



### **Cataloguing Technician Report – Office – submitted by Joanna Dueck**

In April we were still receiving shipments from our winter book orders as well as monthly requests. One of my projects for the month was to have all the story kits sent back to the office after we decided in March to remove them from the collection. We will reuse the containers and redistribute most of the books back into the collection, just no longer in kit format. Raina helped me sort through all the kit contents, remove labels, and weed old or damaged books. I have already recatalogued a large portion of the books and will finish the rest in May.

I assisted Raina with designing a logo for new tote bags that we ordered for our book club kits. We also spent a couple of days going through the server room and storage room to clean up and reorganize our miscellaneous office supplies, equipment, prizes, etc.

The deadline for our spring/summer Whitehots orders is May 10 so I expect that to keep me busy for the next few months.

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### **Program Coordinator Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob**

Store prizes have all been purchased and will make their ways to the branches shortly. We have added another prize (7 total) to help even out the \$ amounts, and I'm certain there will be something for every kid. Program reading logs and money are ready to be printed in branch.

Joanna and I had fun doing a quick design for our new book club kit bags. We were also able to spend some much needed time cleaning out the server room and storage room.

In April I helped facilitate two programs. Photographer and author Steve Van Vlaenderen and his wife Darlene visited our Manitou, Morden, Winkler, and Altona branches to raise awareness about Parkinsons through his photobook of abandoned vehicles. Some sessions were better attended than others, but it gave us good insight on how to adjust our programs in the future. We also had Winnipeg author Joanna Cacao join our Morden and Winkler branch for a session on creating their own characters. These went well with the children attending.

Finally, we have received grants for our summer programming coordinators for all our branches except for Manitou. Thanks to Young Canada Works & Canada Summer Jobs. We are still waiting to hear from Province regarding Green Team on our remaining positions.

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### **Altona Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Rachael Friesen**

In April we celebrated National Canadian Film Day with 3 great movies. We watched "The Little Bear Movie," "Being Canadian," and "First We Eat." All of them were great and the people that attended enjoyed it.

We also had a Mennonite Floor Patterns Placement Workshop facilitated by Margruite Krahn. The patrons that attended really enjoyed it and we were glad to partner with a local artist to offer this to patrons.

The last Saturday of April we had the Tamiya South MB Mini 4WD Club come and host demonstrations and races with their mini electric cars outside the library for the entire day, and we also had Steve Van Vlaenderen join us to celebrate his book, "Vanishing Wheels." We are very grateful that both the club and Steve were able and willing to come. We also hosted a pop up mini book sale, we had many people through the doors that day, our door count was sitting at 395!

For May we will be having another Nerf Battle Night, and Silent Book Club, we will spend a good chunk of May and June getting ready for summer reading.

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### **Manitou Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Angela Lovell**

Another busy programming month kicked off with a story hour and plant a seed activity organized and delivered Emily, who volunteered 10 hours with the library as part of her Early Childhood Education program. Thanks to Emily for also building a sensory bin to loan to us for a month, and for giving us some additional program ideas for the future.

On April 11, we hosted Steve Van Vlaenderen and his wife, Darlene Hildebrand who spoke about Steve's long journey with Parkinson's Disease and his latest photography project that has been published as a book, "Vanishing Wheels." Although we had a small crowd, they were knowledgeable and appreciative.

The Book Club met on April 24, welcoming a new member with some great ideas that everyone is looking forward to trying out.

On April 30 we held our monthly evening story hour, which was well attended. A big thank you to volunteers Soren and Ryan for reading, and for planning and delivering the craft.

Most of our new shelving has now been assembled thanks to another great volunteer helper, John. It has made a huge difference to our children's and adult fiction areas, providing us with more space to better organize and create attractive displays.

We have also been busy organizing book donations in the basement, sorting materials to go to the SCRL spring book sale and those that we will keep for our sale during the Manitou Fair in July.

Staff have put a lot of thought into decorating for the summer's Under the Sea theme and we will also be asking the Manitou Elementary School students to help us out with making us some decorations. We are looking forward to the summer program.

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### **Miami Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Raina Teigrob**

April was a busy month for Miami. Along with our regular events of LEGO club, board game night, crafters & co. and our book club. We also held our very first Crochet-a-thon. We had a ton of donations all month long of yarn, needles, and pre-made squares. On April 30th we hosted the all-day event and had a steady flow of patrons drop in to crochet. We're having two follow up Tuesdays dedicated to making the squares into afghans which will be donated to Genesis House.

Staff have been busy starting their décor projects for the Bookland Explorers club. We have received a grant from Young Canada Works for a Summer Programming Coordinator. This position will be for 30/hours week for 11 weeks. We hope to start booking school tours starting at the end of May.

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### **Morden Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Gail Hildebrand**

This month we hosted 2 author visits, both were very well attended and enjoyed. We had around 12 people attend the presentation for "Vanishing Wheels" and had a full house (40 kids plus adults) for Joanna Cacao.

There was no book club this month due to book sale preparation – we will have our meeting at the beginning of May instead.

For National Film Day, we had 2 movies – one French, one English – with about 15 people attending.

We also said goodbye to Dorothy this month. It will take time to find a new routine since she has been part of the Morden branch for over 33 years! Heidi, who previously volunteered in Morden, then worked at Winkler branch, has been hired and will be starting in the middle of May. We look forward to Heidi becoming part of the team! Morden also has hired a new casual clerk, Obeyemi, and a casual page, Kaitlyn, and we look forward to getting to know them.



### **Morden Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Gail Hildebrand – continued**

Much of my month has been spent getting ready for the book sale, which has been exciting and daunting at the same time. It's officially "May" news, but since we have the sales figures ... we sold just over \$17, 700 in books, snacks and book bags! We are waiting to see how much we will be paid for some of the recycling that North Star Fiber has taken from the sale, plus we're waiting on a couple bills to see what our bottom line on this sale was. As much as I'm glad it's finished, I must admit that I'm already plotting next year's sale!

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### **Winkler Branch Administrator's Report – submitted by Jess Martens**

April has been a busy month for the library. We started the month with a solar eclipse viewing with Kenton Dyck and his telescope. Despite the cloudy weather there was a very good turnout, and they were still able to view part of the eclipse.

All month we have had our community helpers story time program and the kids have been really enjoying it. The kids have had a chance to explore police cars, buses and fire trucks and learn about different jobs and collaborating with community members has been fantastic. We had story time, Lego club, National Canadian Film Day, and Nerf battle all in one day and all of the programs were well attended. It was a busy day but fun to see so many kids in the library.

Our "Vanishing Wheels" presentation by Steve Van Vlaenderen didn't go as well as we'd hoped and only 3 people attended. With Altona hosting a much bigger event including a show and shine and racetracks, we think most patrons chose to attend that visit instead. In the future I think we'll skip the author visit here and help promote the other branches larger event.

Our Taylor Swift Friendship Bracelet workshop went incredibly well. We added additional spots twice and still had more people that wanted to sign up. We also had the Canadian Childrens Book Week author Joanna Cacao visit. We had a grade 6 class attend and they enjoyed her workshop on how to design and develop a character.

In May we have our regularly scheduled programming but our focus for the month will be decorating and promoting the summer reading program. Teachers are already scheduling class tours and we have two visits to schools in the surrounding villages scheduled. Genesis House reached out about promoting their resources and setting up a booth in the front foyer at the end of the month, it's great to see community organizations are interested in partnering with the library. The reading garden is also open again and it's great to see people using it. It's going to be a busy month as we start prepping and promoting the summer program, but we are looking forward to it.

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