

Alfred

BOX OF BOOKS LIBRARY

Annual Report

Melanie Miller, Library Director

As I write this letter, it has now been over a year since the world shut down. Back then, we thought we would be closing the library's doors for two weeks. Little did we know that library services would be changing drastically. But despite the pandemic and the continual changes it brought, the library sought new, innovative ways to serve the community.

We turned to virtual programming with the rest of the world. We provided daily storytime with a 73% increase in participation. With physical collections and physical buildings closed, the library system worked together to increase the digital collection by 44%. We offered weekly Crafting in Quarantine videos that were viewed over 750 times. We successfully secured funding from the American Library Association Community Connect grant for mobile hotspots to provide greater internet accessibility in our rural community.

2020 was not what we expected. But it taught us about creative problem solving, resiliency, and providing hope in times of need. It taught us about our capacity to provide service in new ways, and challenged us to find strength, courage, and creativity we didn't know we had.



Sidewalk obstacle course and window messages to spread some joy, even when we weren't here.

Library by the Numbers

- **Total Collection: 40,665**
 - Total Print Materials: 9,846
 - Total Electronic Materials: 28,191
 - Total Other Materials (A/V): 2,628
- Registered borrowers: 1,583
- **Programs Offered: 231**
 - Pre-recorded programs: 39
 - Pre-recorded views: 750
 - Total Program Attendance: 5,565
 - Children registered for summer reading: 60
- Total Circulation: 11,442
- Reference Transactions: 2,250



Using the outdoor space as an extension of the building!

Community Survey

Help us serve you better by taking part in our community survey! The community survey will help us in our strategic planning. Scan the QR code, or visit our website www.alfredboxofbookslibrary.org for a link! Paper copies are available at the libraries!



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