

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Library Card Sign-Up Month

We had 42 new patrons sign up for new library cards in September! Several hundred patrons also updated their information in the system to get a raffle ticket for 8 great prizes!

Community Outreach

- Helen led a Storytime at Sadie Bee's Orchard in Fall River on September 20.
- Catherine and Helen both attended the Art & Author Fair on September 27.
- We'll be open from 4:00-7:00 on October 31 for the Community Trick or Treat

Youth Services

- Art from the Heart Art Club started for kids on September 18. Each month they will meet to do craft projects and engage in community service projects.
- Nathan Barnes from the Columbus Fire Department joined us for Fire Safety Week on October 7.
- Our regular children's programs have started again for the fall
 - Weekly Storytime on Tuesdays and Wednesdays
 - Monthly Music & Motion
 - Monthly Crafternoon
 - Monthly Stitching Stars
 - Chess Club twice a month
 - Monthly Lego Club
 - Monthly Book Dragons Creative Writing Lab
 - Weekly Homeschool Program
- The September teen afternoon featured Pumpkin Decorating. Be sure to vote on your favorite at the upstairs circulation desk!



Adult Services

- The David Rogers Classical Guitar performance on September 18 was cancelled due to a gas leak.
- We now have several monthly programs that are very popular and keep growing.
- Cook Book Club will be happening every quarter. The latest one took place on October 9 with the theme "Autumn Harvest."
- October 17 we hosted mystery writers Peggy Joque Williams and Mary Joy Johnson.

Looking Ahead

- Adult Craft Night on October 22– Candles
- October 28 will be an afternoon moving screening of The Lost Bus
- October 29-Book Launch Party with Valerie Biel
- October 30 is the kick off for Wri-Mo MOJO Creative Writing Month with monthly writing workshops
- Books & Beer on October 30-I Know What You Did by Cayce Osborne
- Hooked on Books and Yarn on November 4
- After Hours Book Club on November 6-The Power by Naomi Alderman
- November 14 we will host a Murder Mystery at the Annex
- Romantasy Book Club on November 17-Immortal by Sue Lynn Tan
- Third Thursday Book Club on November 20– The Secret Life of Sunflowers by Marta Molner



Meetings

- The Columbia County Finance Committee increased the funding for the libraries from 73% reimbursement to 76% reimbursement.
- Amanda attended Mental Health First Aid on September 23 and September 30. It was run by Prairie Ridge Health at Faith Lutheran Church.
- Amanda presented a preliminary budget to City Council on October 7.

Facilities

- On September 18 the company installing fiber lines to the library for the new phones hit the gas line in the library lawn. The library was evacuated and we closed early. The Columbus Fire Department did an exceptional job of keeping us safe and communicating what was happening during the incident.
- A new bench has been installed in the front of the Library. It was purchased in memory of Diane Sennhenn and James Myers.

Library Statistics		2025 Month	2025 YTD	2024 YTD	2024 Total	% Change from 2024 to 2025
	Visits (# door counts)	5,281	53,344	51,513	67,146	3.5%
	Items Borrowed (total)	4,450	46,455	45,466	58,538	2.2%
	% Columbus residents		47%		50%	
	% Fall River residents		13%		13%	
	% Other Columbia County		23%		21%	
	% Dodge County		11%		10%	
	% Other		7%		6%	
	Digital Items Borrowed (# checkouts)	1,179	9,458	11,272	14,759	-16%
	Books by Mail (# items sent)	17	114	210	259	-46%
	Public Wi-Fi (# sessions)	n/a	n/a	44,975	56,084	n/a
	Public Computer Use (# sessions)	197	2,005	2,343	3,077	-14%
	Wireless Printing & Faxing (# jobs)	90	740	712	967	4%
	Community Use of Rooms (# attended)	106	881	865	1,171	2%
	Patrons Added (# added)	42	279	308	368	-9%

Program Statistics	In-Person & Live Virtual (# programs)	In-Person & Live Virtual (# attended)	Self-Directed Activities (# participated)
Future Readers	5	97	3
Children	8	116	0
Teen	3	20	0
Adult	7	95	0
General Interest	0	0	0