

## Quarterly Staff Report—June 2022



Gustavus Public Library

#907.697.2350

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### 1. General Library Statistics April-June 2022

	April	May	June (as of 6/7)
Library Visitors	501	309	176
Books Checked Out	356	402	226
Movies Checked Out	155	172	22
Digital Materials Checked Out	129	138	25
Other Materials Checked Out	33	30	7
Events Hosted at/by Library	17	6	2

### Summer Reading 2022

Summer Reading kicked-off on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, with a campfire, lots of games and activities, and S'mores! Our new City Administrator, Kathy Leary, joined us for the event. This summer's theme is "Read Beyond the Beaten Path" and highlights outdoor activities in conjunction with reading. We love it! Readers of all ages can pick up a Reading Log and Bingo Board at the library. Be ready to read, explore outside, and have fun!



## Strawberry Point Display

Visit our local author and Strawberry Point display. It highlights local authors and all things strawberry. Please visit the library for this awesome experience!



## Past, Current, and Upcoming Programming for Spring and Summer 2022

- Summer Reading June 4<sup>th</sup> through August 20<sup>th</sup>
- Town Hall with Senator Jesse Kiehl – June 15<sup>th</sup> 5:30 – 7:00 PM
- Community Build Day for the Story Walk Trail & the Hammock Reading Forest — June 30<sup>th</sup> 10am
- Grand Opening of Hammock Reading Forest and Story Walk Trail— July 2nd
- World-Wide Knit and Needle in Public Day, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 1-3pm
- Kid's Night Partnership at Gustavus Community Center (A pop-up library event once a month. 2 so far—Coding & Robotics and Rocks & Rock Painting)
- Easter Egg Hunt and Rubber Duck Find—A BIG SHOUT OUT Thank you for the visit from the Easter Bunny!!!
- LEAP Into Science Sessions – lots of learning and fun!
- Gustavus Virtual Adult Book Club (new books chosen monthly) OPEN TO EVERYONE!
- Book Sale Fundraiser—ongoing in the Meeting Room – stop by!
- Books for Babes and 1000 Books Before K—Can't wait to kick-off!
- Test Proctoring (driver's license, EMT, AK STAR)
- Curbside Services 5 days/week
- Curbside distribution of COVID tests
- Grab and Go Monthly Activity Kits (July Plant Press/August Fossil Making)
- Custom-made book boxes – please let us know if there are any requests
- Library Friends Meetings – Next one August 20<sup>th</sup>





# **KID'S NIGHT ROCK PAINTING WITH MS. LEANN & FREE TIME WITH BRITTNEY**



Come learn about  
rocks and decorate  
your own!

WEDNESDAY JUNE 1ST  
4-6 PM



## 2. Status of Active or Upcoming Grants

In April, our library was awarded a \$10,000 Alaska Community Foundations Grant. This grant will allow us to host several literacy camps during the next year. These camps will have a literacy, E.S.T.E.A.M., and outdoor education focus and will be available for youth in our community.

E.S.T.E.A.M. = Environment, Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math

Each year we apply for the PLA (Public Library Assistance) Grant. This grant gives us a total of \$7,000 which we budget for materials (books, DVDs, etc.). We submitted our application for FY23 on April 1<sup>st</sup>. We just spent the last of our grant funding for FY22. We purchase approximately 50 books/DVDs per month using funds from this grant. Please let us know if you have a book or DVD request! We are especially interested in any non-fiction requests. Are there topics you'd like to see at the library?



In November 2021, we received about \$6000 from an ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) grant. A requirement of the grant was to use \$3,500 to buy supplies and equipment to respond to COVID impacts within the community. We have used some of the funds to purchase materials and supplies to assemble STEM kits for all ages. Another plan for this grant was to build a Story Walk Trail, which is a fun and active way to read outside!

Pages from an

illustrated story book are placed along a trail on posts with a podium-like top that is covered in plexiglass to protect the book pages. Children of all ages can enjoy the trail and read books with family and friends. On June 30<sup>th</sup>, the library is hosting a "Library Build Day" and will be asking community members to help build the Story-Walk posts.





### 3. Existing Projects

Our Library Assistant, Melisa Gomb has been working on re-cataloguing our collection since November. She finished the hours in her contract in May. She accomplished so much! Among some of her accomplishments were re-cataloging several sections in our library including classics, adult Alaska fiction, early reader/chapter books, hospice books, local authors, young adult non-fiction, adult and young-adult graphic novels and several more. Along with re-cataloging, she redid many spine labels to correct inconsistencies. She also moved some sections to other areas in the library for better browsing to increase the circulation of books. Additionally, she applied mass utility changes and consolidated codes in Resource Mate, our cataloging software, to create consistency within the catalog. This consistency makes searching and locating books much easier and more effective. Throughout Melisa's time working on this project, she also trained volunteers and library administrators. Thank you, Melisa!

On June 30th, the library is hosting a "Library Build Day" and will be asking community members to help build the Story Walk Trail posts and a Hammock Reading Forest. (The Story Walk Trail is described above in our grant section.) The Hammock Reading Forest will be located to the west of the library adjacent to the that is currently mowed. We have four hammocks that will be hung from posts that will be put into the ground. We are looking for volunteers to help on the Community Build Day! Let us know if you would like to help. We are incredibly grateful to Lewis Sharman, Dean Weikle, and Gary Ogden for helping to prepare building materials for our "Library Build Day!"



Our Mayor, Mike Taylor, has graciously offered to take the project management role for the Bike Shed project and will be putting out an RFP soon! We are excited to see this project take on some momentum. Thank you, Mayor Mike! We are grateful!

We are reviewing our library policies and are planning to make some changes to our Collection Development Policy and our Internet Use Policy. Jessie attended a webinar (see below) to learn more about book challenges to inform the changes made to our Collection Development Policy.

Games/Puzzles: the library has many family games and puzzles to check out! Patrons can try a new game or build a puzzle together. These are great shared resources and FREE with a Gustavus Library Card!



#### 4. Past, Current, or Upcoming Trainings

LeAnn attended SLIM (Small Library Institute of Management) Training in Juneau, on May 9-12<sup>th</sup>. This conference was outstanding and was very worthwhile! Topics covered everything from the roles of library directors to library law, daily library operations, policies & procedures, collection development, library statistics, cataloging, and honestly, so much more!! The focus was libraries from small and rural communities and the networking was a large bonus.

In May, Jessie attended a “Book Challenges and Intellectual Freedom” webinar and a two-part webinar, “Indigenous Voices: Authentic Children’s Literature.”

Jessie and LeAnn are both enrolled in a Basic Cataloguing and Classification online course that runs from June 7-July 4.

*Thank you to our City Council! We  
appreciate all your efforts on  
behalf of Gustavus.*



## Summer Hours

Beginning ~ June 1, 2022  
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**Tuesday 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM**  
**Wednesday 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM**  
**Thursday 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM**  
**Friday 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM**  
**Saturday 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM**  
**Sunday closed**  
**Monday closed**

Still available are appointment times and curbside pick up!

Contact the library at:  
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