



TOWN OF HUDSON

Library Board of Trustees



194 Derry Road • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6030 • Fax: 603-816-4501

Hudson Library Board of Trustees Approved Meeting Minutes For September 27, 2023

Present:

Trustee, Mary Guessferd, Chair
Trustee, Donna Boucher, Treasurer
Trustee, Erin Henderson, Vice Chair
Trustee, Karen Bohrer, Member-At-Large
Linda Pilla, Library Director

Excused:

Selectman, Kara Roy

Call to Order: Trustee Guessferd called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance.

Public Input: None

Election of New Vice-Chair:

Motion by Trustee Bohrer to nominate Trustee Henderson as Vice-Chair. Seconded by Trustee Boucher. All in favor. Motion passed.

Reports:

Motion by Trustee Bohrer to accept the Public Minutes of July 19, 2023 and September 5, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Henderson. All in favor. Motion passed.

Motion by Trustee Henderson to accept the Non-Public Minutes of July 19, 2023 and September 5, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Bohrer. All in favor. Motion passed.

Correspondence: Correspondence from Florence Nicolas resigning from the Library Board of Trustees.

Motion by Trustee Bohrer to remove Florence Nicolas as signatory from all bank accounts held by the Library Board of Trustees. Seconded by Trustee Henderson. All in favor. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report: Trustee Boucher reported that the TD Bank presentation will be pushed out to the November, 2023 regular meeting. The TD Bank account ending xx1182 has been steadily growing since she was able to get an increased interest rate on this account.

Donations:

Motion by Trustee Boucher to accept donations from DCU, Kona Ice and Peggy Lever. Seconded by Trustee Bohrer. All in favor. Motion passed.

Selectman Liaison's Report: None

Director's Report: See attached.

Friends' Report: The Friends met last week and voted to support the candle making program with a \$125 donation and the hot chocolate program for \$200. It was suggested that the Friends meet in person as least once a quarter. The first in-person meeting will take place in November, right after Thanksgiving.

Department Heads' Meeting: There is a meeting scheduled for 9/28/23 at 1:00 p.m. Meeting will now be held the second and last Thursday of the month. GMILCS is the third Thursday. This new schedule will ensure there are no overlaps.

Conduct Policy:

Motion by Trustee Boucher to accept the Conduct Policy as amended. Seconded by Trustee Bohrer. All in favor. Motion passed.

Hills Building Update: Director Pilla has not heard any updates and she will contact Dave Morin.

Public Input Policy: Additional edits to be made and will be discussed at October meeting.

Investment Policy:

Motion by Trustee Henderson to accept the Non Appropriated Funds Investment Policy as amended. Seconded by Trustee Bohrer. All in favor. Motion passed.

Reconsideration of Materials Policy: Trustees will continue discussion of policy changes at their next regular meeting.

Operating Schedule:

Motion by Trustee Henderson to approve the 2024 Operating Schedule. Seconded by Trustee Boucher. All in favor. Motion passed.

Director Pilla has requested the library close at 5:00 p.m. on October 31, 2023. The Trustees approved this request.

Trustee Bohrer would like to see the library's weekend hours extended in the future.

Staff Christmas Party: This party has been scheduled for Monday, December 4.

Motion by Trustee Boucher to approve \$1,000 from account ending xx 0350 for the staff Christmas party. Seconded by Trustee Henderson. All in favor. Motion passed.

Next Meeting scheduled for October 18, 2023.

Future Agenda Items:

-Review/Update Collection Development Policy

Trustee Comments

Trustee Bohrer: It's been a great Summer full of programs and every time I was in the library over the Summer, I saw families, people of all ages and lots of things happening which was great. I'm glad to be associated with the library. It is such a vital part of the community and I would encourage anyone in Hudson who is a supporter of the library and who is interested in joining the Board to please apply for the vacant Trustee position.

Trustee Boucher: We're in Fall now. School has started and the library is a good place to help out with school. You can sign out a book or use it as a resource for learning.

Trustee Henderson: I'm glad we are starting to check off a lot of these policies. My family and I haven't been able to get to the library for a while and are excited to get back in there.

Trustee Guessferd: I would like to thank Flo for her service while on the Board. We are sorry to see her go. Erin, thank you for taking the Vice Chair position. Thanks to staff for all the Summer programming that went on. It was amazing. Thanks to the Town for supporting us and thank you Linda for all you do. Read a book.

Consideration to enter into Non-Public Session.

Motion by Trustee Boucher to enter into Non-Public Session at 7:26 p.m., in accordance with RSA91-A:3 II (a), the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. Seconded by Trustee Bohrer. All in favor. Motion passed.

Roll Call Vote

Trustee Henderson - Yes

Trustee Boucher – Yes

Trustee Guessferd – Yes

Trustee Bohrer – Yes

Returned to Public Session at 8:25 p.m.

Motion by Trustee Boucher to seal the Non-Public Minutes of September 27, 2023. Seconded by Trustee Bohrer. All in favor. Motion passed.

Roll Call Vote

Trustee Henderson - Yes

Trustee Boucher – Yes

Trustee Guessferd – Yes

Trustee Bohrer – Yes

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Cicia
Reporter
Rodgers Memorial Library

Rodgers Memorial Library Director's Report

Activities for July and August 2023

Summer 2023 was a series of challenges and great rewards.

July saw RML staff hard at work, making the Summer Reading Program bigger and better than ever before. We had over 700 registrations for SRP23! The weather was a substantial challenge. Numerous programs had to be hurriedly moved indoors or rescheduled for (hopefully) better weather on another date.

National Night Out 2023 was very successful this year! The team that oversees the event has also become much larger - many thanks to Hudson PD for their active participation this year. Internally, Linda was assisted by almost all the staff. Special thanks to Chris Sweeney, Terri Cicia, Tanya Moesel, Vicky Sandin and Dana Benner.

We interviewed for a Teen Programming Assistant and were very lucky to find a very qualified Hudson resident. Unfortunately, she was offered another position for a substantially higher amount of pay and she opted to move on. We wish her all the very best in her new position.

We also interviewed for an Adult Services Librarian. After a long and fruitless search, we realized we already had the perfect candidate among our own staff. Carrie Loring was offered and accepted the position at the beginning of September. She is already planning new programs for the fall and winter.

We were delighted to partner with our old friends from RISE (Rivier Institute of Senior Education) this summer. We hosted 5 programs for them that had very successful numbers. Hopefully we will have a chance to work with them again in the future.

The pavilion project is moving forward again after a hiatus. Linda has been in contact with a NH architect who recommended we contact a firm who specializes in construction of timber buildings. Vermont Timber seems to be a perfect fit for our project. This will require that we oversee the various steps of the project - something Linda is working on now.

August 25 saw the library closed for our annual staff training day. We began the day with our usual discussion about the "State of the Library." As always, this was a lively discussion. This year we were very lucky to have Trustee Erin Henderson come to share her presentation about Lateral Reading. The staff were thoroughly engaged and very much enjoyed the presentation. We all learned more about ways to check the validity of our sources. Erin had some great examples that led to much laughter! After lunch from Wrap City in Londonderry, we reconvened for our department heads to discuss various departmental issues. Vicky talked about the new catalog overlay, Aspen Discover, Dana talked about the need for more care in shelving and checking in (a perennial favorite) and Mark talked about the Museum pass program. The final project for the day was an opportunity for us to form into teams to make blankets for Fairview, the local nursing home. This project was headed up by Terri. I don't think any of us were able to match her attention to detail, but everyone had a great time and participated as they were able. Linda dropped the blankets off at the nursing home - they were gratefully received.

RML staff planned and hosted a total of 144 programs in July and August. We also made our meeting spaces available to numerous other organizations:

JULY - Community Room 3 meetings/ 18 in attendance

RISE Rivier Institute of Senior Education:

All Dressed Up: A History of Clothing through Paintings event numbers are included in library programs
 A Musical Double Header: WW II Music and Wacky Songs event numbers are included in library programs

Rotary (7/13,7/27) 15
 Hudson Democrats (7/13) 3
Study Rooms 52 uses: 120 in attendance
Study Carrels 17 times uses
Internet 213 Users/107 Guest passes

AUGUST - Community Room 9 meetings/ 51 in attendance

RISE Rivier Institute of Senior Education -
 Where Were You When You Heard this song? event numbers are included in library programs
 Cold War Espionage event numbers are included in library programs
 RISE Roundtable Book Discussion
 (8/14, 8/28) 12
 Rotary (8/10, 8/24) 25
 Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee 5
 Hudson United Soccer 9
Study Rooms 44 uses: 83 in attendance
Study Carrels 8 uses
Internet 264 Users/107 Guest passes

July 2023

PROGRAMMING REPORT SUMMARY	Events	Participants	Average
Adult Programming Totals	36	700	19
In-person programming	32	540	17

Passive programming	2	138	69
Virtual programming	2	22	11
Outreach	0	0	0
Children's Programming Totals	45	2046	45
In-person programming	27	812	30
Passive programming	11	772	70
Virtual programming	0	0	0
Outreach	7	462	66
Tween/Teen Programming Totals	23	210	9
In-person programming	21	174	8
Passive programming	2	36	18
Virtual programming	0	0	0
Outreach	0	0	0
School Outreach Totals	0	0	0
In-person programming	0	0	0
Passive programming	0	0	0
OVERALL TOTALS	104	2956	28

ADULT/ALL AGES PROGRAMMING

Program # of events	Target Age	Participants (average)	Description
In-Person Programs		32 events, 540 Total	
Stitchers Together 5 events	All Ages	50 (13 average)	People come in to share their ideas, chat, and work on their current projects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/7: 10 participants • 7/14: 12 participants • 7/21: 14 participants • 7/28: 14 participants

Dungeons & Donuts 4 events	All ages	45 people (11 average)	Patrons of all ages come to the library to play Dungeons & Dragons and eat delicious donuts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/1: 14 participants (13 in person and 1 online) • 7/8: 15 participants • 7/15: 12 participants • 7/22: 4 participants
Cross stitch/Blackwork/Embroidery (7/1)	Adults	10 people	Cross stitch, blackwork and embroidery with Oonagh Williams
Books & Booze (7/31)	Adults	20 people	Book discussion, TJ Klune's novel "The House in the Cerulean Sea" at Luk's
True Crime Podcast (7/31)	Adults	2 people	Discussed "The Dropout" which tells the story of Elizabeth Holmes and Theranos
Cookbook Club (7/10)	Adults	11 people	Outdoor BBQ Our Outdoor BBQ became an indoor BBQ because of rain. We did summer sides and "The hot dog machine was a success!"
Lithuanian Cooking with Chef Oonagh Williams (7/8)	Adults	20 people	Join Chef Oonagh Williams for a program on Lithuanian Cooking. She will demonstrate Lithuanian dishes and have samples for tasting
All Dressed Up: A History of Clothing through Paintings (7/11)	Adults	26 people	In Nancy Baker's presentation you will learn how paintings show a person's occupation, social status, and political or religious status.
Mystery Lovers Book Club (7/17)	Adults	18	The Stolen Book of Evelyn Aubrey
Benson Park Hike 4 Events	Adults	35 people (9 average)	Circulation Librarian Dana Benner will lead a weekly 45-60 minute hike at Benson Park. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (7/7) 7 people • (7/14) 6 people • (7/21) 10 people • (7/28) 12 people
Afternoon Book Group (7/18)	Adults	8 people	The Story of Charlotte's Web: E.B. White's Eccentric Life in Nature and the Birth of an American Classic
Concert:Jazz Standards and Pop Classics (7/6)	All ages	45 people	Hudson resident and jazz singer Carol Leary and a duo of musicians present a night of Jazz standards and pop classics.

Concert: FAB4Ever Beatles Tribute	All ages	140 people	FAB4Ever is a tribute band that recreates Beatles hits.
A Musical Double Header: WWII Music & Wacky Songs	Adults	28	Kal Knickerbocker presents popular songs during WWII.
Access Wisdom Book Club: 10% Happier by Dan Harris (7/13)	Adults	4 people	A book club highlighting books that help us all gain more access to our own wisdom.
Adult Craft: Resin Bookmark (7/22)	Adults	14 people	Make your very own resin bookmark with Chris Sweeney.
Chair Yoga with Lauren Young (7/15)	Adults	11 people	Yoga that is done completely in a chair.
Guitar Improvisation Workshop (7/1)	Adults	8 people	Two-hour workshop on guitar improvisation presented by Neil Santos of The Pentatonic Way https://pentatonicway.com .
Tarot 101 for Adults: Beyond Fortune-Telling (7/25)	Adults	18 people	Lecture style program for anyone who wants to learn about tarot presented by Kate Sheridan.
Container Gardening (7/29)	Adults	21 people	Staff member Dana shows how to make your own container garden and keep it alive.
Robotics for Adults with Ned! (2 events)	Adults	6 people	7/17 6 people
Passive Programs		2 events, 138 people	
Monthly Book Raffle	Adults	44 entries	July: Zero Days by Ruth Ware
GMILCS passports	All ages	94 entries	
Virtual Programs		2 events, 22 people	
Genealogy Club: Overview of the Hard Winter of 1880	Adults	5 people	Presenter Cindy Wilson will share, through photographs and newspaper quotes, what it was like for those living through the Hard Winter of 1880-81.
Norman Rockwell on Art	Adults	17 people	Virtual program that considers the various ways Norman Rockwell explored art making and museums over the course of his career.

Outreach		Total	
none			

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

Wow! Talk about a busy summer! Programs are full and we've had so many positive reports from patrons and families about how much they are enjoying our summer programs and events. We were blessed with gifts from the family of Al Rodgers who donated in his memory this year. This money was used to bring in presenters like Wildlife Encounters, Squam Lakes Nature Center, and Mr. Aaron. The Friends of the Library contributed to the purchase of prizes for the Summer Reading Challenge.

Since Becca left, the children's room has been short staffed. We hired Selene Valentine as a temporary library assistant and she did an excellent job of keeping our library neat and organized. There was a noticeable difference in the physical space when she began working with us. Becca ran a lot of programs, so covering all of them and the desk has been a stretch. Our children's staff have helped cover teen, tween, and adult programs as well as all the children's programming and events. It wouldn't have been possible without the amazing and flexible team we have in the children's room.

We are excited to welcome Kristina Young as our new Teen Services Librarian. She began working with us on July 12th. We are delighted by her love of libraries and her love of Hudson. She looks forward to building relationships with teens and the schools.

We are taking a much needed break from programming for much of August and September. We need to train new staff and develop a more manageable programming schedule. Our library page, Reilly Douglas, resigned in July. This makes covering Saturdays and evenings tricky. We hope to hire a new page for the fall.

Program # of events	Target Age	Participants (average)	Description
In-Person Programs		27 events, 812 Total	
Robotics for Families (4 events)	Families with elementary	17 people (4 average)	Learn to code the robotic arm. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/3 @ 10 2 people • @ 12 3 people • 7/24 @ 10 5 people • @ 12 7 people
Creative Kids (8 events)	Grades 1-5	175 people (22 average)	Arts/crafts for children entering grades 1-5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/3 @1:30 21 people • @3 24 people • 7/10 @1:30 34 people • @3 13 people • 7/17 @1:30 18 people • @3 21 people • 7/24 @1:30 26 people • @3 18 people

Preschool Playtime & Lawn Games (4 events)	Families	106 people (27 Average)	Water Tables and lawn games <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/5 34 people • 7/12 21 people • 7/19 23 people • 7/26 28 people
Mr. Aaron Concert	Families	100 People	A thrilling musical adventure with award winning musician Mr. Aaron. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/26 100 people
Wildlife Encounters (2 events)	Families	288 people	Learn about animals at this presentation of seven live animals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/12 108 people • 7/19 180 people
Squam Lakes "Be an Earth Hero"	Families	65 people	Learn about ways we can protect our NH environment and see 4 live animals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/5 65 people
Harry Potter Escape Room (7 events)	Families	61 people	Work together to find the clues and escape the Hogwarts classroom. We had so many people on the waiting list we added two extra sessions so that as many people as possible could participate.
Passive Programs		11 programs, 772 Total	
Take & Make projects	Preschool & early elementary	500 people (100 average)	Bagged craft to do at home. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S'mores 100 • Butterflies 96 • Campfire 104 • Crab 100 • Raccoons 100
Battle of the Books	All Ages	272 people (45 average)	Patrons vote for their favorite books about kindness and friendship. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Week 1 45 • Week 2 42 • Week 3 63 • Week 4 32 • Week 5 47 • Week 6 43
Virtual Programs		0 Total	
none			
Outreach		7 event, 462 Total	

Benson Storytime 7 Events	Families	462 people (66 average)	Songs, bubbles, and stories at Benson Park. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/6 60 people • 7/11 68 people • 7/13 88 people • 7/18 55 people • 7/20 64 people • 7/25 73 people • 7/27 54 people
------------------------------	----------	----------------------------	---

TEEN/TWEEN PROGRAMMING

The loss of our teen services librarian, Becca, has been deeply felt by teens. We had very low numbers for teen events this summer, although tween events did pretty well. Kristina Young started as Teen Services Librarian on July 12th and is full of ideas and excited to build relationships with teens.

Program # of events	Target Age	Participants (average)	Description
In-Person Programs		21 events, 174 Total	
Teen Candy Bingo	Teen	1 person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/5 1 person
Tween DIY (4 events)	Tween	73 people (18 average)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/6 neon sign 22 people • 7/13 paint along 17 people • 7/20 Resin Bookmarks 18 people • 7/27 wire tree 16 people
Teen DIY (4 events)	Teen	27 people (7 average)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/6 neon sign 5 people • 7/13 paint along 4 people • 7/20 Resin Bookmarks 10 people • 7/27 wire tree 8 people
Novel Nation	Tween	5 people	Hummingbird by Natalie Lloyd Book discussion and make bracelets with signature symbol. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/11 5 people

Tween Anime	Tween	9 people	Watch anime, make a craft, and eat ramen. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7/18 9 people
Robotics with Ned for Tweens (6 events)	Tween	20 people	Learn to code and operate the robotic arm. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7/7 3 people 7/14 5 people 7/28 1 person 7/28 1 person 7/31 4 people 7/31 6 people
Tween MarioKart	Tween	16 people	Tournament style play with prizes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7/19 16 people
Tween Cookie Decorating	Tween	15 people	Decorate homemade cookies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7/26 15 people
Teen Cookie Decorating	Teen	3 people	Decorate homemade cookies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7/26 3 people
Teen Trivia	Teen	5 people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7/21 5 people
Passive Programs		2 events, 36 Total	
Dino the Therapy Dog (2 events)	All ages	36 people (18 average)	Dino the Saint Bernard greets teens and other patrons at the library. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7/12: 17 participants 7/19: 19 participants

REFERENCE

Museums have been extremely popular this summer. NE Aquarium was the most popular at 20 reservations and 17 checkouts. Other museums at double digits include Zoo New England, McAuliffe-Shepard, Squam Lakes, and the state parks.

We've had to order "refills" for:

- Nashua Silver Knights
- The Butterfly Place
- York's Wild Kingdom
- Zoo New England

New museums

- Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
- Boston Children's Museum
- Museum of Fine Arts

Social Media

Rodger That! Google Analytics shows 110 users, 140 sessions for an average viewing duration of about 37 seconds. One new book review: "Left on Tenth: A Second Chance at Life: A Memoir"

YouTube

We have 73 subscribers, same as last month. There were 752 views total, watch time 8.7 hours. One new upload: Program highlights for the month filmed at HCTV.

Facebook

Total followers - 696. There were 25 posts. The post with the most Engagement at 166 had photos from the Carol Leary concert.

X - Twitter

Twitter rebranded itself as "X." Total of 575 followers. 20 Profile Visits: 14 tweets: The top tweet with 140 impressions was a tweet about the 4EverFab band concert.

Instagram

276 followers: Three posts 143 accounts were reached, 24 engaged.

Genealogy

The event was online for "Overview of the Hard Winter of 1880" by Cindy Wilson. Five people attended. It was a bit of a niche topic. We were doing well for attendance in the spring, and there was a drop-off come summer.

Non-library programs

Mark mailed out letters along with the expired checks from the Community Room. Some organizations have already submitted paperwork for future bookings.

Misc:

Mark was making further preparations to be out for surgery including making signs for all of August events in Canva.

July 2023 IT/Tech Services Report - Victoria Sandin

Rodgers's BPI interactions comparison to last year at this time:

BPI (Overall): - 0.7%

Calls: -11.4%

Directions: -2.8%

Website clicks: +0.9%

➔ Analysis:

Numbers overall dropped from their previous position from a year ago during the middle of Summer Reading Program. The library is usually very busy at this time with patrons and visitors calling, so this indicates a drop from “new” potential visitors and users, since new users employ a Google search to locate the library and its information (hours, phone number, etc.). Incoming calls showed an increase from last month (see **Telephone Calls** section, below), which is indicative of the number of users inquiring about or signing up for a program.

It would be interesting to see how the number of visitors this year compared with last year during this time correlates with Google searches during the same time period.

Website

- There were **15 changes** to the website in July 2023.

Telephone Calls

- Incoming - **815**
- Outgoing - **347**
- **Total - 1162**

Business Profile Views / Business Profile Searches

Views show how many people saw our Business Profile on Google Search or Maps. **Views are down -26% from this time last year.**

Searches show the terms people used that returned our profile in the results. **Searches are down -30.3% from this time last year.**

Technology Tickets

- We responded to **24 requests** for IT help from staff

Library H3lp (chat program)

- **6 chats** using the website Chat app.

Additional Tasks

July

- Vicky ran multiple programs of “Robotics with Ned” an SRP event offered to families, adults and tweens. Tweens were the most popular demographic that attended these programs.
- Linda and Vicky a customization workshop on Aspen Discovery, our new ILS overlay. Vicky experimented with it, and plans to do more in August before the August 21 launch.
- We set up an Aspen Discovery webinar with staff, and guided staff to their new Aspen login pages.
- We requested that staff begin using their Bitwarden password manager, in an effort to reduce and eventually eliminate the need for a “passwords spreadsheet.”

August Projects

- Catalog new items for Library of Things.
- Become more familiar with Aspen Discovery.
- Work on the Reference Desk while Reference Librarian Mark is out on sick leave.

Technical Services

- Better World Books: 39
- Changes to GMILCS items: 771
- Mending: 103
- Deletions/Withdrawals: 180
- Graphic novels: **292** (*Tech Services is tasked with recataloging all manga graphic novels with individual bibliographic records. GMILCS creates an individual record for each manga “issue” instead of grouping them as “issues” under the same title as we did in Evergreen. The process takes some time, so Tech Services will be busy with re-cataloging manga graphic novels for some time to come.*)

Circulation Department - Dana Benner

Notary Service(s): 17

Hours: The library was open 224 hours during July - we were closed on July 4
We issued **92** new patron cards in August. Total active patrons stand at 1,897

We had **6** patrons utilizing our Books by Mail program.

Print Circulation

	July 2023	June 2023	Increase/Decrease		July 2022	Increase/Decrease
Adult	3,120	3,122	no change		2,918	6.9%
YA	436	359	21%		474	8.0%
Children’s	4,390	4,285	2%		4,716	6.9%
Tween	512	474	8%		557	8.0%
TOTAL	8,458	8,240	2.6%		8,665	2.3%

Downloadable eAudiobooks, eBooks, and ePeriodicals

	July	June 2023	Percent Change
eAudiobooks	1004+92 = 1096	995+93 = 1088	no change
eBooks	804+57 = 861	656+43 = 699	23.2%
ePeriodicals	88	68	29%

Interlibrary Loan

COMPARISON BETWEEN June 2023 and July 2023		July 2023	June 2023	Percent Change
Materials requested by Hudson patrons	Requested	88	127	30.7%
	Filled	77	138	44.2%
	Percent filled	88%	109%	
Materials lent by RML to other libraries	Requested	92	78	17.9%
	Filled	66	52	26.9%
	Percent filled	72%	67%	

Programming - August 2023

Tanya Moesel & Marissa Sweeney

PROGRAMMING REPORT SUMMARY	Events	Participants	Average
Adult Programming Totals	26	2459	

In-person programming	21	255	12
Passive programming	2	180	90
Virtual programming	2	24	12
Outreach	1	2000	2000
Children's Programming Totals	5	442	89
In-person programming	0	0	0
Passive programming	3	326	109
Virtual programming	0	0	0
Outreach	2	116	58
Tween/Teen Programming Totals	9	98	11
In-person programming	0	0	0
Passive programming	9	98	
Virtual programming	0	0	0
Outreach	0	0	0
School Outreach Totals	0	0	0
In-person programming	0	0	0
Passive programming	0	0	0
OVERALL TOTALS	40	2999	75

ADULT/ALL AGES PROGRAMMING

Program # of events	Target Age	Participants (average)	Description
In-Person Programs		21 events, Total	
Stitchers Group 3 events	Adults	35 (11.67 avg)	People come in to share their ideas, chat, and work on their current projects. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8/4: 12 participants • 8/11: 10 participants • 8/18: 13 participants

Dungeons & Donuts 4 events	All ages	41 (10.25 average)	Patrons of all ages come to the library to play Dungeons & Dragons and eat delicious donuts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 8/5: 8 participants ● 8/12: 8 participants ● 8/19: 11 participants ● 8/26: 14 participants
Stitch/Cross Stitch/Blackwork/Embroidery Group	Adults	17	Come and Stitch/cross stitch, blackwork with us on Saturday August 5, from 9am to 12.30
Books & Booze	Adults	19	Come to Luk's to discuss Tessa Bailey's romance "Hook, Line, and Sinker" over good food and drinks! You can pick up a copy of the book from the library. 5/1: "Furiously Happy" by Jenny Lawson (Biography)
Afternoon Book Group: The Soul of an Octopus: A Surprising Exploration Into the Wonder of Consciousness (8/15)	Adults	9	Scientists have only recently accepted the intelligence of dogs, birds, and chimpanzees but now are watching octopuses solve problems and are trying to decipher the meaning of the animal's color-changing techniques. With her "joyful passion for these intelligent and fascinating creatures" (Library Journal Editors' Spring Pick), author Sy Montgomery chronicles the growing appreciation of this mollusk in her book <i>The Soul of an Octopus</i> , as she tells a unique love story. By turns funny, entertaining, touching, and profound, <i>The Soul of an Octopus</i> reveals what octopuses can teach us about the meeting of two very different minds.
Cookbook Club (5/9)	Adults	8	Indian food
Where Were You When You Heard This Song? (8/8)	Adults	40	A bit of music trivia, some names that tune, lots of singalong, no teams or score, just a ton of fun with music from the 50s, 60s, 70s. 40 participants
Access Wisdom Book Club (8/10)	Adults	8	The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning
Mystery Lovers Book Club (8/21)	Adults	13	The Cutting Season

Hiking Gear: What to Take and What to Leave Home (8/12)	Adults	2	Dana Benner, Circulation Librarian and outdoors guy, will discuss the gear you should always have on a hike and what to leave home.
Cold War Espionage (8/29)	Adults	24	Following WWII, the threat of communism and nuclear war caused America to increase security measures.
True Crime Podcast Club (8/16)	Adults	4	Redhanded
What it Takes to get an Article Published: The Good and the Bad (8/30)	Adults	6	Join Circulation Librarian, Outdoors Guy, and published writer Dana Benner for a talk about this sometimes rewarding, often frustrating world of being a writer.
Gentle Vinyasa Mat Yoga with Lauren Young (8/23)	Adults	8	This is a level 1 class for those familiar with yoga poses who are able to move between poses at a faster pace with their breath. We'll practice breathwork and mindfulness.
Rodgers Readers - Trejo : My Life of Crime, Redemption, and Hollywood (8/3)	Adults	9	Join us as we discuss Trejo : My Life of Crime, Redemption, and Hollywood by Danny Trejo* with Donal Logue.
Concert: Keith Belanger	All ages	12	Join pianist Keith Belanger, one of the performers at the popular Front Porch Piano Bar in Ogunquit, Maine, for an entertaining concert of piano bar favorites.
Passive Programs		2 events, people	
Monthly Book Raffle	Adults	46	Elin Hilderbrand "The Five-Star Weekend"
GMILCS Passport	All ages	134	Visit all the GMILCS libraries. Each library had a special activity or prize. Collect all the stamps to enter to win the grand prize.
Virtual Programs		2 event, 24 people	
Genealogy Club (8/12)	Adults	14	New Frontiers in Genealogy (virtual)
Seaside Escapes: The Art & Architecture of the New England Coast (virtual) (8/17)	Adults	10	About the program: From artist colonies to robber baron "summer cottages," the New England shoreline has inspired countless creative works

Outreach		1 event Total	
National Night Out	All Ages	2000	Rodgers Memorial Library is delighted to partner with the Hudson Police Department to offer the biggest party in town. Come and climb the climbing wall, bounce on the bungee jumper, try out Axe Play ax throwing! Eat delicious food from the food trucks and enjoy live music from the McMurphy's and Eclectic Revival, a brand new local Hudson band.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

Summer was a busy time in the children's room! Often things slow down as our summer reading programs end, but this year the children's room stayed busy as ever. The GMILCS Library Hop brought lots of new people to our library to explore.

As our summer help left, we found ourselves short handed and looking for staff again. We are looking to hire a page and a programming librarian. After an exhausting summer, we needed a period of time without regular programs. We still have Take & Make crafts. We will start regular programs again at the end of September. We have a few one off preschool programs in September, like Bubbles & Balloons and Curious Kids, but we don't have enough staff to run after school programs for school age children.

Program # of events	Target Age	Participants (average)	Description
In-Person Programs			
Passive Programs		3 programs, 326 Total	
Take & Make	Preschool & early elementary	300	Bagged craft to do at home. Avocado 10 Popsicles 125 Dragonflies 100
Virtual Programs		0 Total	
none			
Outreach		2 event, 116 Total	

Story Safari @ Benson's 2 events	Families	116 (58 Average)	Come to Benson Park for some songs, stories, and bubbles! All ages welcome. Geared to ages 3-8. Meet us near the playground. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (8/1) 61 • (8/3) 55
-------------------------------------	----------	---------------------	---

TEEN/TWEEN PROGRAMMING

We were so excited to hire a teen services librarian, but Kristina is moving on to other adventures. We are so sad to see her go so soon.

We've had a solid group of teenagers spending time at the library since school started on August 28th. They are very happy to have a snack and a drink after school. And they have been diligent about cleaning up after themselves.

Kristina planned one event for teens in September that Tanya will cover.

Program # of events	Target Age	Participants (average)	Description
In-Person Programs			0
Passive Programs			9 events, 98 Total
Dino the Therapy Dog (5 events)	All ages	70 people (14 Average)	Come meet Dino, the therapy dog. Dino is a St. Bernard who loves to be pet. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (8/2) 16 people • (8/9) 13 People • (8/16) 12 people • (8/23) 14 people • (8/30) 15 People
After school snacks and juice 4 days	Grades 8-12	28 (average 7)	Snacks and juice for teens. School started 8/28 and we already have a regular after school crowd.

REFERENCE REPORT - Mark Stawecki

Museums

Museums continued to be popular this summer. We renewed our membership with Zoo New England much earlier than expected because we ran out of passes. The zoo and the NE Aquarium were tied for top checkouts at 12 each and were the top two for reservations placed (16 and 17 respectively). Other museums at double digits were the Seacoast Science Center, Davis Farmland, Squam Lakes Natural Science Center, and York's Wild Kingdom.

Social Media

Mark was out for about two weeks, which affected some postings. Before leaving, he scheduled posts on Facebook, which is why the numbers were not as low as other platforms.

Rodger That!

Google Analytics shows 24 users, 25 sessions for an average viewing duration of about 17 seconds. No new content. At this time, Mark is working on a new movie review.

YouTube

75 subscribers: 868 views total, watch time 8.2 hours: No new uploads

Facebook

Total followers 1,711: There were 31 posts: The post with the most Reach and Likes & Reactions was a cartoon about book shopping.

Twitter

20 Profile Visits: 12 tweets total: **578 followers**: The top tweet with 56 impressions was a fun tweet featuring a cat in glasses and asking users to name a book the cat could be a character in.

Instagram

279 followers (gained three): 2 posts

Genealogy

The event was online for "New Frontiers in Genealogy by Lisa Alzo. Linda ran the program while Mark was out. 14 people attended. A patron sent a complimentary email about the program and club.

Misc:

Mark was out for just over two weeks due to surgery and returned initially on a part-time basis. He worked full-time during the last week of August.

There was one test proctor conducted by Linda when Mark was out. She caught the student breaking the rules and decided not to offer him the option of proctoring again.

Three patron PCs were added bringing the total to six.

The D&D group that meets on Saturday once requested an additional room for a separate campaign. This may be something that occurs again.

MONTHLY GOAL

I would like to try out a new section where I set a monthly goal for myself. It would need to be somewhat smaller than other goals in order to be obtainable within a month. For September, I'd like to focus on Instagram. When most staff think of social media for the library, they think of Facebook (and Twitter to a lesser degree).

Goal = Four posts on Instagram

August 2023 IT/Tech Services Report - Victoria Sandin

GOOGLE SEARCH

- From Google Business: Performance.
- NOTE: Google Business has changed how it delivers and displays its data. See information below, which includes a description of each category.

Business Profile Interactions:

Rodgers's BPI interactions comparison to last year at this time:

BPI (Overall): - 9.7%

Calls: -27%

Directions: -0.5%

Website clicks: -9.5%

WEBSITE

- There were **35 changes** to the website in July 2023.

TELEPHONE CALLS

- Incoming - 687
- Outgoing - 351
- Total - 1038

TECHNOLOGY TICKETS

- We responded to **18 requests** for IT help from staff LIBRARY H3LP (chat program)
- 4 chats using the website Chat app.

Business Profile Views and Business Profile Searches

Views show how many people saw our Business Profile on Google Search or Maps. Views are down **-34.6%** from this time last year.

Searches show the terms people used that returned our profile in the results. Searches are down **-31.1%** from this time last year..

Analysis:

Numbers overall dropped from their previous position from a year ago with Summer Reading ending 1st week in August. The library is usually pretty quiet after SRP with fewer programs being offered during this month.

Additional Tasks

August

- Experimented and learned about Aspen for a soft launch on August 21.
- Created all promotional materials - flyers, notices, website alerts - for our new catalog.
- Worked at Reference Desk while Mark was on sick leave.
- Worked with GMILCS User Experience Group (UXG) to standardize menu icons in Aspen.
- Worked with GMILCS Metadata Integrity Group (MIG) to standardize collection codes in Aspen.
- As a member of the GMILCS Digital Library Group (DLG), Vicky was tasked to order ebooks in August. Placed weekly orders in cloudLibrary.

September Projects

- Catalog will go live on September 5, so will undertake converting all links from our old catalog to new catalog overlay: https://discover.rodgerslibrary.org/?browseCategory=35_new.
- Catalog all OCLC items.
- Begin cataloging (finally) Library of Things (LoT) items.
- Upload LoT images to catalog.
- Continue working with MIG to standardize collection codes.
- Work as Acting Director while Linda is on vacation 9/8-15/2023.

Technical Services

- Better World Books: 24
- Changes to GMILCS items: 1,417
- Mending: 112
- Deletions/Withdrawals: 165
- Graphic novels: **142**

Circulation Department - Dana Benner

Library visitors were 6,807 in August - up 1% from July 2023

Notary Service(s): 32

Hours: The library was open **256** hours during August. We were closed 8 hours on August 25 for Staff training. We issued **78** new patron cards in August. Total active patrons stand at 1,665

We had **6** patrons utilizing our Books by Mail program.

Print Circulation

	Aug 2023	July 2023	Increase/Decrease		Aug 2022	Increase/Decrease
Adult	3,219	3,120	3.1%		2,728	18%
YA	390	436	10.6%		375	4.0%
Children's	4,188	4,390	4.6%		3,589	16.7%
Tween	434	512	15.2%		337	28.8%
TOTAL	8,231	8,458	2.7%		7,029	17.1%

Downloadable eAudiobooks, eBooks, and ePeriodicals

	Aug	July	Percent Change
eAudiobooks	1,111+93 = 1204	1096	9.8%
eBooks	691+51 = 742	861	13.8%
ePeriodicals	68	88	22.7%

Interlibrary Loan

COMPARISON BETWEEN June 2023 and July 2023		Aug 2023	July 2023	Percent Change
Materials requested by Hudson patrons	Requested	111	88	26%
	Filled	79	77	2.5%
	Percent filled	71%	87.5%	
Materials lent by RML to other libraries	Requested	62	92	32.6%
	Filled	49	66	25.7%
	Percent filled	79%	71.7%	

Respectfully Submitted:

**Linda Pilla
Library Director**