

Medway Public Library
Director's Report
November 7, 2023

The people counter reported that there were 6,188 visits to the library during October. Meeting rooms were used approximately 98 times during that period. Patrons used curbside checkout and home delivery 40 times.

Programs in October:

In September, 668 children and teens participated in 50 library programs.

- Toddler Storytime
- Toddler Jam at the Library (twice a week)
- Preschool Storytime
- Move, Groove and Learn
- Dance Party Playgroup
- 1000 Books Before Kindergarten
- Unicorn Club
- Homeschool Hangout
- Puzzle It Out
- Crafternoon
- PAWS to Read
- Tinkerlab
- Read the Rainbow: Beetle and the Hollowbones
- LEGO Club
- Halloween Book Giveaway

- Introduction to Robotics Using Arduino
- Middle School Hangout
- Fandom Forward
- Discord Gaming Meetup
- Sewing 100 for Teens/Tweens
- Teen Dungeons & Dragons
- STEAM up your Wednesday

- Adult Dungeons & Dragons
- Medway Fiber Arts Group
- Library Book Group
- Oh, Shoot! Photography Group
- Adult Dungeons & Dragons
- Halloween Hauntings with Michele LaRue

- Metalsmithing with Heather Beck

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- Adult Dungeons & Dragons
- Medway Fiber Arts Group
- The Unsung Heroine of the New Deal: Frances Perkins, Part II

Youth Services and Makerspace Report for October 2023

October ramped back up at the library. In addition to adding back tried and true favorites, we introduced some new programs.

Middle School Wednesdays started up on Oct. 4 and came back strong, despite the school placing a low limit on the number of students that can be transported, resulting in a waiting list for the program. Some students found a way around the transportation issue and managed to get here anyway. Up to 20 children participate each week.

Also returning was Unicorn Club, with returning members, and PAWS to Read with our current two dogs Harlow and Sprite. The October session filled up fast! Teen D&D has a consistent membership. Our monthly Read the Rainbow session was a spooky title and brought in a middle schooler.

Newly added programs include a weekly Homeschool Hangout on Mondays, which is off to a slow but steady start, and a changing offering on Tuesday. We had a great inaugural Puzzle It Out session and put together a 350-piece puzzle in an hour. This was fun and multigenerational. The following Tuesday's program, a Discord gaming meetup, was fun but not multigenerational. After Middle School Wednesdays, we introduced the Medway chapter of Fandom Forward, named Friends of Momo, a service/activism group designed to help out with library projects and bridge the end of Middle School Hangout and the 4 PM Makerspace program of the week (depending on the week, a Crafternoon, Tinkerlab, STEAM/4-H, or LEGO Club). Friends of Momo helped make posters for the Friends of the Library's book sale, and we retained middle schoolers to help mentor younger children at LEGO Club this month. This program's first session was held on Oct. 25 with 8 participants. Builds are on display in the children's department. The monthly crafting session brought in 8 people. All of these post-Middle School Hangout programs on Wednesdays are held in the Makerspace.

Our early literacy programming at 11 brought good numbers throughout the month, and we welcomed Yvette Sammarco from Walpole CFCE on Oct. 20 as a guest presenter for Move, Groove, and Learn Dance Party.

There was an early release day on Oct. 18, a Wednesday, so in lieu of Middle School Hangout, Diane led a Sewing 101 course in the Makerspace, which was well received with four participants.

We finished off the month on the 31st with a Halloween treat and book giveaway, which was well attended.

In the Makerspace, October brought in more than 175 visitors. Once again we had visits from teens and tweens who just wanted to hang out in the room to use the computers, work on crafts or just chit chat. Patrons used the large format printer, VHS to DVD converters, 3D printers, sewing machines, computers, fabric & yarn supplies. Introduction to Robotics Using Arduino started Monday October 2 with 7 children participating. Nine adults enjoyed making copper bookmarks during our Metalsmithing with Heather Beck program on October 25.

November will see a continuation of these programs, and despite two holiday closures, we anticipate similar attendance.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane and Audrey

Meetings & Webinars in October included:

Indigenous Peoples' Day Committee Meeting
Meeting with Capital Improvement Planning Committee representative
Meeting regarding proposed sculpture and possible grant funding
Zoom meetings with directors of small libraries in Massachusetts
Minuteman Membership Committee Meeting

Meetings & Webinars in November will include:

Zoom meetings with directors of small libraries in Massachusetts
Department Managers Meeting
Capital Improvement Planning Committee Meeting
Keyusers (Technology) Meeting
SUP Policy Workgroup & SUP Full Coalition Meetings

Building and Grounds

One of the HVAC rooftop units is currently not working due to a leak in the evaporator coil. The evaporator coil will be replaced in early November. DPW has received a price quote for the repair of \$9,950. DPW and the library plan to use funds left over from last year's temperature control capital improvements (# 0261001 – 5240) to pay for this repair.

Bobby McGee (DPW) recommends that we add a new HVAC system to the basement Makerspace and Book Room with updated ducts and supply diffusers. He also suggests that we consider installing a unit in the Story Hour Room that is more efficient and includes a fresh air supply.

The sprinkler system's air compressor is broken, and needs to be replaced. The cost quote is \$3,400.

Meeting with Capital Improvement Committee

Other

The lower level was open 18 nights from 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm in October. Twenty-one individuals used computers and the Makerspace. A total of 210 people attended 22 meetings and programs after 8:00 pm. .

Margaret Y. Perkins, Library Director