

**Lester Public Library
Director's Report
December 2024**

News

- The 2025 City Budget was approved by City Council at the December 2 meeting. The Library remains the same as in the 2023 budget.
- The new Holiday Magic Pack To Go (for grownups!) was a hit. This take-home pack for adults included a holiday movie, book, craft (to build at home, i.e.; Santa gnome) and microwave popcorn – there were other goodies included as well. Patrons enjoyed the ‘no decision-making’ aspect of the pack, the book and movie were surprises.
- The library received a generous donation of movie DVD's and music CD's. After adding some of the donation to our DVD collection, staff created a special ‘flash’ sale of DVD's and CD's for one week – sales were just over \$300.00.
- The library applied for the Two Rivers Rotary Foundation Annual Fundraising Dinner, our proposal was to create a community bulletin board and sound baffling for the meeting rooms. While the library was not selected for the fundraising dinner, the Rotary Foundation recognized the project with a \$5,000.00 check. Betty Bittner from the Two Rivers Rotary Foundation presented a \$5,000.00 check to Jeff Dawson, Director of the Lester Public Library, December 16, 2024. The project is slated for 2025.
- Reflecting the changing nature of how library patrons are reading. On December 12th Wisconsin's Digital Library (WDL) hit a record breaking 9 million checkouts. In 2023 the WDL had a total of 8.6 million checkouts. The demand for Wisconsin's Digital Library has continued to grow over the past several years, seeing approximately a 13% increase year over year in checkouts and at any given time, approximately 70% of the collection is continuously checked out. Here in Two Rivers, as of the end of November our WDL (Overdrive) use is up by 6%.

Library Foundation – No Report

Library Legislation – No Report

Activities

- 12/02/24 – Two Rivers City Council Meeting
- 12/03/24 – Lester Public Library Management Team Meeting
- 12/10/24 – Explore Two Rivers Board Meeting
- 12/10/24 – Lester Public Library Management Team Meeting
- 12/10/24 – Lester Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting
- 12/11/24 – Lester Public Library All Staff Meeting
- 12/11/24 – Provided a library tour for the Chamber of Commerce Jr. Leadership Group
- 12/11/24 – City of Two Rivers Department Heads Meeting

- 12/13/24 – Manitowoc Calumet Library Automated Resource Sharing Consortium (LARS) Participants Council Meeting with Marie Bonde, Customer Service Coordinator, and Chris Hamburg, Adult Services Coordinator, Lester Public Library Hosted the Meeting
- 12/13/24 – Manitowoc Calumet Library System Directors Meeting, Lester Public Library Hosted the Meeting
- 12/14/24 – Attended the Cool City Christmas Celebration, Downtown Two Rivers
- 12/16/24 – Two Rivers City Council Meeting
- 12/17/24 – Lester Public Library Management Team Meeting

Jeff Dawson, Director, Lester Public Library 01/2/2025