

Medway Public Library
Director's Report
September 9, 2024

The people counter reported that there were 5801 visits to the library during August. Patrons used curbside checkout and home delivery 31 times. A total of 283 books and other items were added to the collection. Forty-four new patrons got library cards. and a total of 9,047 physical items and 2,539 Overdrive items were checked out in August.

The lower level was staffed 16 nights from 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm in August. During those evenings, 25 individuals used computers and the Makerspace. A total of 72 people attended 12 meetings and programs.

New Events

At the request of patrons, we will now offer a digital subscription to the Wall Street Journal.

Our long-time vendor of our website unfortunately plans to retire within about a year, so we will need to find a replacement.

The Medway Garden Club planted a wonderful Pollinator Garden for the Library. It is located on your left as you face the front Library door.

Staff

We welcomed Michelle Getz as the new Library Assistant I, and Denise Child and Noah Garofalo as new Substitute Library Assistants. We have begun the interview process for the Staff Librarian - Technical Services position.

Meetings & Webinars in August included:

Zoom meetings with directors of small libraries in Massachusetts
SUP Coalition Meeting
Association of Small and Rural Libraries Conference

Meetings & Webinars in September will include:

Association of Rural and Small Libraries Conference in Springfield, MA
Zoom meetings with directors of small libraries in Massachusetts
Mass Library Association Leadership & Management Section Meeting
Minuteman Library Network Membership Meeting
MHEC Expo
Department Heads Meeting
SUP Coalition Kick-Off and Policy Meetings
Staff Meeting

Margaret Perkins, Library Director

August 2024 Youth Services Report

Weekly programs

Numbers fluctuated and the crowds had different faces, but we had repeat business for the morning littles programming. Our Move, Groove, and Learn helpers returned throughout the month of August and were a delightful addition to Friday mornings.

Monthly programs

Monthly programs were on hiatus, with the exception of Read the Rainbow, and participation there is holding steady. The next month's book was selected by the group's Maxcot (Max, a bearded dragon who has been in attendance a number of times).

Passive programs

In the children's room: We had an ocean sensory bin and a sun-themed salt writing tray. The **Good-for-Nothing Button** flannel board story basket was popular. In the middle-grade room: Various examination table and drawing prompt activities saw frequent usage.

Special programs

This month's focus was on the summer lunches, and making sure there were offerings before and after. The library brought in noted storyteller Diane Edgecomb to present perennial story favorites at Choate Park in August. The summer reading program finished up on August 16th, and we notified our raffle basket winners the following week. The Friends of the Medway Library did an outstanding job preparing the raffle baskets and winners were delighted. We had just over 250 registered participants in the program this year. They logged a total of 3838 books read.

Displays

The middle-grade room stayed with the summer reading theme, and the YA section continued displaying the MTCBA list since voting begins in September. The children's bulletin board, begun in June, has seen our hive grow from a few hexagons to a large grouping (Best place to bee!)

Collection development

In August, I purchased 48 YA titles and 98 children's books.

Next up for revamping is our world languages collection and shifting a few columns of middle-grade fiction to give the J non-fiction more space.

Deposit Collection/Schools

We had binders for Medway elementary, middle, and high school summer reading lists.

Notes for Trustees

None at this time.

Sincerely,
Audrey

September Makerspace Trustees Report

We had a very busy August in the Makerspace. **597** people either used the equipment, wanted a tour to see what we offered, or hung out in the space. We have gotten a very healthy amount of children using the space to work on the 3D printer, play computer games, or to sew and craft. We have a very enthusiastic group who enjoys taking advantage of our fiber arts supplies. We have also been able to persuade them into helping out with other programs and tasks.

We have seen an increase of patrons from other towns wanting to utilize the space. The furthest were from Clinton. Three patrons in total were certified on the 3D printer and four patrons were certified on the sewing machines.

August's mending program had to be canceled due to illness. The program will return to Saturdays in September.

We were fortunate enough to be able to give out backpacks again this year. Sixty-five backpacks were handed out to children and the remaining backpacks will be donated to another organization. A few will be kept in the Makerspace in case a child is in need during the school year.

In August the How-To documents for the poster printer as well as the 8mm converter were updated. The next goal is to update the signs with the software that is available for use on the computers.

For a more detailed look into the usage of the space: Patrons, especially teachers, used the large format printer to create various sized prints. Several patrons took advantage of the Epson scanner to convert slides and documents to digital images. Other patrons used the VHS to digital converter. The computers, 8mm converter, laminator, and 3D printers were also used. On the craft side, patrons used the paper crafting and cutting supplies. Several patrons used the

sewing machines throughout the month. Patrons have also been heavily using the fabric and yarn supplies.

In September, we hope that the Makerspace continues to be populated with young visitors after school lets out. The Dungeons & Dragons groups and the Fiber Arts group will continue to meet this month as well. The two new monitors from the senior abatement program are working out well and will be trained on the tech side's equipment in order to assist patrons while they are watching the room.

Medway Cable Access will be holding a community ed class in the Makerspace on October 16th to demonstrate the media equipment in the room. Last year's class was a huge success, and almost all of the participants returned to the space to work on their projects throughout the year.

Sincerely
Diane Busa
Makerspace Coordinator