



MENDON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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

AUGUST 3, 2026 – DIRECTOR LYLA GRILLS REPORTING:

Our new SenSource People Counter was installed on July 8. It's working well. Software can show us detailed information that our previous system could not. Thank you to the Town for assistance with running some cabling to allow us to connect to our network.

The MCLS Integrated Library System (ILS) Team received 6 responses to their RFP. Three products are moving forward in the selection process, and these companies provided 2 full days each of demonstrating their products. Matt is on the ILS selection team and attended all of the demos. It is definite that MCLS will migrate to a new ILS in 2027, as our current product vendor did not submit a proposal. CARL has been used by MCLS since 1992, so this will be a big change!

Our new Wireless Access Points (part of the MCLS-negotiated group purchase, with a 85% reimbursement from E-Rate), will be delivered and installed soon.

The FCC has been considering eliminating federal E-Rate, which schools and libraries have been using to heavily subsidize internet service since 1996.

Suggested Reading: [Save Our E-Rate | American Libraries Magazine](#)

Suggested Reading: [FCC weighs changing E-Rate program, which lowers school internet bills : NPR](#)

The Town has sent a few companies over to do some assessments of the building and systems. Veregy conducted an energy audit here on July 21. Some fire alarm companies and security camera companies have also been out.

New clerks have been adjusting very well! Experienced clerks and I have been spending time training them.

The Friends' Annual Appeal and Endowment Initiative are going pretty well, but they could use some more publicity and some additional larger donations will be needed to reach the Endowment goal.

The Friends have been incredibly active this year and I am extremely grateful. A new outreach project is bringing stories and bookmarks to the Mendon Farmers Market on Tuesdays! They also weeded the brick/ pollinator garden recently.

It seems like Brodart is catching up on back-ordered books. We've gotten a lot of new ones in the past month! Orders had been slow to come in since Baker & Taylor's sudden closure in late 2025, which forced the remaining library book vendors to suddenly take on numerous new accounts.

The StoryWalk proof was sent to us and shared with the Town as well. We will send out a press release soon, noting the location at Dreisbach Fields.

Supervisor Alati invited Lyla to come to a Town Board working meeting on July 27 regarding updates to the Town of Mendon's Employee Handbook and other policies.

Lyla also attended these meetings: MCLS Directors Council – July 8, Meeting with Supervisor Alati and Tom D – July 13, Friends of MPL – July 15, System Services and Operations (SSOC)/ MCLS – July 17, SLI & LRP Check-In with Tom D – July 22, BOT Budget Committee – July 28.

Lyla will once again be serving on a committee to review the MCLS submissions for the next NYS Library Construction grants.

Katie C had mentioned a great idea to have a "Propagation Station" at the Library. She showed us an example from a college library, and it sounds like an easy, environmentally friendly way for people to share plant cuttings with others. We would love to do it, and new clerk Erica L has agreed to be a staff point person for this project.

The Night Sky monitor came in. We will use it here to measure our lighting and then will put it into a kit for circulation.

CHILDRENS/ PROGRAMMING REPORT:

There is only one more official week of the Summer Reading Program. Kelly will produce a full report and it will be presented at the September board meeting! The fun continues even after the final week, however, as there are additional programs schedules throughout August.

The "Jurassic Journeys" Closing Party on August 6 will feature Magician Cris Johnson and a Kiwanis-sponsored Kona Ice truck.

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	
Sept	3965	3462	2587	1902	3891	3743	3992	
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	21493

*closed at end of day on 3/14/20

7/8/20 soft opening by apmnt

reopened 9/8/20 limited capacity

**Counter not working properly in early 2026 (April, May, June or earlier). New counter installed July 8. July 2026 stat is for period starting July 8 at 3 pm until July 31 at 3 pm. Will be providing an estimate for these months at the end of year tally.

MPL TOTAL CIRCULATIONS

	2025	2026	% Difference Last Year to Current
JAN	9,130	9,883	8%
FEB	9,286	9,169	-1%
MAR	10,324	9,848	-5%
APR	9,870	10,150	3%
MAY	8,890	8,869	0%
JUNE	9,144	9,760	7%
JULY	11,680		
AUG	11,050		
SEP	9,520		
OCT	9,949		
NOV	9,180		
DEC	8,485		
TOTAL	116,508	57,679	

MPL PHYSICAL CIRCULATIONS

	2025	2026
JAN	7120	7490
FEB	7347	7106
MAR	8080	7719
APR	7710	8179
MAY	6793	6876
JUNE	7058	7718
JULY	9661	
AUG	8822	
SEP	7554	
OCT	7948	
NOV	7173	
DEC	6891	
TOTAL	92157	45088

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	
AUG	2,228	
SEP	1,966	
OCT	2,001	
NOV	2,007	
DEC	1,594	
TOTAL	54,446	12,591