

Executive Director's Report

September 2014

ADMINISTRATION

By Holly Carroll

State Library Webinar

Holly Carroll participated in a webinar organized by the Colorado State Library on September 23 entitled "Using Data to Serve your community." She presented on the use of OrangeBoy's dashboard and how we track the use of the library by market segmentation. Directors from High Plains Library District, Denver Public Library and Broomfield Public Library spoke about the products and data that they collect to better serve their customers.

CSU Partnerships

Various staff members met with colleagues at CSU to continue our various partnerships now that the fall semester has started. The CSU/Poudre River Friends of the Library author series kicked-off with a presentation of writers Tom Clavin and Bob Drury who co-authored the book, The Heart of Everything There Is: The untold story of Red Cloud, an American hero. Robin Gard and Holly Carroll met with the CSU Friends of the Library to discuss ideas for future author appearances and collaborative fundraising events.

The Gary Snyder Reading in which the Library District, Poudre River Friends of the Library and CSU creative Writing Department sponsored was so successful that the venue was changed at the University Center for the Arts from the Organ Recital room to Griffin Concert hall to accommodate an audience of over 600 students, faculty and community members. Many thanks to Trustee Liggett for helping support the reception and for hosting Gary Snyder during his two day stay in Fort Collins.

The RamCard initiative has been quite successful with almost 700 students, faculty and staff opting-in to enhance their college IDs with public library privileges. Pat Burns made a presentation to the Colorado Alliance of College Libraries on this partnership. Carol Gyger and Victor Zuniga made a similar presentation to the Innovative Interface Users Group meeting in Denver. Holly Carroll, Kristen Draper, Annie Fox and Michelle Wilde will participate in a panel discussion on the importance of college and public library partnerships at the Colorado Association of Libraries Conference on October 16.

Larimer County TIF Study

A Request for Proposals was posted on the Larimer County website and disseminated to potential consultants in September. The deadline for receipt of proposals was Oct. 6. Two RFP's were received by the deadline. The proposal evaluation committee will screen and rank by October 8. Holly Carroll is serving on the review committee.

LLT Retreat

The Library Leadership Team spent the morning of October 2 in retreat at Primrose Studio, with the purpose of discussing how "to continue to be a relevant library." The outcomes we hope to achieve

from this session and a second session scheduled for November 6 are team renewal, clarification of team purpose and establishing team outcomes for 2015.

Outside the Lines Initiative and National Library Card Sign-up Month

The Library District participated in the Outside the Lines Initiative, a week-long program during which libraries engaged in activities that help create a new less traditional image of public libraries. The initiative was started in Colorado and Paula Watson-Lakamp participated on the planning team. Over 145 libraries nationwide presented something out-of-the-box during the week of Sept14 -21.



Our Library District hosted the Great Cardboard Challenge in Library Park on the beautiful

Sunday afternoon of September 21. Approximately twenty families helped the Library recycle cardboard boxes by crafting amazing objects and models.



September is National Library Card Sign-Up month. The Library District had lots to celebrate. The RamCard initiative was effectively marketed on campus. Paula Watson-Lakamp and Holly Carroll were invited to Odell's Brewery to sign up twenty-something employees during the morning and afternoon shifts. They were all amazed at the services we provide, especially the e-book collection, and text messaging service. The employees assured us, however, that they are still fans of the physical book!

COLLECTION MANAGEMENT

By Tova Aragon

Tova attended the "Front Range Collection Managers" meeting in Denver. This group meets three times a year to discuss ideas about library collections and trade information. We also have an email group. It is a very helpful group when researching new collections, budgets, vendors and managing collections. At this meeting we discussed Overdrive vs. Hoopla streaming movies; Play and Learn kits; processes for lost items; foreign language collections and the LibHub initiative. "The Libhub Initiative aims to raise the visibility of Libraries on the Web by actively exploring the promise of BIBFRAME and Linked Data." This is a different way of presenting our cataloging data so that it can be found more easily on the web. Denver Public Library has joined. For more information: <http://www.libhub.org/>

In October, we will be receiving approximately \$41,000 for literacy materials through a state grant. This is a continuation of the grant we received last year. In 2013-2014, we purchased materials for storytimes and storytime kits, updated the Easy Reader nonfiction, added more picture books to our

collection, purchased early literacy apps for Outreach iPads, and added a new database. We are in the exploration phase of how we will spend the funds for this funding cycle. The Collection Managers meeting was very helpful in gathering ideas. The Collection Advisory Team will be discussing it at their October meeting. Marian Sawyer will be coordinating the purchasing of the children's materials and gathering information from other Children's librarians. For more information: <http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/stategrants>

After a year of use of the A to Z Database, it was decided to cancel it and re-subscribe to ReferenceUSA. Anne Macdonald led a group that evaluated the two databases for use, cost and content.

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

By Paula Watson-Lakamp

- Completed monthly/weekly goals of Communication Plan.
- Organizing, managing and supervising all graphic design work for the District.
- Co-facilitator of the Programming Team.
- Working with OrangeBoy on dashboard and new Savannah messaging system.
- Working on new social media promotions and platforms, "The River's Mouth" updating.
- Worked with local media on various stories.
- Working with Web Team to develop new website.
- Beginning NextReads email readers advisory, sign up at:
 - <http://www.libraryaware.com/859/Subscribers/Subscribe?showonlynewsletterlists=true>
- Working with Morgan Library on new Ram Card promotions.
- Working with Library Trust PR committee and Board to get ready for December ColoradoGives campaign.
- Doing video work with mascots and library services... see our YouTube channel details.
- Arranging for new hanging art displays as part of Old Town Library – The Veteran print project in October.
- Working with Holly and marketing firm on gathering data for new needs assessment.

OUTREACH SERVICES

By Johanna Ulloa

Outreach Core

LSTA awarded the Library District \$19,949 for the creation the STREAM Lab, a maker space located at the Northside Aztlan Center in Fort Collins offering STREAM programming (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Math). We will focus on the following staff-led activities: e-textiles, robotic programming, coding, digital citizenship, and 3-D scanning and printing. Grant funding from LSTA will enable us to strengthen our partnership with the City of Fort Collins and will address a need in the community for after-school educational programs and activities for low income and Latino youth residing in north Fort Collins. We are very excited about this opportunity!

We continued our professional development at team meetings by doing a literature review of Every Child Ready to Read, Digital Citizenship, and Cultural Awareness. We will present our findings at the October team meeting.

The highlight of the month was Noches en Familia 5th anniversary! We hosted a big celebration at Council Tree with 106 attendees; we provided a program that included puppets, storytime, nachos, and cake! Thanks Ludy and Kathie for making a strong Spanish Speaking program to bring people into the library!!!



On the Road

We provided many literacy programs in the community, including: Stove Prairie Elementary, University Village, Global Village Museum, Teaching Tree Day Care, Livermore Elementary, Northside Aztlan Community Center, Harmony Mobile Homes, Putnam Elementary, Community Life Center, and Salud.

We are reassessing the program at Community Life Center since the demographics have changed. We had mainly Latino Spanish speaking kids attending last year and this year the group has also Arabic speakers. We continued to have conversations with community members on how to better serve this site. Thanks to the Target grant we will be able to purchase materials and books for our program.



Putnam Elementary – this is a new story time and the teachers at Putnam are really thankful that Outreach is doing story times with their students. Kathie Young de Herrera is, like always, doing an amazing job at this new site!

Timnath Elementary – there are two story times at this location. The afternoon storytime is open to the community. We had one kiddo and parent from the community join the class in the afternoon.

It's always a pleasure to deliver storytime at Irish elementary school where many enthusiastic new students warmly welcomed our program. The support of the staff is incredible!

The Family Center also started a new cycle of programming and the students were very excited about the library visiting then with a program and new books.

Community Connections

Johanna Ulloa participated in the United Way Community Partner Impact Summit. The group reviewed data related to the current state of our community in correlation to education, income, and health. We are part of the group of agencies in Larimer County that work every day trying to help children to enter school ready to learn. The group is made up of representatives from the School District, Early Childhood Council, Head Start, different preschool providers, City of Fort Collins, CSU, Read Aloud, and many more. The group will continue meeting to discuss how to better serve our community to reach the goal of increasing the number of children entering school ready to learn. Currently we are working on defining outcomes to present during the first year of the grant cycle.

We attended Comunidad at the Denver Art Museum. This time the presenters were from Metro State University and discussed lessons learned from trying to recruit and maintain Latinos in their higher education institution. Their goal is to become a Latino serving institution which requires that they have 25% Latino students. This radical and inclusive goal has promoted amazing programming and created a body of knowledge that helps us understand how to better serve the Latino community. We had over 16 attendees from Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Denver Public Library, Denver Art Museum, History Museum, Botanical Gardens, and many more. The feedback from cultural institutions from the meeting has been always positive.

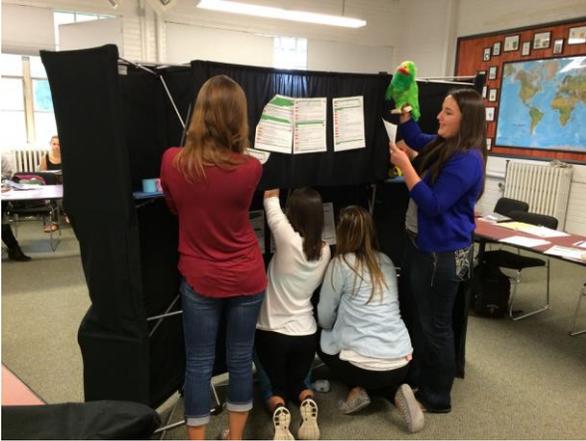
We attended Poudre School District's Equity and Diversity meeting. The School District presented their efforts to become a culturally diverse and responsive institution. The group "Not in My Town" discussed their current efforts to respond to hate crimes and discrimination crimes in our town. A discussion regarding Sonia Nieto's presentation of educating multicultural children was very beneficial.

Ludy and Johanna gave a presentation on the five practices from Every Child Ready to Read, the two practices regarding cultural diversity and Digital Literacy to the French cohort at CSU. Director of Foreign Languages & Literature Mary Vogl is partnering with us. We will teach CSU students how to create and develop a storytime and the students will then create and deliver a storytime in French on December 10, 2014 at Old Town Library. Here is the description, don't miss it!

***Raconte-moi une histoire** est un moment dédié aux contes pour enfants, au bricolage, aux marionnettes et à la musique, entièrement en français. Les francophones ainsi que toute personne intéressée par la langue française sont invités à venir profiter d'un après-midi en communauté et en famille. Cet*

événement est gratuit, pour tous les âges et sera animé par les étudiants en Français de CSU.

Ludy visited the Department of Foreign Languages & Literature at CSU where she gave a presentation about Rincón de Cuentos and a demo of our program to the Spanish class of Professor Maura Velazquez. The students will develop a Spanish presentation during this semester and it will be part of our Rincon de Cuentos/Noches en Familia program in December. We received feedback from CSU on Ludy' enthusiasm and professionalism!



As part of our special events program we were invited to celebrate the Hispanic Heritage Month starting with the kick-off at Lee Martinez Park where they had wonderful activities, music and food for all attendants. Many Library Cards were given to the community!

Also our team attended the Resource Fair organized by University Village where we signed up people that just arrived in the country for library cards and explained our programs and different opportunities we offer. It was a very diverse event and we enjoyed sharing information about our services.

Johanna has attended the Fort Collins makers' hub meetings. This group meets every other week to develop a plan to create a Makerspace in Fort Collins. The group is trying to define areas of interest, outcomes and goals with the input of the community.

Johanna was asked to assist the Fort Collins Museum of Discovery in their Five by Five Program. They are trying to decide whether or not to create a program similar to the one in Denver that provides low income marginalized families, with children younger than 5 years of age, the opportunity to attend cultural institutions for free since it is a predictor of school readiness. Johanna helped clarify outputs, target audience, and outcomes for the program. We also discussed markers for possible evaluation. The museum is not sure yet whether they want to coordinate a program like that in the near future. We will continue to assist them as much as possible and we will partner with them if the program becomes a reality.

Sylvia Garcia represented the Library District at the Person-First fair. Person-First is a community gathering celebrating people with disabilities and their achievements. The main speaker was Ms. Wheelchair Colorado Missy Weisser. There was music and entertainment along with a Resource Fair & Educational Booths. The Library District sponsored a booth which was very popular due to the free ruler giveaways. Sylvia also spoke with many people about the Assistive Technologies, both low and high tech, at our branches. Around 75 people stopped by the booth.

Queer Reads Book Group with Troy Hongsermeier of The Center of Northern Colorado: This month's book was *Borrowed Time: an AIDS Memoir* by Paul Monette. Troy prepared a wonderful PowerPoint with interesting facts about the author and the time period the book covered. Unfortunately this book

club has not had any participants to date. We will try to promote it for two more months before we stop hosting it.

Pathways Hospice / NPR Story Corps

'StoryCorps is a national nonprofit that gives people the chance to interview friends and loved ones about their lives. These conversations are archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, allowing participants to leave a legacy for future generations.' National Public Radio selected Pathways Hospice of Fort Collins to partner in collecting stories of veterans in our area. Pathways invites community members to train with NPR and to spread the word about the program and specifically invited PRPLD to participate. Carol Gyger and I met with Deb Polk to discuss ways that the District might provide space or assistance in other ways. The training took place on September 30.

Computers

I am very excited to mention that we finally started Computer Classes for seniors (Ancianos) at Northside Aztlan Center where there's a greater demand than anticipated. During this month we had two sessions each week and still we had to share computers between attendants since they are very eager to learn. Starting next month we are going to reduce the classes to one each week. Karol de Rueda stated that each class is very exciting since each group has participants that have never touched a computer before! We are lucky to have Karol de Rueda who can provide digital literacy classes both in English and Spanish.

Crossroads Safehouse

The Outreach Department continues to provide classes at Crossroads Safehouse. We provide assistance in basic computer literacy, job seeking and resume writing, and helping family members locate affordable housing and other resources offered in our city. We are very happy to help.

Computer and iPad Classes at Ridgen Farm Senior Living continues every month. We now have a volunteer helping us deliver this program. Karol greatly appreciates it since it can be a hectic class because we teach not just Computer Literacy but also iPad knowledge and so it's wonderful to get another set of hands!

Volunteers and Homebound Services

Kathie Young de Herrera continues to fill in for the Volunteer Coordinator and she has been doing a fantastic job! We are very thankful for her stepping in and helping us through this transition.

This month has had many requests from volunteer applicants, especially those that have court ordered Community Service. Unfortunately, there are not many volunteer opportunities at this time in the District. We also lost a volunteer for Council Tree who was helping with story time on Tuesdays and circulation on Wednesdays. Kathie is actively looking for someone to fill the story time slot at Council Tree and for helping with story times at Old Town.

Both Fort Collins High School and Rocky Mountain High School have placed ACE and PLACE students in the libraries. A returning student will begin on the 12th at the Harmony Library and a new student will begin on the 15th. Both have had a few weeks to work and seem to be working out quite well.

The feedback from library staff regarding SRP volunteers was very positive!!

Sylvia Garcia continues to manage Homebound Services. She has worked many hours on capturing data for us to determine whether this service is worth continuing or not. Currently we are having meetings with Holly Carroll to make that decision. Sylvia Garcia has stepped up and provided this service with kindness and compassion to vulnerable patrons that love reading. We added a new customer to Homebound and two volunteers have expressed an interest in selecting books. Both have lots of previous PRPLD experience. Sylvia has begun the training with them.

SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATION

By Carol Gyger

New Website

- **September 15 - 29** – Sneak Peak via pdf for public; Peggy Shaughnessy, PRPLD website developer, prepared the new site
- **September 30** - New site live to public, old site retired



- Received feedback from 40 customers and staff after launch:
 - ✓ In general, most of it was very good or ended on a positive note
 - ✓ Some feedback led to improvements that have already been implemented
 - ✓ Some feedback turned into “teachable moments” for customers who appreciated the information

A few comments:

- “I like the new web design, which has all of the relevant information readily at hand and should be easier to use.”
- “Fantastic as far as I've explored it. Things are very clear and easy to negotiate. Thanks!”
- “The light pale gray font on the Hold List is too hard to see. Please change it to something darker.” (Fixed!!!)

- Special thanks to everyone across the District who helped make this successful!

LSTA Grant – STREAM Lab

- Victor Zuniga and Carol Gyger from the Systems Administration Department are helping with purchases, configurations, setup, testing and training for technology equipment used for the LSTA Grant. There is more information about this grant elsewhere in the Director's report. Victor and Carol are looking forward to working with other PRPLD staff members and Northside Aztlan Center staff on this year-long project.
- Grant runs from October 2014 – October 2015.

New Furniture at Harmony

- New furniture for internet stations in the common area at Harmony Library has been installed. The desks are very similar to the computer furniture upstairs at Old Town Library. Space-saving and successful. Why not duplicate at another branch?!
- Chris Bauman from Systems led the installation of the PCs on the new furniture.

Other behind-the-scenes work

- Replaced 2 aging servers – Lingzhen Zhao
- Wireless printing now available at Webster House – Lingzhen Zhao
- Sierra system upgrade – Victor Zuniga
- Minecraft server work – continued work on creating environments for different age groups – Victor Zuniga with Gabe Johnson and Ben Holzworth (volunteer)
- Meeting with FOL, Robin and Bill, to discuss new website – Carol Gyger

RMRIUG (Rocky Mountain Regional Innovative Users Group) Centennial, CO, Presentations

Strategic Partnership: CSU ID cards as public library cards? You betcha!

- Carol Gyger, Library IT Manager, Poudre River Public Library District
- Victor Zuniga, ILS Systems Administrator Poudre River Public Library District
- Poudre River Public Library District has partnered with Colorado State University to make the CSU ID card (RamCard) a fully functional PRPLD library card. This has created easy access to public library online and in-house resources for RamCard holders. The presentation covered areas such as strategic goals, back-end challenges and setup, and ongoing procedures.

Decision Center: a panel discussion (pros and cons of the Decision Center statistics module)

- David Britt, Supervisor, Library Materials Services, Arapahoe Library District
- Carol Gyger, Library IT Manager, Poudre River Public Library District
- Pat Stockbridge, ILS System Specialist, Jefferson County Public Library

HARMONY LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

By Ken Draves

Digital Literacy Activities

Reported by Kristen Draper, Digital Literacy Librarian

- Updated Digital eBooks and eAudiobook handouts to reflect changes in the various apps and in our website
- Release of the new website to staff and then to the public (participated as part of the Web team)

- Hosted Minecraft on 9/6
- iPad 101 class on 9/12 and iPad/Android eBooks class on 9/15
- Along with Currie Meyer and the TechHeads, revised the Digital Competencies for 2015
- Visited Barnes & Noble for a Nook/Library eBook class on 9/27

Programs, College Partnerships and Children’s Activities

Elaine Burritt, Jennifer Zachman and Ken Draves met with Debra Throgmorton of FRCC Music faculty to discuss future “Harmony in the Round” music programs at Harmony in collaboration with FRCC. Watch the calendar for some exciting upcoming programs.

Messy Hands Art for Preschoolers was held in September. This was the third round of this art series which is offered to the public through a partnership between the FRCC Art Education Department and Poudre Libraries’/Harmony Library. This series has been extremely popular ever since it started in October 2013.

SRP 2014 wrap-up meeting was held this month. The SRP workgroup met to discuss the successes and areas for improvement for the SRP 2015. Overall this year’s program was received very well by both public and staff. The addition of the STREAM activities and stickers was hugely popular and will be continued in 2015. Attendance at SRP programs was on par with the year before. Sign-in procedures and online badges are two areas that will be evaluated for improvement in 2015.

Teen Services

Reported by Diane Tuccillo, Teen Services Librarian at Harmony

- Bookends show recorded at PSD channel 10 with author Sharon Skinner, three middle schoolers, and me hosting. Show has been released and will be added to the Teen web page with other recent shows as soon as the web page is released.
- Teen IRS meeting on September 13 with 24 teens in attendance. Special guest author Sharon Skinner attended the meeting as well.
- Teens Write: Finish Your Stories with Pizzazz program on September 13 as well from 1:30-3:30 with author Sharon Skinner presenting. Seven teens attended and they were very engaged and learned a lot (all evaluations gave her an "excellent" rating). Ms. Skinner also did an adult writing program on the evening of September 11 which was also extremely well received. Thirteen adults attended.
- I did a tour/book talk with 27 students and 2 teachers from Fossil Ridge High School at Council Tree Library on September 23.

Continuing Education

Jennifer, Kathy, Laurel, Erin L., Amy, and Millie attended the Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy (CLEL) conference in Denver. Keynote address was by Dr. Karen Riley, the Dean of the Morgridge College of Education at the University of Denver. She spoke on “Libraries and the Exceptional Child: Creating an Inclusive Environment for a Growing Population.” Other sessions staff attended included STEM Storytimes, Thrive: Self-Care for Library Staff, Music and Movement in Storytime, and 10 Ways to Promote Early Literacy on Your Web Site.

Business and Careers Services

From Molly Thompson, who has been working with Anne Macdonald and participating in Career support and outreach:

- Attended the Bixpo/Larimer County Workforce Symposium.
- Organized and co-taught the Resume and Job Searching Class at the Harmony Library with an instructor from the Larimer County Workforce Center. Sixteen people attended.
- Met with an employee from the Salvation Army to talk about our respective services for job seekers and plan on communicating future events to each other.
- Met with a Vendor from Mergent and have been testing their job searching database.
- In the process of coordinating a library program for Jan. 7, 2015 titled *Strategies for Planning and Executing the Job Hunt*. Steven Provenzano president of Executive Career Services will present.

OLD TOWN LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

By Jean Bosch

Programs and Events

Genealogy Librarian/Liaison Wanda Colbert had the privilege of giving congratulatory comments to the Larimer County Genealogical Society on their 40th anniversary - September 18, 2014 - on behalf of the Library District. She was also able to showcase most of the titles that the LCGS had donated monies for that are now in our collection.

Also Wanda included a tour of Old Town Library's Genealogy Reference area and gave general information about our collection, obituary files, newspaper microfilm, databases, genealogy-related magazines, Local History Archives (via History Connection), ILL, etc. She answered several reference questions about genealogy and the collection for several LCGS members as result of participating in their event.

Continuing Education and Learning Opportunities

Staff from all three locations who do storytime for all ages, babies to preschool, enjoyed and explored ideas together with other library staff from all over Colorado at the 3rd annual CLEL (Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy) workshop in Denver. The workshop was held in Denver and Amy Holzworth, Erin Lucero, Millie Kridler, Kathy Hutton, Jennifer Zachman, and Laurel Castellana were enriched by attending sessions regarding everything from puppetry to the best use of music and movement in baby storytime. A highlight and popular way to share ideas with fellow storytellers was the "Guerilla Storytime" session at the end of the day. This forum for sharing ideas is fast paced and directed to how to develop skills with everything from Every Child Ready to Read elements to best techniques for dealing with disruptive behavior and getting back to the story.

Some sessions included Puppets in Storytime: There's Reason the Muppets Are Still Popular, Music and Movement in Storytime: An Interactive Experience, and STEM storytimes. All of us from PRPLD attended the STEM session together.

CLEL's website is www.clel.org and the various committees are always looking for new members. It was a great professional development day.

Vicky and Nicole attended the ALSC Institute in Oakland, CA. There were great sessions on partnerships, STEM, and Poetry and Technology Use in addition to hearing many great authors such as Daniel Handler, Jennifer Holm and Mac Barnett.

Outreach and Embedded Staff

Librarian Sarah Scobey will be taking over duties related to serving our District’s nonprofit organizations, getting better acquainted with the staff and the services provided by the Foundation Center, Northern Colorado Nonprofit Resource Center, Estes Park Colorado Nonprofit Resource Center, and the Bohemian Foundation. She will coordinate with Fort Fund and work with our local nonprofit community. Sarah will be offering the Grantseeking and Finding Funders workshops, which have proven to be highly popular. She will also be developing the nonprofit webpage and managing the nonprofit and fundraising book collection.

Early Literacy Librarian Vicky Hays is sharing Every Child Ready to Read with the Teen Parents at Fort Collins High School. Each week we talk about one of the five practices and do a hands-on activity. In addition, this month we are starting back at the preschools to share storytime. Vicky goes to Laurel Elementary and CSU Early Childhood Center once a month.

COUNCIL TREE LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

By Currie Meyer

Storytimes Resumed September 2

Following a month-long hiatus in August, District-wide storytimes resumed September 2. CTL staff was excited to see our young friends again! From September through May, CTL staff presents Toddler storytimes twice on Monday mornings and twice on Tuesday mornings. We also present storytime for preschool ages twice on Monday mornings and twice on Tuesday mornings. We offer Peek-a-Boo for babies twice on Wednesday mornings, and one, all-ages Saturday storytime on Saturday mornings. During the summer, storytimes specifically for toddlers and



Playing with toys after Peek-a-Boo storytime at CTL.

preschoolers are presented just once per week, at each library. Weekly storytimes for babies, our Peek-a-Boo program, continue throughout the summer at each library. Saturday storytimes for all ages also continue throughout the summer at CTL. For the month of September, CTL’s 35 storytimes averaged 25 people in attendance.

Millie Attended Colorado Libraries for Early Literacy Conference

CTL Children’s Librarian Millie Kridler, along with five other PRPLD staff, attended the annual CLEL one-day conference at Lowry Conference Center in Denver on September 19. The conference featured keynote speaker Dr. Karen Riley, who spoke about the not-so-visible exceptional young child and several break-out programs on storytime techniques and early literacy research.

Met with Ditesco September 26

Currie and Ken met with Jill Burrell and Keith Meyer of Ditesco Services to discuss the CTL remodel project. Ken and Holly Carroll are interested in possibly hiring Ditesco to be owner's representatives for the CTL remodel project.

Engagement Photo Shoot

CTL customer Sarah (last name withheld for privacy) and her fiancée arranged with Currie to have their engagement photos taken at CTL on September 28. Sarah and her fiancée wanted to have the photos taken at CTL because she said, "Our relationship really grew in the library. We hung out here all the time. He'd study and I'd read. It would mean a lot to me to have our photos taken here." Currie met with Sarah and discussed parameters for photography, safety and public access during open hours. CTL LA Sara Nesbitt and CTL LSR Amy Weeks said the couple was "adorable" and promised to bring in proofs once they were ready.



Let the Great World Spin book discussion, September 30

Currie will lead a book discussion of the 2014 Fort Collins Reads (FCR) selection and 2009 National Book Award winner, *Let the Great World Spin* by Colum McCann on September 30 at Old Town Library. Sarah Scobey, who led the annual FCR discussion program for years, has committed to library services for non-profit agencies, and asked Currie to lead the discussion program. As this year's featured FCR author, Mr. McCann will speak at the Hilton on November 9. Tickets for the event, sponsored by O'Dell Brewing, Poudre River Friends of the Library, Hixon Interiors, Neenan Construction, and Poudre Libraries, are \$10 and available at Old Firehouse Books and Poudre Libraries.