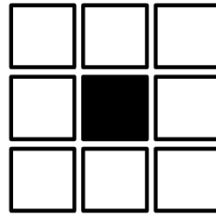


Drumming with Dede
July 3



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

July 2024

Shenanigans Ponies and Petting
Zoo - July 10



Library Events/Programming Highlights

- This year's Summer Reading Program has begun! The theme is "Adventure Begins at the Library," and we have 1,135 participants signed up online as of 7/31/2024. This compares with the numbers from last year as follows:

2024 : Adventure Begins at the Library			As of 7/31/24
Age Group	Readers Registered	Readers Completed	% Completed
Adult (18+)	293	162	55%
Children (7-12 yrs)	427	261	61%
Little Readers (0-6 yrs)	310	134	43%
Teen (13-17 yrs)	105	64	61%
Totals	1135	621	55%

2023 : All Together Now			Final Count
Age Group	Readers Registered	Readers Completed	% Completed
Adult (18+)	241	150	62%
Children (7-12 yrs)	437	293	67%
Early Lit (0-6 yrs)	227	121	53%
Teen (13-17 yrs)	172	115	67%
Totals	1077	679	63%

- Park Pop Up Wednesday events included:
 - Drumming with Dede: 61 Children and 37 Adults in attendance
 - Shenanigans Ponies and Petting Zoo: 154 Children and 92 Adults in attendance
 - Elephant and Piggie in the Park: 43 Children and 24 Adults in attendance
 - John Ball Traveling Zoo: 267 Children and 176 Adults in attendance
 - Kalamazoo Air Zoo: 126 Children and 89 Adults in attendance
- Teen Comic Book Writing Workshop with Matthew Rodriguez, 9 in attendance
- Mighty Mac: The Bridge That Michigan Built for all ages, 18 in attendance

Staff Highlights

- On July 23rd Hope Velthouse was promoted from Librarian I to Librarian II and her duties include assuming print collection responsibilities for 3 fiction genres and managing the future development of the digital collection through the Overdrive online application
- Catherine Broadbooks was hired as a new Librarian I as of July 23rd
- AnnMarie Willette was hired as a Librarian I to replace Lindsey Sneller who is leaving as of August 17th – AnnMarie will start on August 19th
- Amanda Hanson was selected to participate in the 2024 Conversation Camp for Library Leaders Cohort. This conference will be held in Lansing, MI at the Library of Michigan on September 4-5. All course materials and presentation costs are covered by the Library of Michigan. The topics covered include Conversations Worth Having focusing on the Power of Conversation, the Art of Asking Questions, and Intentional Framing. Strategic Conversations will focus on Strategic Thinking and Mindset, SOAR Conversations, the Appreciative Inquiry 5-D Cycle, and Whole System Engagement Processes.

Zeeland Record Newspaper Digitization Project Update

- Digitization efforts are moving along as expected. We will not hear any more updates until they near completion of the project towards the end of 2024.

City of Zeeland 2024 Strategic Action Plan – Library Operational Goals Updates

- Progress working towards the operational goals for the Library to be completed within 2024 include:
 1. **Increase community partnerships and collaborations**
 - a. Amanda H. participated in the first session of the Zeeland Citizen's Academy on July 10th. 13 citizens and other City staff listened to a presentation highlighting the administration of the Howard Miller Library & Community Center and then toured the building.
 2. **Refresh/update library space to encourage usage and enhance comfort for patrons**
 - a. New tables, chairs and side tables were ordered and delivered to increase seating and working areas for patrons upstairs in the library.
 - b. 4 new computers ordered for the Children's area to host the online subscription to Magic Desktop which provides games and tools for children under 12.
 3. **Optimize training opportunities for all staff including part-time employees**
 - a. 2 full-time staff participated in a professional development training course in July covering Digital Safety and Privacy in the Library.

Looking Forward

- Library staff will participate in the Zeeland Festivals activities for the Fall in September and October
- Fall programming at the Library to begin September 4th

HML by the Numbers – July 2024

	July		
	2024	2023	% Change
Visitors	10,742	9,599	12%
Curbside Delivery	18	10	80%
Digital Downloads	5,752	5,832	-1%
Physical Items (Circulation)	35,241	32,672	8%
Computer Sessions	434	310	40%

Children's Programs:

- 25 programs – 1,813 participants
- 1 passive program – I Spy activity 280 participants

Adult Programs:

- 1 program - 42 participants

Outreach Programs:

- N/A