From the Desk of the Director, Lee Hallberg

As was mentioned in the last issue of the library newsletter, we are very excited to announce that we will be opening our doors to limited capacity on Monday, April 5! For those that have asked, the following is the “nitty-gritty” of what to expect if you choose to visit.

The building will be open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. to a maximum of 10 patrons at one time, and patrons will be asked to keep their visits as brief as possible. A one-hour time limit will be enforced on all patrons to ensure that we can accommodate everyone, when we have reached capacity then patrons will be asked to wait outside. Students of the Mancos School District will be given priority access from 4 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Masks are required in the state of Colorado, and patrons will be briefly assessed for COVID symptoms or exposure at the door. Patrons that do not have a mask will be provided one when they arrive. Individuals who cannot wear masks may use the library’s curbside service. Curbside service will still be available for patrons that need or prefer limited contact during our open hours as well as for patrons who need accommodations. Only curbside service will be available on Saturdays from 10am - 2pm.
Seating in the building will be limited, and the bathrooms and drinking fountain will remain closed. The Community Meeting Room will be closed to the public and the small study room may be used by groups of no more than 3 people, with reservations recommended.

We ask patrons to respect social distancing measures and to please allow for six feet of distance when coming into contact with staff and other patrons.

Computers will be available on a first-come, first-served basis, maximum of one hour per day, per person. Staff assistance with technology will be limited. Staff may be able to assist if appropriate six feet of social distancing and required mask use are observed. The photocopier will be available for patron use as self-serve.

Hand sanitizer will be readily available, and disinfectant wipes will be provided for any patrons to wipe down technology before and after use.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact the library at (970)533-7600. We are excited to see you!

Adult Programs – From the Desk of Midge Kirk

Spring has sprung and the Library is going to actually be open again! April is named after the Greek goddess of love, Aphrodite. In the Roman calendar, the fourth month April is spelled Aprilis, meaning “to open.” How remarkably appropriate.

It will be slow going as we figure things out, but it will be absolutely fantastic to see you all again! This will probably mean that in the near future we may be able to do in-person programming and meet again around cake and tea for Death Cafe. It will happen eventually and just the thought brings me a smile. Let’s do this together with lots of kindness and joy. I know I will be smiling behind my mask.

As we begin to contemplate in-person adult programs again, I would love to hear from you. What you would like to see happen when we can begin live programming again. Suggestions? Let’s plan together.

In the meantime, please visit LillieDiane @ YouTube for some wonderful and inspirational time. She will share an interview with us at the Library, still via Zoom, sometime during April.
Also, remember we have six wonderfully creative new DVD’s, donated by Ms. Lille, to help you find your inner artist.

We are still planning on an interview with the awesome Jan Wright in May as well. More on that to come.

Some fun April facts:

The English poet **William Wordsworth** was born April 7, 1770, and one of his best-known poems is perfect for April in the northern hemisphere: “I wandered lonely as a cloud,” which he first published in 1807. Here’s a little snippet for an April day:

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o’er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host, of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

**Noah Webster** Copyrighted the First Edition of His Dictionary in the month of April. The famous language expert Noah Webster was a bit of an April fool: one of his dearest wishes was to reform English spelling for Americans, to make it simpler and more obvious. While millions of school children could go for that; Webster’s proposals included removing all double vowels. Bread would be spelled bred; friend would become frend; tuf for tough, laf for laugh, kee for key, and speek for speak. He also wanted us to spell machine masheen, and pique peek. His successes included changing plough for plow and draught for draft; but if you’re a poor speller, you might just peek your frends and attribute that to your fondness for April's Noah Webster.

**Leonardo da Vinci** Was Born in April. He was a painter, a scientist who painted many pieces of religious art; he was fascinated by the flight of birds and the mechanisms of guns. He was a Renaissance genius for his and any other time, capable of turning his hand to anything.

It is after all National Poetry Month. Here’s one from **Sara Teasdale**, called April Song.

Willow, in your April gown
Delicate and gleaming,
Do you mind in years gone by
All my dreaming?
Spring was like a call to me
That I could not answer,
I was chained to loneliness,
I, the dancer.
Willow, twinkling in the sun,
Still your leaves and hear me,
I can answer spring at last,
Love is near me!

Keep love near you! Have a wonderful April and I look forward to actually seeing you!

**BIG THANKS** to former board member, author, horsewoman, and library lover, **Maddy Butcher** for the proofing of the newsletter each month. She saves me much embarrassment as I don’t edit well. Thank you Maddy.

I know that there are many horse lovers out there. You may want to check out Maddy’s Site, Cayuse Communications. Lots of good information there as well as great interviews. Don’t forget Maddy also has a book, HorseHead that is great! It is in the library or you can get your own copy at Amazon.

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

April is National Poetry Month

This April marks the 25th annual celebration of National Poetry Month. As many of you may know, I love poetry. I am hopelessly romantic and find great pleasure in reading and relaxing with poetry. Some of you may recall my Open Mic Poetry Nights at the Mancos Library. Oh, so much fun was had! This month, the Academy of American Poets is taking it virtual. They offer activities, initiatives, and resources so that anyone can join in, online and at home. To join the celebration of poetry and poets visit [https://poets.org/national-poetry-month](https://poets.org/national-poetry-month). Here you can sign up for Poem-a-Day delivered to your email, join the Dear Poet Project (for grades 5 through 12), and register for the 18th annual Poetry and the Creative Mind gala (a free virtual event this year). I will be attending this event which happens April 29th at 5:30MT. I hope some of you will join me. Until then, I leave you with a poem about poetry by one of my favorite poets...

“Poetry” by Pablo Neruda

And it was at that age ... Poetry arrived
in search of me. I don’t know, I don’t know where
it came from, from winter or a river.
I don't know how or when,
no they were not voices, they were not
faint, without substance, pure nonsense,
pure wisdom
of someone who knows nothing,
and suddenly I saw
the heavens
unfastened
and open,
planets,
palpitating plantations,
words, nor silence, but from a street I was summoned, from the branches of night, abruptly from the others, among violent fires or returning alone, there I was without a face and it touched me.

I did not know what to say, my mouth had no way with names, my eyes were blind, and something started in my soul, fever or forgotten wings, and I made my own way, deciphering that fire, and I wrote the first faint line, shadow perforated, riddled with arrows, fire and flowers, the winding night, the universe.

And I, infinitesimal being, drunk with the great starry void, likeness, image of mystery, felt myself a pure part of the abyss, I wheeled with the stars, my heart broke loose on the wind.

From Neruda: Selected Poems by Pablo Neruda

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**Children’s Programs, From the desk of Julie Hartline**

Hi Everyone!

Wow, we’ve really missed all of you and can’t wait to see you back inside the library this month! The children’s library anxiously awaits the sounds of little feet and laughter once more.

**Our Collection…**

Over this past year we have been growing our collection with some pretty amazing new books. Notably, we now offer the full *Little People, BIG DREAMS* collection by Maria Isabel Sanchez Vargara as well as new audio book collections including some of our favorites like *Frog and Toad* and *If You Give A Mouse A Cookie*. We have also been working to revamp our nonfiction collection and have replaced many outdated texts.

**What’s Around the Corner…**
This summer the outdoor classroom is going to receive a bit of a makeover with an entirely new play and exploration area for our youngest patrons. We have an incredibly creative group of community members on our team who are designing a beautiful and magical space alongside the Mancos River. We’re looking forward to the grand opening late this summer!

In the meantime, I’ll leave you with a poem from one of the greats, Mary Oliver:

**Spring**

Somewhere
a black bear
has just risen from sleep
and is staring
down the mountain.
    All night
in the brisk and shallow restlessness
    of early spring

I think of her,
her four black fists
flicking the gravel,
her tongue
like a red fire
touching the grass,
the cold water.
There is only one question:

how to love this world.
I think of her
rising
like a black and leafy ledge
to sharpen her claws against
the silence
of the trees.
Whatever else

my life is
with its poems
and its music
and its glass cities,

it is also this dazzling darkness
coming
down the mountain,
breathing and tasting;

all day I think of her—
her white teeth,
her wordlessness,
her perfect love.

Circulation Manager, From the desk of Bernadette Tuthill

April Fool’s Day starts the month, but it is “no joke.” The library will be open on April 5th!

April is National School Library month.

April 4-10 is National Library Week! First sponsored in 1958, it is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries of all types across the country each April.

On April 6th, Librarians across the United States celebrate National Library Workers’ Day (NLWD) on the Tuesday of National Library Week, held in April every year.

April 7: National Library Outreach Day, a day to celebrate library outreach and the dedicated library professionals who are meeting their patrons where they are.

April 8: Take Action for Libraries Day, a day to rally advocates to support libraries.

Good news from the circulation desk too! We can now take your ILL requests. If you can’t find what you need from our catalog and the other aspencat libraries we share it with, Fill out an ILL form from the circulation desk or online at our website. I will search other Colorado libraries and universities to try to find what you are looking for. It may take a couple of weeks or more, but I will try to get it as soon as possible.

We are excited to be opening and I look forward to seeing you all!

Word search link

http://www.ala.org/conferencesevents/sites/ala.org.conferencesevents/files/content/nlw21-activity-sheet-WORD-SEARCH%20REVISED_0.pdf

We will also print out a few copies of the word search and they will be on the counter.
Cataloging, From the Desk of Kathy Graf

New books and some DVD’s are coming in and Kathy is diligently cataloging them while the amazing Julia covers them and processes them so they are ready for you to checkout and enjoy!

Some books that I have enjoyed:

The Cat Who series by Lillian Jackson Braun. A murder mystery series whose main character is Jim Qwilleran, a newspaper guy, and his two Siamese cats-Koko and YumYum.

The Pern series by Anne McCaffrey. A science fiction series set on a new system called Pern, that has a deadly threat called thread, and that is saved by dragons.

The Southern Sisters series by Ann George. A cozy murder mystery series set in the south, whose main characters are Sister, a 70 something, tall, big boned, who is a character! And her younger sister, called Mouse, to her chagrin. Very funny.

Some new items that are in, are,

A fiction

A house at the bottom of the lake by Josh Malerman
The diabolical bones by Bella Ellis
Apeirogen by Colum McCann

A nonfiction
Robert E. Lee and me by Ty Seidule

YA fiction

The God particle#1 by SLMN
The unbecoming of Mara Dyer by Michelle Hodkin

Tech News from Jody Payne

Jody is able to assist you in a limited capacity if you have burning issues. His email is tech@mancoslibrary.org. However, tech services will be porchside on Wednesday and Friday for
the month of April. Openings for hour long sessions at 10am, 11am, and 12pm. Please call the front desk to schedule an appointment.

A word from The Gamemaster Ryan Matthews

Things are still kind of quiet, but that could change soon. If you have questions, you can contact Ryan at Matthews@mancoslibrary.org.

Other Mancos Library News:

Upcoming Montezuma County Free Legal Clinic:
Tuesday, April 12th, 2021 from 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- Please contact the Mancos Library at (970) 394-0273 to be added to the sign-up sheet.
- NEW EXTENDED HOURS FOR 2021!

Despite the COVID-19 closures of libraries across Colorado, the Virtual Pro Se Clinic (VPC) clinics will still be held as scheduled. As a COVID work-around, instead of clinic patrons coming in-person to your local public library (which has limited access), the volunteer attorney will call each clinic patron’s telephone directly, during the clinic hours, using the phone number provided. Whether you’re near Dove Creek, Cortez or Mancos, the volunteer attorney will call you at the phone number provided, for a free one-on-one discussion of your civil legal issue, during regular clinic hours.

Please contact your Mancos Library at (970) 394-0273 to be added to the sign-up sheet. Space is limited.

The Seed Library

Spring is here! We are a tiny bit slow gathering seeds, but they will be available. We have had some donations from individuals as well as Seed Savers. We also have a limited partnership with Rocky Mountain Seed. There will be more news about that to come. It was interesting that some major seed companies were not taking any new orders during March as they were totally overwhelmed. I guess folks are really getting into the groove of growing! I think that is awesome! We plan on being stocked by mid-April. Watch the Website for exact date and any other particulars. I am hoping to set up inside, but because of limited access inside, also at a table outside a couple of days a week for a
A Word from The Friends of The Library

Mancos Friends of the Library

With the library reopening, Friends are ready to get back in the swing of things. Lee has said the library will again be accepting book donations so the Friends can start thinking about book sales (of those books the library can’t use).

We will continue to have our meetings virtually via Zoom until the weather warms up to give the library a chance to acclimate to this new world. The next meeting is Monday, April 5 at 4 pm. Want to join the Zoom meeting? Please e-mail Anne at southwestanne@yahoo.com and she’ll send you the link.

Friends is a volunteer organization that supports and promotes the Mancos Public Library. To become a member, go to mancosfriends.org and download the membership form.