

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Library News



The Winter Reading Program is running through February 7. We currently have 260 patrons signed up.

Youth Programs

- The new Homeschool Program is taking off with several families participating every Monday afternoon.
- The regular programs including storytime, music & motion, crafternoon, Pokémon, Lego club, and babies on blankets all continue to be well attended.
- We welcomed the Lifeskills Class from the high school on December 18. We did a scavenger hunt to teach them about the various areas of the library and services that we provide.

Adult Programs

- We are continuing to adjust book clubs to see what works best for people. We will be sun setting the Book and a Movie club and moving the non-fiction book club back to quarterly due to low attendance at both of them.
- The After Hours Book Club continues to grow with 20 people attending the January meeting. We may be looking at moving to a different space as we are quickly growing out of the annex.
- Beginning piano is currently taking place every Tuesday in January with 17 people participating.
- The first month of the Book Subscription Service has 11 subscribers.
- Upcoming Programs
- Crochet Club will begin for middle school students in March.
- Tech Tuesdays– Lunch and Learn will begin the end of February to teach adult digital literacy classes.
- January 30 we will host a program with Laura Wessel from Rainbow Community Care on navigating grief.
- February 1 the monthly Genealogy Workshop will have a presentation by Rebecca Hopman , the Genealogy Services Librarian at the Wisconsin Historical Society.
- February 6 we will host a Badger Talk with Professor Sissel Schroeder about Uncovering Ancient Aztalan.

Meetings

- The Community Services Departments for the City continue to meet monthly to go over what events we are doing and how we can support each other.
- January 16 was the Columbia County Library Board and Directors meeting in Cambria. The next big step for the board is creating a new strategic plan.

Buildings and Grounds

- The Lueders have been parking their car in the Annex garage. They used to do it prior to the city using it for the electric car. They make a donation to the library each time.
- It seems the annex smell has been resolved. The evaporator drain trap in the HVAC unit in the attic was dry, allowing sewer gas into the building. TAS came and added water, which immediately fixed the problem.

Library Statistics		2024 Month	2024 YTD	2023 YTD	2023 Total
	Visits (# door counts)	3,554	67,146	62,944	62,944
	Items Borrowed (total)	3,792	58,538	53,981	53,981
	% Columbus residents		50%		52%
	% Fall River residents		13%		13%
	% Other Columbia County		21%		20%
	% Dodge County		10%		10%
	% Other		6%		5%
	Digital Items Borrowed (# checkouts)	1,124	14,759	13,620	13,620
	Books by Mail (# items sent)	17	259	351	351
	Public Wi-Fi (# sessions)	3,185	56,084	67,612	67,612
	Public Computer Use (# sessions)	210	3,077	2,929	2,929
	Wireless Printing & Faxing (# jobs)	67	967	1,013	1,013
	Community Use of Rooms (# attended)	92	1,171	1,033	1,033
	Patrons Added (# added)	16	368	365	365

Program Statistics	In-Person & Live Virtual (# programs)	In-Person & Live Virtual (# attended)	Self-Directed Activities (# participated)
Future Readers	17	295	7
Children	6	65	0
Teen	4	37	0
Adult	5	32	0
General Interest	2	113	0