



Director's Report to the Library Board of Trustees

June 24, 2021

The Libraries continue to mitigate operations due to the COVID-19 pandemic and are currently offering limited public access and curbside pickup hours.

Tredyffrin Public Library is open to the public:

- Monday – Thursday 10 am – 5 pm
- Friday – Saturday 10 am – 2 pm

Contactless pickup services include:

- Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 5 – 7 pm

Paoli Library has a new temporary schedule for in-person browsing and curbside pickup:

- Tuesday & Thursday 10 am – 5 pm
- Saturday 10 am – 2 pm
- CLOSED Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Sundays

We are working to hire new staff in order to offer additional service hours. We initially had a number of good applicants, however, several applicants that were offered positions declined, indicating that they had accepted positions elsewhere and some did not respond after being offered positions.

Building and Grounds

We continue to deal HVAC issues. Recently, a component on the air handler for the book stacks area on the first floor failed. An inspection was done for repair and the unit could not be powered on because air flow could not be controlled and the unit could only be powered on with the dampers 100% open, which caused too much air flow in the system and risked damaging other components. The component was replaced recently and operation restored, however, the display for the controlled for one boiler has failed and needs to be replaced, several boiler pipes are leaking (some have been repaired, others are pending), and the system is not currently responding to the settings in the control software. Diagnosis has begun for this last issue; however, the cause has not yet been determined.

I've met with members of the Township Environmental Advisory Council, Public Works and Engineering Departments to discuss a location at the library for a proposed rain garden project. The EAC is currently looking to secure grant funding for this and other projects. The current proposed location is near the Children's Department entrance.

I'm working with a company to put together a proposal for a new phone system for the libraries. A site survey was completed and it was determined that new wiring would need to be run for a network/cloud-based system that replaces the landline system we currently have. The existing landline



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system we are currently using is prone to service interruptions during adverse weather and runs on Toshiba software that is no longer being directly supported by Toshiba. The project may end up with additional costs (due to the wiring needing to be addressed) than what was originally requested from the Township as a capital expense. I'm waiting on an update to the original quote which includes the wiring proposal and will work with the Township to determine how to complete the project. The new networked system is preferable to other systems as it enables some interoperability between the library building and the township administration building and can aid in establishing Tredyffrin Public Library as an emergency operations center.

Building Access

For the month of May, 5,578 Library visits were recorded.

		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Total
Sun	Paoli	0	9	0	0	4	13
	Tredyffrin	0	0	4	2	19	25
Mon	Paoli	0	174	252	197	166	789
	Tredyffrin	0	133	582	611	661	1,987
Tues	Paoli	0	188	210	180	282	860
	Tredyffrin	0	161	523	545	1,050	2,279
Wedns	Paoli	0	280	258	184	163	885
	Tredyffrin	0	227	520	574	570	1,891
Thurs	Paoli	0	213	206	279	295	993
	Tredyffrin	0	139	410	644	628	1,821
Fri	Paoli	0	146	161	204	126	637
	Tredyffrin	0	89	340	537	398	1,364
Sat	Paoli	0	189	137	122	212	660
	Tredyffrin	0	140	440	684	1,004	2,268
Total Paoli		0	1,199	1,224	1,166	1,248	4,837
Total Tredyffrin		0	889	2,819	3,597	4,330	11,635
Libraries Combined		0	2,088	4,043	4,763	5,578	16,472

The libraries initiated COVID-19 mitigation efforts in March of 2020. Comparing overall library visits in 2021 to 2020, visits are down 26,918 (-62%). There are no reasonable conclusions that can be drawn with comparing the door count this year to last year (due to hours of operations differences).

Circulation

Print circulation numbers increased slightly in May, however, borrowing of print materials remains at about 70% of typical borrowing levels pre-COVID. Borrowing of electronic materials remains high



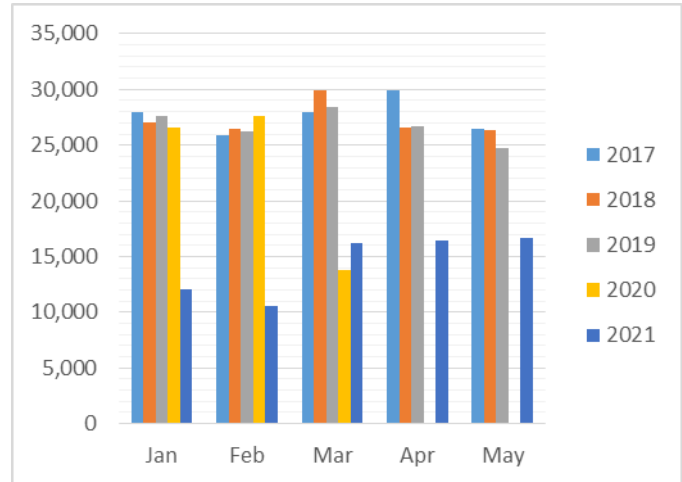
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although increases in other libraries spending on e-materials continues to increase. Contactless pickup totals continue to decrease as in-person browsing hours increase.

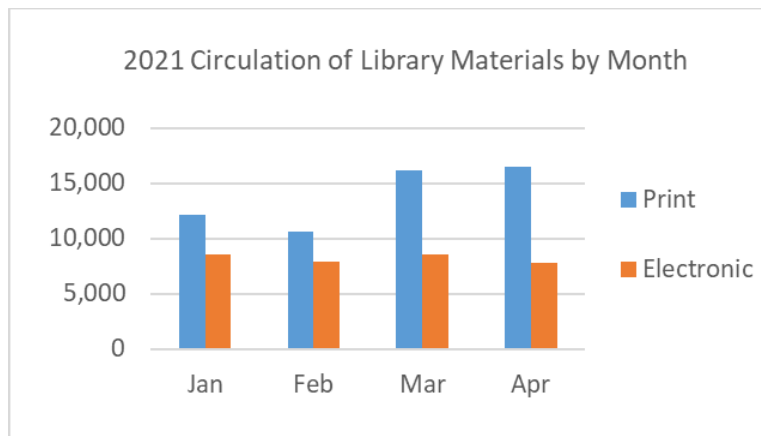
Print Circulation

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
2017	27,968	25,853	27,968	29,868	26,497
2018	27,024	26,460	29,948	26,593	26,341
2019	27,621	26,233	28,369	26,674	24,765
2020	26,609	27,657	13,783	87	52
2021	12,104	10,567	16,157	16,448	16,723



2021 Circulation of Library Materials by Month

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	TOTAL
Print	12,104	10,567	16,157	16,448	16,723	71,999
Electronic	8,555	7,854	8,523	7,782	7,995	40,709
TOTAL	20,659	18,421	24,680	24,230	24,718	112,708



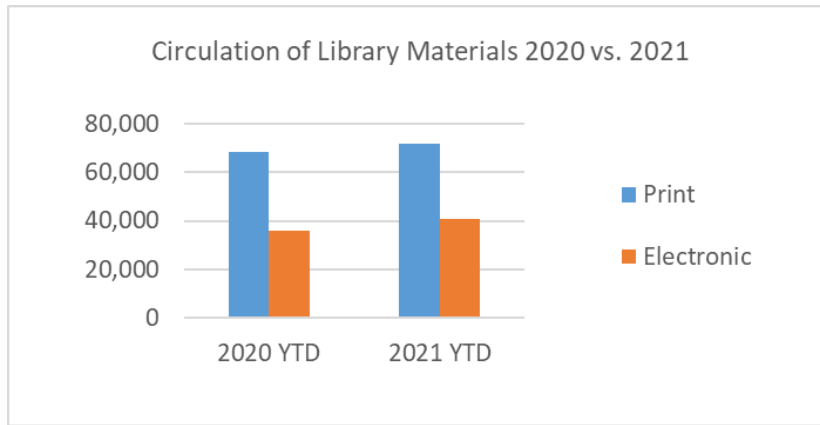


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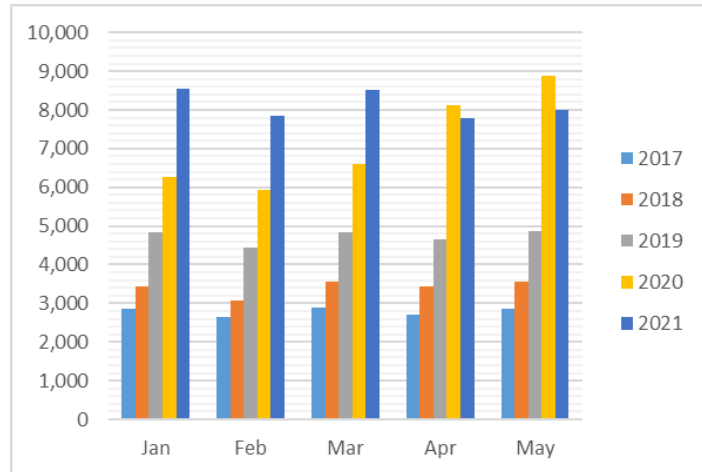
Circulation of Library Materials 2020 vs. 2021

	2020 YTD	2021 YTD	Difference	% Change
Print	68,188	71,999	3,811	5.6%
Electronic	35,797	40,709	4,912	13.7%
Total	103,985	112,708	8,723	8.4%



E-Materials Circulation

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
2017	2,861	2,650	2,895	2,713	2,851
2018	3,426	3,082	3,544	3,434	3,573
2019	4,823	4,437	4,851	4,644	4,864
2020	6,275	5,945	6,591	8,115	8,871
2021	8,555	7,854	8,523	7,782	7,995



Contactless Pickup

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-21	May-21
Tredyffrin	973	851	360	402	341	483	901	887	834	353	290	167
Paoli	1308	1465	999	1089	1014	1108	1556	1659	1367	793	715	357
TOTAL	2281	2316	1359	1491	1355	1591	2457	2546	2201	1146	1005	524



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Programming Notes

In May, the Libraries offered 65 programs and recorded 1,149 attendees. Teen program statistics for May were unavailable at the time this report was written and will be included in the June report. Program numbers are down slightly due to staffing needs to cover in-person building operations as we work to hire additional part time staff for service desk coverage.

Program Attendance

	2020	2021
January	2447	2009
February	2435	1645
March	1156	2029
April	1418	1537
May	2282	1149
TOTAL	9738	8369

Programs Offered

	2020	2021
January	178	129
February	183	103
March	86	112
April	64	80
May	99	65
TOTAL	610	489

Children's Notes (Submitted by Angie Andre)

As we are heading in to summer we are preparing to launch our virtual summer reading program on the Beanstack platform.

We will be offering a robust program that includes choosing a personal reading goal, logging reading, earning virtual raffle tickets for three prizes; 3 Kindle Fire Tablets, 10 Pizza Coupons from New Wayne Pizza and 20 Ice Cream Coupons from Handles. Additionally we are offering 4 new patches that can be earned by completing fun and educational activities. We have 14 patches, 4 new this year. When children sign up for our program they will receive a tote bag and a companion book to support their virtual summer reading experience.

We are in the process of interviewing and hiring new staff to cover the expanded hours in the library.

Teen Notes (Submitted by Laurie Doan)

In April and May, the regular programs for teens kept going strong. Programs include Journaling Together, JackBox Game Night, and Roundtable Discussions.

Our "Shakespeare in Isolation" film project held a second showing with UK theatre director Nadia Papachronopoulou in attendance. Nadia created "Shakespeare in Isolation" and led our workshop. She provided valuable feedback on each film and was quite impressed with the efforts of our teenage film community.



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I have been able to attend the ARCH (Area Residents Caring & Helping) meetings online. ARCH is a coalition of parents, educators, and community members committed to promoting the well-being of youth in Tredyffrin and Easttown Townships.

I'm excited that the books are coming in for our summer program. These guides will help teens entertain themselves and, hopefully, encourage them to become lifelong learners. As we learn cooking, sailing, TED TALKS, and how to use a compass, our catchphrase, borrowed from Captain Spaulding's 1800 pamphlet *The Young Mariner's Sheet Anchor*, is "Should you try this?" and his answer, "Yes, of course, why not?"

Respectfully submitted by Christopher Kibler