



Outreach Services

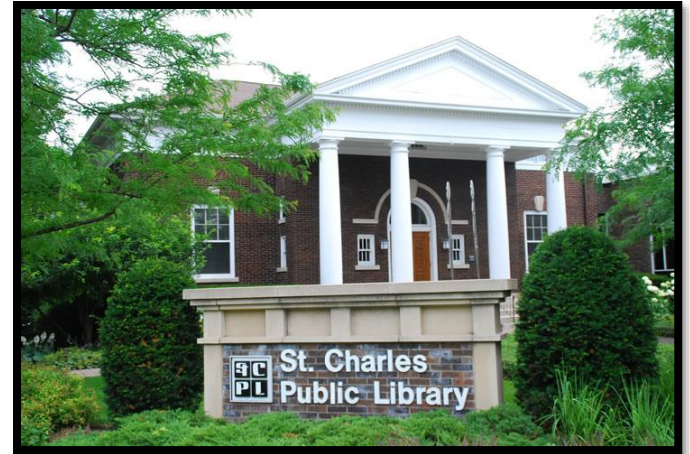
**Grab and Go:
Expanding and Strengthening Senior Programming**

David Kelsey and Dana Hintz



St. Charles Public Library

- 120 staff members
- District Library
- Serves a population of 55,000 residents
- 53% hold library cards
- 35 miles west of Chicago
- Originally a Carnegie Library





Outreach Services

Outreach Services Department





Outreach Services Department

- David Kelsey, Outreach Services Librarian
- Dana Hintz, Outreach Services Assistant
- Lynda Spraner, Outreach Services Assistant
- Christine Steck, Outreach Services Assistant





Outreach Services

Growing Senior Population





Growing Senior Population

- The Administration on Aging projects that by 2030, 19.3 percent of the population (72.1 million people) will be aged sixty-five years or older, more than twice the number in 2000 and up from approximately 13.1 percent in 2010.¹
- The US Census projects the US population aged sixty-five and older to grow to over 83.7 million by 2050.²
- The Alzheimer's Association reports that more than five million Americans currently live with Alzheimer's disease. This number could boom as high as sixteen million in 2050.³

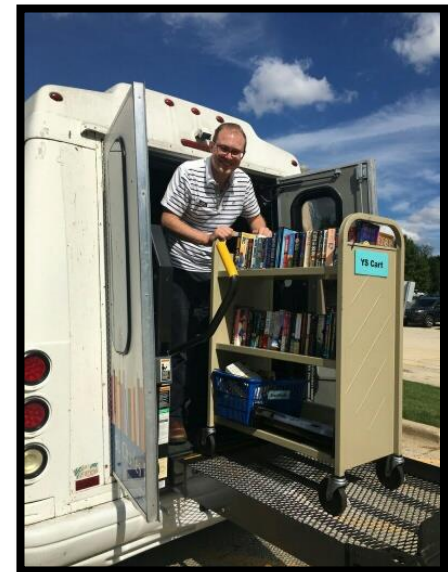




Growing Senior Population

Librarians need
to ask themselves:

1. How does this growing demographic affect my library and community?
2. What library services and programming can we provide to target this population?
3. What community organizations can we partner with to better serve patrons living with the Alzheimer's disease?





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About Our Senior Programming

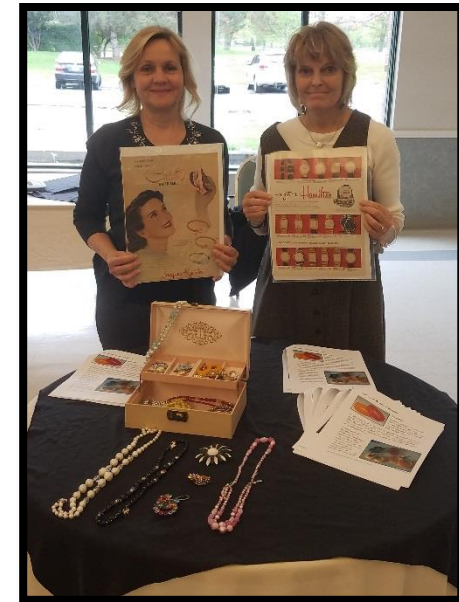




Senior Programming

Where we provide programming:

- 7 senior facilities and at the Library
- Provide weekly, biweekly, and monthly programming
- Present over 20 programs a month that reach 250 seniors
- In 2016-2017, we presented 174 programs that reached 1,899 seniors





Components of our Programming

- We strive to:
 - Make all programming educational
 - Encourage engagement
 - Utilize different senses
 - Incorporate music and technology
 - Always have fun!!





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Programming at Senior Facilities





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Programs for Patrons with Dementia





Tales and Travel

- Presented quarterly
- Patrons go on imaginary journeys to countries around the world
- Facts, folklore, ethnic spices, a world globe, and fun character voices are incorporated





Tales and Travel

- Books, pictures, and souvenirs are passed out
- Patrons receive a large-type educational handout





Educational and Engagement Kits

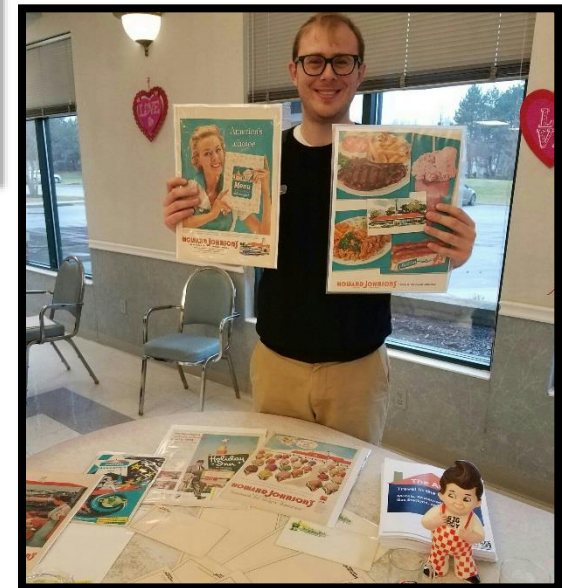
- 8 Kits
 - Comedians
 - Cooking
 - Country Singers
 - The Holidays
 - Movie Stars
 - Radio Stars
 - TV Stars
 - Western TV Shows
- Include large-type informational handouts
- Feature props for patrons to hold and examine





“The Attic” Memory Wagon

- 3 themes
 - Fashion
 - Household Appliances and Products
 - Travel in the USA
- Contain large-type educational handouts
- Feature vintage and antique items purchased from antique stores, thrift stores, the flea market, and Etsy





“The Attic” Memory Wagon





Education and Engagement Programs

- Feature themes we select and/or patrons request
- Patrons receive a large-type informational handout
- Incorporate music, singing, technology, props, books, and reading





Fidget Quilts and Aprons

- Feature bells, buckles, buttons, beads, ribbons, and other manipulatives
- Meant for patrons with Alzheimer's disease to relieve stress and engage fine motor skills
- Partnered with local community organizations
- Delivered 48 quilts and aprons to local care and memory care facilities during the 2017 holiday season
- Next "fidget quilt project" will be in December 2019





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Reading Programs





Reading to Residents and Book Talks

- Patrons are read to individually or in large groups
- Book Talk is held monthly at an assisted living facility utilizing Talking Books





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Animal Therapy Programs

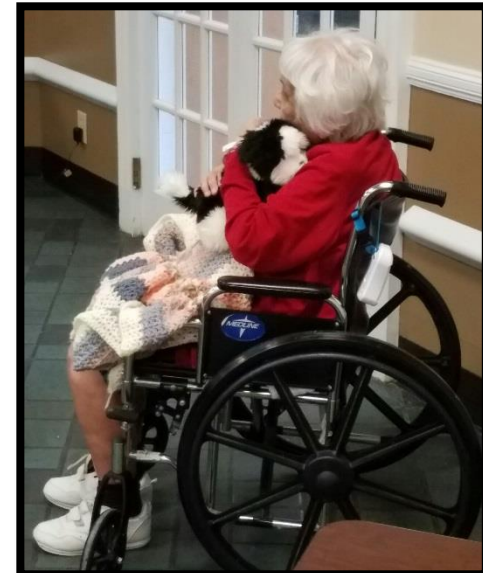
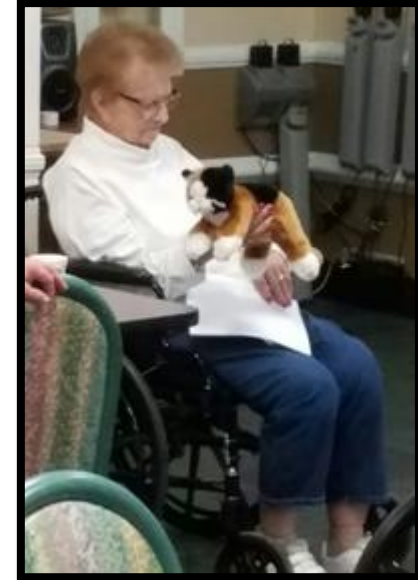




Memorable Pets



- Incorporated during programs at facilities
- Designed with geriatric input
- Provide loving comfort and chances to nurture

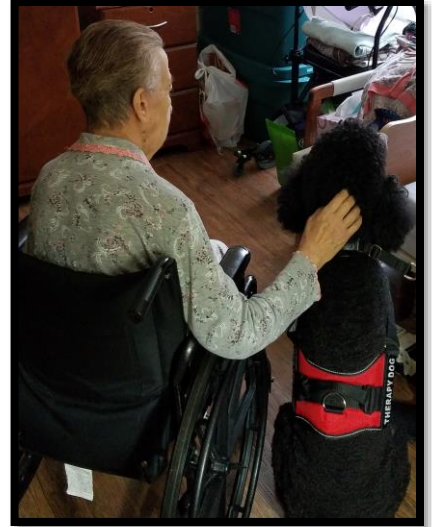




Pet Therapy



- Therapy dogs are brought to senior facilities twice a year
- Programs are created around the dogs
- Dogs go room-to-room to visit seniors





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Music Programs





Holiday Singalongs

- Annual holiday singalong comprised of Library staff
- Patrons are encouraged to sing
- Patrons are given jingle bells to use during the singalong and are able to keep them





I've Got Rhythm!



- Feature facts about instruments from different cultures
- Incorporate instruments patrons can play including the egg shaker, guiro, conga drum, and maracas
- Play cultural music





Music Concerts



- Arrange for musicians to visit care centers to perform for residents
- Play classical, folk, religious, and patriotic songs to encourage reminiscence





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Special Events





St. Patrick's Day Program

- Featured limericks and folklore
- Featured Irish singing, flute and saxophone playing





1950s Sock Hop



- Shared facts and trivia of the 1950s
- Played music clips and YouTube videos
- Passed out vintage clothing
- Served chocolate malts





Fourth of July Celebration

- Shared facts and trivia about Fourth of July
- Played YouTube videos of Kate Smith, Yankee Doodle, John Philip Sousa
- Special appearance by the “Outreach Sisters”
- Served ice cream





Western Hoedown

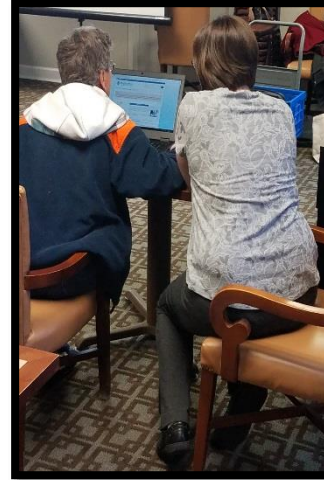
- Shared facts and trivia of famous 1950s-1960s Western TV Shows
- Played YouTube videos of popular 1950s-1970s Country Singers – Dolly Parton, Patsy Cline, and Glen Campbell
- Served root beer floats
- Fun raffles and giveaways





Senior Health Care Training

- Partnership with Galter Health Sciences Library, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University
- Received grant funding from National Network of Libraries of Medicine to purchase technology
- Presented at two senior independent living communities





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Programming at the Library





65+ Senior Art Programs

- Held 3-4 times a year at the Library
- Guest instructor walks attendees how to paint a picture from start to finish
- All materials are provided by the Library





Senior Spelling Bee

- Partnership with the Library and Park District
- Statewide contest
- Open to anyone 50+ years old in the community
- The 2016 Illinois State Senior Spelling Bee winner was from St. Charles!





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Questions?



References



¹ ["A Profile of Older Americans: 2011,"](#) Administration on Aging, 2011.

² Jennifer M. Ortman, Victoria A. Velkoff, and Howard Hogan, ["An Aging Nation: The Older Population in the United States,"](#) United States Census Bureau, May 2014.

³ ["2017 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures,"](#) Alzheimer's Association, 2017.