

BL County Library to host annual family night, showcase improvements

by Charles Horikami

Guest Opinion



PHOTO BY KAYLA OROZCO
Fresh improvements can now be seen and enjoyed at your local library.

The Bear Lake County Library is especially excited for its annual FAMILLY NIGHT. The theme this year is "Find It at Your Library," and it will be held on Thursday, November 29 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. We will have a variety of fun, challenging scavenger hunts geared for the various ages of children, so bring the whole family. The idea is to get familiar with the many features and items available to check out at your library. Of course, you need a library card to check out books and other items, so if you don't have one, we would be glad to give you an application for one that evening. As usual, we are asking each family to bring at least one canned food item to donate to our local food bank. A free book will be sent home with each child, and refreshments will be given out from our board members as you leave.

Another reason we are excited is our opportunity to show off the new improvements and repairs we have been able to make to the library because of generous donations from

received from Zions Bank, Mountain and Rocky Mountain Power. The Rotary Club funded new blinds for the windows and decorative frames with quotes hung throughout the building. The quotes were creatively cut and mounted in frames by Cynidi Thomas. We also have a fresh coat of paint on the main floor which complements the mural and carpet. Our contractor for this project was Shaun Hark from Paris, Idaho. Finally, the Bear Lake High School chose us as one of the benefactors for their service project this last month.

Twenty of the students, along with Mrs. Loertscher, came and spent two hours helping us. They washed the front windows, which have never looked so good; they put together shelving; and they wiped clean most all of the baby and story kits so they are germ-free for the children. We appreciate their service very much.

We also want to recognize the Bear Lake Health Care Foundation which provided the funding for our summer

As we approach this Thanksgiving season, our minds are turned to gratitude. But I wonder, what is gratitude? Sure we have a dictionary definition of what gratitude is, "the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness," but even this doesn't really help us to understand what gratitude really is. To be thankful is defined as "expressing gratitude and relief," appreciation is "the recognition and enjoyment of the good qualities of someone or something," and kindness is "the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate." All of these things still leave me wondering, what is gratitude?

I find, that to help me understand something, I should try to understand what it is not. What is the opposite of gratitude. Obviously, being ungrateful, but what are some synonyms, or things, that show us ungrateful. The first thing that comes to my mind is a teenage kid who just got a pair of hand knit socks from grandma for Christmas. The attitude of sarcasm when the kid says, "Oh... Thanks, Grandma," We all know he doesn't really mean it, so if being ungrateful is sarcasm and apathy, then gratitude has excitement, sincerity, and invested interested.

Let's further explore what gratitude isn't, to further understand what we live in. I would say that a person who complains about road construction is not grateful for the nice roads that we will soon have, so impatience and frustration are aspects of ingratitude, making patience an attribute of gratitude. A person who insults soldiers for their service or devalues the death of a veteran is ungrateful, making gratitude complementary and uplifting. Relating to this as I mentioned before, talking too much about something, or using it while in the making us take it for granted. So holding it in reverence, or using as intended, and not taking things for granted

is showing gratitude. Combining these definitions see that gratitude is not sarcasm, appreciation, and enjoyment of the quality of someone or something, and kindness is "the quality of being friendly, generous, and considerate." All of these things still leave me wondering, what is gratitude?

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critiques. Charles Horikami are not representatives of the BLM, and the Idaho State Republic. I am not a member of the BLM, and the Idaho State Republic. I am not a member of the BLM, and the Idaho State Republic.