

PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT
Report of the Executive Director – MAY
Submitted to the Library Board of Trustees
June 26, 2025

Barkman Library

May at the Barkman Branch was busy with so many school visits and Community Outreach Events!

Not only did Barkman staff have the pleasure of presenting the Most Improved Reader Awards to the local schools, but we also got to be a part of the Teddy Bear Picnic at Morton Elementary during our Preschool visit.



Child in blue coat showing his stuffed sloth for the picnic

Let's not forget the Summer Reading kickoff! Librarian Brigitta Myerhofer and CSR Ashleigh, provided an artistic display for patrons. Each interested patron created their own unique design and chose a frame to hang and display it for all to see.



Framed art booth at the Summer Reading Kickoff Event

Our outreach Specialist Penny Jerman and CSR Estela Mungaray joined in on the Half Way to Halloween community event at Minnequa Park. They showed off their Summer Reading colors!



Penny Jerman and Stela Mungaray in costume at Half Way to Halloween community event.

The Colorado Accelerated Academy hosted their art show in our community room!



Art from students displayed on wall.

Miss Skylaa Van Lin won our May Barky Basket and the kids had a great time during the Drive In Movie event. All the kids created their very own “cars” made out of boxes for the event.



Kids sitting in their homemade cardboard cars for the Drive-In Movie program

Giodone Library

To celebrate Asian Pacific Islander month, we hosted several programs in district wide collaboration. The Shibori dying led by Thad in User Services was well attended, and many in the crochet club were proud to show off their results.



The Obi Tying presentation was coordinated by Beth at Pueblo West, and was well attended.



For Mental Health Awareness Month – we displayed books on Mental Health in our center display, and had stickers for customers.

We held outreach activities at Ascension Pre School and Thatcher Pre-School, and handed out the Most Improved Reader Awards at South Mesa Elementary.

Daniel has hosted the May the 4th Star Wars party for the third year in a row, and we had our biggest audience yet with 23 in attendance.

The Teen Science Café received a grant to host STEM Fest with a Subject Matter Expert on drilling that presented over zoom, and participants received a sorting machine to assemble from the Nation Science Foundation.

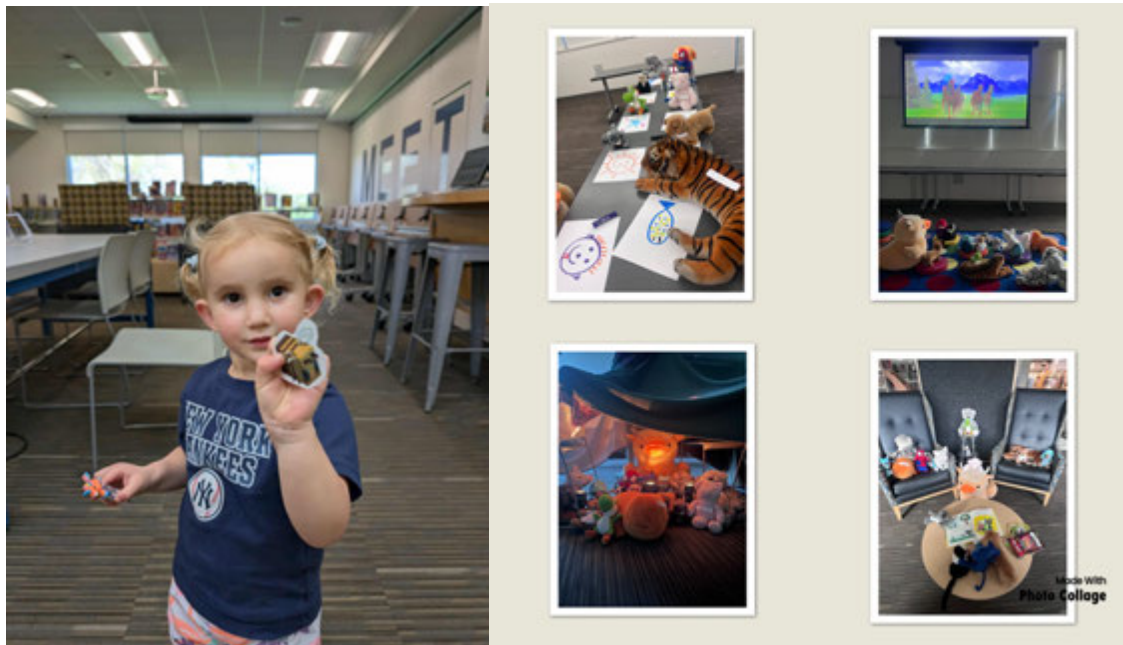
In total we had 1859 in program attendance. We had 14 public meeting room reservations and 16 study room reservations.

Greenhorn Valley Library

May is Get Caught Reading Month!

Programs:

This month at Greenhorn we got to host a stuffed animal sleepover where 17 children left their beloved plushies to enjoy a night of library activities together and then received a photo album of everything they had done the next Monday. We also had our regularly scheduled and always popular Family Fridays and Dungeons and Dragons programs and our new Be a Yarnivore program drew more new attendees! Our monthly scavenger hunt pivoted to a new single hidden picture: "The Sneaky Bee." If you find the Bee you get featured on one of our display walls, and so far only two kids have succeeded!



We also of course celebrated May the Fourth and Free Comic Book Day, and thanks to Get Caught Reading Month anyone who was caught reading in the library received a bookish keychain.

Our Daytime Book Club read and discussed Yellowface again led by Jessica Driscoll, a book they all enjoyed though were split evenly on if they loved it or just loved to hate the main character. Meanwhile Book Club After Dark read and discussed Bride by Ali

Hazelwood and spent the evening mostly debating vampires vs. werewolves and what actors should play the lead characters.

Displays:

Our displays highlighted Mental Health Awareness Month and Memorial Day and we shifted our Tough Topics to a new insert in Nonfiction. We also had some fun displays with a “Part of Your World” DVD feature and Metafiction, Books About Books!



Lucero Library

Tina

Highlight: Make Sushi!

Description: Do you love sushi? Work with chefs from the Japan-America Society of Southern Colorado and make yummy sushi! Registration required! Limited spots available. In honor of Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month we held a sushi workshop for patrons at El Centro. Participants were able to make a pile of sushi to eat in house and to bring home. We saw new faces at El Centro with some commenting, “after what I learned today, I’m thinking red snapper and mango sushi!”; “this was fun

and something different. I look for different sorts of classes to take”. The facilitators were very knowledgeable, friendly and fun! We hope to have them back another time.



Additional programs during the month were: Outreach story times at Eva Baca Elementary and Bradford Elementary (to end the school year). Imagination Station activities that included clay pendants to paint and wear. An in-library exhibit featuring unique stamps of Asian and Pacific Islander icons, cultural feats or moments in history. Organized Free Comic Book Day at the branch.

Jessica

Highlight Adult Program: Crafty Crew: No Sew T-Shirt Tote Bag

Description: For one of the weekly Crafty Crew programs, our adult patrons could see how quick and easy it is to upcycle a t-shirt into a practical tote bag at El Centro Del Quinto Sol. Fifteen patrons had the opportunity to participate in this fun and exciting class. The adults who attended this event were genuinely grateful for the chance to engage in upcycling an “old” t-shirt into something helpful that they can use in their everyday tasks. Patrons were encouraged to bring a t-shirt from home if they had one that no longer fit, or select from the provided selection. One patron brought in a few t-shirts they purchased on family vacations, and loved giving them a new purpose.

Additional programs during the month were Crafty Crew: To Dye For and Tasting Snacks with Cooking Matters; these programs were a collaboration hosted by Jessica with Thad Stelter and Taylor from Cooking Matters. Another highlight I would like to share is the collaboration between Jessica Blaha and Cooking Matters for the Recovery Solution group. Recovery Solutions Drop-In Center is a peer specialist-run facility that promotes wellness and recovery to individuals 18 years of age or older with mental health and/or substance use conditions. This fantastic group visits the library twice a month to explore the library and participate in a program with Jessica Blaha, which is currently at the Barkman Library. For one, we worked as a team during the visits to create and enjoy three snacks together. The participants truly enjoyed preparing and enjoying the snacks.

Chris

Highlight: Mini pinatas

Description: made pull apart pinatas from paper rolls and filled them with candy. The kids really liked them and they got to decorate them with tissue paper.

Additional programs during the month were: we also did table top golf where the kids shot pom poms into a goal I had constructed. Squeegee art was cool where you trace a picture with paint and then use a squeegee to push the paint down like screen printing. Foam dough was also very popular. The kids made their own play doh using cornstarch and shaving cream. Finally we made craft sticks using a pencil with pipe cleaners, googly eyes, and pom poms to make pencil people. I also had a couple programs that were put out by staff when I was gone which were groundhog paper plates and painting wood themed space projects.

Branch Highlight:

Highlight: Fiesta Friday

Description: The community was invited to come to El Centro and enjoy a community gathering. There was live mariachi music, Folklorico dancers, and Mr. Magic added to the performers. Additionally, we invited 10 community partners that help families on the eastside of Pueblo. The Lucero library team had some really awesome quick activities for the community to enjoy. We had roughly 300 in attendance for the day.

Additional programs during the month were: Summer Reading Kick Off party

Description: Community Gathering, over 600 in attendance. The Lucero team had an interactive Life size Mr. Potato Head activity that the youth really enjoyed. DJ. Services and sound were provided by the Lucero Team.



Images (Left): Lucero team's Bubble activity



Image (Left) Young Folklorico Dancers Performing

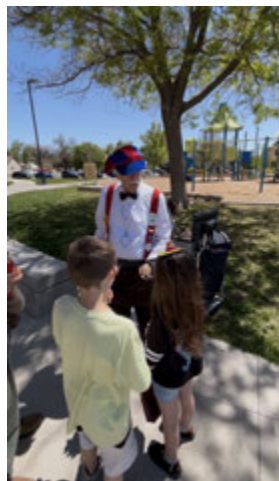


Image (Right) Mr. Magic talking with youth

Lamb Library, Library @ the Y, Beulah Library

Program Highlights

- Adult Programming

In May, our library offered a range of engaging programs celebrating culture and wellness. For Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, participants

explored Japanese art traditions through hands-on momigami (kneaded paper) and suminagashi (floating ink marbling) workshops. Our ongoing Slow Stitch program introduced sashiko, a mindful Japanese embroidery technique.



Adults participating in needlefelt craft

YMCA:

We launched our first creative program at the YMCA with a hands-on needle felting workshop. The inaugural session was a great success—the YMCA anticipated 10 participants, and we exceeded expectations with 18 attendees.

- Teen/Tween Programming

Teen/Tween Night Spotlight - Nerf Battle Royale: Aim, Fire, Conquer!

Nothing says kick off to summer break like a good rambunctious Nerf Battle. After a quick safety briefing the teen/tween group were dodging, reloading, and laughing all over the room.



Teens enjoying nerf activity!

- Children's Programming

Children and caregivers alike enjoyed multiple family story times and crafts this month, with themes such as National Space Day, Drawing Day, World Turtle Day and National Children's Gardening week!

YMCA:

Preschool Storytime - Themes and a little song

The kiddos have been working hard for months on their good morning song & sign language combo to the point where they are leading the class themselves during it! They have been engaged in this month's stories and always are eager to participate in story time discussions surrounding our characters!

- Promotions

Lamb branch celebrated National Get Caught Reading Month by offering small prizes to anyone caught reading in the library. Teens were entered into a raffle for donated book collections. By the end of the month, we had over 90 participants!



Two winners of the teen raffle with their prizes!

Outreach Highlights

D60 Resource Fair

This month, we had the opportunity to participate in the D60 Resource Fair, an engaging and well-attended event. We connected with over 200 community members, sharing information about the library's programs, services, and upcoming events. It was a fantastic chance to reach new families, answer questions, and promote library resources that support education and lifelong learning.

Art Center Community Day

We were invited to be part of the Art Center's Community Day this month. At our booth, we helped families and youth in creating beautiful butterfly crafts for Mother's Day. It offered a wonderful platform to engage with the community through hands-on art and highlight the library as a welcoming space for all ages.



Young patron at the D60 Resource Fair table

Pueblo West Library

Community Display Cases

Pueblo West Women's League Membership Drive Display

Jewish American Heritage Month Display

Art Exhibits, Estimated Attendance 538

Yarn Hoarders Anonymous Crochet Club Exhibit

Pueblo West Library held a total of 137 programs, outreaches, club meetings, technology training, and Kits2Go with a total attendance of 8252.

Program Highlights

Tween Hangout: Hot Glue Gun Kit

The Tweens had a blast creating picky pads using hot glue and beads. They were very excited to be able to use the hot glue guns and expressed that it was an excellent and fun craft!



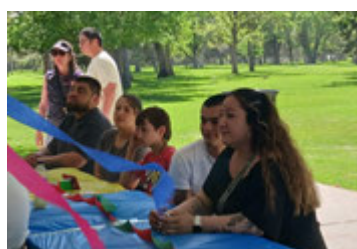
Ohana: Lilo and Stitch Party

70 attendees joined us at PW to watch the animated Lilo & Stitch movie and create crafts! Patrons made shell bracelets and leis! Everyone had a great time and enjoyed yummy popcorn!



Kinderkirk End of Year Party–Outreach at Pueblo City Park

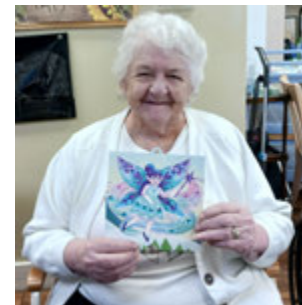
Stacy gave out 30 literacy kits and SRP promotional material at the event. She also announced the importance of summer reading for the kids and announced both SRP events and Yogapalooza.





Sparkling Creativity at Capella Assisted Living Outreach

On May 28 the residents of Capella Assisted Living enjoyed a morning of *Gem Art*. This modified version of diamond painting was tailored for seniors with reduced dexterity. Large, colorful gems and adapted tools made the creative process both accessible and satisfying. Smiles sparkled just as brightly as the artwork. This program was made possible by the generous support of the Friends of the Library.



Obi Tying Workshop

As part of the district-wide Obi Tying Workshop, hosted by Brooke Johnson of the Japan America Society of Southern Colorado, attendees learned the history and different styles of Japanese kimono and obi. They then got a chance to tie their own obi. It was definitely harder and more complicated than it looks!



Tech Services

DIRECTOR:

- Jill Kleven is working on getting quotes for new security gates for the Lucero renovation.
- Jill and Bri Reyes met with the AT&T rep to discuss purchasing more hotspots this summer.
- Jill met with the Cloud Library rep to discuss 2024 usage and how to promote Cloud Library Newsstand.
- Jill ordered classroom copies of the All Pueblo Reads book. More copies will be ordered this summer.

COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT:

- Elizabeth Flores and Danielle Cowles continue to order new materials for the Lucero opening day collection.
- Danielle is discontinuing the physical magazine subscriptions that are available on Cloud Library Newsstand.

CATALOGING AND ACQUISITIONS:

- Peggy Bilger, Pat Mascarenas, Lee Vigil, and Michele Dagnillo completed OCLC Connexion Client training. This was the final step in transitioning to becoming an OCLC cataloging library.
- The CSU Extension office dropped off hundreds more packets of seeds which the catalogers prioritized for the planting season.

INTERLIBRARY LOAN:

- After five years, the decision to end the Mail Delivery service was made. Any customers using the service may transition to Library to You if they need to.
- Jessica Casados completed the training with branches for the new Interlibrary borrowing process. The link will go live in June.

ILS:

- Based on the results of the Koha/Discover survey Theia Bravo is creating training for staff that will take place later this summer.

Local History & Genealogy

PROGRAMS

Bilingual Storytime: 13

English Conversation Class: 2

Intermediate English Class: 15

Cinco De Mayo Outreach event at Bessemer Park, 5/5, Approx. 35 people talked to

Hiking the CO-X: 8

School tour - Family Worship Center (5/6/25): 7 students, 2 chaperones

Mother's Day Craft Session: 32

GEN programs:

Family History Help: 0

Southeastern Colorado Gen. Soc. DNA: 11

Beginning genealogy for CSR training: 6

Total Attendance (in person): 131

OUTREACH

LHG staff were at the Cinco De Mayo celebration at Bessemer park on 5/5/25, informing the public about PCCLD resources and services and handing out free books.

INREACH

Joy Oria provided Beginning Genealogy training for Rawlings CSRs.

SPECIAL PROJECTS, INITIATIVES, NEW PARTNERSHIPS

Shared Memories

Installed and Digital Memory Lab at the Trinidad Public Library, May 28.

Social Colorado Equity Alliance

Aaron met with Ray Packard serving as representative of SCEA on 5/21/25 to discuss future donation of SCEA materials. A blank deed of gift was provided for Ray to review with the SCEA Board.

Genealogy Projects

- Labeled shelves in genealogy aisle
- Assessed GENV collection
- Continued organizing material in genealogy aisle
- Picking away at cart labeled "Under Review"
- Checked in periodicals: 161 issues (36 from mail + 105 donated + 20 found unprocessed in vault)
- Finished endcap signs for open stacks
- Reached out to Pueblo synagogues regarding ancestral homelands for collection development purposes: Temple Emanuel, United Hebrew Center, Shammash Ariel Messianic Synagogue
- Collaborating with Sons of the American Revolution and Technical Services on memorial books for deceased members
- Collaborating with Boy Scouts on genealogy merit badge program
- Reached out to Mark Rabideau, genealogy speaker, on behalf of Southeastern Colorado Gen. Soc., for September program

- Working on collection development for underrepresented states in GEN open stacks

Digital Archives

- Traveled to Trinidad with Aaron to begin installation of Trinidad Public Library's Memory Lab after assembling hardware
- Performed digital preservation actions on received digitized U-Matic tapes
- Completed digitization of senior portraits from the 1975 Centennial High School yearbook for a patron request (approximately 250 images)
- Completed digitization request from Bill Buckles collection for patron including photos and a report (approximately 80 images)

Physical Archives

- Zones 1 - 4 of the vault inventorying process is 90% complete, only in need of finishing touches. Inventory of Zone 5 to follow.
- U-Matic tapes sent for digitization via the FOL grant have now been returned to us

Vault Visits: 32

Feedback from Patrons:

Tabitha-

This is absolutely amazing. You have no idea how helpful this is. Thank you so much!
Shannon Hames

Experiential Learning

Makerspace Services

New Programs!

We tried a lot of new things this month. None of them were unsuccessful, but some definitely had more lessons for us than others for learning how to make these programs ones that we can do well to have as regular offerings.

Carpentry

Our first foray into carpentry went well. We crafted birdhouses from single fence slats. What did we learn? To cut our wood slats beforehand to avoid congestion at the tables where we had our hand saws. The birdhouses themselves were a great hit, and we have requests for more carpentry programs in June and July.

Stained Glass

A lot of lessons were learned in our trial into stained glass work. Stained glass can seem like a relatively easy project, but it actually involves not one, not two, but five

completely new skills to learn. While the class enjoyed learning glass cutting, glass grinding, taping, soldering, and polishing, the class size was too large for everyone to finish their projects in the time allotted. We made lemons out of lemonade, however, and opened our studio hours for the next two weeks so the students could finish their projects. They still loved the class and have asked for intensives (longer class times with smaller class sizes) in July.

Sewing Classes

This month, we had the new addition of DeShanique White teaching some sewing classes for us, with the community excited to learn basic sewing skills.

Tabletop Gaming Club (TTGC)

This month, we did a soft launch of our attempt to try to have each night be a different Tabletop theme to give it some variety as Magic the Gathering has been pretty much all the group does despite the idea of this program being to offer some variety, so while having one night being for Magic, we have others being for other options. First Wednesday is Board Games; second is D&D and other TTRPG workshops for building characters and campaigns and such; third Wednesday is for Magic the Gathering playing, deck building, and preparing for tournaments for those who that's their thing; fourth Wednesday is a D&D one-shot campaign (did not get to do a run of that this month, ended up being another workshopping night); and if there is a fifth night of the month, then that night is for MTG drafting.

Museum Services

May 2: Tortilla Making: This multigenerational session encouraged participants to learn about the history of tortilla making and experience bonding with family and community through rolling dough. For this session, a family including multiple grandchildren participated and by the end all of the children left with a recipe, stated that these tortillas were the best ever, and were excited to show their parents at home what they learned.

May 7: Screen Print Intensive: This intensive was the first of its kind and taught people skills in how to design and mount a screen print design. This program took the full four hours that it was scheduled for. By hosting this program, participants learned about the intricacies of the art form and inspired them to come back and create more. This also was a multigenerational program and I saw a family whose mom participated in the intensive, whose kids then were able to print her very own design.

May 8: Hoops y Horchata: This event served as a positive third space for ages teen and above. Everyone who attended walked away with a custom pair of earrings made with their own hands. During this time, I met with an indigenous beader who expressed

an interest in teaching various ways of beading in the future. Attendees expressed how fun the activity was and especially enjoyed the music I had playing for the occasion.

May 9/10: Cartooning with Alicia Trejo: This program featured a local literary artist and she taught a group over two days on how to draw custom figures. Using basic shapes, she explained how each shape is used to convey certain characteristics, she even provided over 20 pages of worksheets for participants to take home and continue practicing their art.

May 12: Snapshot and Self Love: This program saw three pairs of moms with their sons/daughters and allowed patrons to create without boundaries, try polaroid cameras for the first time, and spend quality time with family. One pair had originally come to see the D60 Art Show and happened to come across my program. After viewing the show, the student realized that his art was not included in the show by his teacher and was very disappointed. By the end of his library visit, I told him that I was sorry his visit wasn't what he expected and in response he said, "That's okay it was better than I expected." Him and his mom left with smiles on their faces and a few photos to remember their mom-son date.

May 16: Kids Crossing Reception: While not widely attended, this event resulted in a new friendship between two strangers. As the event was starting, I welcomed patrons on the 2nd floor to grab a cookie and view the beautiful pieces new to the space. Two of the patrons who I offered cookies to ended up walking the entire exhibit together and talked about each piece. This was the first time they ever interacted and was a nice wholesome moment.

Circulation Services

We celebrated Mental Health Month on the first floor with displays and table toppers full of encouraging words and thoughts for our patrons to take with them throughout their day at the library. Terri Daly particularly appreciated the work that Deanna put into the displays this month. We continue to have extremely busy meeting rooms; however, we expect a small lull with girl scouts slowing down for the summer! (We have three girl scout troops that meet at Rawlings.)



Workshop participants engaged in a collaborative stained-glass project.



A sewing class in progress, showcasing diverse ages and skill levels.



Tortilla-making workshop in full swing. Participants engaged in a hands-on learning experience.

User Services

YOUTH PROGRAM:

22 tweens recently boosted their money smarts thanks to our grant-funded Financial Literacy program, supported by the ALA.



The pictures show a group of tweens gathered around, participating in various financial literacy games.

ADULT/ALL AGES PROGRAM:

Thad brought his incredibly popular Shibori tie die offering to Giodone Library in collaboration with Sandy.



A bucket filled with indigo dye, and a wooden stirring stick for a shibori program on May 23, 2025.



A group of participants at the shibori event.



An Artist and her fabric flower art at the multigenerational Tea & Makes program that was held on May3, 2025

OUTREACH:

POP Up Reference @ SBDC GO LOCO for Local 4th Annual Small Business Expo at the Pueblo River Walk on May 3rd, 2025. The Reference Librarian, Jen Scroggins, participated and did outreach with her "Pop-Up Reference Librarian" booth serving over 60 patrons out in the community!



Vendor booth with a sign saying "The Reference Librarian is IN", and another sign on an A-Frame stand to the right with a poster that says, "Pop-Up Reference Librarian". Behind the booth is the Pueblo River Walk.

Facilities

Work Order Statistics

- 208 work orders completed.
- 59 custodial work orders completed.

Barkman

- Repaired roof leaks.

Giodone

- Cleaned up the property.

Greenhorn

- Continued to replace lights.

Lamb

- Repaired boiler.
- Replaced self-check table.
- Worked with IT to repair emergency phone lines.
- Removed tree and grate.
- Certified boiler.

Pueblo West

- Cleaned up the property.

Rawlings

- Cleaned up the property.
- Repaired glycol pump and filled system.
- Repaired boiler.
- Repaired water feature.
- Replaced hot water pump.
- Worked on AHU #4 and #5,
- Repaired sink in the café.
- Replaced old lighting.
- Certified boiler.
- Repaired bird netting.
- Repaired ducting.
- Cleaned chiller exchanger.
- Sealed roof cracks.

Other project/duties – District

- Set up Summer Reading kick off.
- Repaired Chevy truck (stuck key).

Volunteer Hours

PCCLD Volunteer estimated hours for the month of May.

ADULTS	208.25 HOURS
TEENS	18.75 HOURS
BOOKS AGAIN	1247.40 HOURS
BOD TRUSTEES	20.00 HOURS
TOTAL HOURS	1494.40 HOURS
VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS	\$51,990.18

Respectfully submitted,
Sherri Baca
Executive Director