From the Desk of the Director, Lee Hallberg

Census time is upon us! On March 12, 2020, everyone in the country will be receiving a postcard with instructions for completing the census. As a partner in Census 2020, your Mancos Public Library will play a central role in gathering a complete count of the population by providing computers with an internet connection for the public to access the census response portal and a knowledgeable staff to help guide you through the process. This will be the first time that the Census can be completed online!

It’s Important!

The information gathered in the census is used to determine the number of seats each state has in the House of Representatives, how federal and state legislative districts are redrawn, and the...
appropriation of federally funded programs. Census funds are used in distributing over $13.1 billion funds per year in Colorado, which translates to $2,300 per person, per year.

It’s Easy!

The census has been designed to be as quick and painless as possible, with a total of 10 questions:

- Name
- Phone Number
- Age
- Sex
- Hispanic Origin
- Race
- Relationship to householder
- Household tenure (own vs. rent)
- Number of persons in the household
- Do any of the household occupants usually stay or live somewhere else?

The Census Bureau is collecting census forms in four ways - online (using the internet or cell phone), over the telephone (by calling the census call center listed on the census card), using a paper form, or by a visit from a census enumerator.

It’s Safe!

From the beginning of the data collection process, the Census Bureau follows industry best practices and federal requirements to protect your data. The security of Census Bureau systems is a top priority, and their IT infrastructure is designed to defend against and contain cyber threats. They continually refine their approach to identifying, preventing, detecting, and responding to these threats.

In addition, the Census Bureau is bound by Title 13 of the U.S. Code to keep your information confidential. Under Title 13, the Census Bureau cannot release any identifiable information about you, your home, or your business, even to law enforcement agencies. The law ensures that your private data is protected and that your answers cannot be used against you by any government agency or court.

Starting on March 12, watch your mailbox for your card and information on how to complete the Census 2020, and help bring funding for important services to Montezuma County! Of course, if you have any questions about how to complete the census, stop by the library and we’ll get you pointed in the right direction.
Adult Programs - From the Desk of Midge Kirk

March is Women’s History Month and to celebrate the Victorians will present women, during the Civil War, who were spies, soldiers and more. There will also be an era fashion show! This is happening at 6 pm on March 5th.

The collaboration with the Arts District and the Chamber continues on the 12th when we offer an introduction and overview of Region 9 Economic Development.

Heather, with Botanical Companions, will present a microgreens workshop on the 26th. Microgreens are easy, inexpensive and packed with nutrition! There will be an opportunity to purchase a kit at a very nominal cost if you would like, but it is not required.

All programs are free and open to the public.

Young Adult Programs - From the Desk of Jenni Kitchen, YA Coordinator

The first Friday of March starts National Day of Unplugging! This event is meant to help us all remember that sometimes the best thing to do is put away our devices and reconnect with the world around us. We now live in a world where the majority is constantly connected. On my phone I have an app for everything; social networking, games, and books. I check the weather on my phone. My granddaughters and I watch episodes of Sesame Street on the iPad. I spend work days on a computer and on days off I create stories on my laptop.

National Day of Unplugging begins a 24 hour period (from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday) of letting us truly unwind, unplug, relax, reflect, reconnect to each other and the natural world; to get outdoors or to a table to play some games. This is only one day. Every day I do my best to leave the devices in the other room while eating meals and reading stories. This allows me to really focus on the time I spend with my loved ones. Some days are easier to disconnect from tech than others.

How long can you unplug? What will you do while unplugged? Can you unplug more often? How will you unplug?

Children’s Programs - From Julie Hartline, Children’s Librarian

One of the things we are passionate about here at the library is creating lifelong readers!! According to the Journal of Development and Behavioral Pediatrics, reading just one storybook to a child each day exposes them to an estimated 78,000 words in a year. Over the course of the five years leading up to Kindergarten, a child raised in a literacy-rich home will accumulate 1.4 million more words than a child who is not read to. A big part of our work at the Mancos Public Library is to make early literacy accessible and fun. Here are some ways you can support the early readers in your life:

- Get a library card for your child!! There is something very special for a child when they bring their books to the front desk and hand the librarian their own card. Talk to a librarian at the front desk for an application.
• Join us for Storytime each Thursday at 10:30am. Storytime is a literacy-rich environment full of songs, play, and stories. Children of all ages are welcome.

• Sign up for our 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. This program is free to the public and encourages early literacy through caregiver-child read alouds. Talk to any librarian to register.

• Come play in the Children’s Library; search for new books, play with the dress ups, get out the puppets, color, build with the blocks!! Side-by-side play is a wonderful way to build early literacy skills.

**News from Bernadette Tutthill, Circulation Manager**

Did you know that you can check out audiobooks and ebooks to read or listen to? You can use electronic devices like phones, computers, kindles, tablets and iPads. Over 24,000 new titles have been recently added to the collection and.......If you don't have your own device you can check out a nook from the library. **Happy reading!**

**News from Shari Dunn, Development, Art Wall and Great Decisions Host**

Proposals are being submitted to various funders for underwriting of programs and services provided by the Library.

The Art Wall is hosting Kat Bemer’s exhibit “The Goddess Project.” Her paintings represent deities from various cultures and realms, including Earth. It seems apropos to have this exhibit during Women’s History Month.

Great Decisions continues with discussions on March 11 (Competitions in the Red Sea Region) and March 25 (Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking).

**From the Desk of Kathy Graf, Cataloguing Queen**

Our Passive Programming Window, at the front door, is available for all. Each month Kathy puts up a different, small activity that each person should be able to take part in. This month it is March Book Madness. There are two books highlighted, and they are color coordinated (orange and blue) with a piece of paper. Simply chose the color that matches your book, and put it in the jar! One vote only, please. Kathy also continues to catalogue new and donated books.

**Tech News from Jody Payne**

Jody continues to schedule individual tech times Thursday and Saturday. Please sign up as usual, at the Circulation desk.

**A word from Ryan Matthews, our Lego and Game Master**

**LEGO Lab** - 1st and 3rd Friday of the month 1pm - 3pm

**Healthy Gamer** - 2nd Friday of the month 1pm - 3pm
Trivia Night at Mancos Brewing Co. - Every Wednesday night. 6:30pm - 8pm

LEGO Lab will continue to run through the summer months to June and be open to all ages 6+. In July we will start Signups for the LEGO League and "Gear up" for the 2020 Tournament in November we will have a hard Cap of 10 with 2 alternates.

Healthy Gamer is on the 2nd Friday of each month where we explore how to make healthy decisions when gaming. Stretching, Nutrition, Game design, Time Management, Sportsmanship and the competitive spirit are just some of the topics we cover. Currently the group is working on a "Space Game" no TV, No internet just having fun designing their own game.

Trivia Night at MBC has been packed! March 4th we had 7 teams again! Kathy Hands informed me that MBC will now offer Trivia Night every Wednesday night starting March 11th! Every 1st, 3rd and 5th (when it occurs) Wednesday MPL will MC and Even weeks will be MC'd by Kami.

News from Shawn Potter

Shawn is still on sick leave and healing well, much too slowly for her taste and we miss her! Send her good vibes, so the healing progresses quickly and she can come back to work.

New Books

Easy Fiction: I Will Be Fierce

Junior Biography: I Am Malala

Junior Non-Fiction: Fly Girls

Young Adult Nonfiction: Irena and White Rose

Young Adult Fiction: Plain James

Parenting: Mama’s Milk

Adult Mystery: Patterson’s Killer Instinct

Adult Fiction: The Giver of Stars

Adult Nonfiction: The War on Normal People

Also: There are quite a few wonderful new books on hops and brewing that have been donated in Loving Memory of Patrick LaChapelle. Check them out!!
What Else is New at the Library?

There are still some tax forms up front.

Do you need help preparing your taxes? The IRS and San Juan College are collaborating to offer you help preparing and filing your taxes. There is no charge to you. Kathy Elliot is the representative who will periodically be at the Mancos Public Library to assist you. You do need an appointment. Contact Kathy at 970-553-9150 (please note this is 553 not 533!) or Kathy.taxhelp@gmail.com.

March is Women’s History Month. There is a display that celebrates the upcoming 100th year celebration of suffrage! Many suffered great losses to win that right. Please VOTE!

The Seed Lending Library will be up in April with a few varieties to begin with. It is time to start planning and dreaming! We have many books that will help you with the planning.

Check out what we are reading and liking on the Staff Pick Shelf. It is not just staff picks either, patron picks are solicited too. We want to know what you are reading and like. There are forms for you to fill out on the Pick shelves. Don’t be shy!

Health Tips from Montezuma County Health Department - Published in a statement on March 3, 2020

COVID-19 Information from CDC. There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:

• Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
• Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
• Stay home when you are sick.
• Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
• Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.

Follow CDC’s recommendations for using a facemask.
• CDC does not recommend that people who are well wear a facemask to protect themselves from respiratory diseases, including COVID-19.
• Facemasks should be used by people who show symptoms of COVID-19 to help prevent the spread of the disease to others. The use of facemasks is also crucial for health workers and people who are taking care of someone in close settings (at home or in a health care facility).
Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty.

For information about handwashing, see CDC’s Handwashing website. https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/

Message from the Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Library annual Valentine’s Day bake was a great success. Thanks to all who baked, participated in other ways, and staffed the tables.

Did you know that the lovely wide screen TV and sound system that is in the meeting room, available for all to use, was a gift from the Friends? It was.

Friends is a volunteer organization that supports and promotes the Mancos Public Library. Don’t forget to peruse our sale book shelf under the art wall at the library. There are books, CD’s and movies! Membership forms can also be found near the sale books and in the Friends’ comer. See you at the library!