



City Library Report: April 2024

René Battelle, Administrator for Public Services

Branch Libraries

April Recap

- ❖ We welcomed some new staff members, including Yolanda Alejandre as Administrative Aide, Maria Lanfair as part-time Clerk at Central, Pat Gross as part-time Sorting Room Page, Heidi Montes as part-time Page at Mundy, and Jenna Marshall as part-time Page at Betts. In addition, Laura Nebuchadnezzar was promoted from Clerk II at Soule to Librarian I at White, and Magen Solano was promoted from Clerk I at Beauchamp to Librarian Assistant at Mundy.
- ❖ Several branches participated in multi-generational projects in April. White Branch hosted a Proud Places Project Cleanup event, which drew over 150 volunteers of all ages to clean up trash, ready the Community Garden, and paint and power wash buildings on Butternut Street; Paine hosted an art reception for Huntington students, and 127 students, family members, and teachers attended the event; and Mundy had a special Grandparents Day at Providence House, with a storytime, outdoor photo booth, and a craft that grandparents and their grandchildren made together.
- ❖ Hazard Branch celebrated Ukrainian Heritage Month with several programs and activities, including a performance of traditional Ukrainian dance with a family craft; a Pysanky class, to learn how to decorate eggs in a traditional method with elaborate designs; and a family craft using flowers and ribbons to make Ukrainian-style "vinok" floral crowns.

Coming Up

- ❖ Paine Branch has partnered with CARES at LeMoyne to provide an upcoming series for people 55+ about fall prevention, presented by occupational therapists. The director of CARES is also interested in providing a series for older adults on the spirituality of aging, bringing in local spiritual leaders to discuss topics of spirituality with an emphasis on how they relate to aging, such as regrets, letting go, starting your third age, and gratitude.
- ❖ Jenny Dickinson from the County Health Department's Early Intervention Program is interested in new community partnerships including city branch libraries. Early Intervention provides speech, physical, occupational, and special instruction therapies to children who have deficiencies or diagnoses that qualify them for the program. This has traditionally been a home-based service, but providers who are able to use community spaces can provide care to a greater number of families, and also learn about library programs and services that may provide additional benefit to them.
- ❖ I have been meeting with programming staff from several branches since December to research and plan our Memory Café, and our first program in the series is set to take place at Betts on May 23 at 10:30am. Together with the Communications Department, Aran from Betts, Kate from Central, Mike from Hazard, and Tatiana from Paine have worked hard to develop a slate of programs that will appeal to patrons with memory issues and their caregivers.

Branch Statistics

2023	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Visits	18524	17284	24266	24657	22743	28434	27133	28914	25278	27486	24079	19856	288654
Total Circulation	33525	30659	36735	31211	32308	34145	36366	37279	32904	34147	30811	33298	403388
Physical Circulation	27684	25339	31028	25477	26297	28054	29706	30529	26397	26792	23745	25485	326533
Digital Circulation	5841	5320	5707	5734	6011	6091	6660	6750	6507	7355	7066	7813	76855
Computer Use	2943	2135	3588	3999	3276	3846	4146	4009	3439	3932	2707	2741	40761
Reference	4810	4471	5987	5210	4804	4904	4526	4660	3423	3895	2294	2354	51338
Programs	166	163	210	213	185	190	225	186	132	174	125	118	2087
Program Attendance	1445	1710	2553	2360	2248	3570	2579	1967	1433	2185	1286	987	24323
2024	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Visits	23248	25113	22406	32312									103079
Total Circulation	37014	32428	35141	33633									138216
Physical Circulation	28606	23299	27062	25901									104868
Digital Circulation	8408	9129	8079	7732									33348
Computer Use	3242	2751	3583	4222									13798
Reference	3518	5201	7178	5856									21753
Programs	112	130	182	235									659
Program Attendance	1020	1263	2346	2326									6955
% Change 2023-2024	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Visits	26%	45%	-8%	31%									
Total Circulation	10%	6%	-4%	8%									
Physical Circulation	3%	-8%	-13%	2%									
Digital Circulation	44%	72%	42%	35%									
Computer Use	10%	29%	0%	6%									
Reference	-27%	16%	20%	12%									
Programs	-33%	-20%	-13%	10%									
Program Attendance	-29%	-26%	-8%	-1%									



Board Support

- ❖ Attend a library program at least once this year. We have some great programs coming up that are large annual offerings at our branches, such as Soule's Strawberry Social, Petit's big book sale during the Westcott Cultural Fair, and the Light a Candle for Literacy event that kicks off from Beauchamp Branch Library. Attending events gives you the opportunity to see the branch and meet some of the staff. You can find these and other great programs on our website at <http://www.onlib.org>
- ❖ Check out a book by a FOCL author. This year's series has book selections for every taste, including a captivating mystery by Brendan Slocumb called *The Violin Conspiracy*, and several great fantasy and graphic novel titles by upcoming authors Neil Gaiman and Art Spiegelman.
- ❖ Library advocacy isn't just reserved for special days – it can happen in every day conversations. Help us spread the word about our resources, like recommending an upcoming program or encouraging your friends to check out our collection before they opt to buy the latest bestseller. Thank you for all you do to support our work!

