and entries for prizes. Each badge had a theme or a genre associated with it, and patrons – in families, or as individuals – could complete things to earn their badges. Reading was always the top suggestion, with lists of recommended themed reading attached, but patrons could also attend programs, watch movies, or take expeditions (family vacations or trips to the local park) to qualify for their badges. A certain number of badges would earn you an entry into drawings for gift cards, but there was no grand prize drawing and no requirement for 'completing the program' – though they did have a leaderboard to track who earned the most badges during the summer.

The three top concepts I would like to highlight from this seminar for possible future Summer Reading consideration here at Warren are: opening the program to more than just books, especially with the concept of programs that connect to themes; more prizes, like gift cards, rather than a grand prize, so that more people benefit from winning (one presenter mentioned transparency: noting who won what on the website so that it doesn't seem as though we forgot about it); and making reading logs more family-centric, or less about age ranges, to ease some of those tricky borderline issues.

Fearless Friending was very fearless, and very funny. One of the connection cords didn't work, so the presenter, Brian Austin, spent the first half of his hour pantomiming his PowerPoint. A few of his points that particularly struck me were:

- Engage with public and talk *with* them, don't scream or talk *at* them
- Social Media is very over-hyped; it's useful, but there's a big drawback in time, etc.
- Don't use the same wording for posts on different media
- Statistics (likes, follows, etc.) don't matter. What matters is that you get your message out and that people use your resources, attend programs, etc. Brian recommended the SMART goals model
- Libraries have been in the business of content marketing (providing services without asking for anything in return) since well before there was such a term

Brian recommended making your library social media into a personal thing: not just providing information, but showcasing stories from patrons and staff, going behind the scenes to talk about jobs in the back room, highlighting staff interests, and more. He suggested putting things out there that people would be interested in – job search tips, or local history stories – and using the media to funnel people back to our website and similar places that we have ownership of or control over, such as our website.

The Literature OUT loud seminar was a very thoughtful and thought-provoking look at a growing segment of our population. The teenage years are when most people begin to think about who they are and who they want to be separate from the expectations and constraints of their families. Self-identity on a social, religious, and sexual level is part of the teen learning experience, but while most of those situations are well-represented in current literature, the trans*segment has very little in the form of print resources available to them. The presenter provided a variety of books, both fiction and nonfiction, and websites that would be useful resources for trans* teens.

I spoke to two vendors in the exhibition hall: Laureen Bowman, who is a regular vendor at Miller, and Ivery Toussant, a representative for the Lego educational line. Laureen donated some of her overstock of *Brown Bear, Brown Bear* for a program we will hold in the spring. Ivery and I spoke about the educational and creative uses for Legos over and above the simple building process. He has a science and engineering module he organizes for schools, as well as a story-telling kit and computer program that are great for individual or group to reenact or create their own stories. The kits are a few hundred dollars, but they would be excellent tools to make block parties or Lego clubs a more interesting draw for kids and teens alike.

The two items from MLA that I would suggest for implementation at Warren Public Library are:

- 1) Open Summer Reading to put emphasis on programs and all aspects of libraries, not only books – though books and reading should be the primary focus, we should also highlight our audiobooks, videos (both feature and informational), and in-house programming.
- 2) Restructure our social media outreach to make better use of the formatting and special features associated with the individual media platforms.



Did you know?

The library is open 24 hours
a day, 7 days a week through
its virtual branch!

Visit www.warrenlibrary.net to:

- Renew items
- Reserve/request items
- Check your library account
- Download ebooks & audiobooks
- Use library databases for homework,
auto repair, genealogy, job searches,
business, consumer reports & much
more

Friends of the Library Book Sales

The Friends of the Warren Library hold used book sales every Friday (except holidays) from 9 a.m. until noon at the Old Village Fire Hall, 5959 Beebe Street (one block north of 13 Mile Road, one block east of Mound). On the third weekend of each month the store is open on Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. for sales and donations (except for the month of December).

Items for sale include adult and children's used hardbound and paperback books, CDs, videos, etc. Donations are also accepted at the sales. Proceeds benefit the Warren Public Library. Stop by and browse out great selection.

Adult Programs for Spring 2013
March – April – May

Wednesday, March 13 at 6:00 p.m.

Lisa Howard – the Cultured Cook -- presents

Health Smart & Wallet Wise

Yes, you can enjoy delicious & nutritious meals on a budget! The Cultured Cook returns with more advice on healthy eating.

Saturday, March 30 at 10:00 a.m.

Making Fiction Real by Stretching Our Senses

A Writing Workshop by Gloria Nixon-John Ph.D.

Do you have a novel or short story in you that is just begging to come out? Come to our writing workshop. Gloria Nixon-John has published poetry, fiction, non-fiction and academic articles. She is ready to help you become an effective writer.

Saturday, April 6 at 2:00 p.m.

Exploring the Psychic Realm with Jan Alm

Jan will share her experiences communicating with the “Other Side” and give tips about communicating with your own loved ones who have passed on.

Wednesday, April 17 at 6:00 p.m.

Paddle Now, Chores Later with Doc Fletcher

Life-long Michigan resident Doc Fletcher will present his canoeing and kayaking program. Among the rivers featured will be the Pere Marquette and the U.P.’s Two Hearted River. A drawing will be held at the end of the program in which one person will win a free canoe or kayak day trip!

Thursday, May 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Identity Theft – Learn to keep your personal information personal

Presented by the Warren Police Department

Hear how identity thieves operate and how to identify fake email schemes. Learn preventative measures everyone should take to protect themselves.

Monday, May 6 at 7:00 p.m.

Abe Lincoln, Mark Twain and the Civil War

Presented by Dave Ehlert

Branson Shows On Tour, Branson, MO

In 90 minutes of historical drama, humor and education, learn how a Union President and a Confederate Deserter fought against slavery and racism in pre and post-Civil War days.

Thursday, May 23 at 6:00 p.m.

The Basics of Herb Gardening and Patio and Container Gardening

Presented by Troy Huffaker of DTL Herbs

Master Gardener and Master Composter Troy Huffaker returns to help us prepare our gardens for the growing season and select the best plants and herbs for our region.

COMPUTER CLASSES

The Warren Civic Center Library is pleased to offer computer classes for those who need more assistance. If you or someone you know would like to learn more about the computer, these classes are a great introduction to technology.

Introduction to Computers – Designed to introduce the student to the components and basic functions of a computer.

Mondays, March 4 & 11, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Mondays, April 1 & 8, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Introduction to the Internet – This class will explore different ways of finding information on the World Wide Web. Mouse and keyboard skills required.

Wednesdays, March 6 & 13, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, May 6 & 13, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Beginning Word 2010 – Learn the basics of Word 2010. Users will learn to create and edit documents, insert pictures and tables, format text, and more. Mouse and keyboard skills required.

Mondays, March 18 & 25, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Mondays, April 15 & 22, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, May 8 & 15, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Beginning Excel 2010 – Learn the basics of Excel 2010. Users will learn how to create workbooks, enter data, use formulas, and create basic charts.

Wednesdays, April 17 & 24, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Wednesdays, May 22 & 29, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

These free programs will be held in the Computer Lab at the Civic Center Library.

Class size is limited.

Please call (586) 574-4564 to register.

eBOOK CLASSES

Get to Know eBooks and OverDrive

Do you have a Nook, Kindle, iPad, or smartphone and want to learn how to check out free eBooks from the library? Let us help you! Please join us we show you how to checkout and download eBooks through our OverDrive service.

Tuesday, March 12, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Warren Civic Center Library

Tuesday, April 23, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Dorothy Busch Branch Library

Monday, April 29, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. – Arthur Miller Branch Library

Thursday, May 16, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – Warren Civic Center Library

Storytime at the Warren Public Library – Spring 2013

Baby Lapsit (Ages 0 to 12 months with parent or caregiver)

April 15 - May 18, 2013

Designed for the youngest library users and their parents or caregivers. Includes singing, clapping, bouncing, listening to rhymes and stories, and a time to play.

Registration is required and begins April 3, 2013. Call 586-751-0770 after 12 noon to register. Warren residents accepted first.

Civic Center Library
Tuesdays @ 2:00 p.m.

Book Tots (Ages 1 to 2 ½ years with parent or caregiver)

April 15 - May 18, 2013

A short storytime for the very young toddler. Includes stories, rhymes, songs, and a time to play.

Registration is required and begins April 3, 2013. Call 586-751-5377 to register. Warren residents accepted first.

Miller Branch Library
Tuesdays @ 6:30 p.m.
Fridays @ 10:30 a.m.

Toddler Time (Ages 2 & 3 years with parent or caregiver)

April 15 - May 18, 2013

A storytime for toddlers, including stories, songs, rhymes and a craft.

Registration is required and begins April 3, 2013. Call 586-751-0770 after 12 noon to register. Warren residents accepted first.

Civic Center Library
Tuesdays @ 9:30 a.m.
Tuesdays @ 11:00 a.m.
Wednesdays @ 6:30 p.m.

Preschool Storyhour (Ages 3 ½ to 5 years)

April 15 - May 18, 2013

A storytime designed for independent listeners. Stories, songs, rhymes and a craft will be included.

Registration is required and begins April 3, 2013. Call 586-758-2115 to register. Warren residents accepted first.

Burnette Branch Library
Wednesdays @ 10:30 a.m.

Warren Dorothy Busch

SPRING NEWSBEAT (March – May 2013)

Teen Papercrafting (Ages 11+) Mondays, 6 – 8 p.m.
March 4th, April 8th, and May 6th

Come to the Busch Branch and learn the ins and outs of scrapbooking, making mini albums, cardmaking, and other paper crafts. Each month will feature a different project to make. All supplies provided by the Friends of the Warren Library. Register in person or call (586) 755-5750 .

Lego Block Party
Saturday, March 9th from 10 a.m.

Ages 5+

Kids, bring your imaginations and come and build with our Lego blocks. Snacks and door prizes will be provided. Register in person or call (586) 755-5750.

Programs for All Ages at the Miller Branch Library

5460 Arden, Warren, MI 48092 (586) 751-5377

Miller Library Scrapbooking Club for Adults

Mondays, March 25, April 22, May 20, 6-8:30 p.m.

Registration is required – please call 586-751-5377 to register.

Please join us to share ideas and spend some dedicated time working on projects. Bring some pictures and any supplies you'd like. The library will provide paper, stickers, adhesives, stamping supplies and a Cricut machine for you to use.

The History of Warren

Thursday, March 14, 10:00 a.m.

Registration is required and begins February 14. Call (586) 751-5377 to register.

Sue Keffer of the Warren Historical Society will share stories of our city's past. A tour of the history museum will be included.

Spring Garden Tour

Monday, May 6, 6:30 p.m.

Registration is required and begins April 6. Call (586) 751-5377 to register.

Members of the Warren Garden Club will give us a tour of the beautiful courtyard next to the library and give Spring gardening tips.

MASK - Miller After School for Kids (Grades 1-5)

1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month, 4:30 p.m.

Registration is required and begins two weeks prior to each activity. Call (586) 751-5377 to register.

March 7 – Newspaper Crafts

Join us for an afternoon of folding, cutting, gluing, and fun!

March 21 – K-9 Safety Tips

Taking inspiration from Officer Buckle and Gloria, we will talk about staying safe at home and away.

April 4 – Joke-Off!

Bring in your favorites, or browse our collection of joke books for side-splitters to swap and laugh at.

April 18 – Mr. Doodle – and You!

Local artist Mr. Doodle will be here to tell a story, with your help.

May 2 – Game Day

It's National Screen Free Week! Join us for an afternoon of old-school board games and modern-day fun!

May 16 – Summer Reading T-shirt Creations

Bring in your own pre-washed t-shirt to decorate for this summer's Reading Club!

Family Fun Nights

One Monday per month, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Registration is required. Call (586) 751-5377 to register.

March 11 – Musiart

(Registration begins February 12)

Local musician Phil Kaput and his friend Kim McPherson Gray will present a rollicking hour of music and crafts.

April 8 – Cockadoodle Doo Chicken Show

(Registration begins March 12)

Bettlou Bantam, Rhonda Rhode Island Red, and their hen friends are flying into the library for a musical tour performance.

May 13 – Brown Bear, Brown Bear, Come Visit Me!

(Registration begins April 9)

In honor of Children's Book Week, we're celebrating one of the best loved children's books – Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr. Please join us for an evening of fun and crafts.

Family Fun Saturday - May 4

Free Comic Book Day – 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Stop by the library for a free copy of a comic book provided by the Free Comic Book Day organization and the Friends of the Warren Public Library.

Kid's Craft Day – 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Registration is NOT required – kids of all ages are invited to come to the library to make a superhero craft.

Superhero Party (Ages 5-9 years) – 11 a.m. – 12 noon

Registration is required and begins April 9. Call (586)-751-5377 to register.

Come in costume or incognito as your secret identity for an hour of games, crafts, and heroic fun!

Kids Craft Day

March 23, April 13, May 4

9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Registration is NOT required – kids of all ages are invited to come to the library and make a craft.

Spring 2013 Children Programs
Warren Civic Center Library

Crazy Creations 3rd Saturdays
(3rd Saturday of Each Month)

Block Party
Saturday, March 16, 2013
Saturday, May 18, 2013
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

If you're a fan of Lego and MEGA Blocks, we'd love to see some of your creations at our Block Party!

No registration is required for this drop-in program. Ages 3 and up.

Crafternoon
Saturday, April 20, 2013
2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Children of all ages can make their own creations with a variety of random materials from tubes to boxes and beyond. We'll celebrate National Library Week (April 14-20) with supplies to make books!

No registration is required for this drop-in program.

**Special Needs Storytime
(2nd Saturday of Each Month)**

Saturday, March 9, 2013

Saturday, April 13, 2013

Saturday, May 11, 2013

10:00 a.m.

Join us for stories, songs, sensory activities, and crafts at this storytime designed for children with special needs. While children of all ages are welcome, the program is intended for developmental ages 2 to 5. Children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

Call 586-751-0770 to register. Registration for the March session accepted until March 7; registration for the April session accepted until April 11; registration for the May session accepted until May 9.

African Tales with Miz Rosie

Monday, March 18, 2013

6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Miz Rosie (Rosie Chapman) will be here to share African folktales. She will bring musical instruments so the audience can get involved!

Call 586-751-0770 beginning February 25 to register.

Spring Scavenger Hunt

Friday, April 5, 2013

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Pick up a scavenger hunt form and show us just how well you know your library, and maybe you'll earn a reward—if you can find one of our hidden eggs!

No registration is required for this drop-in program.

Tea with Mom and Me
Saturday, May 4, 2013
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Celebrate Mother's Day a little early at a fancy tea! We'll enjoy "a spot of tea" (or juice) in real tea cups, have some sweet treats, and make a craft. (Because of space limitations, each child must be accompanied by only one adult.)

Call 586-751-0770 beginning April 13 to register. Ages 3 to 9.

PAWS to Read
Mondays at 5:30 p.m. – Gracie, a Labrador mix
Tuesdays at 7 p.m. – Tank, a black Labrador
Thursdays at 7 p.m. – Angel, a black poodle

PAWS is a great program where new and struggling readers read to a therapy dog. The goal is to provide a non-judgmental atmosphere in which kids can read without correction or interruption and learn not just to read, but to love reading as well.

No registration is required for this program.

Spring 2013 Young Adult Programs
Warren Civic Center Library

Gaming 2nd Saturdays
(2nd Saturday of Each Month)

Gaming and Anime
Saturday, March 9, 2013
Saturday, April 13, 2013
Saturday, May 11, 2013
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The library will have its game systems available, but feel free to bring your own! Bring your laptop and compete online using our Wi-Fi. When you're bored of playing, peruse graphic novels and watch anime DVDs playing on the big screen.

*No registration is required for this drop-in program. **Teens only.** This is a parent-free event.*

Land of the Rising Sun
Wednesday, March 20, 2013
6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Join us as we celebrate the culture of Japan with food and fun!

Call 586-751-0770 beginning February 27 to register. Ages 12 to 17.

Iron Chef for Teens
Saturday, April 27, 2013
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Test your culinary prowess! Compete with other local teens to see who is the best chef!

Call 586-751-0770 beginning April 6 to register. Ages 12 to 17.

Mother/Daughter Afternoon Out
Saturday, May 4, 2013
2:30 – 4:00 p.m.

In celebration of Mother's Day, enjoy an afternoon of pampering!

Call 586-751-0770 beginning April 13 to register. Ages 12 to 17.