DIRECTOR'S REPORT May 2017

Staff Updates: Promoted: Cara Thompson, to Clerk-Typist 1 at White Bear Lake
Mary Wetterlin, to Librarian 2 at Mounds View
Resigned: Gretchen Benson, Substitute Librarian
David Shuman, Substitute Library Page

Important Dates: The Summer Reading Program kicks off on June 10 with programs for kids and teens at Roseville Library.

The Library:

In-Service Day—Library staff attended In-Service Day on April 6, 2017. We offered several safety-themed programs. In addition, nearly 80 staff took part in two racial equity book club sessions, which featured discussion with author Shannon Gibney about her book, *See No Color*.

ConnectEd—In 2016, RCL partnered with White Bear Lake Area schools on ConnectEd, a program to distribute library cards to all students and provide training for students and teachers on library resources. After a successful pilot with Middle and High School students, we will extend the program this fall to K-5th grade students in White Bear Lake. Teen librarian Marcus Lowry and I have pitched this program to other districts, and we have tentative plans to extend ConnectEd to the districts that serve Mounds View, Roseville, Maplewood, and North Saint Paul.

Popup Library—Library staff will launch a Popup Library this summer. Staff will bring a small collection and a suite of services (such as reference assistance, card registration, storytime, Wi-Fi, and computer help) to venues where we hope to reach new users. We will Popup on June 10, from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the celebration of the new Tuj Lub Courts at Keller Regional Park; on June 12 at a residential reentry center; and July 12-16 at the Ramsey County Fair. Other tentative venues include farmers' markets, the Maplewood Community Center, Maplewood Mall, and Mounds View Garden.

Mounds View Library Nature Play Area—Edgewood Middle School STEAM students have developed an outdoor play area at Mounds View Library. The students designed and built outdoor play elements, including a giant Jenga game, musical instruments made from natural materials, a balance log, and log benches for seating. An opening reception is tentatively scheduled for May 31, 3:15-3:45 p.m.

Ramsey County:
The County Manager will set a preliminary proposed budget for 2018-2019 on June 5, and the Library will submit a revised budget to the County on June 22.

The Library's administrative team and regional library branch managers joined a countywide leadership workshop on May 11 on talent attraction, retention, and promotion. We are working with a consulting firm to enhance our ability to be a welcoming place where diverse employees contribute and thrive.

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