Booth & Dimock Memorial Library

Director's Report April 2025

Note: In April 2023 the library was operating 3 days a week out of Millbrook due to construction.

I. *Circulation* – Items that have been checked out, renewed, or loaned/borrowed through inter-library loan.
   - Total – **6,183** (2024: 6,111) (2023: 3,153)
   - Type (included in total)
     - Books & Serials – **4,547** (2024: 4,581) (2023: 2,269)
     - Video – **327** (2024: 408) (2023: 58)
     - Audio – **101** (2024: 69) (2023: 41)
     - Electronic – **1,084** (2024: 882) (2023: 705)
     - Other – **124** (2024: 171) (2023: 80)
   - Age (included in total)
     - Adult – **2,120** (2024: 2,231) (2023: 1,229)
     - Young Adult – **332** (2024: 440) (2023: 204)
     - Children – **2,602** (2024: 2,521) (2023: 1,008)
     - Not Assigned – **45** (2024: 37) (2023: 7)
       - ***Since re-shelving the children's room, we have seen a 42% increase in circulation of juvenile nonfiction as compared to February 2025.***
   - Inter-Library Loan (included in total)
     - Borrowing – **554** (2024: 576) (2023: 780)
     - Lending – **420** (2024: 412) (2023: 15)

II. *Library Visits* – People walking through the door as tallied by an automatic door counter.
   - **2,630** (2024: 2,615) (2023: 459)
     - ***YTD visits are 27,916, which has exceeded last year's total of 27,189!***

III. *New Library Cards* – Individuals who registered for a Coventry library card for the first time.
   - **20** (2024: 37) (2023: 1)

IV. *Reference* – Questions staff answered regarding library services, library catalog, local area, research, genealogy, homework help, and more.
   - **634** (2024: 649) (2023: 260)

V. *Internet* – Use of library wi-fi and desktop computers.
   - Desktop Computers
     - Total Users – **54** (2024: 110) (2023: 0)
   - Wi-Fi
     - Total Sessions – **7,539** (2024: 2,803) (2023: 218)
     - Total Devices – **299** (2024: 242) (2023: 19)
     - Average clients per day – **32**

VI. *Programs* – Events, activities, workshops, or lectures offered by the library.
- Programs – **20** (2024: 18) (2023: 14)
- Participants – **482** (2024: 630) (2023: 497)
- ***127 people participated in our April Vacation programs, including an Escape Room and friendship bracelets.***

VII. *Online presence* – Activity tracked on our Facebook, website, and Google Profile.
- Facebook
  - Posts – **22**
    - Views – **6,918**
    - Reach – **5,575**
    - ***A post showing off our re-arranged children's room had 1,377 views!***
- Google
  - Profile Views – **426**
  - Business Profile Interactions – **443**
  - Website Visits – **340**
- Website
  - Site Visits – **1,356**
  - Page Visits – **2,473**

VIII. *Library Facilities*

IX. *Library Staff & Professional Development*
- Margaret attended Bibliomation's Finance Committee meeting on April 8.
- Jennifer attended the Simon and Schuster 2025 summer preview on April 9.
- Margaret attended the town's Safety Committee meeting on April 9. Margaret is the new secretary for the committee.
- Margaret attended CEN's EDAC meeting on April 15.
- Margaret attended an information session on CT Paid Leave through CLC on April 16.
- Margaret attended CLA's monthly meeting on April 17.
- Margaret attended Bibliomation's Regional Member Meeting at Somers on April 22.
- Christa attended the "All Things Tonies" workshop through CLC on April 24.
- Margaret attended the Connecticut Library Association's annual meeting on April 28 and 29 at Mystic, and presented the association's annual budget report on April 28.
- All staff completed ALERT training through Therapy Works, funded by the ALA Libraries Transforming Communities Grant.

X. *General Updates*
- Lisa Jablonski has been hired as our new bookkeeper. She will begin on May 19 and will overlap with Regina until June 30.
- Kayla and Christa applied for and received a $3,000 grant through the Dollar General Literacy Foundation to support our 2025 Summer Reading Program!
- Christa has purchased Tonieboxes and Tonies for circulation in the children's department. The Toniebox is a screen-free interactive speaker meant for children to use

independently. Through the different Tonie figures, kids can listen to stories, dance to songs, and even be led through activities like yoga! The Toniebox has been proven to reduce screen time, raise children's confidence, and improve early literacy. It's specially designed for children to be able to use completely on their own without the help of a caregiver. Christa has focused purchasing on storytelling Tonies, choosing popular characters and favorite nonfiction topics such as space and dinosaurs.

- The community room was used 4 times by outside groups.

Above: Children and caregivers enjoy the new playroom after rearranging the children's room.
Below: Christa and Kayla are working together to re-up tween programming. Pictured here is DIY Library Bags for tweens.