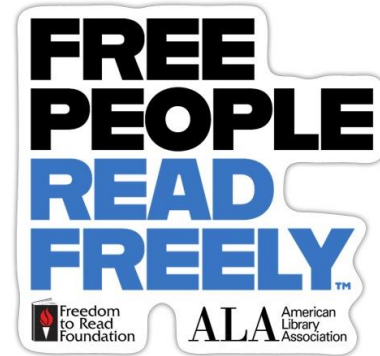


Friends of the South Coastal Library
April 24, 2024
Director's Report



Hello everyone---

- The Public Library Association conference in Columbus, OH was really interesting. Especially when you're asking the hotel staff where to go in case of a tornado after all the TORCON 7 alerts go off on your phone and TV. Conference's theme is above and very much reflected in classes—especially on banning events/titles across the country. Met a few library directors/staffers who are in very bad places right now. It reminded me how (generally) lucky we have been here in Delaware.

The conference weather was another matter entirely. If it wasn't raining, it was hailing or snowing. Or warning us about tornados. Unfortunately, the big reception at the Columbus Library was canceled due to this—many businesses and schools closed by 2:30pm that day. Thankfully, the storms went around us.

- Great news on how much patrons are loving Newspapers.com. From Feb. 2nd, when we went live, to yesterday, 4/17/24, there have been 2,581 searches in the database. Biggest hits were the PA newspapers, which is not surprising given how many people have moved here from PA. And I just had another gentleman come in for a library card from us specifically to get access to Newspapers.com. Thank you for funding this!

- More great news: the children's couch arrived! The colors and setup make the room look so much lighter and give people a bit more room to sit. And we beat the estimate by \$1,000, so it's a win all the way around. Megan will "accessorize" later, if needed.



- Finally, we still have seats for the DE's Local Journalism Initiative's study panel/meeting (Spotlight Delaware) here on Wed., May 29th at 5:30pm. They want to know where communities get their news, what is important to them and more. If you'd like to register, go to <https://delawarelibraries.libcal.com/event/12201708>. For more info, their website is <https://ljidelaware.org/>

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