LOOKING BACK BY LOOKING AHEAD

I don’t often enjoy the process of reviewing the last year and I seldom, if ever, worry about New Year’s resolutions. But as was pointed out to me recently, considering the past can be profitable for creating a roadmap for the future. And so, I look back over 2023 and celebrate the continued growth and evolution of the Library. We offered a great many programs this year, but a few that I relished were in connection with the We Are Water exhibition that ICL hosted in the fall. The interaction with local schools and students was rewarding and enlightening. As you see the aha moments in students’ faces, you don’t want to be anywhere else. Hearing the laughter and camaraderie in the crafting groups and book clubs brings joy to my heart; that here at the library people find connection and support as well as learning and knowledge. Dewey, our newest addition to the ICL family has been out and about for almost half the year, taking materials and resources to many who can’t make it into the library.

I won’t bore you with a list of our programs or the numbers of people we served this year, but suffice it to say that we grow each year with participants and programs, patrons and purpose.

Looking to the year ahead, we’re very excited to put to use what we learned through hosting other exhibits and will be collaborating with the Ignacio Creative District to host a Museums on Mainstreet Smithsonian exhibit that you won’t want to miss. It will provide conversation starters and opportunities to learn more about Ignacio and about past generations, both within the community and within our families.

Of course, our regular programs will continue, as well as new programs and materials every month. We hope that you’ve found much at ICL to support you in your endeavors throughout this coming year as well. More materials, more opportunities to connect with people await us all in the new year. We’d love for you to be a part of it all with us all at the Ignacio Library.

Sincerely, Marcia

DENIM & DIAMONDS GALA FUNDRAISER
SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 AT 4:00 P.M.

Last year’s gala was a night to remember! So put on your best dress and join us for a night out at the library again. Enjoy hors d’oeuvres, local wine and meet special guest artists and their pieces, that will be available for viewing as well as at the silent auction! Tickets can be purchased at the library, $45 in advance, $50 at the door, all to support the Friends of the Ignacio Community Library.

Check our website to preview auction items and purchase tickets online.

We’re seeking local artists who might like to participate by displaying their art and chatting with our patrons, and who would donate a piece of their artwork for a silent auction. Space will be limited, and we’ve reached out to a number of artists, so please respond soon so we can plan to feature your work.

Don’t hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or need more information.

Dorothy at (970)563-9287 | dwilliams@ignaciolibrary.org

REPAIR CAFE
SATURDAY, JANUARY 6 | 1:00 - 4:00 P.M.

We’ve got a new day! Bring in your broken, torn or non-working items and put the Repair Cafe team to work assessing and helping to put them back in service. Cracked or broken plastic tubs and pieces, bicycles needing adjustment, zippers, buttons, or torn clothing, and computer or electronic devices needing a fix, are just a sampling of the work planned in the Repair Cafe.
TIME FOR REFLECTION WITH MR. RON

In our crazy digital world, filled with technology that is continuously evolving, most of us spend large tracts of time plugged in and connected to the larger world. It can be extremely difficult - but necessary - to look inward and reflect on our own experiences from this past year. Reflection gives our brain a chance to pause amidst the chaos, to really sort through and think about our observations and experiences, and interpret our past to give new meaning to the future. With this thought in mind I want to reflect on some of the high points that took place at the library and in the IDEA LAB during 2023.

First the library established a student intern program. This program gives High School students the opportunity to gain valuable experiences while training to work in a library. The library would like to see a greater number of students participating in the program as those students who have been interns show positive personal and professional skills growth. If you know of a High School student who would benefit from this experience please encourage them to fill out an application for the coming semester.

All of the library’s weekly maker groups continue to provide support, encouragement and skills sharing. With sewing on Mondays, art on Tuesdays, electronics on Wednesdays, and knitting on Thursdays, there is always something to learn or practice. The electronics class has seen some of the participants branch out from basic instruction to creating and repairing individual projects. You do not need anything but a willingness to learn to join any or all of these groups. Additionally, on many Fridays, Dixie and Dorothy have hosted crafting workshops while using the Cricut Machine to produce seasonal decorations. The groups will almost always have equipment and materials available for you to use to get started.

The Repair Cafe has been a big hit! Volunteers are the heart of this organization and we are always looking for more folks wanting to help, not just with repairs but also with record keeping, marketing and more. It is never easy to find a time that works for everyone, and while Thursday evenings were good during the summer, I have a number of people who would rather not chance a drive in the dark. The Repair Cafe will be moving to the first Saturdays afternoon until April when it will resume on the first Thursdays at 6 pm.

As the IDEA LAB Educator I had more opportunities than ever this year to work with teachers and their students. Whether it is visiting a remote classroom or bringing students to the library, instruction was provided in subjects ranging from microscope usage to stop motion animation. I also was able to create and present a variety of STEM demonstrations. The library works to enhance the education of our area youth by providing diverse and quality learning opportunities from K to 12. The addition of the library’s bookmobile offers another way to take STEM learning to where it is needed.

Wow, I’m finding all this reflection to be a tiring process: it’s not always easy to recall and consider the influence of your ideas and your actions - but self-awareness and growth is essential to the effort of providing rewarding educational opportunities. Not everything turned out the way I had it planned but that’s OK. In the last few years I have learned to accept my failures and have come to the understanding that failure is actually an important part of success. By reflecting upon and accessing the value of our library programs and their impact on our patrons, the library is dedicated to providing interesting and important events that will be more in tune with the goals and aspirations of those we serve and help fulfill our mission of “bringing people and ideas together for learning and personal growth.”

EARN CREDIT WHILE GAINING WORK EXPERIENCE

Ignacio Community Library is recruiting High School Interns for the new year! If you are interested in gaining useful work skills, acquiring experience for future job applications or learning what it takes to work in a library, this internship is for you. Interns are expected to work 4 hours per week and attend a training session every other week on Fridays. Work hours are flexible and you can earn education credits for completing the internship. If you have an interest in information science and public service this is the program for you. Fill out an application and send it or drop it off at the library as soon as possible.

THE KIDS BOOK CLUB
THURSDAY, JANUARY 18 AT 4:15 P.M.

We will be discussing last month’s book with snacks provided. Then on Saturday the 20th at 2:00 p.m. we will be watching the movie Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

STORYTIME
TUESDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.

Stories, songs, crafts and more to encourage reading and learning and time to bond with your young ones! Coffee and donuts provided. This month’s crafts and stories themes will be all about Winter!!

TEEN NIGHT
MONDAY JANUARY 22 | 6:00- 8:00 P.M.

Middle school - high school kids are invited this month for game night with pizza for dinner! This after-hours library program is a great way to make friends and connect with peers in your community!

Program held the third Monday of every month. Staff will be present, please pickup kids promptly at 8:00 p.m. or earlier.
VOICES OF IGNACIO PROJECT

The library is creating an oral history collection to record and save stories from residents of Ignacio and the surrounding areas. Anything you remember about living in and around Ignacio is welcome. The stories should be fairly short—two to three minutes up to 10 minutes or so, and they can be recorded either at the library or we can come to you. We’ve been asking newsletter readers to think about a specific question, hoping it will trigger story ideas for you! Here is this month’s question:

WHAT WAS YOUR FIRST EXPERIENCE AT BEAR DANCE?

Let us know! And visit the Voices website to learn more and hear other recordings, voicesofignacio.evoleollections.org. You can also access it through our library website, ignaciolibrary.org. To arrange to record your story contact us at the Ignacio Community Library.

(970)563-9287 | VoicesofIgnacio@gmail.com

We would love to see any pictures that go along with your stories too!

IT’S CHALLENGE TIME

WITH THE LIBRARY BEANSTACK APP

Our January theme is all about winter.
Cozy Up with a Good Book! Log reading, write reviews, and read books under special categories to get badges and prizes. Completion badge when all 1000 minutes are logged, 2 reviews done, and 2 activities completed.

Download the Beanstack App to create an account to participate in the challenge!

DENIM AND DIAMONDS GALA AND SILENT AUCTION JANUARY 21. COME ONE, COME ALL FOR A GREAT TIME CELEBRATING OUR LOCAL LIBRARY! ALL FUNDS RAISED GO DIRECTLY TO LIBRARY PROGRAMS!!!

This month is our annual fundraiser, Denim and Diamonds. It is a great party featuring good food and drinks. In addition, local artists will be featuring their art and there will be a silent auction.

In December we had our board elections for the Friends of the Library. Congratulations to our new officers!

We look forward to an exciting year of supporting library programs and quarterly meetings to plan programming and just have fun meeting other Friends. All are welcome to come to the meetings and see what is happening.

Many, many thanks to our outgoing President, Kate Grayson, for all her work these past years. She has done a great job and is much appreciated.

Many thanks to all the volunteers this year who have willingly pitched in and made programs possible.

Special thanks to Jan Chopra who takes care of book donations. This is not easy and she does a great job.

Special thanks to our long time Treasurer, Janie Herrera, who manages the books and does the grant writing. She is the best!

WE HOPE YOU PLAN TO ATTEND OUR DENIM AND DIAMONDS GALA. TICKETS ARE $45 IN ADVANCE AND $50 AT THE DOOR. SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, FROM 4 TO 7 PM.

Picture Above: A photo of Ignacio, Colorado’s main street (Goddard Avenue) with building descriptions.

ONLINE AUTHOR TALKS

Register for upcoming talks from bestselling authors and thought leaders on our website, ignaciolibrary.org.

Rebecca Serle, New York Times Bestselling Author of One Italian Summer, In Five Years, and The Dinner List

Wednesday, January 10 at 6:00p.m.

Rajiv Nagaich, Expert in U.S. Elder Law and Host of Two Popular Public Television Shows. Tuesday, January 23 at 12:00 p.m.

Dr. Robert Lustig, Physician and New York Times Bestselling Author of Fat Chance. Tuesday, January 30 at 12:00 p.m.
BOOK CLUBS AND REGULAR PROGRAMS

VETERAN SERVICES
First Wednesday of the month 9:00 - 5:00
Greg Dotson, the La Plata County Veteran Services Officer, holds his regular office hours with us.

BOOKS & BREWS
Friday, January 5 at 9:00 a.m.
Join us for some good chat over coffee or tea, whatever you fancy at the Rise & Shine Coffee Shop! This is a great club to find new books, authors and genres you might not think to try on your own. Our book of the month is Cassandra in Reverse by Holly Smale.

LEGAL CLINIC
Second Friday of the month at 4:00 p.m.
We offer four free 15-minute video conferences to seek legal help from a legal professional! Please call us on or after the first of each month to reserve your space.

MYSTERY BOOK CLUB
Monday, January 8 & 22 at 11:30 a.m.
Are you a wanna be Sherlock Holmes or Nancy Drew? Well, we’ve got the club for you! Our book for this month is The Lady in White by Jacqueline Winspear. Please bring your own lunch this month.

SCIENCE FICTION BOOK CLUB
Monday, January 29 at 5:00 p.m.
Try this book club to open your mind to other words and what ifs! Our book of the month is The Left Hand of Darkness by Ursula Le Guin.

TECH SUPPORT
2nd & 4th Thursdays 5:00—7:00 p.m.
1st & 3rd Saturdays 1:00—3:00 p.m.
Whatever your issue or need, stop by and see us for a helping hand.

SEWING GROUP
Mondays at 1:30 p.m.
Whether you’re a beginner or an expert you’re invited to join us every Monday for some fun around sewing projects and crafts!

OPEN ART STUDIO
Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.
Come work on your art projects, receive help and advice, and enjoy conversation with other local artists.

ELECTRONICS HOUR
Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m.
Circuits, robots, computers and electronic based projects can all be found with us on Wednesdays in the Idea Lab! All ages are welcome to this free program.

ICL KNITTERS GROUP
Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.
A perfect place for a chat while enjoying some crochet, knitting or whatever your fancy may be!

DONUTS FOR BOOKS
Fridays at 9:00 a.m.
Join us for coffee and donuts while checking out our new books and learning about what’s coming up at the library! *Except January 26*

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS
Saturdays 12:00-4:00 p.m.
We now host Dungeons & Dragons Club every Saturday at the library. It’s an enjoyable, safe, friendly, and memorable club for everyone!

Guests and new members are always welcome to join our programs!
Call (970)563-9287 or visit the service desk to learn more.
Happy New Year!

“And now we welcome the new year. Full of things that have never been.” - Rainer Maria Rilke

Crossword Puzzle

Down:
1. Kids program held Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.
2. Finish the line “Ignacio Community Library, bringing people & ideas _______”
3. The book of the month for our Science Fiction Book Club.
4. The birthstone for the month of January.
5. Happy ______ Year!
6. The name of our Library on the Move bus.

Across:
4. The birthstone for the month of January.
6. The author of “To Kill a Mockingbird”.
10. What program is on Friday, January 5 at 9:00 a.m.?
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