



DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT TO THE MENDON PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OCTOBER 5, 2026 - LYLA GRILLS REPORTING:

The Town Board approved their portion of the Thompson Health project at their 9/28 meeting. Here is a link to the [Access Utility Easement Agreement](#).

National Friends of Libraries Week is October 18-24. Friend Kathleen Phillips took the lead on a new fundraiser: a 4-day Silent Auction in the Library. She has procured some great prizes and Mary has done a great job publicizing this!

The StoryWalk pedestals were received. The soccer fields are still under construction, therefore we made the decision to delay the StoryWalk opening until the spring.

Emily E will attend the Taproot Community Gardens Fall Giveway to get more free supplies for our garden.

Emily E completed a graduate school assignment titled *Sustaining Sustainability* which she would like to present to the Sustainability Committee at the October 28 meeting.

Patrons who sign up for a new library card now receive an automated Welcome Email, specific to MPL. Matt is our contact for the Patron Point newsletter software and created this Welcome Email (and creates the monthly emailed newsletters).

Staff is now completing annual mandated NYS trainings on these topics: Harassment, Bloodborne Pathogens, Workplace Violence, Hazardous Communication, and Cybersecurity.

An application for the Hacker Grant to fund an Environmental Film Fest was submitted.

Programming Highlights for October 2026 (Kelly P reporting):

Kids: Summer was super fun at the library and September seems to have passed quickly as we wrapped up programming and reported out all that happened! We're now back on a regular schedule with Story Time on Tuesdays, Firefly Friends on Wednesdays and Saturday Story Time every other week. LEGO is happening once a month.

We plan to march in the Fall Weekend Parade and distribute donated books and leftover Summer Reading prizes. In other outreach efforts, we will be back at Pinehurst with Timeless Tales in October, continuing throughout the school year on a quarterly basis. We have some interesting programs planned for October including a Model Train Day and leaf painting class. We'll also be participating in the Mendon Fire Department's Fall Festival later in October.

Lyla has been working to ensure progress on the Story Walk. Posts have been delivered and are securely stored over at the Town Spray Park building. Hoping to have installation of the Story Walk in Spring 2027.

Teen Involvement:

Emily continues to grow her VolunTeen Program on Tuesday afternoon and Teen Craft Hour every other Thursday. A high school student is going to be offering Dungeon & Dragons every other Thursday for three hours. We're thrilled to have started conversations with two RIT students (one undergraduate/ one graduate) about planning some Citizen Science offerings. Stay tuned!

Outreach continues in the community. Emily E attended the HS Open House and we're working with both a middle school student group that visits every other week and a high school group that might visit once each month for crafting opportunities.

Adults: We're thrilled that Mark Fairchild has offered to lead monthly discussions about timely science topics. "Fireside Science Discussions with Professor Mark" began in September and this month the topics include: "How Much Energy Do Data Centers Use?" and "What Are the Best Sources of Protein?" We're hopeful that this offering will draw a consistent group of folks interested in balanced science discussions. Deb continues to offer Knit Nook and the Dogs make an appearance every other week on Tuesday night. Sweet Bites Poetry is also happening.

Looking ahead to October events, we have a variety of history programs and even a "Voice the Constitution" event is planned.

LIBRARY STATISTICS

	Visits							
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Jan	3288	3549	1763	1061	3444	3713	3288	3268
Feb	3090	3292	2006	1011	3258	3928	3594	3310
March	3852	1982	2776	2046	3892	4229	4189	3472
April	4286	0	2490	1905	3765	4113	4061	2741
May	3902	0	2203	1487	3707	3904	3526	2860
June	3748	0	2984	1696	3652	3914	4015	1703
July	5134	4503?	3319	1759	4139	4903	5623	4139
Aug	4399	1982	3062	3610	4649	4118	4685	5082
Sept	3965	3462	2587	1902	3891	3743	3992	3967
Oct	3996	2633	2351	2000	3749	4194	4803	
Nov	3328	2507	2247	3050	3532	3556	3523	
Dec	2512	2108	1663	2794	3219	3406	3332	
Total	45500	21515	29451	24321	44897	47721	48631	30542

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*meter count
not working properly
April-June or earlier
** New sensor,
July stat is July 8
3 pm-July 31 3pm

TOTAL CIRCULATIONS (PHYSICAL PLUS ELECTRONIC)

	2025	2026
JAN	9,130	9,883
FEB	9,286	9,169
MAR	10,324	9,848
APR	9,870	10,150
MAY	8,890	8,869
JUNE	9,144	9,760
JULY	11,680	12,679
AUG	11,050	11,521
SEP	9,520	9,874
OCT	9,949	
NOV	9,180	
DEC	8,485	
TOTAL	116,508	91,753

% Difference Last Year to Current
8%
-1%
-5%
3%
0%
7%
9%
4%
4%

MPL PHYSICAL CIRCULATIONS	2025	2026
JAN	7,120	7,490
FEB	7,347	7,106
MAR	8,080	7,719
APR	7,710	8,179
MAY	6,793	6,876
JUNE	7,058	7,718
JULY	9,661	10,434
AUG	8,822	9,299
SEP	7,554	7,941
OCT	7,948	
NOV	7,173	
DEC	6,891	
TOTAL	92,157	72,762

MPL DIGITAL CIRCULATIONS	2025	2026
JAN	2,010	2,393

FEB	1,909	2,063
MAR	2,244	2,129
APR	2,160	1,971
MAY	2,097	1,993
JUNE	2,086	2,042
JULY	2,019	2,245
AUG	2,228	2,222
SEP	1,966	1,933
OCT	2,001	
NOV	2,007	
DEC	1,594	
TOTAL	24,321	18,991