

June 2019 Branch Manager's Report

Facilities

As of June 11, work on our renovation is officially finished! The project was started at the beginning of May 2018, but was delayed by the contractor's health problems. Installation has taken place in several stages since that time: two freestanding computer carrels, three built-in carrels, three square tables, new facing for the circulation desk, and new countertops on the display island and circulation desk.

The project was financed by the Friends of Paoli Library, with additional funding from the Thornedge Foundation, the Hardware Center, and Pat Sobota, whose generous gift in memory of her late husband Frank funded the circulation desk.

Library Statistics

Paoli continues its positive trend when it comes to statistics. Circulation in May was 5.24% higher than in May 2018. This increase is far above the countrywide aggregated increase of 0.56%. The door count was 4.63% higher than in May 2018.

Community

This year Stephanie Bragg visited General Wayne, Valley Forge, and Hillside and Beaumont Elementary Schools to promote the summer reading program and the GO WilMa outdoor adventure program. She is clearly making a big impression – kids often remark that they decided to sign up because of Miss Stephanie's presentation.

Personnel

We are continuing to work with our newest staff members to give them the skills needed to function independently. Summer brings added challenges, with all the materials and information relating to three different Summer Quest programs (children's, teens' and adults'), plus the GO WilMa program. Personal reports from patrons can be very useful in identifying areas where additional training is needed, so please don't hesitate to share your own experiences with Paoli staff – positive or negative--with me or with Jenny Tang.

Children's Programs

Registration for the Summer Quest program is outpacing last year's participation numbers. After just two weeks, there are over 170 children signed up. The special programs are all filling up fast, so when possible Stephanie has been adding extra sessions to accommodate people on the waiting list.

Recent popular programs included Mad Chef Energy Bites and Tastes of the World.

Adult Programs

The second meeting of the Scrabble Club had several new attendees, all of whom are eager to continue.

On June 18, nine people attended a program on the Journey to Senior Living, a discussion on options and facilities for elder care presented by Michael Mandel, a senior care counselor.

Beverly Michaels, Branch Manager June 24, 2019