LOOKING BACK:
A Month of Enriching Moments

JULY 2025 | ISSUE #7

> *To enrich, educate, and inspire our community by providing unique and welcoming physical and virtual environments in which exploration, creativity and the sharing of ideas are encouraged.*

NOTES FROM THE INTERIM DIRECTORS

HARD TO BELIEVE SUMMER IS WINDING DOWN! I AM VERY GRATEFUL THAT THE ROOFING PROJECT HAS AT LEAST BEGUN WHILE THE WEATHER IS STILL NICE AND THAT SIDNEY FOLKS GOT A FEW DAYS OF EXTRA REST.
I'VE GOT A MILLION IRONS IN THE FIRE, BUT THINGS ARE PROGRESSING AND CONTINUING IN A VERY POSITIVE, SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT. OUR AUGUST STAFF MEETING WAS FOCUSED, INFORMATIVE, AND FUN.
I'M ALSO STILL HAVING LOTS OF FRUITFUL ONE-ON-ONE MEETINGS WITH STAFF MEMBERS AND WILL SOON BE FILLING THE POSITION OF YOUTH SERVICES OUTREACH COORDINATOR. (APRIL ORSBORNE IS DELIGHTED TO BE THE NEW LIBRARIAN FOR FAIRLAWN SCHOOLS!) I"M VERY PROUD OF OUR RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM WHICH HAS ALREADY RAISED $621. WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO THE RELAY ITSELF AND REMEMBERING MELANIE LOTZ.

-Rikki -INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AHHH, JULY! IT WAS A BUSY AND EXCITING MONTH AT THE LIBRARY FILLED WITH PROGRAMS, PRIZES, DESK ACTIVITIES, AND PLENTY OF SUMMER READING. WITH THE HEAT, PATRONS LOADED UP ON BOOKS—ESPECIALLY BEACH READS AND SIZZLING MYSTERIES. NEW TITLES WITH BRIGHT, COLORFUL COVERS CONTINUE TO FLY OFF THE SHELVES!

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MONTH INCLUDED TRIVIA NIGHT, SEWING AND MENDING SESSIONS, AND A1C TESTING WITH WILSON HEALTH AS PART OF OUR HEALTH HAPPENS AT THE LIBRARY PARTNERSHIP. WE'RE GRATEFUL FOR OUR SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY!

OUR WEEKLY DESK GAME SHEETS AND PRIZE DRAWINGS WERE A HIT, AND THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM WRAPPED UP WITH STRONG PARTICIPATION ACROSS THE COUNTY. PRIZES INCLUDED: STAINED GLASS AND GLASS BLOWING CLASSES—JUST A SAMPLE OF SIDNEY'S VIBRANT ARTS SCENE. ABOUT 30 STAFF MEMBERS ALSO JOINED IN, WITH PRIZE DRAWINGS SET FOR THE AUGUST STAFF MEETING.

-Nancy -INTERIM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

SHELBY COUNTY Libraries

SUMMER LIBRARY PROGRAM BY THE NUMBERS

YOUTH REGISTERED
- ALL LOCATIONS JUNE 1363
- ALL LOCATIONS JULY 1364

YOUTH CHECK-INS
- ALL LOCATIONS JUNE 1648
- ALL LOCATIONS JULY 1209

ADULTS REGISTERED
- ALL LOCATIONS 518 ADULTS

ADULTS CHECKED-IN
- ALL LOCATIONS
  - 1ST CHECK-IN - 322
  - 2ND CHECK-N - 226
  - 3RD CHECK-IN - 125

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

- THE END OF THE SUMMER LIBRARY PROGRAM WAS BITTERSWEET. JULY STARTED ON A GROOVY NOTE FROM CHILDREN DANCING TO SOME TUNES, CREATING WEARABLE FASHION, AND OF COURSE TYE-DIE. SLP FOR THE LAST WEEK LET PATRONS TRY OUT THEIR ACTING SKILLS WITH THE ACTORS REEL, LOOK AT DIFFERENT EMOTIONS FROM THE MOVIE INSIDE OUT 2, AND PARTNERING WITH GATEWAY ARTS COUNCIL FOR THE LITTLE LUTHIERS TUESDAY PROGRAM.
- WHAT WOULD SUMMER READING BE WITHOUT THE ANNUAL END OF SUMMER POOL PARTY? SLP PARTCIPANTS ENJOYED GOING TO THE SIDNEY WATER PARK FOR A NIGHT OF FREE PIZZA, TOYS, AND SWIMMING. WE PARTNERED WITH AGAPE, ROTARY CLUB OF SIDNEY, PIZZA HUT, LITTLE CAESARS, MARCOS, CASSANOS, AND DOMINOS,
- FAIR WEEK STARTED OFF WITH LOTS OF RAIN, BUT THAT DID NOT KEEP OUR PATRONS AWAY FROM LISTENING AND GETTING THEIR FREE BOOKS AUTOGRAPHED BY VISITING CHILDREN'S BOOK AUTHOR ERIN GUENDELSBERGER; AND WATCHING THE MAGNIFICANT MAGIC TRICKS BY MAGIC WITH ELI.
- JULY ENDED WITH GRAND BASKET DRAWINGS, WINNERS OF THE COLOR WAR FINISHING THE CHILDREN'S CANVAS SPRAY PAINTING, AND THE FINAL VISIT FROM EVERYONE'S FAVORITE FURRY FRIEND - LOLA THE READING DOG.

-Jessie

-YOUTH SERVICES ASSISTANT

SHELBY COUNTY Libraries

LOOKING BACK:
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YOUTH SERVICES EVENTS

TEEN SERVICES

8-15 TEEN THURSDAYS

4 BLEACHED SHIRTS

4 DIAMOND ART

THE END OF JULY BROUGHT THE END OF SUMMER READING! THE TEEN PROGRAM HAD 150 TOTAL PARTICIPANTS IN GRADES 7-12 THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY. THERE WERE 347 TOTAL READING CHECK-INS AND 247 EXTRA ACTIVITIES COMPLETED (STEM ACTIVITIES, WORD PUZZLES, CRAFTS, ETC.).

JULY WAS A SLOWER MONTH FOR PROGRAMS. TEEN THURSDAYS CONTINUED AND I HAD 8-15 TEENS FOR EACH OF THOSE PROGRAMS. ON TUESDAY, JULY 8, BOB DID A PROGRAM FOR TEENS IN THE MAKERSPACE WHERE THEY DECORATED SHIRTS USING AN IMAGE PRINTED FROM THE CAMEO AND THEN SPRAYED OVER THE IMAGE WITH BLEACH TO CREATE SOME PRETTY COOL DESIGNS. WE HAD 4 TEENS PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM. I ALSO DID A DIAMOND ART PROGRAM ON TUESDAY, JULY 15 AND THERE WERE 4 TEENS WHO ATTENDED. WE ENDED THE SUMMER READING PROGRAM WITH A POOL PARTY AT THE SIDNEY POOL ON JULY 18. THERE WERE 8 TEENS WHO CAME.

-Cindy
TEEN SERVICES COORDINATOR

100 BOOKS BY GRADUATION

For the 100 Books By Graduation program, we have had 64 teens registered and 867 books recorded since starting the program in 2021. We've had 6 teens who have completed the 25 book check-in, 2 teens who has completed the 50 book check-in, and 3 teens who have finished the program by completing the 100 book check-in!

JULY PASSIVE PROGRAMS IN THE TEEN ROOM

July was full of fun and creativity in the teen area!

- 24 teens completed the Flexangle Take & Make Craft
- 18 participated in the Types of Art I Spy activity
- 23 took a guess in the Popcorn Guessing Jar

In addition, 25 teens helped bring the Sticker Mosaic in the teen room to life throughout the month!

SHELBY COUNTY Libraries

TECHNOLOGY

- UPDATED DIGITAL SIGNAGE
- RENEWED FARONICS CONTRACT FOR PUBLIC WORKSTATION SECURITY
- ORDERED AND DEPLOYED NEW COMPUTERS TO THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE, AND THE CIRCULATION DESK.
- PREPARED LAPTOP FOR THE NEW SECOND FLOOR REFERENCE DESK.
- DEPLOYED MICROSOFT TEAMS ON ALL STAFF COMPUTERS TO ASSIST IN BETTER COMMUNICATION AMONGST STAFF.
- WATCHED A WEBINAR ON NEW CYBERSECURITY REGULATIONS THAT ARE TAKING EFFECT STATE WIDE

-Bob
-STEM LAB COORDINATOR

- INSTALLED MONITOR SOFTWARE FOR THE COPIERS CONTRACTED THROUGH PERRYPROTECH AT EACH LOCATION.
- TOOK OVER THE STATISTICS FOR THE LIBRARY AFTER MARK'S RETIREMENT.
- CURRENTLY UPDATING THE EXCEL SPREADSHEET USED FOR THE STATISTICS.
- APPROVED PURCHASES FOR SUBSCRIPTION/HARDWARE ITEMS AS NEEDED.

-Becki **-TECH COORDINATOR**

34 PEOPLE ATTENDED

WATERCOLORS & WHITECLAWS

MAKERSPACE PROGRAMMING

MAKERSPACE

$1225.01 Money In

42 Number of Appointments

- PARTICIPATED IN A CHILDREN'S PROGRAM AT A TATTOO STATION WITH THE PRINKER, OUR ROLL ON TATTOO PRINTER
- HOSTED A BLEACH T-SHIRT PROGRAM FOR TEENS, TEACHING THE SCIENCE OF COLORS TO CREATE DESIGNS.
- HOSTED AN INCREDIBLY SUCCESSFUL WATERCOLORS & WHITECLAWS PROGRAM WITH 34 ADULTS CREATING PERSONALIZED COASTERS USING ALCOHOL INKS. MANY PATRONS ASKED FOR MORE PROGRAMS LIKE THIS IN THE FUTURE.
- ENGAGED WITH PARTNERS FROM THE OSU EXTENSION, THE SHELBY COUNTY FAIR, WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP, SIDNEY-SHELBY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, SIDNEY HISTORIC THEATER, SHELBY COUNTY DEMOCRATS, AND OHIO STATE PARKS.
- WITHIN THE LIBRARY, THE MAKERSPACE CREATED ITEMS TO SELL TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE SHELBY COUNTY LIBRARIES CHAPTER CHAMPS, OUR RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM.

-Bob
-STEM LAB COORDINATOR

SHELBY COUNTY Libraries

MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT

- PAINTED OUR BOOTH AT THE FAIR WITH BROOKLYN
- SET-UP OUR FAIR BOOTH AT THE SHELBY COUNTY FAIR. WE HANDED A VARIETY OF LIBRARY RESOURCES AND PROMOTIONAL ITEMS EACH DAY INCLUDING A CROWD FAVORITE, THE BUCKETS. A NEW ITEM, THIS YEAR, WAS A PILL BOX WITH OUR LOGO AND WEBSITE FOR SENIOR CITIZENS DAY
- CREATED MARKETING MATERIALS FOR THE SIDNEY END OF SUMMER LIBRARY PROGRAM POOL PARTY
- ADDED AUGUST EVENTS TO THE ONLINE CALENDAR
- UPDATED THE BANNERS ON THE HOMEPAGE OF THE WEBSITE
- IN THE MONTH OF JULY FOR CANVA I HAD:
  - 50 DESIGNS CREATED
  - 94 DESIGNS PUBLISHED
  - 11 LINKS SHARED
  - 205 DESIGNS VIEWED

205
DESIGNS VIEWED

-Cassandra
DIRECTOR OF MARKETING & DEVELOPMENT

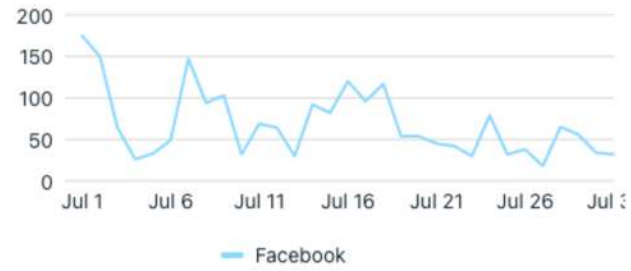
SHELBY COUNTY Libraries

FACEBOOK

July Stats

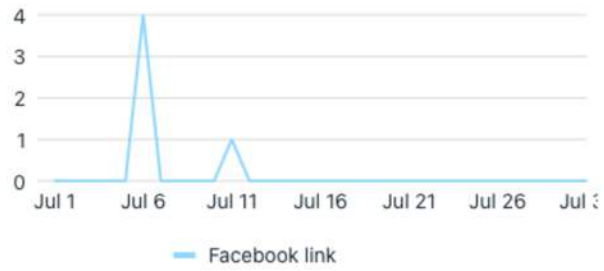
Visits

2,122 ↓ 47.3%



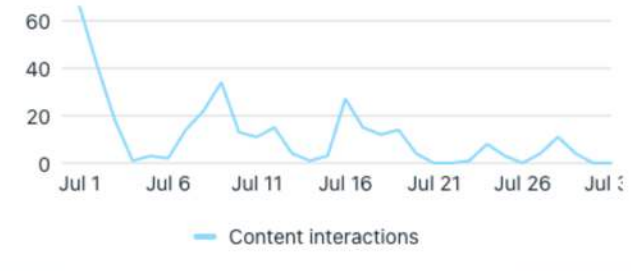
Link clicks

5 ↓ 88.6%



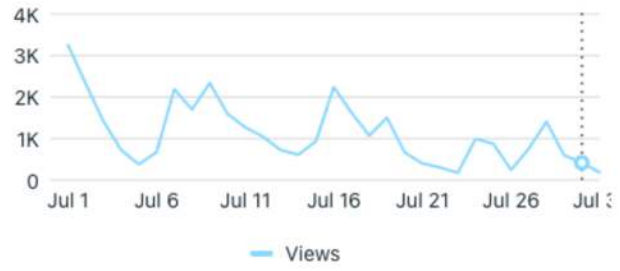
Content interactions

351 ↓ 59.7%



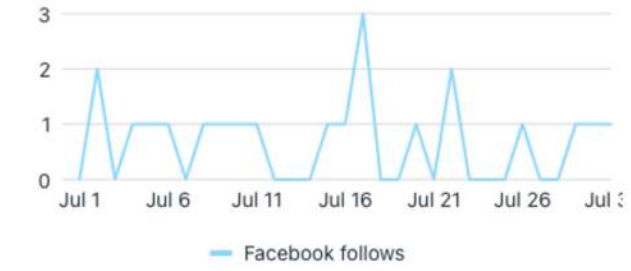
Views

34,631 ↓ 54.2%



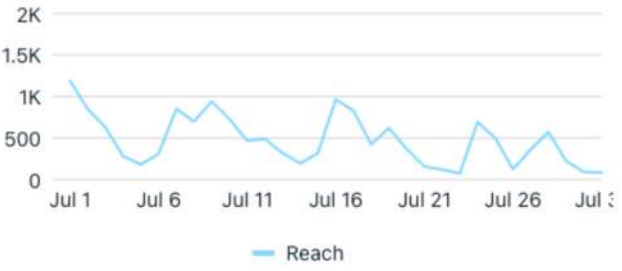
Follows

21 ↓ 58%



Reach

6,281 ↓ 43.8%



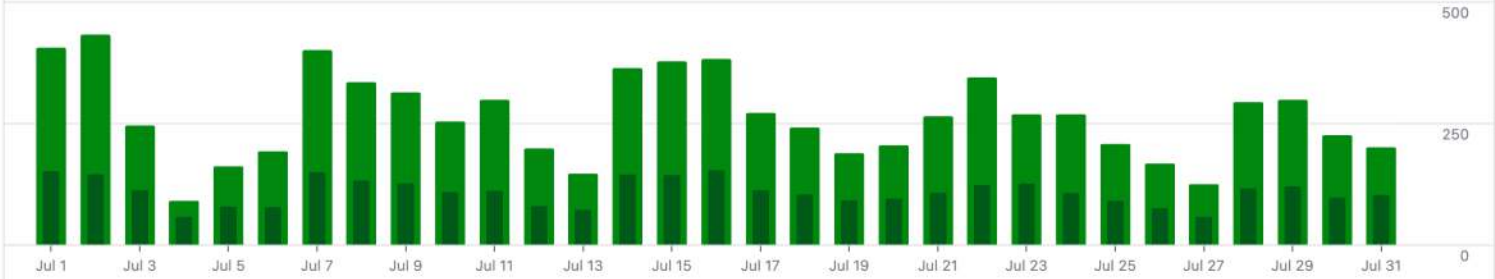
WEBSITE
July Stats

July 2025

Jul 1 - Jul 31, 2025

Views

Views | Visitors | Days



Views	Visitors	Likes	Comments
8.2K ↓ 30%	3.4K ↓ 18%	0	0

Clicks

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Getting a Library Card	149
Staff Directory	129

View all

COMMUNITY LOCATIONS

FAMILIES, KIDS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS ALIKE ENJOYED THE WIDE VARIETY OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES OFFERED THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER. AS WE BID FAREWELL TO SLP, WE ARE TURNING OUR ATTENTION TO THE NEXT SEASON OF LIBRARY PROGRAMMING, WHICH WILL INCLUDE STORYTIME FOR PRESCHOOLERS, LEGO-BUILDING SESSIONS, AND EXCITING VISITS TO LOCAL SCHOOLS—ENSURING THERE'S SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY AND EXPLORE!

ANNA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

THE ANNA COMMUNITY LIBRARY WELCOMED MASTER GARDENER CONNIE DIXON FOR A HANDS-ON PROGRAM WHERE FAMILIES LEARNED HOW PLANTS GROW FROM SEEDS TO BLOOMS, WITH TEN PARTICIPANTS PLANTING SEEDS TO TAKE HOME. TO CLOSE THE SUMMER LIBRARY PROGRAM, A PARTY WITH A BOUNCE HOUSE, SLIDE, FACE PAINTING, CRAFTS, AND GAMES DREW 92 ATTENDEES FOR AN EVENING FULL OF FUN!

BOTKINS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

THE BOTKINS COMMUNITY LIBRARY WAS BUZZING WITH EXCITEMENT AS KIDS GOT TO STUFF THEIR VERY OWN ANIMALS TO TAKE HOME—29 PARTICIPANTS LEFT WITH A BRAND-NEW CUDDLY FRIEND TO CHERISH. LATER, THE LIBRARY HOSTED THE DELIGHTFUL CRAZY FIBER FARM, WHERE PJ THE LLAMA AND HIS PLAYFUL GOAT PALS STOLE THE SHOW. LAURIE GERSTNER CAPTIVATED THE CROWD WITH HER SKILL, SPINNING HER OWN WOOL YARN AND WEAVING IT INTO BEAUTIFUL CREATIONS. TWENTY-EIGHT KIDS ENJOYED THIS ONE-OF-A-KIND, HANDS-ON EXPERIENCE.

FT. LORAMIE COMMUNITY LIBRARY

THE FORT LORAMIE COMMUNITY LIBRARY WAS ALL SMILES WHEN BRODIE THE THERAPY DOG AND HIS HANDLER, ANGIE, STOPPED BY FOR A SPECIAL VISIT. KIDS CUDDLED UP TO READ HIM STORIES, WHILE OTHERS SIMPLY SOAKED UP HIS SWEET, TAIL-WAGGING AFFECTION. FROM TINY TODDLERS TO GROWN-UPS, EVERYONE ADORED THEIR TIME WITH BRODIE. THE SUMMER LIBRARY PROGRAM WRAPPED UP WITH A BANG AT THE PARTY IN THE PARK, WHERE NEARLY 50 GUESTS ENJOYED A WHIRLWIND OF FUN—FACE PAINTING, CRAFTS, GAMES, AND PRIZES—MAKING IT A CELEBRATION TO REMEMBER.

COMMUNITY LOCATIONS

JACKSON CENTER COMMUNITY LIBRARY

THE JACKSON CENTER COMMUNITY LIBRARY WAS BUZZING WITH ACTIVITY DURING FAMILY GAME WEEK, AS 60 PARTICIPANTS OF ALL AGES JOINED IN THE FUN, EXPLORING A VARIETY OF GAMES FROM CLASSIC BOARD GAMES TO HANDS-ON STEM CHALLENGES AND MONTESSORI FAVORITES. THE EXCITEMENT CONTINUED WITH RACING WEEK, WHERE KIDS AND FAMILIES RACED HOT WHEELS CARS AND RACED HEXBUGS ALONG INTRICATE TRACKS. OVER 80 VISITORS DROPPED IN TO ENJOY THE FAST-PACED, INTERACTIVE FUN, MAKING IT A MONTH FULL OF LAUGHTER AND FRIENDLY COMPETITION.

13 PEOPLE ATTENDED

AMANDA HURLEY FROM SWCD

28

CHILDREN & ADULTS VISITED

RUSSIA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

THE RUSSIA COMMUNITY LIBRARY OFFERED A VARIETY OF ENGAGING PROGRAMS FOR THE COMMUNITY. ONE HIGHLIGHT WAS A PAINTING SESSION LED BY HAYLEY, WHERE 15 PARTICIPANTS OF ALL SKILL LEVELS HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE THEIR OWN UNIQUE SCENES ON CANVAS, EXPLORING COLOR, TECHNIQUE, AND PERSONAL EXPRESSION. IN ANOTHER PROGRAM, THE LIBRARY WELCOMED RILEY KAY PUTHOFF FROM THE OSU AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES EXTENSION OFFICE, WHO PRESENTED AN INFORMATIVE AND INTERACTIVE SESSION ON HOW TO GROW PLANTS. SEVENTEEN ATTENDEES, RANGING FROM CHILDREN TO ADULTS, LEARNED VALUABLE TIPS AND ENJOYED HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES THAT BROUGHT THE WORLD OF GARDENING TO LIFE.

-Jenny
OUTREACH COORDINATOR

SHELBY COUNTY Libraries

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COMMUNITY LIBRARY LOCATIONS