

WATERFORD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

Director's Report - September 2021

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Lois Banick, Library Circulation Clerk, reached her 25-year anniversary on staff this year. We honored her with a low-key celebration which also included members of her family.

Library Garden Club members planted 4 Honey Locust trees in the 4 islands at the back of the parking lot. These are native to Michigan, have a small leaf and tolerate drought and full sun. Trees were purchased from a grower that makes sure that the roots are not girdled in containers prior to purchase. We look forward to additional shade in years to come.

Oakland County Historical Resources (OCHR) Board met this month. This small consortium of public libraries and local historical societies works to digitize their community's history and make these resources available on the Internet. The goal over the coming 12 months is to find a way to offer training on digitizing elements of their collections within the continuing strictures imposed by COVID-19. That said, we have had inquiries from potential members and look to expand the collection with holdings from new members.

The Annual Business Recognition Breakfast was held this month at Overtyme Grill. The program included recognition of local businesses for longevity and beautification of business locations. Both are remarkable accomplishments considering the challenges presented by the pandemic.

The grand opening of the Kindness Rock Garden installed at the Library took place this month. The garden was created by the organization On a Dragon Fly's Wings in memory of the owner's teenage son who died by suicide in 2019, in partnership with Waterford Youth Assistance and the Library. The purpose of the garden is to bring kindness and love to all who discover it. Visitors are encouraged to leave a rock decorated with a positive image or message and/or take a rock as a symbol of community support during a troubled time. The Friends of the Library led a very successful rock-decorating project for those who attended this event. In addition, mental health and suicide prevention resources were available from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Common Ground and the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

Library patrons continue to be robust users of online resources. Online resource usage, which includes social media contacts, made up 86% of library visits this month. However, materials checkouts exceeded pre-pandemic tallies. Meeting room bookings are on the increase as well. Overall, library usage is steadily returning to normal levels.

SERVICE UPDATES

The following Service Updates are highlights by our department heads of activities their staff have been involved in this month.

Adults, Outreach, & Teens Services

Submitted by J. Hansen, Head of Adults' & Outreach Services

We sent the Kettering High School yearbooks to OCI in Oklahoma to be digitized (hard copies will be returned to us, as well as a CD with the PDFs on them).

I helped at the first donations drop-off day we've had since March of 2020. Three members of the Friends were a big help with it as well.

The computer tables which were still being stored in the Quiet Study room were put out, and Andrew put out more computers so we are up to 12 adult public internet stations.

Attendance at in-person programs has been rather low, probably due to the pandemic.

Outreach circulation detail		Home or Mini-Branch Visits with Materials	
Materials delivered to homes	256	Homebound Visits	46
Materials used at mini-branches NOTE: No count from Whispering Woods this month because they had some water leakage/damage in the area where the library is located.	140	Senior sites: Canterbury-on-the-lake, Lakeland Place	2
TOTAL	396	TOTAL	48

Children's Services

Submitted by C. Walker, Head of Children's Services

In September, we began our Fall Family Outdoor Storytime on Mondays and Wednesdays. We had to reschedule a few sessions due to rain, but it's been fun, and the families are having a good time, happy to be out in the fresh air. The outdoor storytimes were attended by 152 people.

We started handing out our first monthly craft kit. Due to rising cases of COVID-19 in the community, we switched from having the children make it here, to taking a kit to make at home. September crafts were a fall wreath, mosaic paper apple, and a sunflower yarn art. We handed out 78 craft kits. We'll have two new kits in October.

September was National Library Card Sign-up Month. Waterford students in grades K-5 who received their first card got to pick out a paperback book to keep. Forty-one students got their first cards. In addition, 8 students redeemed their summer book bucks, and one little tot finished her 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program. So, 50 books were distributed to students in September.

Circulation Services

Submitted by J. Deahl. Circulation Services Coordinator & Page Supervisor

Human Resources reposted the Part-Time Library Clerk and Page job openings to the Township website. However, we have not had many applicants for either.

This year marked 25 years of service for Part-Time Circulation Clerk Lois Banick. Normally, the Employee Recognition Committee (ERC) honors Township employees with 25 or 30 years of service with an anniversary luncheon. However, with the Delta variant contributing to a rise in COVID-19 cases, the ERC decided it was in the best interest of everyone to cancel this year's luncheon. Staff had a small celebration in Lois's honor in our community room at the end of the month with cupcakes from The Bakery in Waterford.

DONATIONS THIS MONTH

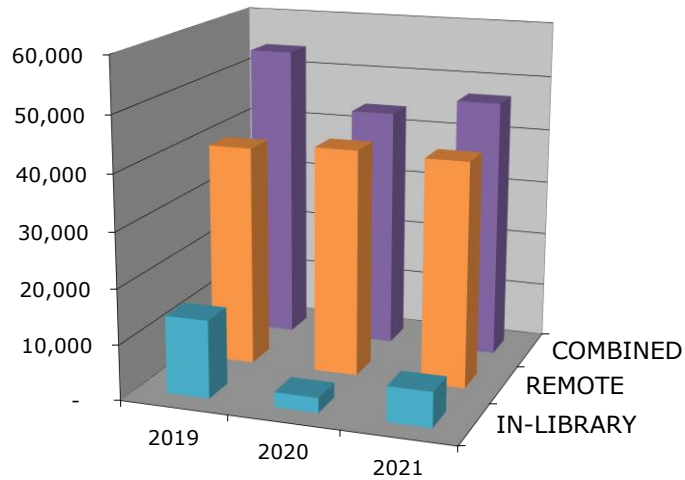
Total \$ 1,245

- Friends of the Library - \$1,227, proceeds from AUG used book sale
- Library Garden Club - \$18, in support of Library Gardens

PROGRAMS & FACEBOOK REACH

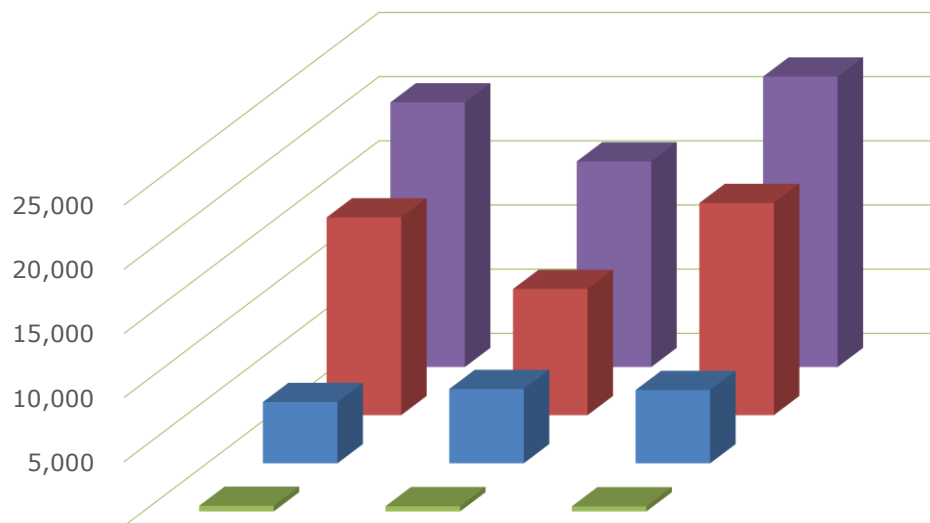
PROGRAM	PARTICIPANTS
ADULTS	
Waterford Genealogy Society - Afternoon meeting	20
Waterford Genealogy Society - Evening meeting via Zoom	6
Evening Book Discussion	4
Afternoon Book Discussion	7
Weekly Knitting Group (5 sessions)	57
Waterford Writers Workshop (2 sessions)	8
Kindness Rock Garden Grand Opening	61
Berlin History and Travel Program	5
Get Help with the Library's Downloadables	2
Library Garden Club	16
TOTAL	186
CHILDREN	
Fall Family Story time - Outdoors (6 sessions)	152
TOTAL	152
TOTAL PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	338
FACEBOOK	
People served any activity from our Page	633

LIBRARY VISITS - September 2021



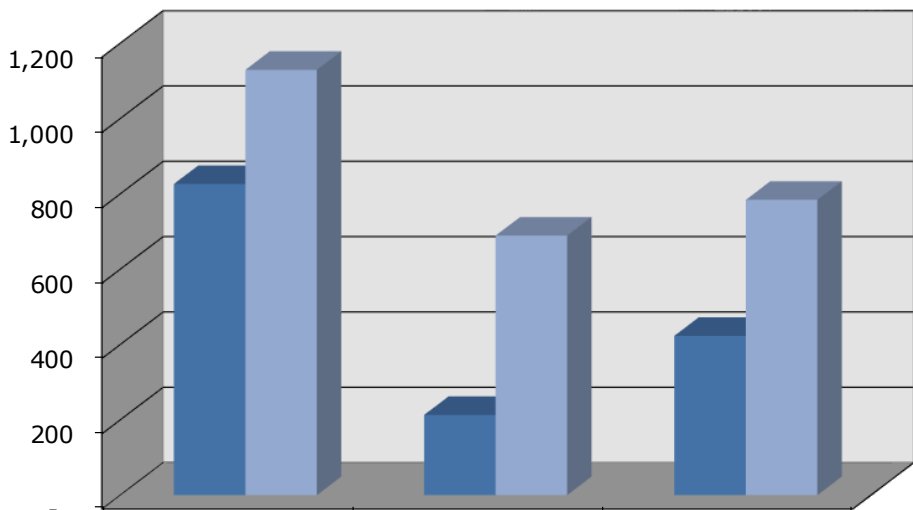
	2019	2020	2021
■ IN-LIBRARY	14,118	2,722	6,354
■ REMOTE	39,952	41,098	40,675
■ COMBINED	54,070	43,820	47,029

CHECKOUTS - September 2021



	2019	2020	2021
■ OUTREACH	438	407	396
■ DOWNLOADS	4,769	5,785	5,705
■ MAIN	15,406	9,826	16,524
■ COMBINED	20,613	16,018	22,625

REFERENCE - September 2021



	2019	2020	2021
CHILDREN'S	826	213	423
ADULTS'	1,129	689	784

Collection - September 2021

