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**Patron-Driven Service Update:**

**Children's Services:** In April we put finishing touches on an extensive weed of the entire children's collection and began shifting to prepare for rearranging May 9<sup>th</sup>. It's already so much more spacious on the shelves making items easier to find and shelve and we have receive positive feedback about the change, even in spite of all of the upheaval.

**Adult Services:** The Sonia Kendrick Memorial Seed Library continues to draw users from across greater Iowa. We are thrilled to preserve Sonia's legacy and Iowa's biodiversity through this collection. Adult and Information Services Manager Madeline Jarvis is continuing to meet with Iowa BIG to discuss next steps of this project's publicity.

**Teen Services:** With summer looming, Teen Services Specialist Shanel Slater connected with Linn Mar High School and Marion High School to share our exciting Summer Reading Program. Several teachers invited her into their classrooms, and she was able to reach almost 100 new faces.

We also want to give a shout out to Kimberly Cowger, Administrative Assistant, for taking charge on the weeding of Young Adult materials, as well as Collection Strategies Manager Sue Gerth and her team for their hard work. Eager readers now don't have to sort through old and grubby books to find what they're looking for, and we can better showcase our great collection.

**Patron & Access Services:** No Update

**Collection Strategies:** April saw our weeding project really kick off, with a deadline to be finished at the end of April. Once weeding was done, we were able to shift parts of the adult collection to prepare for our new footprint for the teen and children's areas. Coordinated with Public Services to facilitate recycling of old, damaged, out of date materials, as well as sending materials to the Friends of the Library for their bookshop and Better World Books. We have also weeded DVD's of materials that did not circulate over a year period. We have also introduced a "New" label for materials to help staff and patrons see at a glance what is new in the library.

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**Marketing & Promotion: Community Happens Here!** A new marketing campaign designed to communicate all of the different ways community happens at the Library. Would you be willing to offer a testimonial about the Library and how you see community happening?

**Talent-Development Update:**

**Children's Services:** All of the Children's & Family Services Staff were able to attend Kids Matter a one day conference organized by the Youth Services Subdivision of the Iowa Library Association. We have a whole list of inspiration that will keep library programming and services fresh and beneficial to the children, teens, and families in our community. Lara and Olivia also presented at the conference about how we started our Grow on the Go outreach program to fellow Iowa librarians.

**Adult Services:** Adult and Information Services Manager Madeline Jarvis developed a survey and training plan to ensure Information Desk staff are competent and confident in the library's array of resources. Self-identified subject matter experts are leading one on one trainings with their peers. These trainings will be completed by the start of summer reading.

**Teen Services:** Library Assistant Rachel Pollari and Specialist Shanel Slater presented on a panel at the Kids Matter conference.

**Patron & Access Services:** No Update

**Collection Strategies:** No update.

**Marketing & Promotion:** No update.

**Risk-Taking & Flexibility Update:**

**Children's Services:** We partnered with the ISU Extension to bring an incubator to the library to let our patrons experience the joy of seeing chicks hatch. We even had a live webcam for patrons (and staff) to enjoy. Amy Schmitt from ISU Extension came to

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several story times and told the kids all about how eggs develop into chicks and the kids got a chance to pet and hold them. But it wasn't just the kids who were excited about our little fluff balls! The teens would gather around the cage after the hatched and we heard lots of fun excited conversations about them. A patron who is maybe in her late 70s who brought in her granddaughter was really enthusiastic about watching the chicks hatch because she doesn't think she's ever seen one hatch. A patron who is blind had the chance to pet one of the fluffy chicks and it made her day. Most of our staff had the chick cam pulled up at home and all of us were texting each other as they were hatching. We weren't sure if they would hatch, or if we would get complaints about a bit of a mess that they made—but it was a huge success and we plan to do it again next year!

**Adult Services:** April was a month of partnerships with the University of Iowa Libraries. We were the final stop on the Literary Kiosk's pilot tour. This innovative piece of technology was originally designed for French commuters in partnership with Parisian public transportation. Our patrons printed over 2,000 stories!

We also partnered with University of Iowa Department of Preservation and Conservation on a public program about preserving family heirlooms. This is the first time their outreach has been presented at a public library, and our patrons provided great feedback. We look forward to continuing to cultivate partnerships that will increase our reach and improve our patrons' library experience.

**Teen Services:** Our Youth Advocating Kindness was thrilled to partner with Hercules' Haven, a local animal sanctuary, to make blankets for their animals! Teens learned about all the animals currently living at the farm while contributing valuable time and effort to this community organization.

We also welcomed Miss Iowa 2018 to give a presentation on her 5 Lessons of H.O.P.E.: spreading mental health and suicide awareness. Although all the teens that attended had already heard a version of her presentation at school, they still asked great questions and were able to engage with her lessons in a smaller, more personal environment.

We also want to thank Lara Moellers, Children's Services Assistant, for being flexible by helping with some of our teen programs in April and throughout the year. As we continue to encourage teens to visit the library, it helps them to have supportive,

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genuine interactions with staff members from across library departments. We want them to know: all MPL staff and the Marion community are here for them.

**Patron & Access Services:** No Update

**Collection Strategies:** Flexible as our weeding project became our number one priority. With a firm deadline to meet, we had to focus solely on finishing this project! Reordered some classic titles for fresh, new copies, and continue to look at ways to refresh the collection.

**Marketing & Promotion:** N/A

**Marketing Communications Update:**

**Children's Services:** No Update

**Patron & Access Services:** No Update

**Collection Strategies:** Hollie and Norah have partnered with Sue to keep our Facebook page and create impactful videos to keep the public in touch with all of the changes we are making to our collection.

**Marketing & Promotion:** You are invited to open houses for Community Happens Here (May 18, 11-1) and Summer Reading (June 8, 11-1). These events are designed to help us inform the community about all we are doing, engage them with our programs and offer a show and tell of our spruced up spaces!

**Building Project Campaign Update:**

**Building/Facilities Update:**

**Technology Update:**

**Metro Library Network Update:** No Update