

New Copper Queen Library staff welcome patrons

Expanded programming coming soon

By Christine Steele

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If You Go

What: Copper Queen Library

When: Monday and Tuesday: Noon to 7 p.m.

Wednesday through Friday: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday: Closed

Where: 6 Main St. Bisbee

Info: (520) 432-4232

“The services this library provides are essential to the community. We serve all ages and all communities within our community.”

— Alison Williams, new Assistant Library Program Coordinator for the Copper Queen Library

Copper Queen Library Assistant Coordinator Alison Williams and Library Services Coordinator Jason Macoviak sit on new furniture provided by the Friends of the Copper Queen Library Thursday in Bisbee. Both employees have been hired by the library recently.

BISBEE — Two new faces are ready to greet patrons at Bisbee's Copper Queen Library.

Former library employee Jason Macoviak was hired in December as the new Library Services Coordinator and Alison Williams was hired this month as the new Assistant Library Program Coordinator, filling a position that had been vacant for more than a year.

Macoviak started at the Copper Queen Library as a part-time circulation desk assistant in 2008 and became a full-time employee in 2010. He worked there until this past September, when he left for a position at the Cochise County Library.

"I love this community so it was a really tough decision but I did for professional development," he said. "I wanted to broaden my skill set and see how libraries are run on a bigger scale."

But when the opportunity to return to the Bisbee library came up, he jumped at the chance.

"I was happy there (at the Cochise County Library) but my passion is here at this library, so I was excited to come back," he said. "I missed our patrons. I think we have some amazingly talented people in this town and just being around them on a day-to-day is inspiring."

Since returning to the library he loves, Macoviak has been getting things in order, reorganizing some materials and working with the library's two boards, the Friends of the Library and the Library Advisory Board, to get some ideas for what patrons want.

"We recently received a donation of 400 music CDs that we are cataloging and putting out and we are continuing to add to our collection of both Children's and Adult materials," he said.

Williams is just as excited about her new position.

"When I heard that Jason would be managing the library, I was really excited to work with him," she said.

As the Assistant to the Executive Director of KBRP for the past seven years, she brings lots of programming experience, having assisted with KBRP's advertising and promotions for all of its public programs, like the Blues Festival, the speaker series and other events.

Some exciting changes coming up at the library this year include expanding the library's Summer Reading Program and bringing the library out of the library, Williams said.

"We have been working with Andy Haratyk in Public Works to incorporate field trips using the venues of our public parks," she explained. "We'd like to have students take a tour of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and do Plein Air painting and other hands-on learning activities."

The library will continue with the Arizona Humanities Lecture Series, Macoviak said, and plans to expand its programs to include more youth-oriented activities.

"We are going to work on programs for pre-teens and teens," Williams said. "We have a Young Adult room on the third floor that is really underutilized and we'd like to reach out to the community, both students and parents, and have them tell us how they think it could be used."

Groups that are interested could come to the library and use the room to work on an activity, project or craft, she explained.

“We can even have it set up with certain supplies for them,” she said.

“We want them to know this is their library too,” Macoviak added.

Along with Macoviak and Williams, the library has one other employee, Mary Scott, a part-time circulation desk clerk who has been there for two years, along with a host of volunteers.

“We couldn’t do what we do on a daily basis without them,” Macoviak said.

Both Macoviak and Williams said they would like to extend an invitation to the community to stop in and see what the library has to offer.

“If it has been a while since they have been in or they haven’t been in at all, we’d like to invite them to check us out,” he said.

“The services this library provides are essential to the community,” Williams added. “We serve all ages and all communities within our community.”