

### **Circulation/Usage Update**

1. Circulation in March 2017 (8,127 items) is up by more than 21% when compared to the month before and is up by 17% over March of last year. This is the best March circulation on record which goes back 10 years.
2. New library cards in March (60 new cards) were more than double when compared to February (24). This is the best March on record for new library cards going back several years. Newtown Township residents made up 67% of these new card holders with only 15% cards being created for juveniles.
3. Our public computer usage in March 2017 (432 sessions) is up by more than 13% when compared to February 2017 (384 sessions). This is also higher than March of last year by 8%. Computer use in 2017 is up by 8% when compared to 2016.
4. Our patron visits in March 2017 (6,206 visits) were more than February 2017 (5,576 visits) by 12%. This has been the trend since the beginning of the year. Each month has been seen 12% more in visitors. March has been the best month thus far in visits and is the first time the library broke over 6,000 visits.

### **Adult Services Update**

Newtown Public Library hosted the first SCORE program of the season entitled "Social Media Boot Camp". This well attended program is the first in a series of four small business oriented sessions. The next session in May covers ergonomics in the workplace. This is the second year that the library is offering this popular series.

Due to the uncertain availability of the community room due to renovation, Arlene will not be scheduling any additional adult programs for the foreseeable future. In the meantime, she will be offering more in-library programs such as 3D printing one-on-one training as well as continuing with the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday Book Club which was been very popular since it began over a year ago.

### **Youth Services Update**

Angela Hegadorn, Youth Services Librarian, reports: "March was a busy month in the Youth Services Department. The Franklin Mint Credit Union brought the Berenstain Bears to teach us about saving. The Newtown Presbyterian Nursery School visited for a story time and library tour. We also had many fun music, dancing and yoga programs.

This month we are hosting more TechGirlz programs. TechGirlz provides hands-on technology workshops for middle school girls. Our previous workshops were very successful, and we look forward to growing this program. Many thanks for Joseph Quinn, a patron who teaches these classes free of charge.

Total attendance for March was **881** patrons.

### **Upcoming Events:**

In addition to regular toddler and baby story times scheduled on Tuesdays and Wednesdays each week, and Color Me Happy Friday afternoons, the following programs are scheduled in the coming weeks:

- Medicare & You, April 26 @ 6 p.m.
- Fourth Thursday Book Club, April 27 @ 7 p.m.
- Mapping for Humanity: Using Digital Mapping to Better the World (TechGirlz), April 29 @ 9 a.m.
- Mommy & Me Yoga, May 1 & 15 @ 10:30 a.m.
- Newtown Square Wordsmiths, May 4 @ 6:30 p.m.
- Dance Me A Story!, May 8 @ 10:15 a.m.
- Let's Discuss Ergonomics: The Ability to Reduce Physical Stress and Increase Productivity (presented by SCORE), May 10 @ 7 p.m.

### **Miscellaneous**

1. Arlene attended the Edgmont Township Business Association meeting in late March. She shared with member businesses information about how they may contribute to the annual appeal.
2. Delaware County Libraries were acknowledged at the Delaware County Council meeting on Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, to kick start National Library Week which began the following week. Arlene was one of several local library directors who were in attendance with the county library staff to accept the council's recognition and represent public libraries.
3. Museum passes started to circulate the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of April. The six passes have checked out more than a dozen times since they were added to the collection. These passes are sponsored by the Friends of Newtown Public Library. Please see the attached Museum Pass brochure.
4. The Friends of Newtown Public Library have graciously agreed to fund the library's phone upgrade. Arlene has contracted with Comstar Technologies to install the new phone system as well as train staff on its use. The library has made due with a residential phone since it opened and is long overdue for this upgrade. Fortunately, Comstar works with many libraries in installing these systems at a very reasonable rate. Patrons will be able to leave voicemail messages for key staff members. The phone auto-attendant will be able to give automatically the appropriate message for closed days whether it is a holiday or an unplanned closing due to inclement weather. This improvement will present a more professional face to the community.

Respectfully submitted,

*Arlene Caruso*

Director, Newtown Public Library