

**WATERTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
DIRECTOR'S REPORT  
For July 2025**

<b>Libby: Audio, Ebook &amp; Magazine Checkouts</b>		
	<b><u>2024</u></b>	<b><u>2025</u></b>
January:	4,028	3,974
February:	3,630	3,671
March:	3,934	3,976
April:	3,832	3,986
May	3,890	3,937
June:	3,750	4,669
July:	4,066	4,930
August:	3,723	
Sept.	3,465	
October	3,569	
November	3,494	
December	3,572	
Totals	44,953	

Physical Circulation for July	26,370 (27,792)
July Libby:	4,357
July Libby Mags	573
July Hoopla	622
2025 Monthly Total	31,922
2024 July Total	
New Cards	121

### **Library Director's Notes:**

Another frustrating month of power outages and HVAC problems. RTU 1 and 2 will need replacement parts. WE Energy has also installed a monitor to record electricity spikes to the building; which could be causing some HVAC problems.

Summer continues to be quiet in the Teen Room. Teens have been filtering back and we are seeing new faces visiting the space. No Stay Out orders were issued but we have asked Teens to leave due to behavior.

The bench in memory of Judge Ron Ziwick has been installed. I will be putting up no bike parking signs around it. Bikes are being parked that extend into the area leading into the facility.

Kaitlyn is running with my idea to partner with Watertown Human Society to host a monthly Saturday "Caturday" at the library.

She's has contacted libraries that have had successes with this program to gather background information. She has also reached out to the Watertown Human Society and we are waiting to hear back.

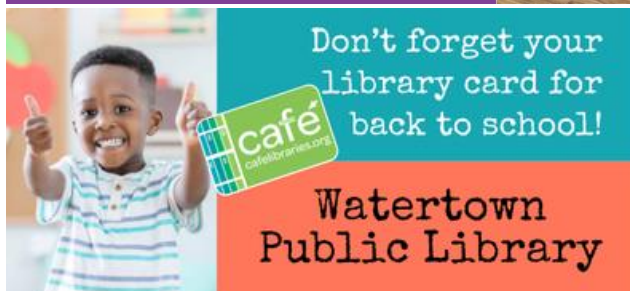
I attended the Jefferson County Library Board Mtg., held in Johnson Creek. The 2026 county budget request was discussed/approved along with other housekeeping agenda items. Dodge Co meeting for library planning is August 20<sup>th</sup>.

I am working on a grant request to the Quirk for the 2026 Summer Library Challenge for children, teens and adults.

The Dodge Co Fair Committee sent us free tickets to the Dodge Co. Fair. We are raffling them off to library patrons for some summer fun!

We did receive a check from the Sally Mundt estate. If you recall, this was the estate that requested a recent sign off due to the realization that the State Historical Society and Old World Wisconsin were two separate non-profits.

These are the billboard designs that will be displayed on Hwy 26 and I-94 from **August 11 – August 24, 2025**. Friends of WPL paid for this great opportunity!



Camera installation has begun. Technicians will also assist with changing some camera angles around the building. Three outdoor cameras will be added; two at the curve of the building on Main St. and one under the canopy at the parking lot doors.

Bridges Libraries will be discontinuing our subscription to Hoopla. The database has become financially unsustainable due to pay-per-checkout model. All Bridges Libraries will send our notice to Hoopla on August 12. This provides the required 60 day notice.

### **Monthly Department Information**

#### **Adult:**

We had a few very fun programs in Adult Services in the month of July (on top of our line-up of regularly occurring programs, of course)! We partnered with Draeger's Floral for a teacup floral arranging program, which was funded by a grant from Bridges. Tina and I did an all-ages craft program where patrons made owls out of landscaping pavers. Sue and Kate teamed up to teach a photography program where people could learn to take better photos with their iPhones. All of the above were nicely attended and we received compliments as people were leaving. I'm wrapping up work with my WLA Literary Awards committee later in August. I was also asked by Angela from Bridges to sit on a committee to help choose a vendor to

develop a new website for the Library Memory Project. I'd never done something like that before, so it was neat to learn more about that process. That new website should be rolling out before the end of the year. A thank you to John who helped me make fish out of pool noodles for my fishing themed Memory Cafe coming up on August 27!

~Jamie

### **Children's:**

We had a very busy month to close out our 2025 Summer Library Challenge! So many stamps, so many prizes, so many free books, so many kids! It was fun, exhausting and we all survived. 😊 We had great turn outs for our Family Fun Nights, doing a drive-in movie night and painting Owl Pavers. I attended Lights & Sirens and put on over 250 temporary tattoos to kids and a handful of adults. We had James the Magician and Science Heroes (both sponsored by Bridges) for some fun and educational performances and watched some great movies, showing the Dog Man Movie, Paddington in Peru and Moana 2. For elementary age kids we had Camp Library every Wednesday this summer and we ended the SLC with Beach Week fun, a Dog Man Day, Water Games and a Crafty Camp. We wrapped up the summer with 1,103 children registered for the Summer Library Challenge, 318 teens and 426 adults, so we exceeded last year's registration in each age group! We're looking forward to wrapping up the last of the Summer Library Challenge fun this week and a little less hectic of an August. We started Back to School Bingo, which we do each week leading up to the school year, as well as a few fun special programs planned for August. I'll be missing the August Board Meeting, as I will be enjoying a much-needed week vacation up north with my family! See you all in September!

~Tina

### **Circulation Department:**

Summer is in full swing. We have enjoyed the flurry of activity that the Summer Reading Program brought. The Journey of Dragons program through Bridges Library System continues to bring in patrons from other libraries. In July, our electricity went down and we were forced to open late. We worked right through it, doing work that did not require electricity/internet until we could open.

~ Cari

### **Teens:**

July included some fun teen programs that were lead by myself, Peg, Kait, Julia and Noah. We tag teamed the teen programming this summer and everyone was

willing to pitch in and help out. Kait planned two passive programs with a Guess-the-Pom-Poms contest and a Teen Treasure Hunt. The weekly Teen Times included Paint Along that we painted a beach scene along with a video tutorial, a Book Art program which Peg spearheaded, a Crafty Drop-In program and our final Teen Lock-In: Mini Golf & a Movie! The kids were all great throughout the summer at programs and it was fun to have them in the library after hours, especially hearing their laughter and silliness trying to navigate the mini golf holes on the elevator, down the stairs or in the stacks! They were happy to help clean up and enjoyed having the library to themselves! We have Back to School Bingo to look forward to in August for teens, as well as children, and Kait is planning a few programs for teens in August to keep them engaged before Fall Programming starts in September.