

# Athena Public Library

## Annual Library Service Review: Fiscal Year 2020-2021



See how we're working  
towards our goals





# Our Goals at a Glance

These are the goals we set before the Fiscal Year began.

1

**Evaluate our Covid-19 response and create a plan for the future.**

2

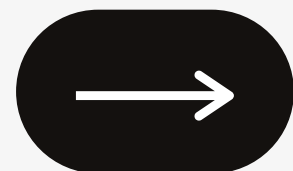
**Increase Adult attendance at Library programs.**

3

**Create a vibrant middle and high school program.**

# Community Needs

Why did we choose to focus on these goals?



1 Closing the library in the spring of 2020 was a situation for which we were not prepared. We need to evaluate that response so we can respond better in future emergency situations.

2 Increasing adult program attendance is a goal in its 3rd year, set in response to a 2018 community survey and the stated desires of the Library Board.

3 Working to build a solid middle and high school program is a goal born out of the stated desires of area teens. We also see it as a part of community initiatives advanced by the school district and other community organizations.





# What goals did we accomplish?

- **Goal 1** is not accomplished because we remain in this emergency. However, we have kept a record of our actions and thoughts about those actions to help us as we continue working on emergency planning.
- We have kept an eye on **Goal 2** throughout the last 18 months of turmoil. Virtual trivia nights were well attended, our adult book club has re-formed and is more vibrant than in the past and we focused on adult civics education during last fall's election season.
- **Goal 3** has been difficult in the face of limited opportunities for gather. Still, we have continued to upgrade and improve our teen room, we had a moderately successful teen summer reading program, and we continue to collaborate with the local high school whenever possible.



# Challenges

1

Changing public health guidelines have resulted in some inconsistency regarding library programming.

2

Patrons are out of the "habit" of coming to library programs making it difficult to re-start. This is also an opportunity to reimagine library service!

3

Library staff are struggling with burnout, depression, and other challenges. Future planning abilities are suffering.

# **FY 2020/2021**

## **Highlights**

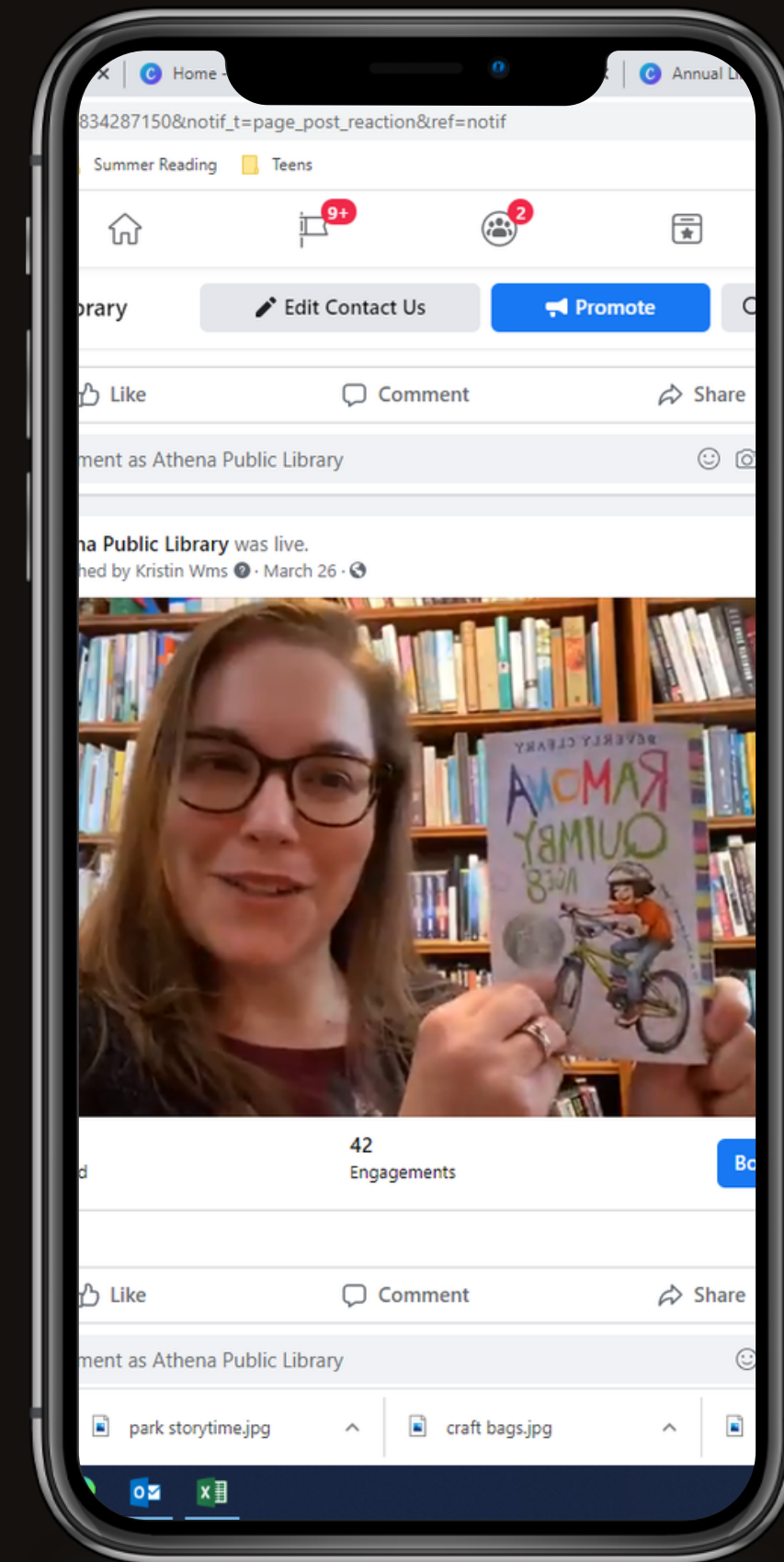
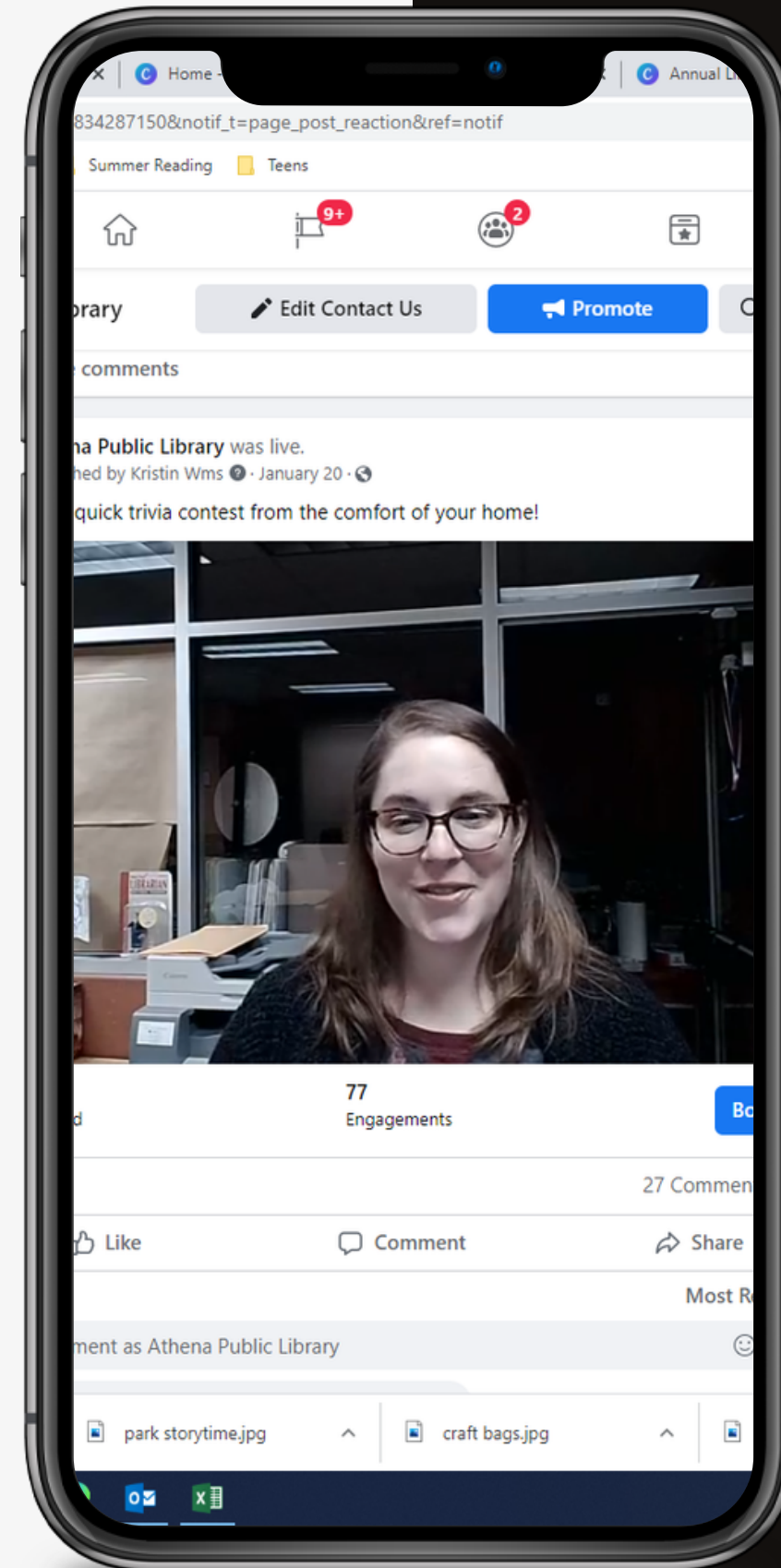


## Online Programs:

- Facebook Storytime
- Facebook Trivia
- Misinformation, Fake News and Propaganda Workshop (UB

Article:

<https://bit.ly/38QEt6J>







We made a Bernie Sanders meme in January and it was our post with the most engagement all year! Sometimes it's good to just contribute to fun.





Take Home Craft  
Bags helped us  
stay connected to  
many of our  
younger patrons





Our first in person program in FY20/21 was by appointment in March. Oregon's Dino Story was a hit!





This summer we took Summer Reading programs to the city park! Two programs a week: Art in the Park and Storytime in the Park. We were thrilled to serve area kids again.



# Participating in and organizing Community Events



- Athena Public Library was a sponsor of a 4 month Community Wide Scavenger Hunt presented by the Main Street Association
- 2020 was our 3rd year participating in the community Trunk or Treat
- We participate in Tuesday Market as often as possible.
- We hosted a candidate forum with all the Mayoral and City Council candidates in November - the only information Athena citizens had before voting!



# Creating Access for Everyone

1

Building a mobile library program with our new Book Bike. This helps facilitate deliveries to people who can't come to the library.

2

Creating passive programs. This helps us provide library programs to people who can't come to events with crowds.

3

Catalog searching, database use, and Overdrive lessons in person or virtually for people who need extra help.



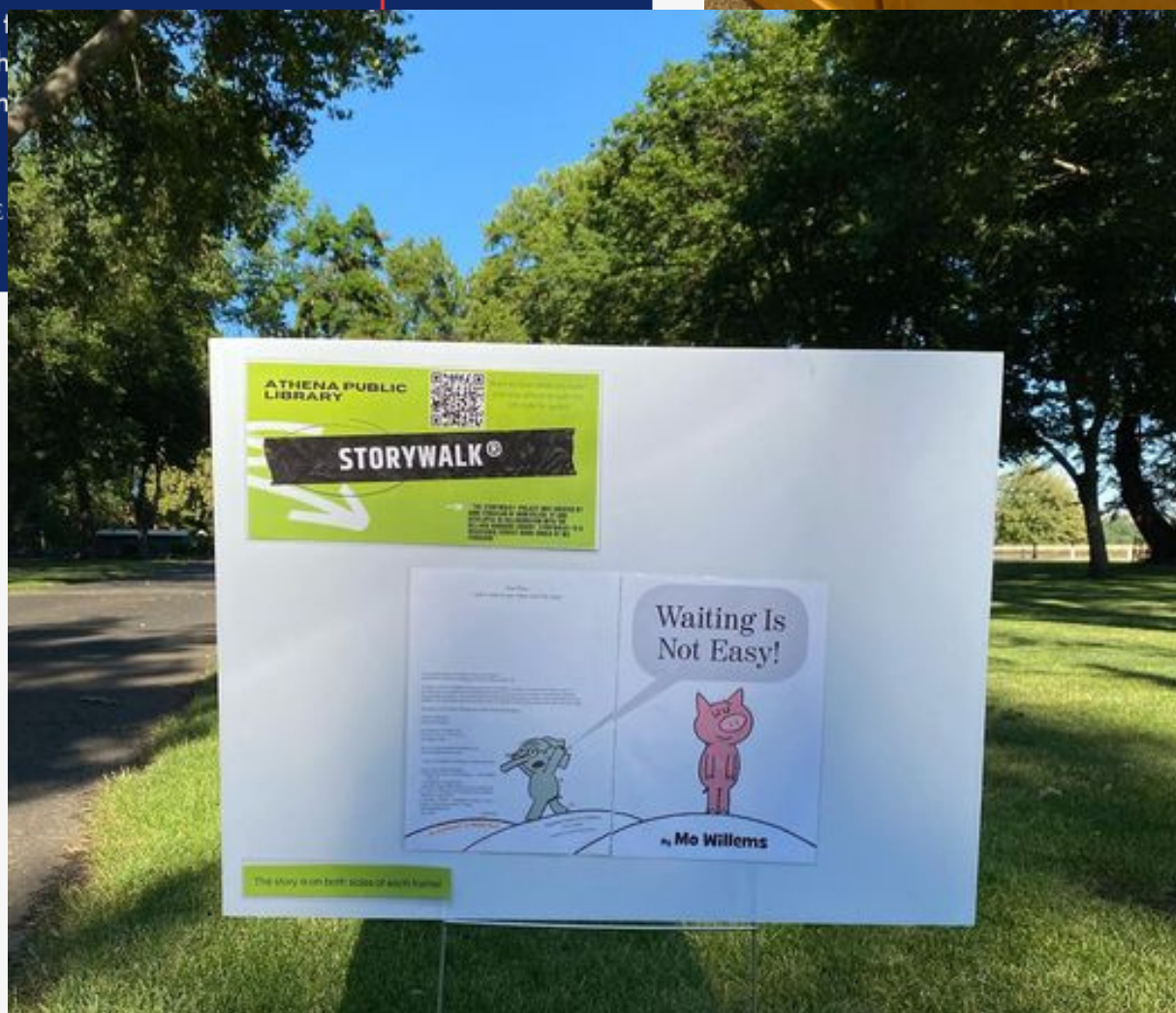


# The Morning After

1964 - 2020

From Lyndon B Johnson to  
this exhibit showcases the  
East Oregonian the morning

Sponsored by The E



We love any opportunity to build partnerships. We hosted The Morning After thanks to **Pendleton Public Library**, shared Pop Up Books with **all UCSLD libraries**, gave books to all Athena Weston preschool - 5th graders in partnership with **Weston Public Library** and appreciate our new Storywalk boards from **UCSLD**.





Other partners are **Athena Library Friends Association**. **ALFA** provides invaluable programming support, including our new Little Free Library. **Athena Weston School District** allows us to bring fun programs to their students, including Oregon's Dino Story this year.

**East Umatilla Fire and Rescue** brought some fire education to Storytime this summer. **Athena Mainstreet Association** partnered with us for Trunk or Treat, the community scavenger hunt and other fun. **State Library of Oregon** awarded us a Teen Services Grant.



# **Libraries Transforming Communities**

In April we were thrilled to be awarded a grant from  
the American Library Association.  
(UB article: <https://bit.ly/3l80yTX>)





# UMATILLA COUNTY SPECIAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

Strengthening our community libraries



Link to UCSLD on our  
website



Provided information  
and answered many  
calls about the UCSLD  
election in May



Give information  
about the district  
whenever anyone gets  
a library card.

How we promote you





# UMATILLA COUNTY SPECIAL LIBRARY DISTRICT

Strengthening our community libraries



Keep helping the  
libraries create  
connections with each  
other



Provide training  
opportunities. April's  
inservice was great -  
keep it up!



Sing our praises - In the  
newspaper, in letters to  
our city officials, in the  
broader library  
community.

## Ways you can help us





# Thank you!

Now, let's get back to work.