

Library Stories from October, 2017 through February, 2018

(retrieved from "Tell Your Library's Story" at: <https://bit.ly/DELibraryStories>)

timestamp	library	Library Staff Name	Date	Dewey Range	Select a Maslow Level (Optional)	What Would You Title Your Story?	Tell Us About What Happened
2017-10-04 19:50:12	DOVER PUBLIC LIBRARY	Catherine Wimberley	2017-10-04	500 - SCIENCE (STEM)		Library Kicks Soccer Game	The Dover Public Library began a new program for tweens last spring. Each month we offer a different four week course related to STEM. We've had kids do game design with Bloxels, learn about electricity with Snap Circuits, and 3D modeling with Tinkercad. For October's program, kids are learning to program Finch robots using Scratch. For the most part we get different tweens each month, but there have been a few patrons we consistently see. After tonight's program, the father of one of the participants took me aside and said, "You know, my son actually had a soccer game tonight. I told him he had to pick which he would do, because he couldn't do both. My son asked me to come to the library and miss soccer because he says he always has fun here."
2017-10-05 10:17:10	DELAWARE DIVISION OF LIBRARIES	Jean Pepper	2017-10-03	600 - APPLIED SCIENCE (BUSINESS/JOBS/HEALTH)	Inspire (motivation, exploration)	Job Fair Effectiveness	Original Message-----Tuesday, October 03, 2017 7:51 AM == My name is [name removed for privacy], but everyone calls me [removed for privacy]. I attended the job fair and the career fair at the Dover Public Library last week and had some really good results come out of it. As you requested I would like to relay my story to you so that you can share it with those who are interested in knowing what a positive impact these organized events have. Let me start off by giving a little bit of background about myself. I am a recent college graduate. I graduated in May 2017 from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor's of Science in Industrial Management & Applied Engineering. Since I've graduated I've been trying to acquire a job within my field of study which deals with production and manufacturing. Over the past 5-6 months I haven't had much luck when it comes to finding job leads. Only about 1-2 every few months or so. After I heard about the recent job fair I decided to try my luck there and it turned out to be very prosperous for me as far as generating leads. Initially at the first job fair I was able to submit my resume to 2 different recruiters. One for Manpower and one for Aerotek the latter of which I had an interview with 2 days later. Two other recruiters I was hoping to see at the fair, Hirsh Industries, and Eagle Group were unfortunately unable to make it due to an unfortunate accident on Route 13. Nevertheless, I was still able to obtain information on how to apply to each of the companies and proceeded to do so in the following days. In addition, I got additional information on an upcoming job fair located on the Air Force Base scheduled the 4th which I will also attend this week. As well as a career fair at the library that was scheduled that following Monday. I then decided to attend the career fair that following Monday. While I was there I was able to follow up with the Aerotek and Eagle Group recruiters I had previously applied regarding my application. I want to personally thank you and all of the other staff members and organizers who made this event possible. I know in this day and age in particular job searching can be potentially difficult and produce sometimes less than desirable results. However I am living proof that the resources you all provide for the community to help connect employers with job seekers can indeed make a difference. I want to thank you for all your hard work and dedication to maintaining events like these and other job seeker resources. I hope other people can use them and benefit from them as much as I have. Thanks again! Sincerely, [name removed for privacy]
2017-10-30 07:38:44	WILMINGTON LIBRARY	Carl Shaw	2017-10-19	600 - APPLIED SCIENCE (BUSINESS/JOBS/HEALTH)	Learn (skill building, lifelong learning)	Handwritten Letter of Appreciation	IS Career Search patron gave a handwritten letter of appreciation to Wilmington librarian for the assistance she received during Walk-In. When she 1st visited the Inspiration Space she had minimal computer skills and was not familiar with online job search. Jill has made great strides in navigating online applications including uploading, downloading and attaching documents, setting up online accounts and keeping track of her passwords. She has also responded well to encouragement when she was close to giving up for the day. The letter was a pleasant surprise and has provided motivation to continue assisting patrons and library staff in making developments to library services and surrounding communities.
2017-11-02 15:29:43	KIRKWOOD HIGHWAY LIBRARY	Nancy St. Amand	2017-10-30	000 - GENERALITIES (COMPUTERS/COMPUTER-HELP/E-BOOK QUESTIONS)	Learn (skill building, lifelong learning)	Language Difficulties	Patron on phone wanted me to reserve a specific title for him. With his dialect and a cell phone with a connection that wasn't ideal- we were having great difficulty understanding each other. I heard his initial request to be: Magic Trilogy. After a very thorough search it could not be found as a individual title. I also tried as series title. Then he began spelling his title to me. Finally what he really wanted was Systematic Theology. Then it was in 3 volumes at a college library. I was then able to reserve for him accordingly. I worked for this one.
2017-11-08 09:55:46	WILMINGTON LIBRARY	Carl Shaw	2017-11-03	600 - APPLIED SCIENCE (BUSINESS/JOBS/HEALTH)	Transform (transformational, life changing)	Helping Patrons Navigate Online Job Searches Vol. 1	IS Success Story: A few months ago a patron was looking for a part-time job to earn extra income but was not familiar with online applications. We revised his resume and helped him navigate the online job market. He preferred retail to because he had previous experience and he liked customer service. This past weekend while browsing through a local store I ran into this patron working as a customer service representative. He thanked me for the assistance we gave him and said things are going great. He's planning a vacation with his wife thanks to the extra money he's earning.
2017-12-18 10:42:32	WILMINGTON LIBRARY	Carl Shaw	2017-12-06	600 - APPLIED SCIENCE (BUSINESS/JOBS/HEALTH)	Learn (skill building, lifelong learning)	IS Success Story: Interview Prep Pays Off	An IS Job Search Patron attended several interview prep sessions at the Wilmington Library to prepare for an upcoming interview with the New Castle Library System. She sent me a nice email after the interview thanking us for the assistance and expressed how prepared and confident she felt during the interview. I also ran into the person who interviewed her at the Library Town Hall Meeting and she also stated that the interviewee was very confident and well prepared. When asked during the interview if she used the library, she mentioned the IS practice interview to prepare and the panel responded that it was a job well done. Great to see confirmation of the work we put in with our patrons and also glad to contribute to the addition of talented individuals working for the libraries.

2017-12-18 10:47:45	BRANDYWINE HUNDRED BRANCH	Carl Shaw and Greta White	2017-11-08	600 - APPLIED SCIENCE (BUSINESS/JOBS/HEALTH)	Inspire (motivation, exploration)	IS Success Story: Collaboration that Inspires	After a meeting with the YWCA at the Wilmington Library, the program director approached me to see if any of our partner sites may be interested in hosting the workshop series. Brandywine was the best option for us so I set up a meeting with staff to explore the possibility of hosting there. They was a little concern about the 6 week (initially 8 week) commitment but we all decided to give it a shot. I attended the graduation for the program with 5 participants graduating and wow, something special had occurred in those 6 weeks. Each participant had a chance to speak with everyone sharing heart wrenching stories and 3 out of the 5 were moved to tears which made 4 total in tears including the presenter stating "this is why we do what we do!" This event was empowerment and impact personified. It's a perfect example of it not always being about numbers, but impact. Kudos to BH library for organizing this series and the administration for approving the use of the space! This is what it's all about and shows the power of collaboration. Great work to all involved.
2018-01-26 16:30:40	WILMINGTON LIBRARY	Carl Shaw	2018-01-26	600 - APPLIED SCIENCE (BUSINESS/JOBS/HEALTH)	Transform (transformational, life changing)	Inspiration Space Program Helps Library Add Great New Staff Member	A representative from the Barrel of Makers has been a great library partner for the past few years conducting maker and STEM programs for patrons. A few months ago this rep visited the IS for assistance with her resume and preparation for upcoming interviews. One of the positions she applied for was a library specialist for New Castle County Rt. 9 Library and Innovation Center. This was the one she really wanted. We conducted several practice interviews and researched duties and job descriptions of library workers. During a library event the county manager commended us on the job we did preparing her for the interview. Other library staff also helped with preparing her. This week it was reported that Jessi was offered the position and I received an energetic email from her exclaiming "I got it!" "I got the Rt. 9 position!" We congratulate Barrel of Makers' rep on her accomplishment and are glad that we played a role in helping her take the next step in her life and career!
2018-02-19 08:54:48	WILMINGTON LIBRARY	Carl Shaw	2018-02-14	100 - PHILOSOPHY/PSYCHOLOGY/SELF-HELP	Find (basic needs)	Libraries Impact on Homelessness (Social Service Program)	An Inspiration Space patron was previously homeless. She was assisted by myself and the social service program and wrote a thank you letter to us. She wanted me to read it before she sent and help her fix the grammar but I wanted it to remain "pure" from her heart. Actual email is below. From: Wilmington IS patron Sent: Wednesday, February 14, 2018 3:44 PM Subject: Letter of Appreciation -- Well my name is [name removed for privacy] and the Wilmington Library Social Service help helped me out a lot. My situation was I been homeless for like couple months and I was staying in abandon buildings, and on the streets, even benches. Yes things was pretty bad wasn't talking to anybody, not answering calls I was ghost from everyone. One day I came in the library and it was on a Wednesday and I looked in the room and saw that a lady was helping someone I said mmmm they do help people I'm going to go in after him. So I did and basically broke down and told her my situation and she literally called everyone all the shelters, 211, and even Del wonder, and housing alliance. Called the housing alliance and they told me to call tom morning. Her name was [name removed] like she was a godsend honestly I really appreciate everything she has done and still doing she like a second mom she want to see me win. A man who helped me with jobs before saw there was something wrong with me to took me to a room and I broke down and told him my situation he got right on the computer and started to call all the shelters even 211 and even called the housing alliance again and they put me on the list. Felt like he cared and wanted to see me win also, they care about people's situations you can talk to them about anything especially jobs. So the next day the Housing Alliance called me in the afternoon and offered me a bed at the Salvation Army. I broke down crying I was so happy. They helped me with a job opportunity waiting on the phone call and the IS librarian is always looking out with the jobs. Everything is going to be okay I'm staying positive and on my grind thanks to two people and myself. I don't know what I would do without them. Just when I thought no one cared I opened my mouth and got the help I needed.