



# **Staff Report—Autumn Baumann, Circulation Services Supervisor**

May flew by! I am excited to share that Gail Henslin has officially completed her training and is now working her regular schedule at the library. We also finally got the lobby camera installed and running this turned out to be a trickier process than expected with some hiccups with Google Support, but I'm glad to report it's up.

Our study rooms have stayed packed as you can see by our numbers below. It is starting to feel like more and more we are running out of places to put people. The Children's Study Room is out of commission for the summer because they use that room for their SLP book prize area.

I'm looking forward to seeing this summer's statistics as we go into our Summer Library Program! Reminder to all of you to please get signed up and spread the word. We have awesome prizes available for more than just kids!

Community Rooms May				
Meeting Room	Number of Meetings	Number of Attendees	Study Rooms	Number of Uses
Sanderson	5	35	Left	55
Bidwell	3	23	Right	53
Teen	3	12	Children's	21

Circulation Data				
Year	Items Loaned	Items Borrowed	Total Circ.	Library Cards
2025	2,581	3,115	8,359	34
2024	2,693	2,742	8,087	59

April's highest traffic day of the week was Thursday and the highest traffic time of day was 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Trafsys Door Counter	May 24	May 25
Front Door	4,919	5,104
Children's Door	1,193	1,311
Total	6,112	6,415

### **Staff Report—Ann Vickman, Youth Services Librarian and Technology Coordinator**

The school visits in May went well. I made it to all the classes at John Muir and Lewiston. I was also able to visit the first-grade classes at Woodridge. By the end of May we had over 60 children attending summer school at Muir already registered for the Summer Library Program (SLP). All the kids seemed pretty excited to read and win prizes this summer.

At the SLP Kickoff Celebration on May 29 we had 167 people in attendance. The Dinosaur Dimensions show was a hit, and we registered a total of 116 individuals. In 2024 we registered 102 people. Despite bringing more adult registration forms to the park than last year, we still ran out. The break-down on the 2025 registration was: 29 adults; 9 teens; 27 Birth-PreK; 51 Kinder-5<sup>th</sup> Grade. Another big hit was the free tote bags that the Friends of the Library handed out as a registration gift. We love seeing those tote bags come back full of library books to return.

I recently learned there is a new interim Site Coordinator, Cassie Mejchar, at the Boys and Girls Club. Cassie reached out to me about working with them on the reading program again this summer. I plan to contact Cassie to see if we can work out something that will be effective for the club and for the library.

Since the Kickoff we have been busy every day registering people for the SLP. As of the morning of June 3, we now have 112 Kinder-5<sup>th</sup> Graders, and 68 Birth-PreK-aged children registered.

Summer is off to a great start!

\*I wanted to share some news I just received. Angie Gulrud, John Muir Principal, just called to let me know the Portage Public Library and staff were nominated by the Portage Community School District as Volunteer/Business of the Year. The district staff then voted on the nominees, and the library won. Angie talked about the 2nd Grade field trip to the library, the class visits, and the books we checked out for teachers this year. I've been invited to attend the school board meeting on Monday (6/9), where the district will present a plaque to the library.

### **Staff Report—Whitney Parrillo, Adult Services Librarian**

The busy season is here and volunteer applications are rolling in! We have a lot of good volunteers for the summer lunch program, shelf reading, and homebound deliveries. There has been an uptick lately in the need for technology assistance and Ann and I have been busy helping seniors with their phones, tablets, laptops, and e-readers. The Tech Assistance Tuesday program takes a hiatus for the busy summer season but patrons can always ask either one of us for an individual appointment or stop in for help anytime.

We have also seen an increase in people asking for comfort kits and we have given over 20 kits away to patrons experiencing homelessness or poverty in the last few weeks. Social service needs always increase with warmer weather and we often see many new patrons in the summer that are unhoused or need assistance with employment, food security, and shelter. The library is a designated cooling shelter so we see lots of people taking advantage of the air conditioning and free Wi-Fi.

The library is participating in a statewide postcard campaign. We will have postcards available for patrons to send to their state representatives to share their library experiences and express why libraries matter. All the postcards will be collected by the Milwaukee Public Library and sent to Washington D.C. offices in July.

Keeping busy as always, I am teaching an adult craft program this month on stamping tote bags with paint and handmade stamps and hosting members of the Chamber of Commerce at the library on July 1 as the luncheon

speaker. I'll be giving a presentation on intellectual freedom, the freedom to read, and banned books. I've given this presentation to the Women's Civic League and as a library program, so I am excited to share it with the varied group of people who participate in the chamber meetings! I'm also working on a self-paced course through UW iSchool on Spanish for Libraries in the hope that I can learn some library-specific language skills to assist our Spanish-speaking patrons at the Information Desk. Finally, I am finishing up some weeding projects to prepare for our Mainstreet refresh project when the new shelves arrive at the beginning of August!