

**DATE:** November 25, 2020

**TO:** Friends of Manchester Library

**FROM:** Kathleen Wilson, South Kitsap Regional Branch Manager

**RE:** November 2020 Manchester Activities Report

### **Community**

Youth Services Librarian Nell Secor was able to bring Inspire Lites and Book Bundles bookmarks to several elementary schools to go out with the work folders students are receiving each week. Additionally a PeachJar notice (an online email notification from SKSD) was sent out to every parent in the South Kitsap School District promoting the Book Bundles service.

### **Branch Operations**

This month was very exciting for Manchester as we posted, interviewed and hired our first ever Manchester Public Services Supervisor. Jonathon Wilson, a Library Associate at the Silverdale Location was selected from an outstanding pool of internal applicants. Jonathon prefers to go by "Wilson" and he wrote this as a short bio for our Manchester Friends of the Library Newsletter: *"My name is Jonathon Charles Wilson, I'm originally from Columbus, Indiana but moved to Kitsap County in November of 2013 with my wife Samantha and our dog Nova. I had my first library job at the Hazelwood Library in Bremerton shortly after moving to Kitsap County and enrolling in Olympic Community College and have been in love with libraries ever since. I enjoy cooking and learning anything about food, I love art but only dabble in pencil drawing and a few musical instruments myself, I also enjoy fitness and all kinds of martial arts and hold a 3rd degree black belt in Tae Kwon Do. Currently, I'm obsessed with the Locked Tomb series by Tamsyn Muir, and eagerly awaiting the next book in the Stormlight Archive series by Brandon Sanderson."*

We prepared to open for tech services on November 16<sup>th</sup>, which would have enabled us to have one patron in the building at a time to access our public computers. Preparations were considerable for this, including new safety precautions, a new mobile welcoming station, and a new laptop with "mirroring" software for staff to assist patrons on the computers while still allowing for social distancing. Unfortunately, due to the uptick in the Covid positivity rate, we were unable to open as planned. However, all of our preparations have ensured we will be ready when we can open our doors again to our patrons.

Hearty congratulations are in order for Library Assistant Isla Soto, who completed all the coursework and final projects for her MLIS and will be graduating from San Jose State with her MLIS in December.

### **Programs and Services**

Nell continued working with Silverdale YS librarian Aleah Jurnecka on Baby Band, which now has a small but growing following. Nell is using some of the funding the FOML had previously allocated to 2020 programming to purchase instruments that will be combined with instruments purchased by the Silverdale Friends of the Library into "Baby Band Kits" that will be processed by KRL CTS and available to check out as a supplement to the Baby Band program. Although this may not happen until Baby Band resumes in January, having this physical item to complement a virtual program is an innovative way to reach our patrons with materials to help support early literacy.

Nell and Emmon Rogers from Port Orchard worked together to plan a Virtual Magic Show for early December. The Friends groups from each location will be jointly funding this program, which will feature the amazing magician Jeff Evans. Members of the virtual audience are being asked to bring an old book and a deck of cards "to the show" as Jeff's virtual magic is interactive. I can't wait!

### **FOML Building Project**

I met with Jill Jean and Patrick O'Neil at the Manchester Library the morning of November 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the KRL timeline for the interior portion of the addition.