

Red Feather Lakes Library
Darlene Kilpatrick
Library Board Report
September 2025

Programs and Events

- **Walk and Talk Series**

- *Being Mindful in Your Body* — Aubrey led breathing and mindfulness exercises to support emotional and mental well-being. Patrons left with practical tools for stress management.
- *Well-Being Tips & Tricks* — Held on a rainy day, this session shifted into an impromptu staff training. The information was valuable for our own team and will help us share resources with patrons.
- **Upcoming** — Our next Walk and Talk will focus on the *Basics of Birding* at Parvin Lake. We may add another Walk and Talk before the end of the month.

- **Outdoor Painting Classes**

Two sessions with Susan O’Connell were successful, with participants requesting more. We are exploring future offerings.

- **New Adult/Family Program: Paint and Pour**

Scheduled for October 8 at the Mountain Meeting Place. Kylie created a great promotional flyer. This class makes it simple for participants to complete a “masterpiece” with little effort—accessible and fun.

- **Afterschool & Halloween Programs**

Preparations are underway for afterschool programming and the annual Halloween event on November 1. We will again partner with The Tavern, ending with a pizza party. The scavenger hunt through town will feature costumed adults chasing and engaging with kids along the way. This year’s theme, developed by Ben and Kylie, is *Dark Fairy Tales*.

- **Special Guest Program**

Brock will present later this month on SEEC land, showcasing his dog Cash, who is trained to detect poachers.

- **Yoga Programming**

We are in conversation with Coco about launching a fall yoga class after summer scheduling conflicts prevented earlier sessions.

- **Stargazing**

Ross will lead the final Stargazing Night of the season this month. Attendance at previous sessions has been strong.

North 40 Mountain Alliance

- **Sustaining Operations**

Mountain Ministries has committed to funding one contractor's time on Fridays, a tremendous help to our operations.

- **Collaboration & Communication**

Annie suggested creating a joint logo that incorporates North 40 MA, the Library, and Mountain Ministries to reflect our partnership.

- **Emergency Preparedness**

Patrice is coordinating HAM radio operators and researching license-free radios to maintain communication during power outages.

I am working with Camille, who oversees Larimer County HUBs, to provide staff training on operating the Library as a hub during emergencies. We are planning a staff meeting to review protocols and hub responsibilities.

- **Community Resource Support**

Jo Buckley continues hosting monthly pop-up tents at the pantry. She is helping secure resources for a patron in a precarious living situation, and Annie and I are actively supporting this effort.

Grants and Partnerships

- **Bohemian Foundation**

Kylie and I are preparing the final report for the grant that supported kids' programming.

- **Colorado Blueprint Grant**

I am preparing an application to fund food purchases for the pantry.

- **USDA Opportunities**

I will attend a community meeting with Kefalas and USDA representatives to learn about new grant opportunities.

- **Next Fifty Initiative**

I was invited to apply for a Next Fifty grant to fund a consultant for North 40 sustainability. They also expressed interest in supporting a caregiver relief program. I will work with Mountain Ministries to design this program, which could be hosted by either the Library or North 40 MA.

- **Grant writing Support**

Jo Buckley has also offered assistance in writing pantry grants and connected me to grant writing training opportunities.

Attached are comments about the library hiking program and North 40 Food Pantry patrons commenting on the pantry and the library supporting the pantry.