

January 2021 Branch Manager's Report

Library on Request

Paoli Library is now offering Book Bundles for both children and adults. This service combines the personal touch of staff recommendations with the serendipity of browsing the shelves. Patrons fill out an online form to indicate their reading preferences, checking off their favorite genres and completing the statement "I recently read and loved..." Someone on the library staff then chooses up to six books that seem appropriate for this particular reader, and arranges for curbside pickup. Check it out! The adult request form is here: https://tinyurl.com/paolirequest The children's form is here: https://tinyurl.com/ttlkids

Programming

Stephanie Bragg is starting a new book club called Panel It!, for ages 7 to 12. The group will meet by Zoom to discuss their favorite graphic novels.

Circulation

Circulation during the fourth quarter of 2020 was down 40% from 2019. However, comparing monthly circulation trends in 2020, it is surprising to note that there was no decrease when we closed to the public in November and reverted to curbside pickup only. In fact, December's circulation (2,793) was higher than November's (2,710).

	2020	2019	inc/dec
September	3,345	4,958	-32.53%
October	3,038	4,979	-38.98%
November	2,710	5,097	-46.83%
December	2,793	4,584	-39.07%

Computer Use

Since the library closed to the public on November 23, the public computers have not been available for use. We continue to print documents emailed to us by patrons for pickup from the curbside cart. We also copy or scan and email patron documents by prior arrangement.

Library Staff

Because of our variable weekend schedule, the part-time staff were sometimes exceeding the township's 30 hours/week maximum, so Jeanene Willcox has come back from furlough to fill some of those hours.

Tax Preparation Assistance

The AARP Tax-Aide program will be operating on a limited basis this year, and unfortunately there will be no Paoli site. Previously there was a site at the Paoli firehouse, with appointments scheduled by both the library and Rep. Melissa Shusterman's office. This year the nearest site will be at Easttown Library.

Beverly Michaels Branch Manager January 21, 2021