Branch Highlights April 2020

Programming/Service Highlights:

While the branches and Central remain closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many library services and programs continue, including:

- Telephone Reference
- Email Reference
- Virtual Programs

OCPL staff continue to work remotely on planning and presenting virtual programs in a collaborative way. This month, staff presented book discussions, knitting programs, genealogy discussions, and gardening programs in collaboration with the Cooperative Extension’s Master Gardener Program. OCPL’s most recent gardening presentation, container gardening, had 70 attendees. We were interested to understand why gardening might be so popular at this time, and came across the following article:

“The impulse to garden in hard times has deep roots” –

Branch children’s staff met via Zoom last week to work collaboratively on virtual programming for summer learning. With the decision to cancel in-house library programming due to social distancing requirements, the children’s librarians wanted to work on creating a cohesive summer plan that included virtual programs and activities for children of all ages.

Central staff continue serving the public through a variety of ways, including Talking Books. Librarian Mark Allnatt downloaded and mailed 42 books, and 2 book machines during April.

Dragana Drobnjak and staff from White Branch and Mundy Branch partnered with Fayetteville Free Library to create PPE for Upstate Medical University using 3D printers in the MakerSpace at OCPL’s Central Library.

Central Manager, Rene Battelle, facilitated the delivery of 10 tech packs to Salem Hyde families during April. OCPL was contacted by a fourth-grade teacher from Salem Hyde whose students needed internet access to complete their school work. Rene was able to locate 10 tech packs and facilitate their delivery.

Adult Literacy needs continue to be met through virtual weekly conversation classes that meet on Fridays

Statistics:
Digital circulation at Central is up 39% over April 2019.
Digital library cards796 (System Wide); 139 (Central and branches)

Dawn Marmor 5-12-2020