

# YOUTH SERVICES NOTES

Week of December 21, 2015

No. 231



## From Enid's Desk . . . Winter Reading Program

Materials for the Winter Reading Program are expected to be delivered the last week in December. The flower stickers and the bug stickers will arrive separately. If you don't remember what was ordered – please look at <http://vpl.virginia.gov/youth-services/reading-programs/> and click “2016 Winter Reading Program Order”.

The banner has been loaded in the online system. Please contact Enid if you have any questions.

We have set up an online sharing site “basecamp” This site is by invitation only (any library staff who requested an iPad will receive an invitation) The site allows for sharing of files, closed email – that also appears in your email box, and other project sharing options. 



## LVA Library Development and Networking For your enjoyment!

## “A Visit from Saint Nicholas” IN THE ERNEST HEMINGWAY MANNER

By James Thurber

Originally appeared in *The New Yorker*, December 24, 1927.

**I**t was the night before Christmas. The house was very quiet. No creatures were stirring in the house. There weren't even any mice stirring. The stockings had been hung carefully by the chimney. The children hoped that Saint Nicholas would come and fill them.

(Continued on page 3)



## Gloucester County Public Library Warm Up with Peter the Cat



Submitted by Michelle Edwards, Library Coordinator. 

## The Library of Virginia

### Mission

As the Commonwealth's library and archives, the Library of Virginia is a trusted educational institution. We acquire, preserve, and promote access to unique collections of Virginia's history and advance the development of library and records management services statewide.

### Vision

The Library of Virginia will inspire learning, ignite imagination, create possibilities, encourage understanding, and engage Virginia's past to empower its future.

### Finance

The Library's primary funding source is General Fund appropriations. The majority of the Library's General Fund expenses represent transfer payments to local government for state aid to public libraries. Additionally, the Library earns special nongeneral fund revenue from storage fees charged to agencies and courts for document and records storage and from local circuit court records' preservation fees.

**The Library also receives federal grant funding through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) of 1996. This grant promotes access to learning and information resources of libraries.**

### Goals

2014-2016

#### Collections:

Strengthen and Preserve the Library's collections and expand accessibility for the benefit of users.

#### Service:

Deliver courteous, accurate, and efficient information services to our customers.

#### Organizational Excellence:

Position the Library to effectively embrace new challenges and increasing responsibilities.

#### Educational Readiness and Achievement:

Engage and educate parents, teachers, and learners through programming designed to enhance early literacy readiness and to provide access to quality education resources for prekindergarten and K12 children.

This goal is critical in fulfilling the Library's mission to provide Virginians with access to the most comprehensive information resources and to elevate levels of educational preparedness and attainment of Virginia's citizens.

#### *Associated State Goal*

Education: Elevate the levels of educational preparedness and attainment of our citizens.

#### Education Attainment Objectives

- ◆ Increase the number of children who participate in the Winter Reading Program.
- ◆ Increase the number of children and teens who are served by public libraries through out-of-school programs and summer reading programs.
- ◆ Support the parent as a child's first teacher by implementing Early Literacy Activity Centers in public libraries and providing training on their use.

## Youth Services Notes

is issued weekly by

**Enid Costley**

**Children's and Youth Services Consultant**

**Library Development and Networking**

**Library of Virginia**

**800 East Broad Street**

**Richmond, Virginia 23219-1905**

**Phone: 804.692.3765**

**Fax: 804.692.3771**

**E-mail: [enid.costley@lva.virginia.gov](mailto:enid.costley@lva.virginia.gov)**

**Extranet: [www.vpl.virginia.gov](http://www.vpl.virginia.gov)**



**The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums.**

**Through grant making, policy development, and research, IMLS helps communities and individuals thrive through broad public access to knowledge, cultural heritage, and lifelong learning.**

**This newsletter project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services.**

**A Visit from Saint Nicholas In the Ernest Hemingway Manner***Continued from page 1*

The children were in their beds. Their beds were in the room next to ours. Mamma and I were in our beds. Mamma wore a kerchief. I had my cap on. I could hear the children moving. We didn't move. We wanted the children to think we were asleep.

"Father," the children said.

There was no answer. He's there, all right, they thought.

"Father," they said, and banged on their beds.

"What do you want?" I asked.

"We have visions of sugarplums," the children said.

"Go to sleep," said mamma.

"We can't sleep," said the children. They stopped talking, but I could hear them moving. They made sounds.

"Can you sleep?" asked the children.

"No," I said.

"You ought to sleep."

"I know. I ought to sleep."

"Can we have some sugarplums?"

"You can't have any sugarplums," said mamma.

"We just asked you."

There was a long silence. I could hear the children moving again.

"Is Saint Nicholas asleep?" asked the children.

"No," mamma said. "Be quiet."

"What the hell would he be asleep tonight for?" I asked.

"He might be," the children said.

"He isn't," I said.

"Let's try to sleep," said mamma.

The house became quiet once more. I could hear the rustling noises the children made when they moved in their beds.

Out on the lawn a clatter arose. I got out of bed and went to the window. I opened the shutters; then I threw up the sash. The moon shone on the snow. The moon gave the lustre of mid-day to objects in the snow. There was a miniature sleigh in the snow, and eight tiny reindeer. A little man was driving them. He was lively and quick. He whistled and shouted at the reindeer and called them by their names. Their names were Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donder, and Blitzen.

He told them to dash away to the top of the porch, and then he told them to dash away to the top of the wall. They did. The sleigh was full of toys.

"Who is it?" mamma asked.

"Some guy," I said. "A little guy."

I pulled my head in out of the window and listened. I heard the reindeer on the roof. I could hear their hoofs pawing and prancing on the roof.

"Shut the window," said mamma.

I stood still and listened.

"What do you hear?"

"Reindeer," I said. I shut the window and walked about. It was cold. Mamma sat up in the bed and looked at me.

"How would they get on the roof?" mamma asked.

"They fly."

"Get into bed. You'll catch cold."

Mamma lay down in bed. I didn't get into bed. I kept walking around.

"What do you mean, they fly?" asked mamma.

"Just fly is all."

Mamma turned away toward the wall. She didn't say anything.

I went out into the room where the chimney was. The little man came down the chimney and stepped into the room. He was dressed all in fur. His clothes were covered with ashes and soot from the chimney. On his back was a pack like a peddler's pack. There were toys in it. His cheeks and nose were red and he had dimples. His eyes twinkled. His mouth was little, like a bow, and his beard was very white. Between his teeth was a stumpy pipe. The smoke from the pipe encircled his head in a wreath. He laughed and his belly shook. It shook like a bowl of red jelly. I laughed. He winked his eye, then he gave a twist to his head. He didn't say anything.

He turned to the chimney and filled the stockings and turned away from the chimney. Laying his finger aside his nose, he gave a nod. Then he went up the chimney. I went to the chimney and looked up. I saw him get into his sleigh. He whistled at his team and the team flew away. The team flew as lightly as thistledown. The driver called out, "Merry Christmas and good night." I went back to bed.

"What was it?" asked mamma. "Saint Nicholas?" She smiled.

"Yeah," I said.

She sighed and turned in the bed.

"I saw him," I said.

"Sure."

"I did see him."

"Sure you saw him." She turned farther toward the wall.

"Father," said the children.

"There you go," mamma said. "You and your flying reindeer."

"Go to sleep," I said.

"Can we see Saint Nicholas when he comes?" the children asked.

"You got to be asleep," I said. "You got to be asleep when he comes. You can't see him unless you're unconscious."

"Father knows," mamma said.

I pulled the covers over my mouth. It was warm under the covers. As I went to sleep I wondered if mamma was right. 📄





## Library Development and Networking

### Quarterly Report for Children's and Youth Services

#### SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM

Two presentations about Virginia's Public Library Partnership with the Summer Food Programs were made: At the National No Kid Hungry Conference in Washington, DC in November in Washington DC, and in December at the 2015 Virginia Out-of-School Nutrition Summit sponsored by the No Kid Hungry program in Richmond. Our goal for the summer of 2016 is to have public library participation at 60 summer food sites by partnering with an existing site or serving food at the Library with a program. To support this initiative of the Office of the Governor, we are purchasing posters and bookmarks for public libraries to promote the summer food program and to provide a set of books and program props to each library site.

#### STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM

In 2013 the Library of Virginia, with the cooperation of the Virginia Department of Education, commissioned Edvantia (which later became McREL) to conduct a study on the impact of the summer reading program on reading levels of the participating young people. 46 city and county library systems involving 92 library buildings in rural and urban Virginia participated in the study. The study included a comparison of peer to peer reading scores. Once we receive confirmation that the student data has been deleted from computers and back-up files, the study will be concluded.

#### The highlights of the third report show that –

- ◆ Children and teens who attended summer reading programs performed better academically and experienced greater gains in their academic performance than their nonparticipating peers. Participants out-performed nonparticipants on tests across all measures and grades, kindergarten through 8.
- ◆ The effect of summer reading programs did not differ by gender, limited English proficiency status, or economically disadvantaged status.
- ◆ The overall findings suggest that students who attended the 2013 Summer Reading Program offered by Virginia's library systems performed better academically and

experienced greater gains in their academic performance than their nonparticipating peers.

- ◆ The fourth, and final, report focused on the long-term impact of participation in summer reading programs on children's and teens' reading outcomes. This study involved a quasi-experimental design with matched comparisons with 4,199 students who were entering fourth, fifth, and sixth grades across 46 library systems in Virginia.

#### Findings revealed that –

- ◆ Participation in summer reading programs may have a positive effect on student achievement outcomes by preventing learning loss even two years after participation.
- ◆ Thirty-five percent of the 2013 Summer Reading Program participants and 5% of the comparisons also participated in the 2014 Summer Reading Program.
- ◆ Repeat participants benefited the most from their participation in the 2013 and 2014 Summer Reading Programs, followed by those who only participated in the 2013 program.
- ◆ Taken together, summer reading programs may prevent summer reading loss or even facilitate learning gains when schools are not in session.

#### URBAN LIBRARIES COUNCIL AND SUMMER LEARNING

The Urban Libraries Council sponsored a National Forum on Effective Summer Learning in Libraries, December 3-4, also in Washington DC. It was my good fortune to be invited to participate. The topic of conversation was measuring the effectiveness of summer reading programs. One of the outcomes of the two-day conversation with library leaders and out-of-school time organizations will be a white paper with findings and recommendations. **A key point I took away from the meeting was that measurement of the summer reading program is multi-faceted:**

- ◆ Quality Measurement – Assure that quality programs are provided. Suggested using the program quality measurement of the National Summer of Learning Association as outlined in **Summer Starts in September**. (Note that we provided the libraries with a copy of the book and the related booklets "Train," "Access" and "Reflect.")

(Continued on page 5)

## Quarterly Report for Children's and Youth Services

Continued from page 4

- ◆ Attitude Measurement – Assure that the program develops a positive value to reading and libraries. As this is measuring the Affective Domain, its measurement tends to be surveys of satisfaction or enjoyment, but participation or repeat participation could also be a measurement tool.
- ◆ Reading – This measurement looks at reading loss over the summer. Models for measuring this include looking at pre- and post-test scores or using data from the local schools or state departments of education.
- ◆ Programs Measurement – This measures the effectiveness of drop-in activities and events. We discussed aligning program goals with state educational standards, embedding measurements into programs, with hands-on activities or challenges. Highlighted as best practice was The Chicago Summer Learning Challenge:
- ◆ [http://www.chipublib.org/browse\\_program/summer-learning-challenge/](http://www.chipublib.org/browse_program/summer-learning-challenge/)

### SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Using online Google Forms, public libraries placed their requests for materials to support the *Read for the Win* summer reading program. Orders were compiled and submitted to iREAD for delivery to the libraries in March or April. The Library of Virginia provides these materials at no cost to the libraries.

### WINTER READING PROGRAM

The bid for 2016 Winter Reading Program, featuring the artwork from the book *Moo!* by David LaRochelle and illustrated by Mike Wohnautka, was awarded to Fidelity Printing. Also included in the bid are bookmarks to promote DaybyDay websites, and Tumblebooks.

### EARLY LITERACY ACTIVITY CENTERS

Jefferson-Madison Regional Library has requested seven compact Early Literacy Activity Centers for their libraries. These will be placed at the following branch locations in 2016: Central, Crozet, Gordon Avenue, Louisa County, Nelson Memorial, Northside and Scottsville.

Mary Riley Styles Memorial Library returned their Early Literacy Activity Center and it has been placed in the L.E. Smoot Memorial Library.

Roanoke County Public Library remodeled the Vinton Branch and included built-in storage for the Early Literacy Activity Center materials. Consequently, their storage unit was returned to us.

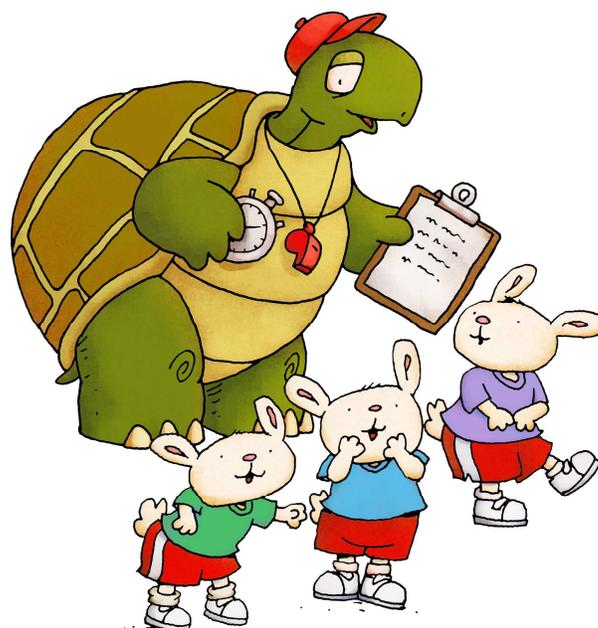
### COACHING PROJECT

As Virginia public libraries and staff encounter changes and challenges in leadership, services and other issues, we are creating a cadre of library staff within Virginia's public libraries to serve as coaches. This fall 15 public library staff participated in a Coaching Training Workshop that was presented by Plum Cluverius and Ann Deaton at the Fairfax County Library. The participants represented five libraries: Chesapeake Public Library, Fairfax County Public Library, Handley Regional Library System, Pamunkey Regional Library, and Virginia Beach Public Library.

#### We embarked on this project for the following reasons:

- ◆ Coaching is a way to support continual learning and improving the quality of services we provide our communities.
- ◆ Coaching is a way to make good library service better, to make great library service wonderful, and to make wonderful library services awesome.
- ◆ Coaching is process of guiding conversations to enable awareness and to implement personal solutions to challenging issues or areas of performance.

(Continued on page 6)



**Read for the Win!**  
**Summer 2016**

## Quarterly Report for Children's and Youth Services

Continued from page 5

### Coaching benefits public libraries as it –

- ✓ Expands thinking through dialogue with professional peers
- ✓ Promotes self-awareness, including blind spots
- ✓ Promotes personal accountability for development
- ✓ Provides one-on-one personal learning on the spot.

### SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH (STEM)

The Science Museum of Virginia partnered with the Library of Virginia to provide five more Science Resource Hubs and to provide additional materials for the existing and new Science Resource Hubs. Staffs at each of the 14 library systems have agreed to loan the science hub resources to area libraries and community organizations.

#### The host library systems are:

- Augusta County Library
- Bedford Public Library
- Blackwater Regional Library
- Bristol Public Library
- Chesterfield County Public Library
- Franklin County Public Library
- L.E. Smoot Memorial Library
- Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library
- Pittsylvania County Public Library
- Portsmouth Public Library
- Powhatan County Public Library
- Richmond Public Library
- Roanoke County Public Library
- Russell County Public Library

In addition to the STEM resources, the Science Museum of Virginia partnered with the Library of Virginia to host STEM training sessions for area library staff and community organizations. The one-day workshop was related to the new science hubs in 7 locations: Bedford, Chatham, Chesterfield, Fishersville, Franklin, King George and Wytheville. A total of 112 people attended the sessions.

### NATURE BACKPACKS

This project will provide nature-themed backpacks designed to help families, Scout groups, home schoolers and other groups explore nature and learn science concepts while visiting a Virginia State Park. Four backpacks are to be placed in a library and be checked out for at least two weeks using a Virginia Public Library card. This is a collaborative project involving the Library of Virginia, the Virginia

Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Science Museum of Virginia.

The Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation is selecting the materials for the Nature Backpacks, which are being purchased with funds from IMLS (Institute for Museum and Library Services). The Science Museum has created an evaluation form, which the Library of Virginia is having translated into Spanish. Our plan is to have 100 public library sites participate in the program; we currently have 76 libraries locations interested in participating in the program.

*Enid Costley, Children's and Youth Services Consultant*  
December 15, 2015 

## Some Literary Thoughts About Christmas

I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round, as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys.  
- *Charles Dickens*

Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmas-time. - *Laura Ingalls Wilder*

"It came without ribbons! It came without tags! It came without packages, boxes or bags!... Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! "Maybe Christmas," he thought, "doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas... perhaps... means a little bit more!" - *Dr. Seuss, How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*

Once again we find ourselves enmeshed in the Holiday Season, that very special time of year when we join with our loved ones in sharing centuries-old traditions such as trying to find a parking space at the mall. We traditionally do this in my family by driving around the parking lot until we see a shopper emerge from the mall, then we follow her, in very much the same spirit as the Three Wise Men, who 2,000 years ago followed a star, week after week, until it led them to a parking space.  
- *Dave Barry*





From **PUBYAC**

## Favorite Preschool Christmas Read-Alouds

What is your favorite Christmas read-aloud book for preschoolers (ages 3-5)? I'm looking to freshen up some holiday storytimes with different books! *Posted December 10, 2015 by Becky Ann Smith, Children's Librarian, Logan Library, Logan, UT.* Thank you to everyone who responded to my request for favorite read-aloud titles to freshen up our Christmas storytimes, including those who felt public libraries shouldn't do Christmas programs at all. I don't agree (as far as our library is concerned), but I respect your opinions. I got a lot of great suggestions, and used several of these in our storytimes this week. I appreciate all the help this group provides! *Posted December 18, 2015 by Becky Ann Smith.*

- Agee, John. Little Santa
- Allen, Jonathan. I'm Not Santa! \*
- Allison, Catherine. Brown Paper Teddy Bear
- Bailey, Linda. When Santa Was A Baby
- Barry, Robert. Mr. Willoughby's Christmas Tree
- Becker, Bonnie. The Christmas Crocodile
- Biedrzycki, David. Me and My Dragon: Christmas Spirit
- Black, Birdie. Just Right for Christmas
- Brett, Jan. Gingerbread Baby
- Burningham, John. Harvey Slumfenberger's Christmas Present
- Carle, Eric. Dream Snow \*
- Cocca-Leffler, Maryann. A Homemade Together Christmas
- Cole, Henry. The Littlest Evergreen
- Cowley, Joy. Mrs. Wishy-Washy's Christmas
- Cronin, Doreen. Click, Clack, Ho! Ho! Ho! \*
- Dealey, Erin. Deck the Walls
- Deedman, Heidi. Too Many Toys!
- Dewdney, Anna. Llama Llama Holiday Drama \*
- Dunham, Terri. Legend of Papa Noel: a Cajun Christmas story
- Duval, Kathy. Three Bears Christmas \*
- Falconer, Ian. Olivia Helps with Christmas
- Frazeo, Marla. Santa Claus: the World's Number One Toy Expert \*
- Greene, Rhonda. Santa's Stuck!
- Hale, Nathan. Twelve Bots of Christmas
- Horacek, Peter. Suzy Goose and the Christmas Star \*
- Jeffers, Susan. The Twelve Days of Christmas
- Jeffrey, Linda. The Gingerbread Man
- Kerr, Judith. Mog's Christmas
- Litwin, Eric. Pete the Cat Saves Christmas
- Manzano, Sonia. Miracle on 133rd Street
- McDonnell, Patrick. The Gift of Nothing
- Milgrim, David. Santa Duck \* (cute puppet version at <http://thriveafterthree.com/2012/12/27/santa-duck/>)
- Milgrim, David. Santa Duck and His Merry Helpers
- Moore, Clement Clark. The Night Before Christmas \* (Robert Sabuda's pop-up version is nice for sharing)
- Moore, Tim. Must Be Santa
- Sassi, Laura. Goodnight Manger
- Seuss, Dr. How the Grinch Stole Christmas
- Simon, Tanya. Oskar and the Eight Blessings
- Thompson, Lauren. The Christmas Magic
- Trivas, Irene. Emma's Christmas
- Underwood, Deborah. The Christmas Quiet Book
- Vischer, Fran. A Very Fuddles Christmas
- Wells, Rosemary. Max's Christmas
- Wilson, Karma. Bear Stays Up for Christmas \*
- Wood, Don. Merry Christmas, Big Hungry Bear
- Yolen, Jane. How do Dinosaurs say Merry Christmas?

\* Multiple recommendations. 



## Dates to Remember

### Virginia Conferences

May 2, 2016 ..... VLA Professional Associates Annual Conference ..... Williamsburg  
 October 26-28, 2016 ..... VLA Annual Conference ..... Hot Springs

### National Conferences

April 5-9, 2016 ..... Public Library Association 2016 Conference ..... Denver  
 June 23-28, 2016 ..... American Library Association Annual Conference ..... Orlando  
 September 15-17, 2016 ..... ALSC National Institute 2016 ..... Charlotte  
 November 4-6, 2016 ..... YALSA's 2016 YA Services Symposium ..... Pittsburgh

*Thanks* for the photos and information!

- ◇ Michelle Edwards, Gloucester County Public Library
- ◇ The usual resources - PUBYAC, iREAD, Library of Virginia

### NOTE:

The source for "A Visit from Saint Nicholas In the Manner of Ernest Hemingway" by James Thurber is [https://web.archive.org/web/20050117144457/http://thenostalgialeague.com/olmag/st\\_nicholas.html](https://web.archive.org/web/20050117144457/http://thenostalgialeague.com/olmag/st_nicholas.html)  
*A careful search of copyright records by The Nostalgia League has shown that this story is in the Public Domain.*