

WATERFORD TOWNSHIP PUBLIC LIBRARY

Director's Report - March 2022

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Services and processes are almost back on track following the disruptions caused by the pandemic. Programs for the most part have restarted. We look forward to reopening activities in the Storytime/Craft Room in time for the Summer Reading Program "Activity Center" sessions. In-person storytimes have been well attended as have other programs and enrichment group meetings. The take-and-make craft kits for all ages continue to be extremely popular. Librarians are ordering more materials to refresh the collections in all formats. The new Express Checkout stations have been a solid success for our patrons who prefer to use self-checkout services.

The Oakland County Historical Resources (OCHR) group's annual meeting this month was very well attended. This was due in large part to the presentation by keynote speaker Biz Gallo, Statewide Digitization Initiatives Coordinator, from the Library of Michigan. Her presentation covered the fundamental aspects of planning a successful digitization project emphasizing project planning practices as the key to a successful project.

The Waterford Area Chamber of Commerce held their first Member Orientation luncheon at the library in 2 years. Attendance was great and included many new members who had a chance to do a bit of networking after getting a thorough grounding in services available to them from the Chamber. They also offered a great Lunch & Learn opportunity at OverTyme Grill featuring Jessie Metzler of All Social Jessie providing tips & tricks on getting maximum value from the Canva graphic design software application.

The Friends of the Library had a very busy month. I had the pleasure of attending sessions of the meetings held by the committee planning for the Book It 5k Family Fun Run on May 21st. This has shifted into high gear. At this point priority has been given to recruiting sponsors and donors. Online registration also opened. In addition, members of the Friends continue to be a huge help with the monthly used book donation drop-off days. We see new members/potential members at these collection events. Each month returning workers have honed their skills on selecting keepers from the donations for their book sales and finding places to re-home donations that are not a good fit. This is amazingly physical work yet we have a very good time enjoying each other's company as we do it.

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

To our chat service we added the ability to text our librarians via chat.

We chose Beanstack for our new online registration and tracking software for all 3 summer reading programs this year.

Training and orientation of new outreach clerk Kayla Valley continued.

Outreach circulation detail		Home or Mini-Branch Visits with Materials	
Materials delivered to homes	182	Homebound Visits	39
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.	166	Senior sites - mini-branch collection rotation: Canterbury-on-the-Lake & Lockwood	2
TOTAL	348	TOTAL	41

Children's Services

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

We were able to restart our indoor family storytimes this month due to low cases of COVID on our community: 195 attendees.

We handed out four different craft projects this month: butterfly, flower, paper bag kite, and a caterpillar on a leaf. Total distributed was about 246 kits. These kits are rotated about every two weeks.

The children's librarians are still recording Ready Reads Storytimes, Monday through Thursday. The mini-videos are posted on our Facebook page with a link to the library's YouTube channel for patrons to watch at their convenience.

Our "Guess How Many?" jar has been very popular. This month 77 students submitted guesses on how many seashells the jar held (324 shells). This month the jar held 324 seashells. Twenty-three students completed the Scavenger Hunt. Winners received a \$10.00 Meijer gift card. New games start the first day of the month, and end the last day of the month.

Great Start Collaborative (GSC) received a grant from ALL IN through the Michigan Department of Education. Through this grant GSC was able to give us over 200 books in Spanish and Spanish/English for our patrons. About half were used to establish a new International Language Collection. The other half was made available as giveaways to children in Waterford whose first language is Spanish. About 28 books were given away.

Circulation Services

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

As planned, the additional ten mobile hotspots we purchased to keep up with the demand for the mobile hotspots were made available at the beginning of March. Added to the 5 mobile hotspots we received via the collaboration of Huron-Clinton Metro Parks and The Library Network we have seen these 15 items greatly reduce wait times for patrons interested in borrowing one. These new hotspots were linked independently of the Metro Parks hotspots to enable easy reporting to TLN on usage of the original 5 for the grant project. But both records will display through the online catalog when searching for “Waterford hotspot.”

In early March, the way we record condition of materials coming in to fill holds for patron changed. Previously, anything we wanted to alert staff and patrons to was recorded on a removable label and affixed to the item. Numerous shared system libraries have reported experiencing issues with removable labels not releasing from items as easily as they should, leading to damage. While we did not receive word that our labels caused damage to materials, we decided to move to an alert bookmark. Other co-op libraries have transitioned to similar flagging systems.

Beginning April 1, 2022, the fee for account placement through our collection agency, Unique Management Services, Inc., will increase to \$12 per placement.

The Circulation department’s bi-monthly meeting will resume in April.

DONATIONS THIS MONTH

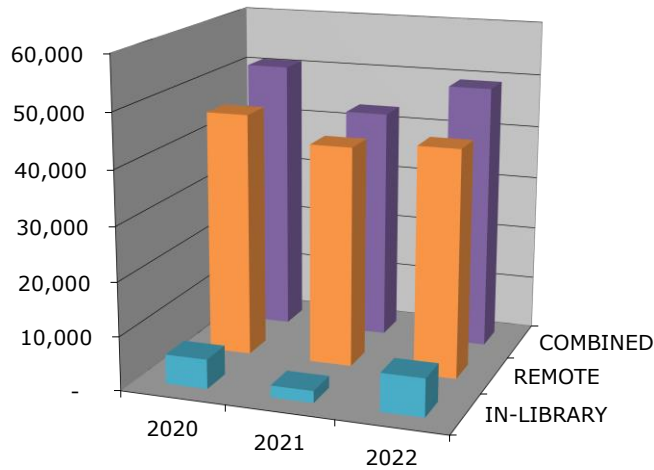
Total: \$28.62

- Casual donations received at the Circulation Desk.

PROGRAMS & FACEBOOK REACH

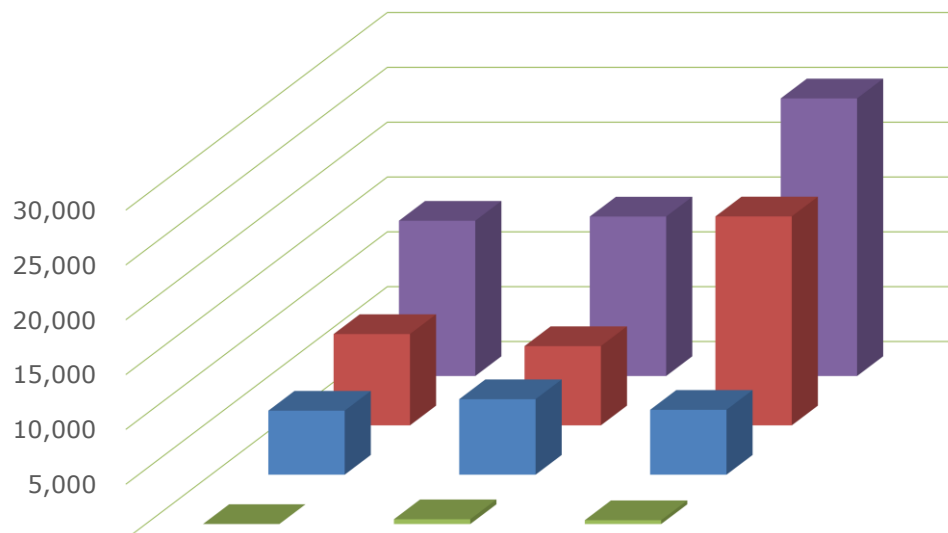
PROGRAM	PARTICIPANTS
ADULTS	
Waterford Genealogy Society - Afternoon meeting	14
Waterford Genealogy Society - Evening meeting via Zoom	6
Evening Book Discussion	6
Afternoon Book Discussion	7
Weekly Knitting Group (4 sessions via Zoom)	58
Waterford Writers Workshop (2 sessions)	16
Library Garden Club - Landscaping with Native Plants	14
Waterford Chamber - Member Orientation Luncheon	19
Paper Flowers Take-and-Make Craft	43
Women of the Ancient World	14
Plant-Based Nutrition via Zoom	37
Plant-Based Food Giveaway	31
TOTAL	265
TEENS	
Take-and-Make Mug Desserts	18
TOTAL	18
CHILDREN	
Ready Reads video storytime (14 readings)	3,431
Family Storytime (10 sessions)	195
Craft Corner demonstration (2)	426
TOTAL	4,052
TOTAL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION	4,335
FACEBOOK	
TOTAL REACH/DAY	
People served any activity from our Page	4,075

LIBRARY VISITS - March 2022



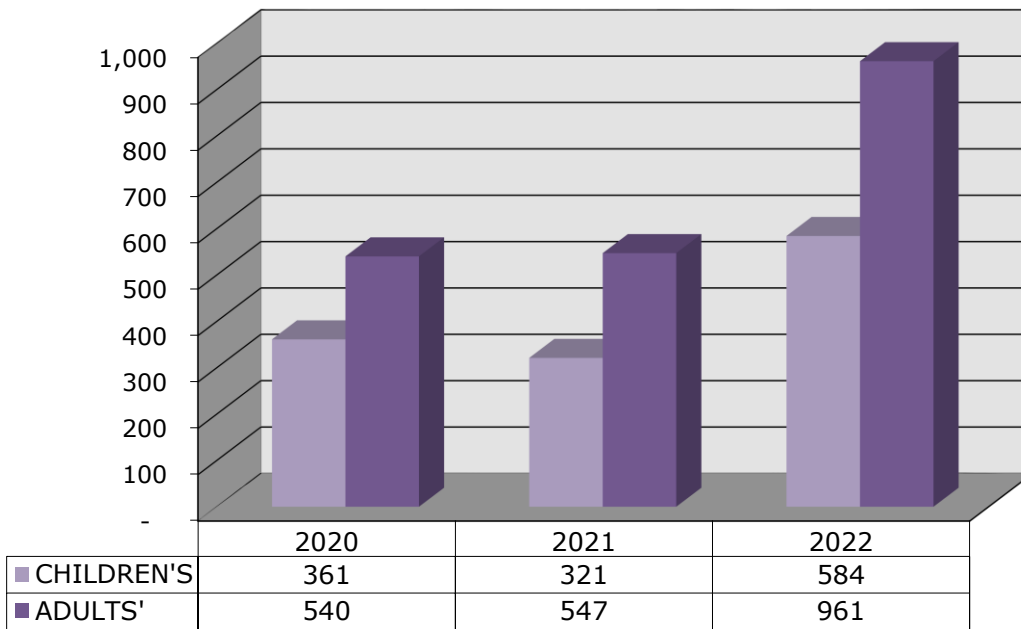
	2020	2021	2022
IN-LIBRARY	5,483	2,211	7,059
REMOTE	45,486	40,983	42,245
COMBINED	50,969	43,194	49,304

CHECKOUTS - MARCH 2022

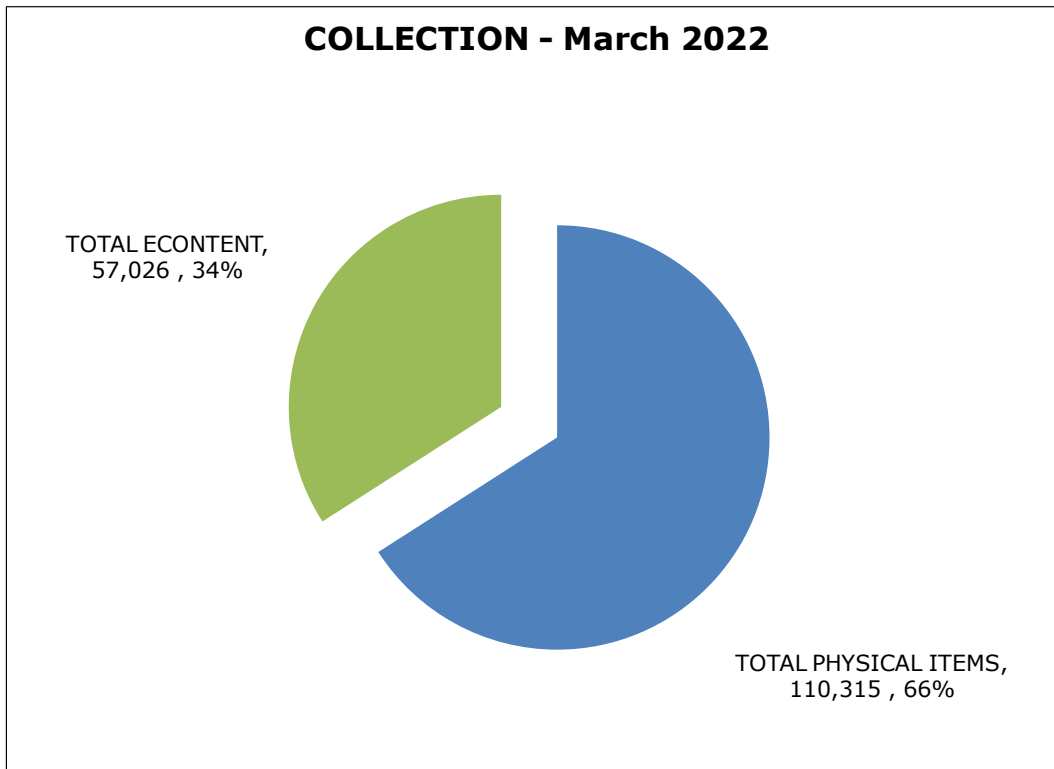


	2020	2021	2022
OUTREACH	-	434	348
DOWNLOADS	5,835	6,885	5,915
MAIN	8,325	7,225	19,052
COMBINED	14,160	14,544	25,315

REFERENCE - March 2022



COLLECTION - March 2022



(This chart is a snapshot in time)