

**Newtown Public Library  
Library Director's Report  
November 21, 2019**

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**Statistics:**

*Circulation*

October circulation (7,979 items) is flat when September circulation (8,014 items). Circulation always drops after the summer. This is not unusual for this time year. October 2019 circulation is more than 10% better than October 2018 (7,234 items). In fact, it is the best circulation in October since before records have been kept (2008). We continue to have circulation totals over 7,000 items each month which has not been achieved since 2012. Total circulation in 2019 continues to be better than 2018 by more than 9% and is the best circulation at Newtown Public Library since 2012 which is the year to beat circulation-wise.

*New Library Cards*

New library cards issued in October (39 cards) is much less than September (68 cards). Despite this, our total new library cards for 2019 thus far (502 cards) is 19% higher than last year at this same time (476 cards).

*Wi-Fi Sessions*

October Wi-Fi sessions (8,521 sessions) is a 9% increase over September Wi-Fi sessions (7,794 sessions). This continues the trend from April (7,477 sessions) of being in excess of 7,000 sessions. It is also more than double the amount of Wi-Fi sessions during October 2018.

*Library Visits*

Library visits in October (6,277 visits) were flat when compared to September (6,218 visits). Visits in October 2019 were better than last year at this time by 5% and is the best total in October since the people counter device was install in 2016. Overall, visits in 2019 (62,969 visits) are up by 7% when compared to the same period in 2018 (58,783 visits).

**Youth Services Update**

*From Angela Hegadorn, Youth Services Librarian:*

“Our October events were well attended and successful. Along with regular programming, we enjoyed a 6-week beginner crocheting class led by a wonderful library volunteer, Amy Wetmore. It was geared for children in grades third through sixth. We received great feedback from both kids and parents. We also welcomed high school students from Open Connections for classes on DCLS’s research databases. Their instructors wanted them to make full use of our resources in their research projects.

The FOL generously donated funds to replace our two early learning computers and their tables. We’re very grateful, as our old ones were in bad repair and these computers are heavily used. We also received several boxes of new toys from the state library as part of their Wee Build grant. This program recognizes the importance of play and seeks to provide preschoolers with opportunities for it in libraries.

Total attendance for October was **1130.**”

### **Upcoming Events :**

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

- Yoga with Miss Gosha, November 25 @ 10 a.m.
- “Did Dinosaurs Have Dentists” – Reading by author, Patrick O’Donnell, November 26 @ 10 a.m.
- Mid-Atlantic Amateur Radio Club Meeting, November 26 @ 7 p.m.
- Dance Me A Story: Nutcracker Fantasy, December 2 @ 10:30 a.m.
- Music with Miss Joy, December 3 @ 10 a.m.
- Affordable Care Act Insurance Enrollment Event (sponsored by State Senator Tim Kearney), December 3 from 4-7 p.m.
- Newtown Square Wordsmiths, December 5 @ 6 p.m.
- First Notes Music, December 11 @ 10 a.m.
- Wednesday Book Club (Discussing “1984” by George Orwell), December 18 @ 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Calling All Handcrafters, First and Third Mondays @ 1 p.m.

### **Miscellaneous**

Arlene has been working on importing three years of fund drive data from an Excel spreadsheet into new donor management software. This requires going through the spreadsheet line by line and has been quite time consuming. Once the import is complete, however, the time and effort spent will be well worth it.

Arlene assisted the Friends of Newtown Public Library with their first event collaboration between the Delaware Valley Art League (DVAL), a non-profit association of professional artists, and Garrett Williamson (GW), a non-profit organization just down the street from the library that provides quality educational and recreational programs for children. The event featured a painting demonstration and an opportunity to meet DVAL artists. The paintings on display that night included those created by DVAL artists during Delco Arts Week in September of GW grounds before GW was damaged by a storm on Halloween. These paintings now hang in the library through the end of the year and are available to purchase. The proceeds benefit the library and GW.

Arlene represented the library at the Newtown Square Business Association’s Shopping Showcase 2019 from 1-4 p.m. on Saturday, November 16 by providing information about the library and its museum pass program. She also shared a turkey craft with the children who attended. This “pop-up sale” for the community from the shops of Newtown Square was hosted Ellis Athletic Center. This is the first event of its in kind from the association and additionally provided the opportunity to network with businesses in Newtown Square.

Respectfully submitted,

*Arlene Caruso*

Director, Newtown Public Library