

**Newtown Public Library
Library Director's Report
June 21, 2018**

Circulation/Usage Update

Circulation in May (6,997 items) increased by 3% when compared to April (6,824 items) and is less than May 2017 by less than 2%. When compared to other years, the circulation numbers for May 2018 is better than all years back at least to 2012 which is encouraging.

New library cards in May (30 new cards) were less than April (34 new cards). This is amount of new library cards are less than the usual for May but not significantly so.

Our public computer usage in May (383 sessions) is up by 4% when compared to April (370 sessions) and is also more than the sessions for this time last year by 3%. We hope this trend continues.

The library had 5,315 patron visits in May which is a 3% improvement over March 2018 (there was no data for April 2018 due to tampering of the people counter). This amount is only slightly less than May 2017 (5,389 visits). We again hope that we continue to see as many patrons in the coming months.

Youth Services Update

From Angela Hegadorn, Youth Services Librarian: "Our Summer Reading and Learning Program started on June 12th. We've got lots of fun programs scheduled. So far we've enjoyed Mommy & Me Yoga, Miss Joy's Music and First Notes Music. Performers from the Music Training Center of Ardmore provide First Notes classes for no charge, and do an excellent job. They come once a season. Our official kick-off concert with Alex and the Kaleidoscope will be held on Thursday, 6/21, at Drexel Lodge Park. We are grateful the township lets us use this space for free.

Attendance for June first through today, 6/15, is **523.**"

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:

- TechGirlz: Introduction to JavaScript, June 23 @ 1 p.m.
- Mommy & Me Yoga with Miss Gosha, June 25 & July 16 @ 10:30 a.m.
- Mineral Mania with Mad Science of Delaware Valley, June 27 @ 1:30 p.m.
- Raised Beds for Beginners, June 27 @ 6 p.m.
- Fourth Thursday Book Club, June 28 @ 7 p.m. – "Mrs. Dalloway" by Virginia Woolf
- Rockin' through the Revolution with Damien Drago, June 28 @ 7 p.m.
- Science in the Summer, July 2 & 3
- Newtown Square Wordsmiths, July 5 @ 6 p.m.
- Freckleface Strawberry Party, July 9 @ 10:30 a.m.
- Miss Joy's Music, July 10 @ 10 a.m.
- Make Ice Cream in a Bag, July 11 @ 1:30 p.m.
- Philadelphia Firsts: A History of Philadelphia through Art, July 12 @ 2 p.m.
- Vegetable Clinic, July 14 @ 2 p.m.

- Rocketry & Flight Class, July 17 & 19 @ 6:30 p.m.

Miscellaneous

Angela, Arlene and our new staff member, Ava Cardonick, represented the library at Historic Newtown Square Day at Drexel Lodge Park on June 2. There were activities and games for the children and staff also talked to visitors about our popular museum pass program. The library also had a full page ad in the event book.

Our partnership with Tyler Arboretum continues to bear fruit. In addition to planting the two raised beds again this year, Julia Lo Ehrhardt, the Community Outreach Manager at Tyler Arboretum, will present a Vegetable Clinic Program in July for no cost as part of their IMLS grant. We are grateful that Tyler continues to think of Newtown Public Library when they have grant funds to spend!

Matthew Intindoli, the library's Technical Services Coordinator, attended the SEPLA Support Staff Workshop earlier this month at the Upper Merion Township Library. The theme of the workshop was disability etiquette and covered person-first language, effective communication, replacing judgment with understanding and focus on ability. Matthew also represents the library on the County Technology Committee which helps to keep us in the loop with updates and changes. Lastly, Matthew attended the SCORE Awards Luncheon at Concord Country Club in Chester County this week. We were invited to attend due to our ongoing partnership in providing SCORE speakers to our business community. Our next SCORE program will be in September.

Library staff are gearing up for the transition to Sierra ILS next week. While we do anticipate a few hiccups along the way, this should not be too disruptive as Sierra is quite similar to the current ILS, Millennium. All staff have received training while volunteers will be trained on-the-job.

To make payroll easier to process, Arlene has switched to using the online Payroll Factory option when processing the library's payroll. Instead of calling hours into the office every month, Arlene will be entering payroll through the online portal.

This past month, Arlene took the Lulzbot mini, the library's 3D printer, to Carroll County Public Libraries' IT department in Maryland and to Printed Solid in Newark, DE for repairs and for a tune-up. She has also purchased a safety enclosure from Printed Solid that will protect the machine and patrons. It will also help to regulate the temperature while printing which is essential to executing a no-fault print.

Arlene attended the Newtown Square Business Association meeting this week which focused on the visit of two America in Bloom judges, Ed Hooker and Cindy Brown. Since Cindy is a former library director, Arlene enjoyed speaking about the edible garden and gardening programs planned throughout the year. After lunch, the judges visited the library and Arlene shared her further plans for the outdoor space including rain barrels and rain chains. The judges also offered advice on improvements to the outdoor space such as asking area artists to paint the weathered benches and having children paint the rain barrels. Overall, it was a terrific opportunity to support Newtown Township's effort to improve our community's outdoor spaces.

Respectfully submitted,

Arlene Caruso

Director, Newtown Public Library