

The Ayer Library

Director's Report for June 2019

Adult Book Displays:

- LGBTQ+ Pride Month.
- D-Day; in honor of the 75th anniversary of the event.
- PTSD Awareness Month; everything on this display was checked out during the month of June!
- Sisters in Crime; Crime and mystery titles by the three authors expected for the June 20th program.
- Hiking and Local Outdoor Activities;
- Gardening, Continued from May, a tie-in with the May 8th Monarch butterfly program.

Adult Programs & Activities:

Program/Presenter	Attendance	Date
Bingo! Game Night w/Christina Zoller	10	June 5
Book Club – Reading <i>To Kill A Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee	6	June 6
Bingo! Game Night w/Christina Zoller	5	June 12
Board Game Night	6	June 13
Bingo! Game Night w/Christina Zoller	7	June 19
<i>Sisters in Crime</i> Mystery Authors Panel	13	June 20
Bingo! Game Night w/Christina Zoller	14	June 26
Board Game Night	6	June 27

Friends of the Ayer Library:

- The Friends of the Ayer Library held a spring Plant Sale on Saturday, June 15th. The weather cooperated and the sale of donated plants generated just over \$1000 to benefit the Library.

Library Building & Grounds:

- Library Clerk Keith Ugles and volunteer Don Comeau installed a large whiteboard for public use in the Library's Study Room.
- Prescott Landscaping visited on June 12th to restore and mulch a planting bed and to regrade and seed an area in the front lawn where a tree had been taken down this spring.
- Johnson Controls visited the Library on June 28th to address a problem with the air conditioning unit in the Young Adult Room. We also discovered that the source of a loud buzzing noise in the air handling unit was an indication that the intake air damper is near the end of its useful life.

Library Director's Activities:

- Assistant Director Samantha Benoit and I met with Dave Rousseau of All-Pro Cleaning on June 6th to review the Library's cleaning contract and discuss potential changes ahead of the contract's renewal.
- Town of Ayer Parks & Recreation Director Jeff Thomas and I met to brainstorm some ideas for co-sponsored outdoor programming at Pirone Park next summer.
- Samantha and I also worked on new employment agreements for library staff.
- Fiscal year-end wrap-up continues.
- Samantha and I met with Head of Technical Services Nancy Askin and Head of Youth Services Amy Leonard to begin discussing some programming themes and ideas for the fall and for the coming calendar year.

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Library Director's Meetings:

- Town of Ayer Department Director's Meeting, June 12th
- CMLA Library Directors' Round Table, Pepperell, MA, June 14th
- CWMARS Users Council Meeting, Shrewsbury, MA, June 18th
- Ayer Library Board of Trustees Meeting, June 18th

Library Operations:

- At the June meeting of the CWMARS Users Council in Shrewsbury, Library Director Tim Silva and other member library representatives voted to approve automatic renewals for circulating items throughout the network. The change will go into effect on July 1st. All circulating items that have renewals available will now be automatically renewed by the Evergreen network software. Patrons won't need to remember to renew their items anymore, and will receive email notices about the renewals.
- Circulation Librarian Thomas Tagliavento put together a Summer Book Bingo! Program for adults. The Program will run from July 3rd to September 10th and participants that read as few as four books over that period of time will qualify for a chance to win gift certificate prizes at the end of the summer. Bingo Sheets can be downloaded from the Library's website or picked up at the Library.
- Thomas updated the Community Resources page on the Library's website.
- Samantha Benoit met with Council on Aging (COA) Executive Director Karin Dynice-Swanfeldt to discuss the idea of hosting COA programming for seniors at the Library.

Youth Services Programs & Activities:

Children's Programs	Attendance	Date
Story Ninja - <i>Dinosaur Expert</i>	7	June 4
Story Time - <i>The Very Hungry Caterpillar</i>	23	June 6
Story Ninja - <i>There are no Bears in this Bakery</i>	12	June 11
Read with Willow the Therapy Dog	4	June 11
Story Time - with Bangarang Yoga	42	June 13
Story Ninja – <i>To Market, To Market</i>	7	June 18
Story Time -	23	June 20
Story Ninja – <i>Hedgie Blasts Off!</i>	12	June 25
Summer Reading Kickoff event w/ Animal Adventures	141	June 27
Saturday Morning Movie – <i>How to Train Your Dragon 3</i>	4	June 29

- June was the calm before the storm for the Youth Services staff. We spent the month running our regular set of programs, but behind the scenes, we were putting the finishing touches on this year's Summer Reading Program. Summer Reading kicked off on Thursday, June 27th with an excellent educational live animal show presented by Animal Adventures. Animal Adventures is located in Bolton, MA and it New England's largest privately-owned animal rescue. We have worked with them many times before and will continue to book programs with them in the future.

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- The Youth Services Department officially has a new tradition! For the 2nd year in a row, we are fostering a Monarch caterpillar on its journey to become a butterfly. This year the caterpillar was brought to us by Mary Metzger, a member of our Friends group. We named him Eric after Eric Carle, the author of *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*.
- On Friday, June 7th Amy and Christina took the Children's Room on the road and visited the Page Hilltop Elementary School for lunch. They visited with grades K-5 and talked to them about Summer Reading, and asked them what they wanted to see in the library. This was an excellent outreach opportunity, and we have had many kids come into the library after talking with them at the school.
- **Young Adult (YA)/Teen Programs & Activities:**
 - Book displays
 - LGBTQ+ Book Display in recognition of Pride Month

Programs	Attendees	Date
<i>Board Game Nights & Book Club</i> are now being reported under Adult Programs		

- Circulation Librarian Justine Paulson set up the Maker-space with some National Pride Month themed crafts. Options included letter bead key chains, safety pin rainbow flags and Pride Month bracelets.

I would like to thank the following Ayer Library staff members for their contributions to this report: Nancy Askin, Autumn Dore, Justine Paulson, Thomas Tagliavento, and Christina Zoller.

Respectfully,

Tim Silva
Library Director