

The Ketchikan Public Library 2018-2022 Strategic Plan was implemented beginning in January 2018. One objective of the plan is to keep the City Council and Borough Assembly informed of the plan's implementation; to that end we submit this report for January – March 2021.

**Goal 1: The Library is Ketchikan's Town Square:** *The Ketchikan Public Library is a welcoming, beautiful, inviting place that is rooted in the community and allows people to be themselves – alone or with each other. The Library fosters a more cohesive, healthy and informed community.*

- Rebecca Jackson conducted a patron survey to help determine what to plant in this year's Children's Community Garden. The top vote-getters were carrots, peas, strawberries, garlic, lettuce, potatoes, and broccoli; popular flowers were lavender and nasturtiums.
- The Library building closed to the public from February 4 through February 25 due to the High COVID community risk level. During that time we offered Curbside Service so our patrons could place items on hold and pick them up the next day.
- The Seed Library reopened in late January, with a large variety of free seeds available.

**Goal 2: The Library Serves the Ketchikan Community:** *The Ketchikan Public Library promotes learning, growth and personal enrichment for people of all interests, abilities and needs, in every stage of life. The Library provides services both within the facility and throughout the Ketchikan Gateway Borough for a community of diverse backgrounds, cultures and languages. The Library delivers materials in a variety of formats, and provides updated equipment, Internet access and assistance using digital and online materials.*

- The Library continues to offer a variety of online programs for children, teens and adults. For children: Romps & Rhymes, Storytime, and Babytime. For teens and adults: Reading the Classics, DIY with Gayle, and Reading Aloud.
- The Library has made accessible many of its online programs via the Ketchikan Public Library YouTube channel, including video versions of T.A.G.'s Next: Real Life programs.
- Adult craft bags included Snowflakes for Grownups, Dictionary Magnets, I Love You Banner, No-Wax Candles, Marigold Planter, and String Eggs. Teen craft bags included Create a Creature, Create a Card Game, Lunar New Year, Tell a Fairy Tale, Comic Creator Kits, and Tasting Experience Kit.
- Children's kits included monthly S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) packets, monthly A.H.A. (Art History with Amie) packets, and a variety of family maker bags that are always available. Each month Headstart picks up 30 maker bags for their kids. Starting in March, the Children's Library offered Little Learners Kits for children 3 years old and under.
- The Library offered two Zoom webinars on Social Security in February: Social Security 101, and Social Security Disability.
- Financial Advisor Ben Edwards gave Zoom presentations in January and February: Five Money Questions for Women, and The Nuts and Bolts of Investing.

**Goal 3: The Library Engages With the Community:** *The Library effectively markets its services, programs and resources to the Ketchikan community. The Library invites community input and*

*participation in its work, to meet the needs of both currently served and underserved constituencies. The Library works with other partners to pursue goals of community importance.*

- The Adult Winter Reading Challenge ran from January 2 through February 28; 117 people took part this year. As part of the Challenge, Alaskan author Marc Cameron gave a talk via Facebook on January 16.
- Outreach Librarian Rebecca Brown has continued delivering materials to the Regional Youth Center, WISH and homeless shelters. This quarter she established a working relationship with KAR House, served on the Re-Entry Coalition Board, and began delivering to two new homebound patrons. Rebecca prepared monthly Here's Some Good News activity flyers and distributed them to local senior centers.
- The Children's Library delivered to the Ketchikan Medical Center 25 Born to Read bags for newborns.
- Amie Toepfer led a monthly Zoom book club for tweens, called Bookin' It.
- Amie hid 48 Story Jars throughout the island in January and February for families to find, and delivered maker bags and library information to the preschool at Fawn Mountain.
- In March 235 children participated in the Grow Your Own Heart Challenge, with acts of kindness to do each day.
- Rebecca Brown began a monthly column in the Ketchikan Daily News featuring a local resident and the kinds of books they recommend. Maria Dudzak and June Dahl have been featured, and Rebecca has interviewed Jack Auger for April's column.
- The Children's Library invited kids to create a Leprechaun Trap for some pesky leprechauns who invaded the Children's Library. There were many great entries; the leprechauns escaped, but left chocolate coins and notes for the children.

***Goal 4: The Library is a Growing, Vibrant Organization:*** *The Ketchikan Public Library has a culture of outstanding customer service and a commitment to the concept of the Library as a community good. Library managers value and respect all staff members in their pursuit of excellence, and foster support through advocacy, professional development and an atmosphere of creativity and open-mindedness. The Ketchikan Public Library has a nimble organizational culture that adapts to changes in the community of Ketchikan.*

- The Friends of the Library are moving their donation deposit space, and when the move is complete they will announce it to the public and welcome new donations.
- In February, Lisa Pearson organized the Library's annual inventory of over 76,000 items in our collections.
- The University of Alaska Southeast has decided to withdraw the UAS-Ketchikan Campus Library from the First City Libraries (FCL) Consortium, effective July 1, 2021. The Campus Library will continue to use the FCL online catalog through the end of December. The Ketchikan Public Library, Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District Libraries, and UAS-Ketchikan Campus Library are developing new proposed agreements to be reviewed and voted on by the Ketchikan City Council and the KGB School Board.