

TRUSTEE PACKET

Materials and draft versions of reports and documents the board reviews during open meetings. See the Approved Minutes posted online after each meeting for a record of board decisions.



Christian County Library's Board of Trustees - Open Session
Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.
Christian County Library, Nixa Community Branch, Large Meeting Room

Scheduled Start Time: 6:00 p.m.

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes
 - A. Minutes of the Tuesday, July 25, 2023 Open Meeting
2. Financial Reports
 - A. Adjustments to Anticipated Bills for July 2023
 - B. Estimated Bills for August 2023
 - C. Balance Sheet
 - D. Monthly Report
 - E. YTD Budget Update
3. Report of the Executive Director

Administrative Highlights

- Summer Reading Challenge

Old Business

None presented.

New Business

- Setting the 2023 Tax Levy
- Board Packet

Public Comments

Adjournment

Posted: 08/16/2023

Tuesday, July 25, 2023: Open Session

Trustees in Attendance: Echo Alexzander, Diana Brazeale, Janis Hagen, Stephanie Sekscinski, and Allyson Tuckness.

Trustee(s) Absent: None.

Also present: Alecia Ahart; Wanetta Bright; Renee Brumett; Polly Dross; Elizabeth Dudash-Buskirk; Ann Elwell; Heath Emerson; Charlee Evans; Gretchen Garrity; John Garrity; Jordan Gloyd; Whit Gillenwaters; Representative Jamie Gragg; Sarah Hayter; Aileena Keen; Reggie Micham; Mike Miller; Rebecca Miller; Thomas Miller; Tory Pegram; Robin Rader; Dana Roberts; Mike Rogers; Donna Thompson; Mary Thompson; Representative Bob Titus; Don Watson; and several additional unidentified guests.

Christian County Library's Board of Trustees met for a regular monthly session on Tuesday, July 25, 2023 in the Netzer Room of the Ozark Community Branch.

Vice President Allyson Tuckness presided and voted when needed to reach a majority.

Any reports, exhibits, or supporting materials presented during the open portions of this meeting and referred to in these minutes may be obtained [upon request](#).

Start Time: 6:00 p.m.

Consent Agenda

Allyson Tuckness requested that the Report of the Executive Director be removed to congratulate Nixa staff on the success of the One Nixa, One Read collaboration between the City of Nixa, Nixa Public School District, and the library.

Janis Hagen moved to adopt all the remaining items in the consent agenda. Stephanie Sekscinski seconded. The two new Trustees both abstained since they were not at previous meetings, but all remaining Trustees were in favor. Allyson Tuckness voted to reach a majority. The motion passed. Roll Call: Trustee Alexzander: Abstain; Trustee Brazeale: Abstain; Trustee Hagen: Aye; Trustee Sekscinski: Aye; and Trustee Tuckness: Aye.

Stephanie Sekscinski then moved to approve the Report of the Executive Director. Janis Hagen seconded. All Trustees present were in favor. The motion passed. Roll Call: Trustee Alexzander: Aye; Trustee Brazeale: Aye; Trustee Hagen: Aye; and Trustee Sekscinski: Aye.

Administrative Highlights

Adult Services Librarian Charlee Evans and Sparta Community Branch Manager Whit Gillenwaters shared the continued success of the Uncovering History: Gravestone Cleaning program.

Old Business

None presented.

New Business

Welcome to New Trustees

Echo Alexzander and Diana Brazeale were welcomed as new Trustees.

Officer Elections

President

Janis Hagen nominated Allyson Tuckness for President of Christian County Library's Board of Trustees. Stephanie Sekscinski seconded. Trustee Alexzander; Trustee Brazeale; Trustee Hagen; and Trustee Sekscinski were in favor. Trustee Tuckness abstained. The motion passed. Roll Call: Trustee

Alexzander: Aye; Trustee Brazeale: Aye; Trustee Hagen: Aye; Trustee Sekscinski: Aye; and Trustee Tuckness: Abstain.

Vice-President

Allyson Tuckness nominated Stephanie Sekscinski for Vice President of Christian County Library's Board of Trustees. Janis Hagen seconded. Trustee Alexzander; Trustee Brazeale; Trustee Hagen; and Trustee Tuckness were in favor. Trustee Sekscinski abstained. The motion passed. Roll Call: Trustee Alexzander: Aye; Trustee Brazeale: Aye; Trustee Hagen: Aye; Trustee Sekscinski: Abstain; and Trustee Tuckness: Aye.

Treasurer

Janis Hagen nominated Echo Alexzander for Treasurer of Christian County Library's Board of Trustees. Stephanie Sekscinski seconded. Trustee Brazeale; Trustee Hagen; Trustee Sekscinski; and Trustee Tuckness were in favor. Trustee Alexzander abstained. The motion passed. Roll Call: Trustee Alexzander: Abstain; Trustee Brazeale: Aye; Trustee Hagen: Aye; Trustee Sekscinski: Aye; and Trustee Tuckness: Aye.

Audit

Mary Miles from Miles CPA & Associates, LLC presented the results of the library's 2022 audit and answered questions from Trustees.

Public Comments

This month speakers included: Elizabeth Dudash-Buskirk, Polly Dross, Gretchen Garrity, Aileena Keen, Reggie Micham, Mike Miller, and Mike Rogers.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the presiding Chair at 6:52 p.m.

Christian County Library Adjustment Report for July 2023

	Anticipated	Actual	Adjustment
ADT LLC	309.59	593.65	284.06
417 Magazine	-	21.00	21.00
Amazon Capital Services, Inc.	2,838.89	2,813.89	(25.00)
Casey's General Store	223.13	(3.36)	(226.49)
Chuck Mercer	90.00	240.00	150.00
Credit Card	5,626.63	3,127.19	(2,499.44)
Debra Tucker - Yoga Instructor	200.00	-	(200.00)
GFL Environmental (formerly WCA)	172.38	343.22	170.84
Missouri Employers Mutual	798.66	-	(798.66)
Ozark Water Department	128.98	106.48	(22.50)
Personnel	160,324.60	160,214.60	(110.00)
Springfield News Leader	82.31	-	(82.31)
Square, Inc.	49.36	62.15	12.79
Tulsa City-County Library	20.00	-	(20.00)
UniFirst Corporation	3,509.53	2,425.53	(1,084.00)

Pd 8/1

Covered by Credit from June

Original Anticipated Bills	243,043.09
Adjustment	(4,429.71)

Reimbursements	0.00
Total July 2023 CCL Bills	238,613.38

CDs	
CD#: 37840052 matures August 28, 2023 (int rate .35%)	250,000.00
CD#: 197708399 matures September 16, 2023 (int rate .15%)	253,692.96
CD Total	503,692.96
Ozark Bank Checking	1,572,239.88
Southern Bank Checking (SONDHI)	142,884.56
Undeposited Funds	
Cash Drawer (\$40 @ Clever, \$40 @ Nixa, \$80 @ Ozark, \$40 @ Sparta)	170.00
Printer Change Bag (Clever - \$40; Nixa - \$40; Ozark - \$80, Sparta - \$57)	237.00
Petty Cash (Nixa - \$120; Ozark - \$50)	170.00

Bond Funds	
CCL Cop 2020 REV	0.00
CCL Cop 2020 PROJ	1,013,222.32
CCL Cop 2020 COI	0.00
CCL Cop 18 Prj	0.00
CCL Cop 18 Lrf	0.00
CCL Cop 18 Rf	112,415.30
Total Library Funds as of July 31, 2023	3,345,032.02

Foundation Funds	
CCLF Checking	98,497.72
Community Foundation of the Ozarks - CCLF Fund Finley (as of 2nd Qtr 2023)	8,604.51
Community Foundation of the Ozarks - CCLF Fund - Nixa (as of 2nd Qtr 2023)	1,041.45
	0.00
Total Foundation Funds	108,143.68

*Total Current CCLF and CCL Assets	3,453,175.70
---	---------------------

Christian County Library
Anticipated Bills
 August 2023

	<u>Aug 23</u>	
ADT LLC	309.59	
Amazon Capital Services, Inc.	2,301.22	
Baker & Taylor-Books	5,770.10	
Blackstone Publishing	595.74	
Book Depot	516.73	
Casey's General Store	457.69	
Cengage Learning	467.82	
Center Point Large Print	560.88	
Chilton's Environmental Services LLC	99.00	
Chuck Mercer	120.00	
City of Clever	23.76	
City of Sparta	50.80	
Concur Technologies, Inc.	240.00	
Creative Product Source Inc.	157.21	
Credit Card	853.81	
Debra Tucker - Yoga instructor	150.00	
Demco, Inc.	189.82	
GFI Digital	674.87	
GFL Environmental (formerly WCA)	343.22	
Go Automotive	3,610.10	Dodge Caravan Transmission
Hoopla by Midwest Tape	7,245.07	
InfoUSA Marketing, Inc.	3,595.00	
Lakeland Office Systems	566.55	
Liberty Utilities	2,881.81	
Long Refrigeration Heating & Cooling	1,022.00	Ozark A/C Repair
Lowe's	345.44	
Mercy Specialized Billing Services	85.50	
Midwest Tape	1,494.60	
Miles CPA & Associates, LLC	1,000.00	
Missouri Document Solutions	695.00	
Nixa Utilities	4,060.36	45 Days
Papen Pest Control	300.00	
OverDrive, Inc.	190.48	
Ozark Water Department	43.97	
Paychex	85.00	
Phillips Media Group, LLC	177.00	
Quadient Finance USA, Inc	150.00	
Quality Clean, LLC	2,650.00	
Republic Services	178.03	
Showcases	404.73	
Socket	634.81	
Spire (formerly Missouri Gas Energy)	200.65	
Square, Inc.	62.15	
SWMO Services	1,416.00	
UniFirst Corporation	1,934.57	
Unique Management Services	174.75	
Verizon Wireless	2,329.65	
Personnel	225,597.02	
TOTAL	<u><u>277,012.50</u></u>	

Balance Sheet

As of July 31, 2023

Jul 31, 23

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Southern Bank Checking (SONDHI) 142,884.56

CCLFoundation -Do not Reconcile

CCLFoundation Checking Account 98,497.72

Community Foundation of the Oza

CCLFoundation Fund - Finley 8,604.51

CCLFoundation Fund - Nixa 1,041.45

Total Community Foundation of the Oza 9,645.96

Total CCLFoundation -Do not Reconcile 108,143.68

CD's 503,692.96

Ozark Bank Checking 1,572,239.88

Total Checking/Savings 2,326,961.08

Other Current Assets

Cash on hand 170.00

Petty Cash 170.00

Printer Change Bag 237.00

Total Other Current Assets 577.00

Total Current Assets 2,327,538.08

Other Assets

CCL Cop 2020 PROJ 1,013,222.32

CCL Cop 18 Rf 112,415.30

Total Other Assets 1,125,637.62

TOTAL ASSETS 3,453,175.70**LIABILITIES & EQUITY**

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

Accounts Payable 16,740.03

Total Accounts Payable 16,740.03

Credit Cards 3,576.20

Other Current Liabilities

Payroll Liabilities 6,078.99

Total Other Current Liabilities 6,078.99

Total Current Liabilities 26,395.22

Total Liabilities 26,395.22

Equity 3,426,780.48

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY 3,453,175.70

Christian County Library
Profit & Loss
July 2023

	Jul 23
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Tax Rev	
County Taxes	16,129.81
Total Tax Rev	16,129.81
Copier/Fines/Fees	4,195.37
Gifts/Grants/Reimbursements	7,528.32
Interest Income	392.38
Total Income	28,245.88
Gross Profit	28,245.88
Expense	
Bank Service Charges	62.15
Capital Expense	
Major Bldg/Grnds	8,949.20
Total Capital Expense	8,949.20
Collection	
Library of Things	28.47
Technology (Hotspots)	2,505.79
Audio/Visual	
Youth AV	193.84
Adult AV	980.02
Total Audio/Visual	1,173.86
Books	
Youth Services	2,115.61
Electronic Coll. (Hoopla & OD)	10,761.37
Adult Books	3,290.31
Total Books	16,167.29
Databases	987.85
Periodicals & Zinio	958.88
Total Collection	21,822.14
Operating Expense	
Training	444.59
IT Discretionary Budget	
Computer Hardware	82.99
Software/Licensing	1,758.96
Total IT Discretionary Budget	1,841.95
Automation	17,360.15
Building & Grounds	6,406.53
Professional Services	9,900.79
Furniture & Equipment	100.68
Marketing	92.67
Memberships	160.00
Postage	1,111.17
Programming	
Adult Programs	240.00
Youth Services Programs	523.93
Total Programming	763.93
Programming Supplies	
Adult Programming Supplies	105.46
Youth Programming Supplies	392.76

Christian County Library
Profit & Loss
July 2023

	Jul 23
Total Programming Supplies	498.22
Staff & Board- Travel	834.39
Supplies	1,192.85
Telephone/Fax/Modem	706.40
Utilities	6,072.41
Vehicles	646.35
Total Operating Expense	48,133.08
Personnel	159,646.81
Total Expense	238,613.38
Net Ordinary Income	-210,367.50
Net Income	-210,367.50

Report of the Executive Director August 2023

Administration

- In mid-July, staff from State Senator Mike Moon's office visited the Nixa Community Branch. They contacted us to reserve a room for a meeting and requested a tour of the facility, having heard about the recent purchase of the building.

Buildings & Grounds

- The air conditioning was struggling a little bit the last few weeks at the Ozark branch. We spent about \$1000 in repairs and maintenance and things have improved.
- The Christian County Master Gardeners have proposed further beautification at the Ozark branch. Last year they planted two small areas with tulips and a few other flowers. They will be donating time to plant and maintain additional flowers and shrubs. We have some possibilities of donations for the cost of the plants that we are finalizing. We look forward to seeing the project "bloom" and appreciate the dedication from the master gardeners.
- The end of the month storms in the area took a bit of a toll on facilities and staff. The Ozark branch lost the recently donated dogwood tree, had several limbs down and a new roof leak. The Nixa branch has a small roof leak. The day after the storm, the Sparta branch was without power and internet and the Ozark branch was without internet, but both were restored by midday. We will be addressing the roof leaks and limb removal in the coming weeks. Several staff also had personal property damage and power loss.

Collection & Services

- Our Library of Things has grown! August 1, we announced the addition of yard games. We appreciate the Foundation funding this planned expansion. Patrons can now check out bocce ball, cornhole, croquet, horseshoes, and pickleball sets. We recognize that learning happens in many ways and we love being able to offer a learning-through-play experience to people of all ages who may not have the opportunity otherwise. This supports the strategic plan goal to fulfill informational, cultural, educational, and recreational needs. It also supports the goal of connecting people and exchanging ideas. We already have a few checkouts and holds.



Community Engagement

- Each year for our Summer Reading Challenge, we partner with a local nonprofit and encourage donations as part of the SRC activities. This year, we worked with Project

Birthday Bag, an organization that seeks to provide a “happy birthday” to children and families who cannot afford a birthday celebration. Our patrons eagerly participated as always, and Project Birthday Bag shared their thanks with this message on social media: *“Special thanks to the Christian County Library District for all the donations they collected for Project Birthday Bag during the summer reading challenge! Everything from cake mixes and icing, party decorations, great toys, and just fun items for kids was donated. So excited to get these items for our Christian County children who otherwise would not have even the smallest of celebrations. Thanks to all who helped make this possible!”*



This partnership led to us becoming a referring partner for the organization. That will provide another avenue to help those in need qualify for services from Project Birthday Bag.

Personnel

- Thanks to research by Director of Finance and Business Operations Mary Miller, we have made a benefits change for supplemental insurance for staff. Colonial Life will now be the provider instead of Allstate. Full-time and part-time staff are able to choose multiple options like disability, cancer, life insurance, etc., using payroll deduction. There were also a few benefits available to all staff at no cost like telehealth and discount cards.

Programs

- The One Nixa, One Read initiative wrapped up with as much acclaim as it began. The final book discussion/movie event drew 60 attendees and approximately 165 free copies of the book *Wonder* by R.J. Palacio were distributed during July. Survey responses through the city of Nixa indicate a desire from residents for future community-wide reads.



- The “Stay Strong, Stay Healthy” program in collaboration with the University of Missouri Extension was held this summer at the Nixa Community Branch, thanks to work from Nixa Library Programming Specialist Aaron Hubbard. The instructor, Jenni Nevatt, Field Specialist in Nutrition and Health, shared her thanks saying, *“Your facilities are among the best that I get to work in. Having sustained a hip injury mid-program, I truly appreciate the ease of equipment set up. Having tables with wheels, lightweight chairs, and in-room storage made a positive difference. I also appreciate the ability to access the room early. The staff were always helpful and nice.”* MU Extension provides a report after their programs and here are results and comments from their assessment:
 - Objectives: provide a safe, structured, and effective exercise program capable of building muscle and increasing bone density, thus decreasing frailty, osteoporosis, and the risk of falls
 - 15 registrants; of the 9 assessed, 9 of 9 improved lower-body strength and endurance, 7 of 9 improved lower-body flexibility, 9 of 9 improved agility and balance, and 8 of 9 reported feeling “very confident” or “confident” they could continue the exercises on their own
 - Participant quotes: *“My severe nerve pain is now gone. If I had been this strong months ago, I wouldn’t have injured my back.” “I see definite improvement when carrying boxes and going up and down stairs.” “I feel stronger and more confident in my health and have less knee pain.”*
- The Ozark branch hosted their first Christian County Cares Volunteer Fair in partnership with the Ozark Chamber on July 15th. Organizations needing volunteers to complete various tasks were invited to set up a booth to try to acquire the help they needed. Potential volunteers could then choose organizations that best fit their passions/skills to help. 21 people attended and we heard positive feedback from the organizations involved.
- Clever Youth Programming Specialist Amber Schwartz organized Sidewalk Chalk Art Day and had some very appreciative attendees. One patron who lives in Ozark, shared that she drove to Galena to pick up her granddaughter and bring her to the event. She asked many questions about youth services and the library and thanked Amber for her work and how the library serves the community. Several attendees shared similar gratitude for the library and programs.
- This year’s Summer Reading Challenge was another great success. We saw big crowds of families and children at special events and steady engagement through logged minutes read and activities from all ages. A huge thank you to Director of Youth Services Dana Roberts and all of the youth services staff for their planning, organization and tireless implementation efforts.

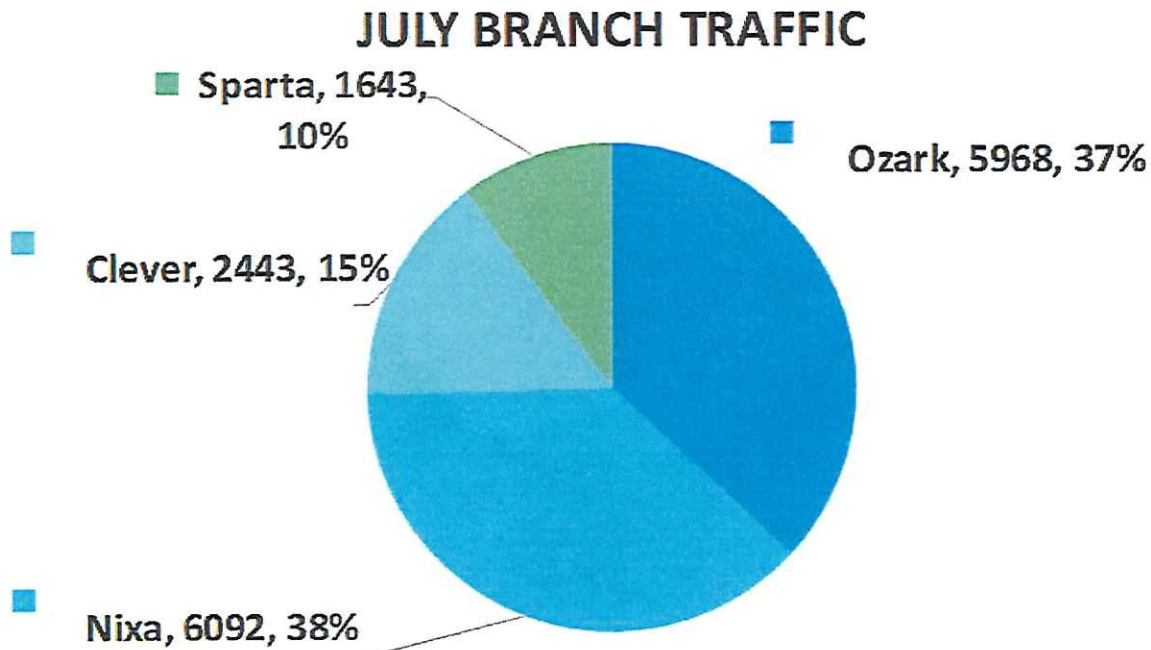
Patron Praise

- Staff noticed a social media conversation about the library in a community group. Someone asked which location of the library was best for children. The comments were all praise for various branches, including a lengthy one: *“All of them have different activities for kids which you can find on their website or social media. The Ozark branch is slightly bigger, but not by much... I do have to give a slight nod to the Sparta branch though. There is a little (fake) mouse that my girls always love to go check out when they go. Can’t go wrong with any of them.”* That individual also mentioned our community partner pickup locations in Chadwick and Highlandville and StoryWalks in Ozark and Nixa.
- The Ozark staff had a compliment from a patron who regularly attends the True Crime Book club at that branch. She said they are always so kind and helpful, and although she has been to other Christian County Library branches, it’s the staff at Ozark that she

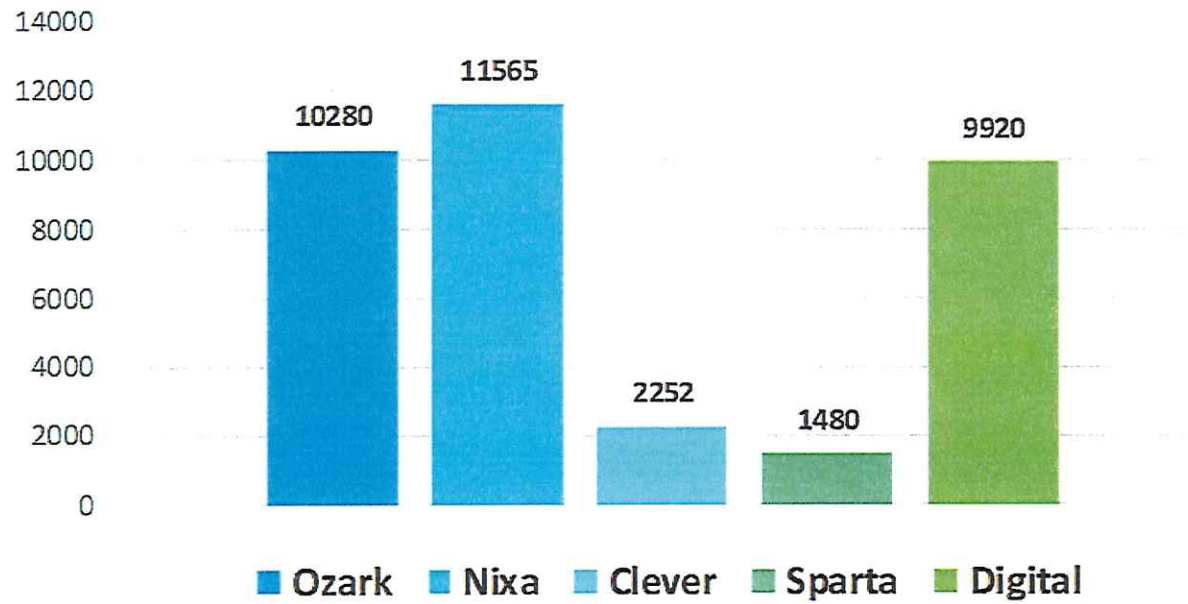
feels most welcomed by. Another member of the club heard the conversation and added their assent.

- Some other Ozark patrons left notes in the suggestion box praising June's case file game event. Four different people left notes saying how much they loved it and wanted to see more like it.

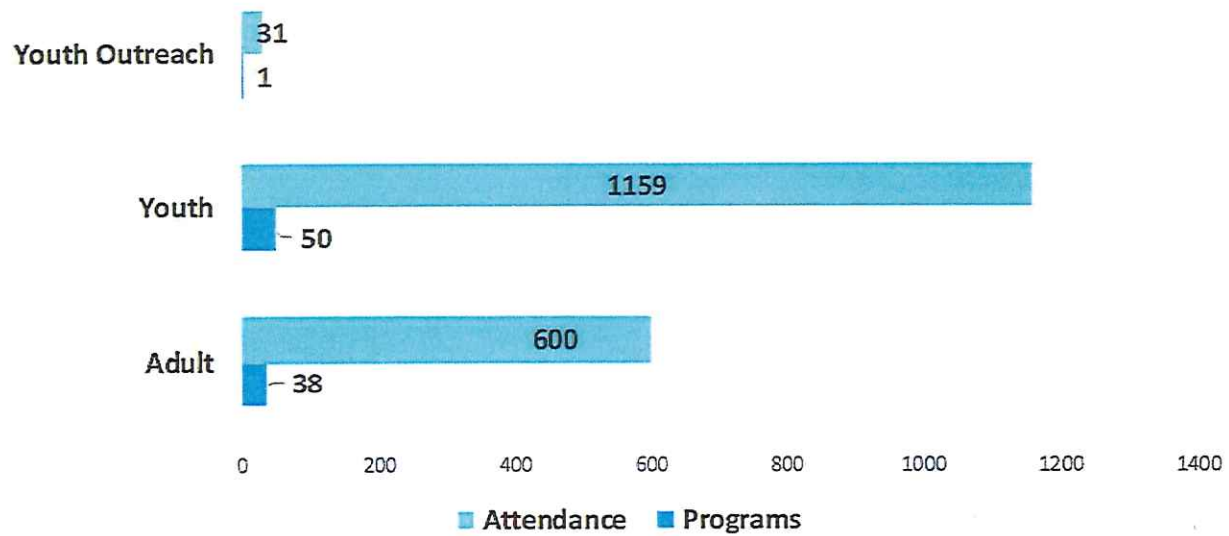
July Statistics



July Circulation by Location



July Programs/Attendance



Development Report - August 2023

Fundraisers for CCL

None.

Major Gifts & Restricted Donations

- \$510 for 30 copies of Maus for Nixa fall program. 2 additional copies for the collection were donated by the publisher, Pantheon (a division of Penguin Random House).

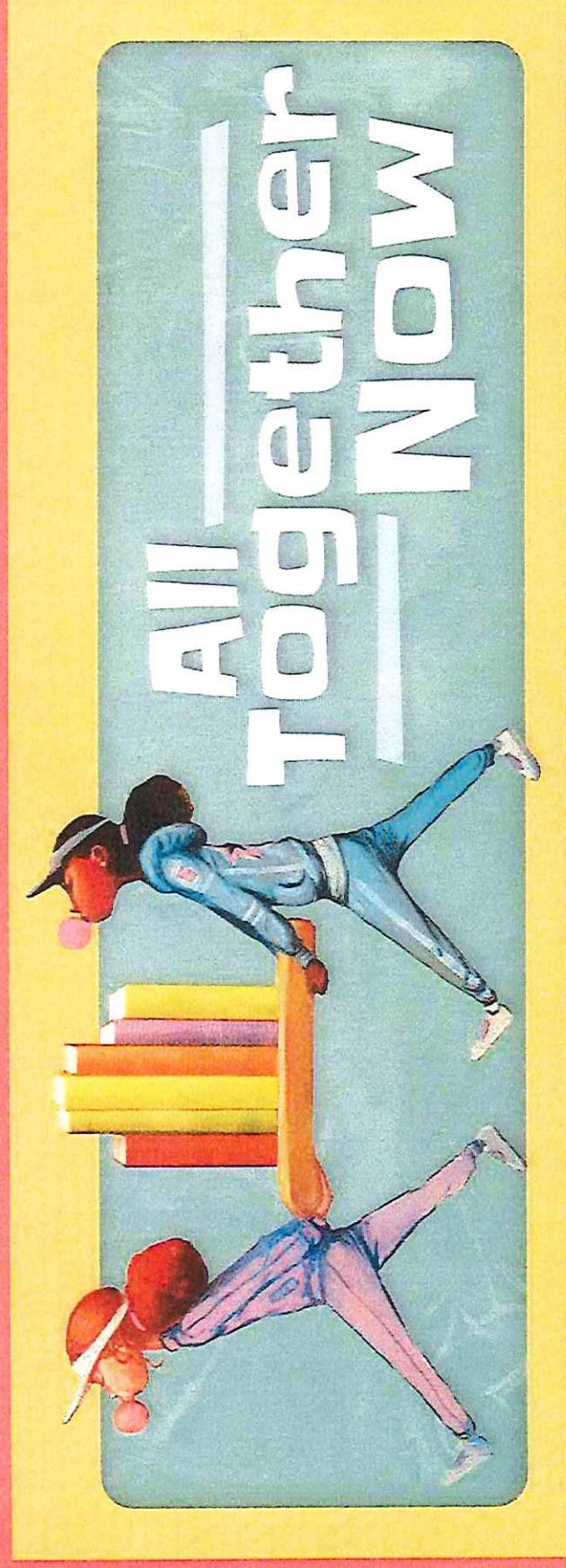
Bequests & Memorials

None.

Grants Awarded

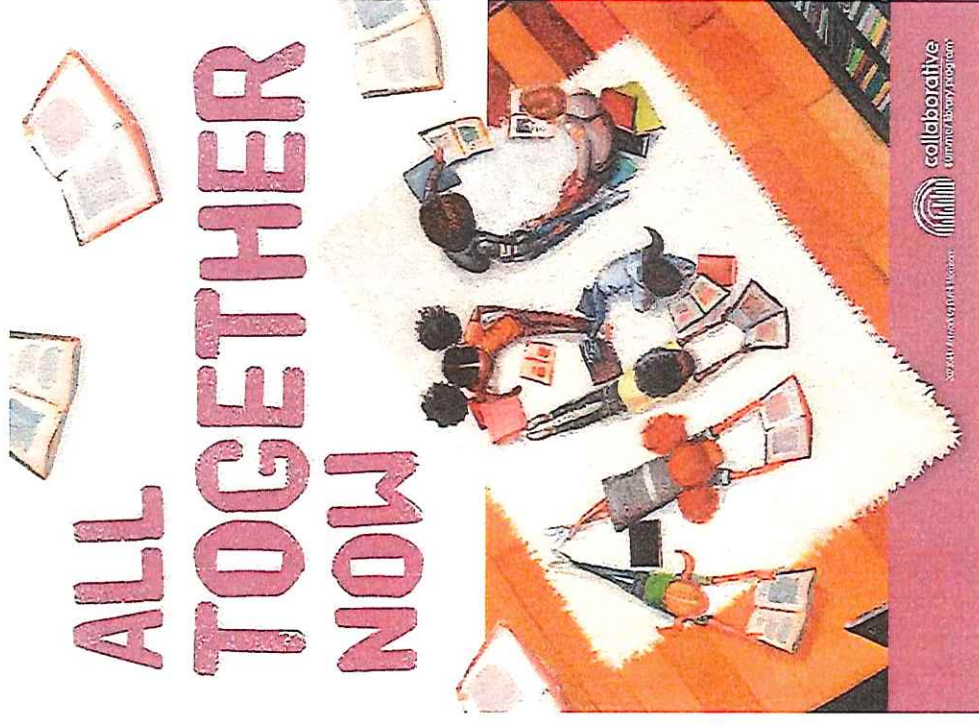
None.

Summer Reading Challenge



Summer Reading 2023

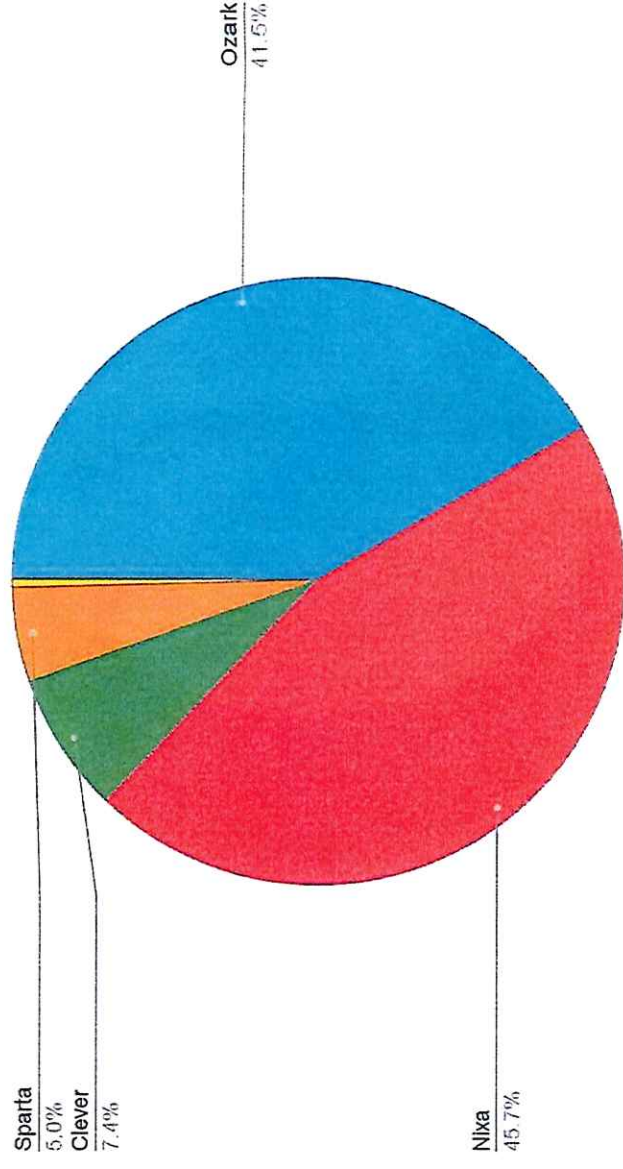
- June 1st - July 31st 2023
- Point Based
 - 500 points = Earn your prizes
- Prizes for all ages
 - Free Book & Coupon Book
 - Tickets to enter prize drawings
- Summer Presenters & Guests



Overall Statistics

- 2,136 registered readers
- 510 book reviews written
- 16,673 activities completed
- 2,830,989 minutes logged

Registration by Branch

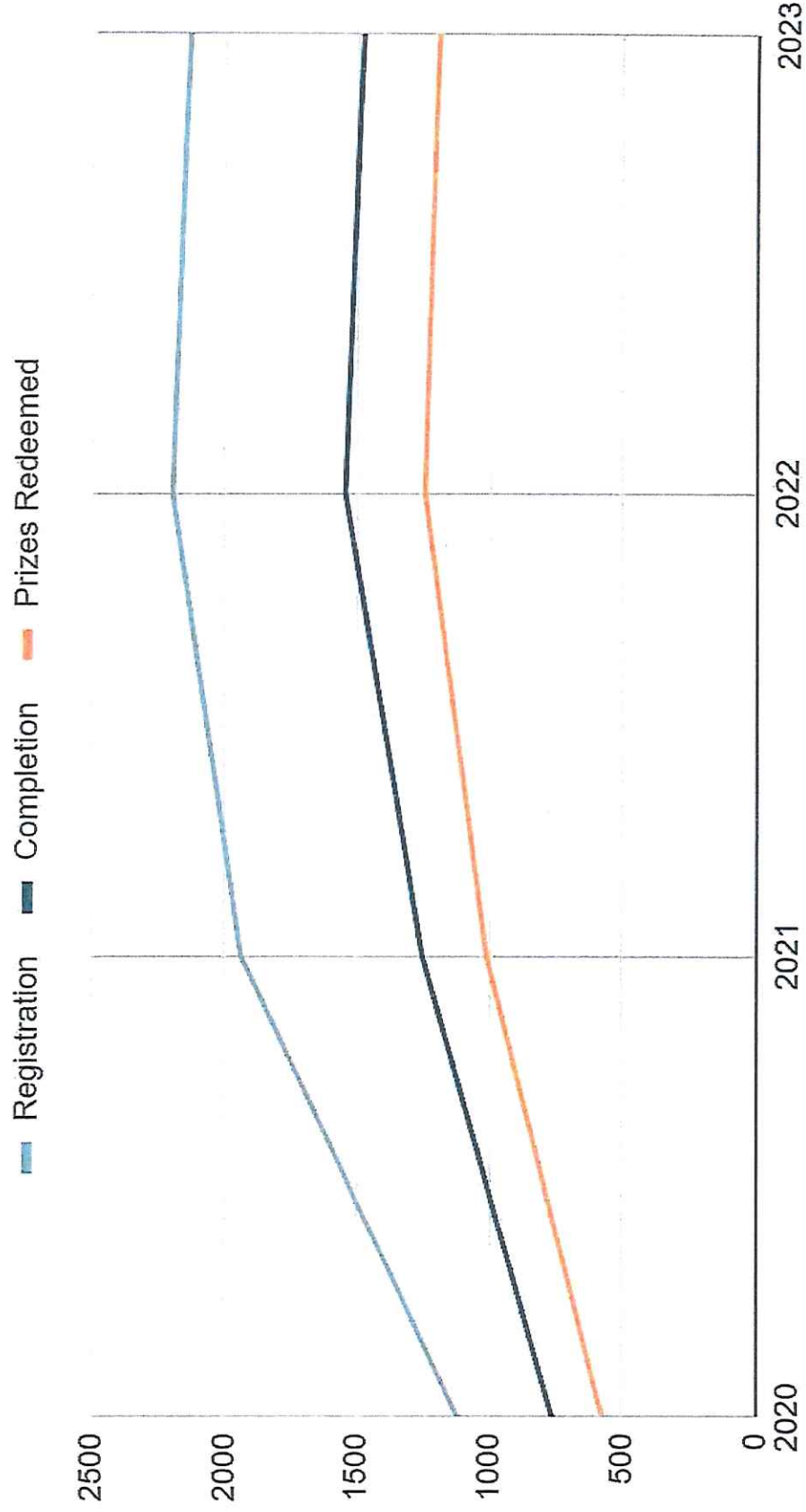


Readers

Registered for Summer Reading

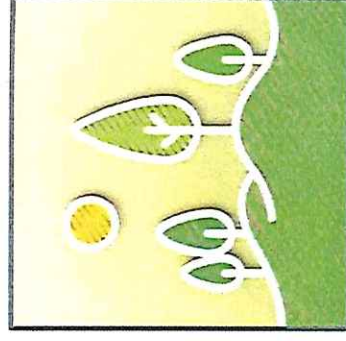
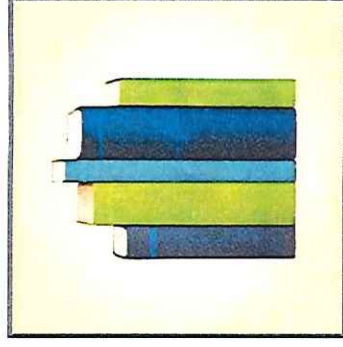
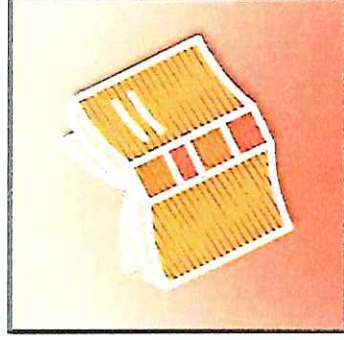
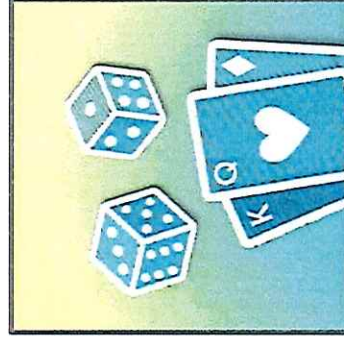
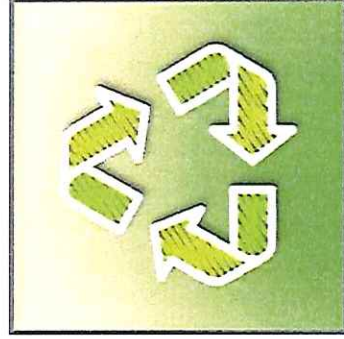
Babies & Toddlers (Birth - PreK)	231
Kids & Tweens (PreK - Grade 6)	1067
Teens (Grades 6 - 12)	197
Adults (18+)	641

Registration, Completion and Prizes Redeemed



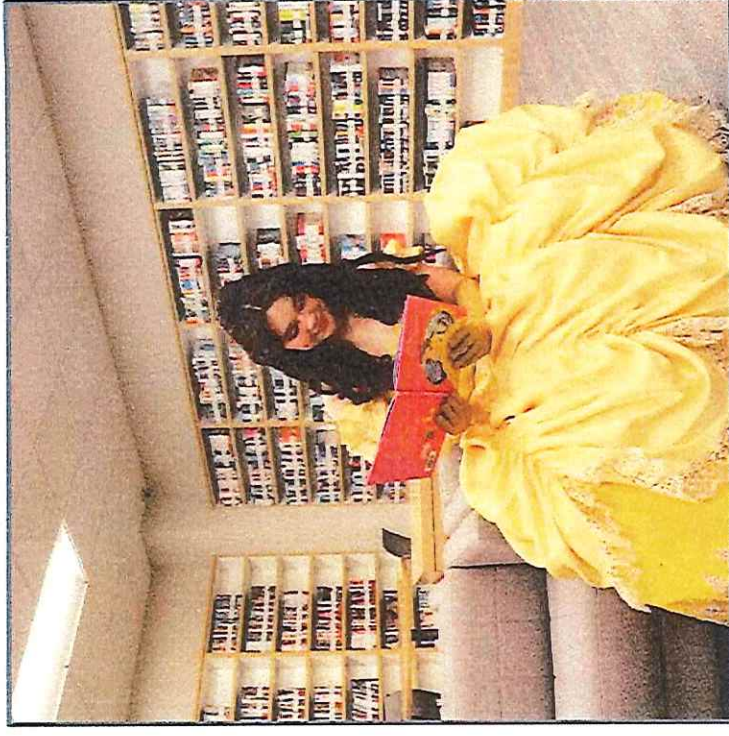
Activities Completed

Babies	5,059
Kids	6,534
Teens	1,067
Adults	4,013
Total	16,673



Minutes Read

2020	1,791,054
2021	2,400,636
2022	2,774,227
2023	2,830,989



Coupon Book Sponsors



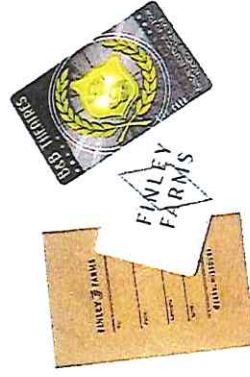
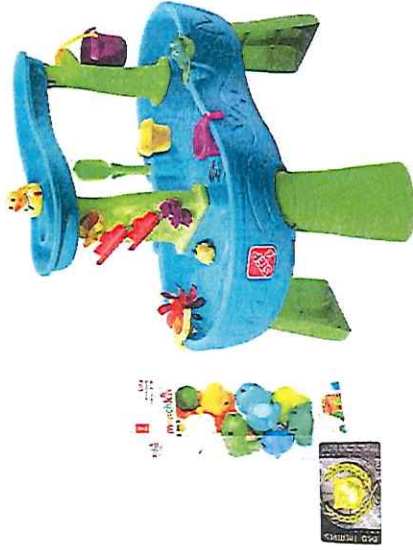
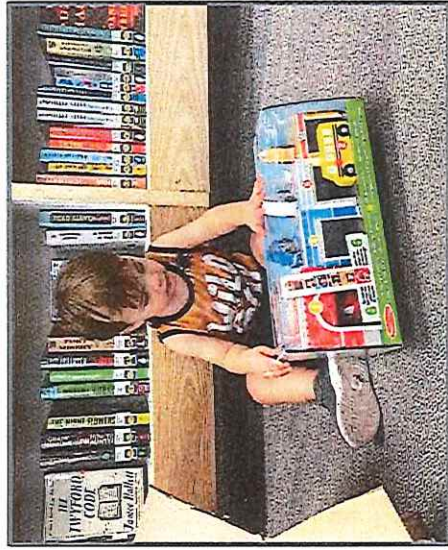
Discovery
Center



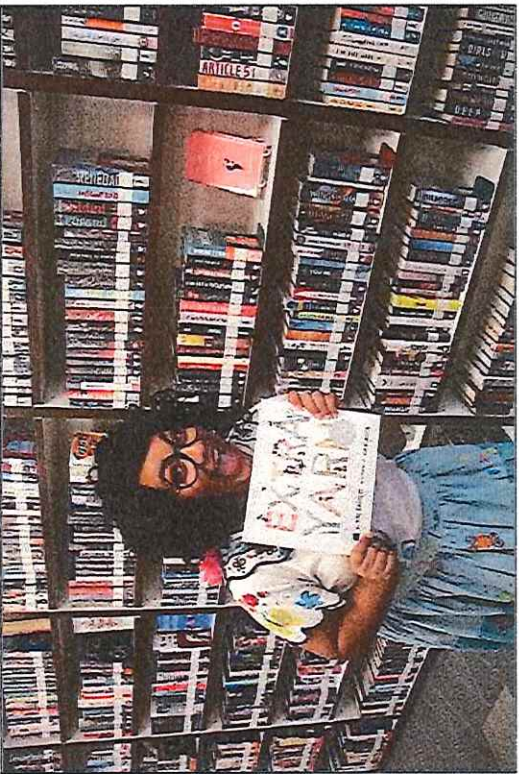
A Destination
For Recreation



Prize Baskets

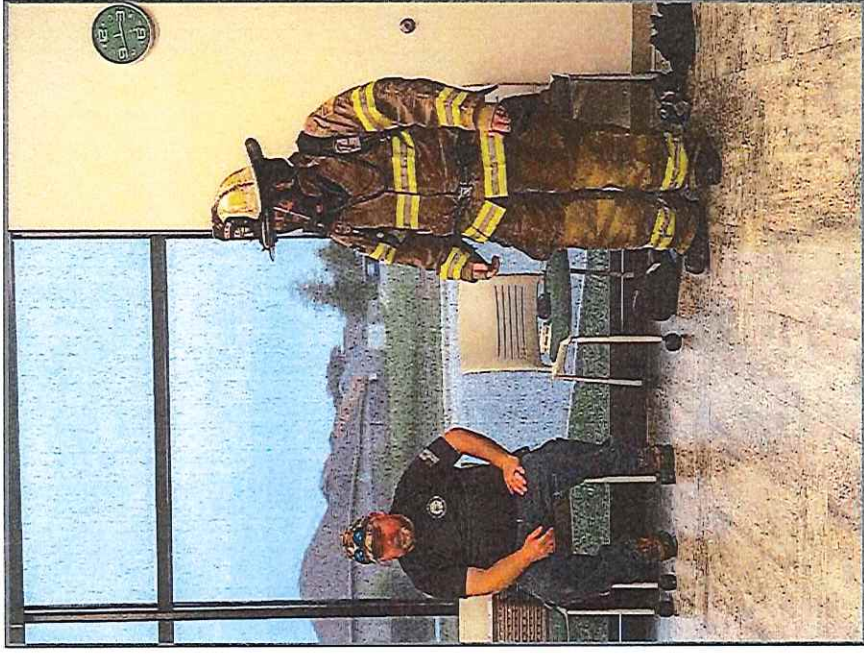


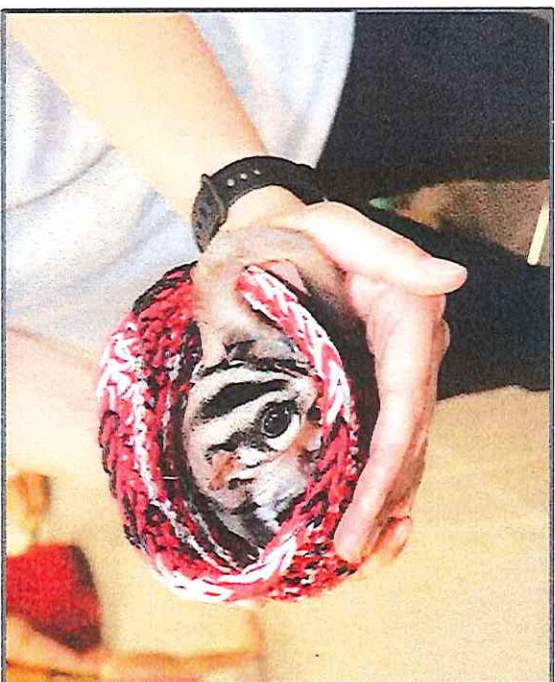




Princesses!

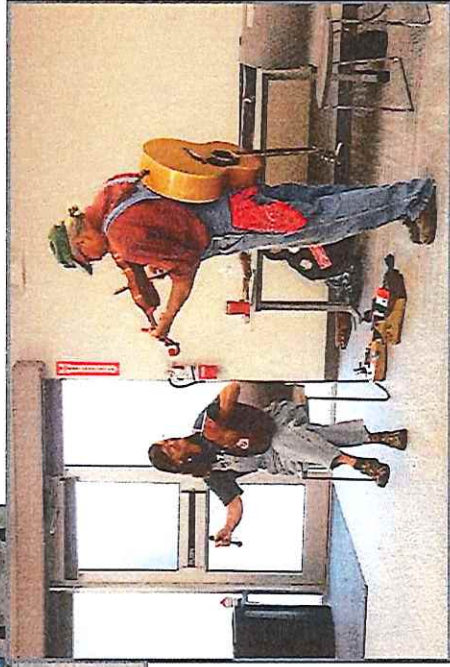
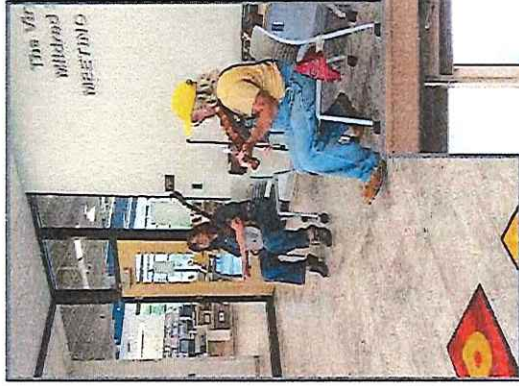
Fire Safety





Animals!

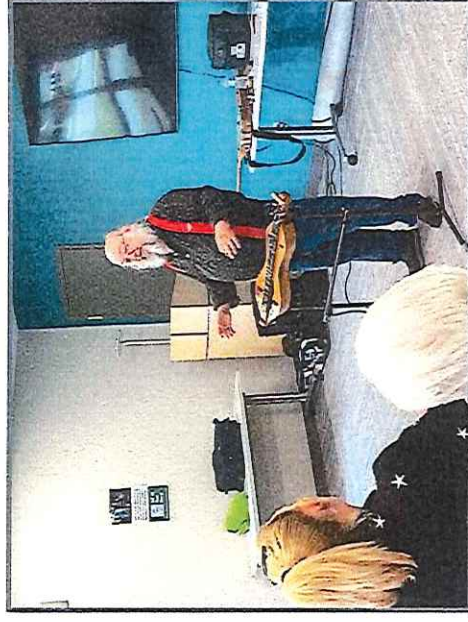
Music



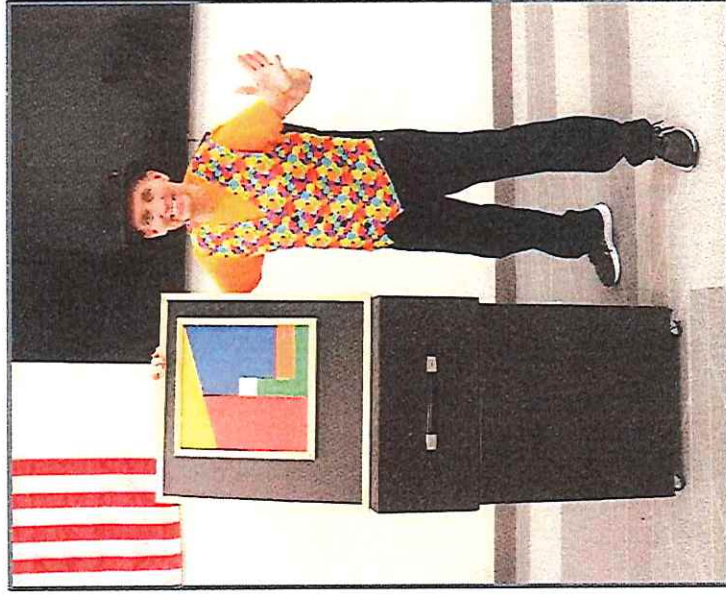
Mike & Nancee



Mike Anderson



Magic!

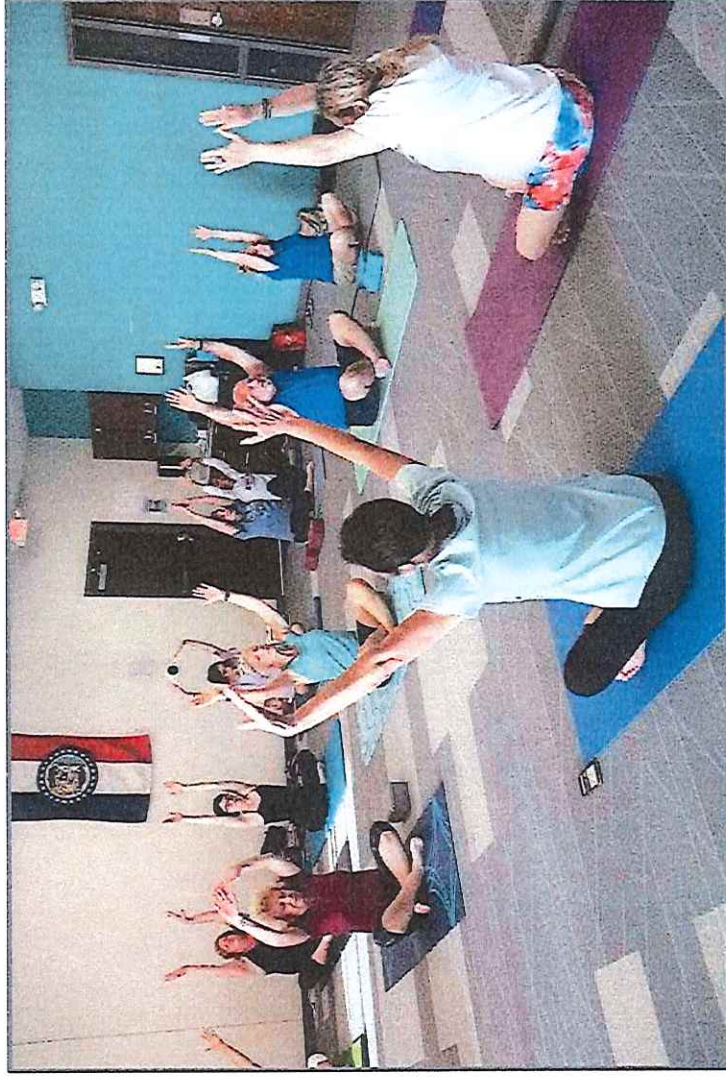


Marty the Magician

Yoga & Tai Chi

Yoga - 126 attendees

Tai Chi - 54 attendees



Stay Strong, Stay Healthy

with the University of Missouri Extension Office

144 total attendance



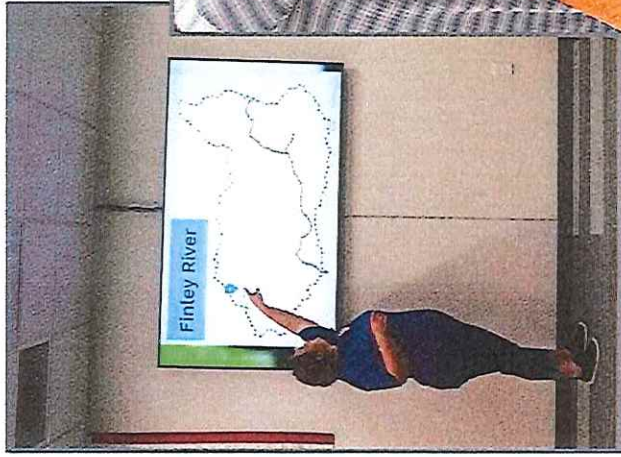
Participant quotes after 8 weeks of SSSH:

"My severe nerve pain is now gone. If I had been this strong months ago, I wouldn't have injured my back." "I see definite improvement when carrying boxes and going up and down stairs." "Jenni is a tremendous instructor. Made me feel so comfortable and helped modify exercises for me." "I feel stronger and more confident in my health and have less knee pain." "Can walk onto porch without holding on."

Uncovering History: Sparta Cemetery



Partnerships

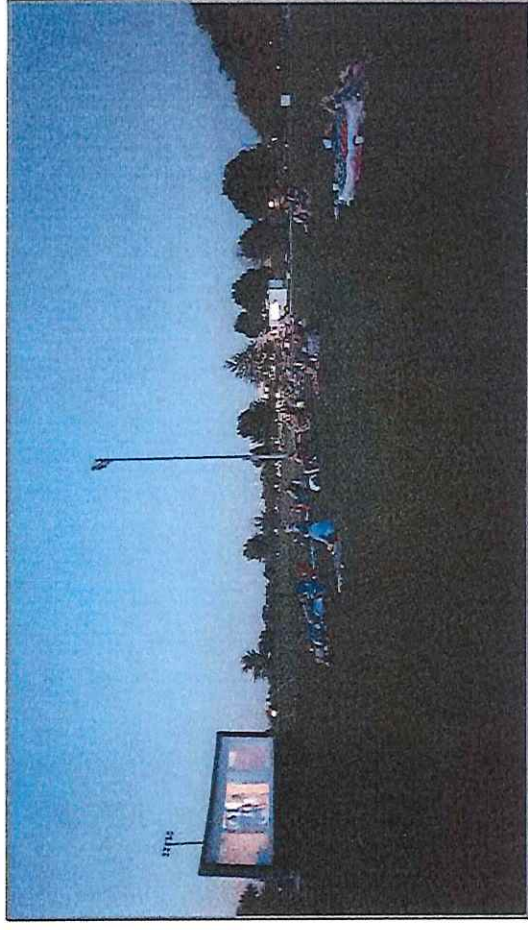


James River Basin Partnership

Christian County Ambulance District

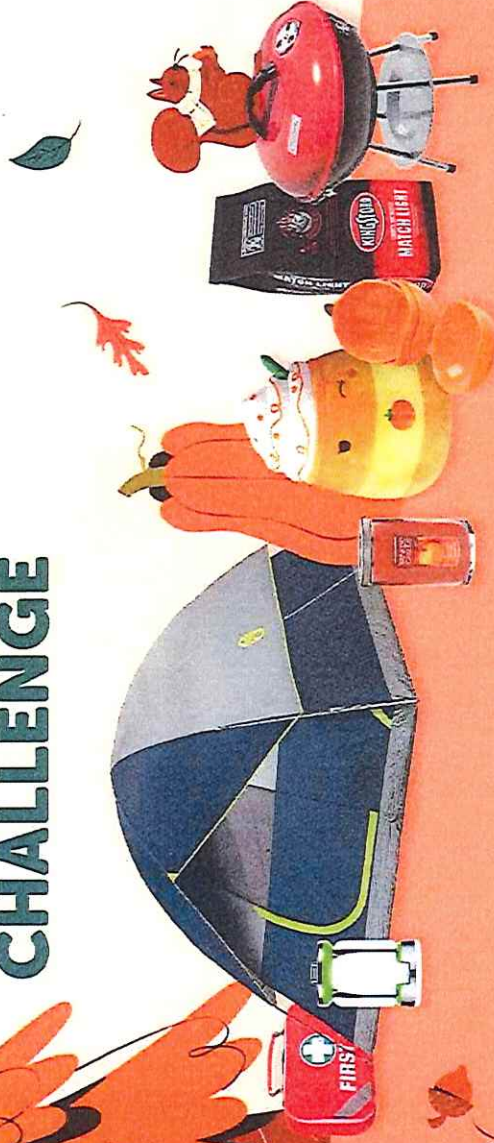
One Nixa, One Read

with the City of Nixa, Nixa Parks and Recreation, and Nixa Schools



Sept. 1 - Oct. 31

Log your minutes read
and completed activities
on 🍷 **beanstack** for
chances to win one of the
fall-inspired prize packs.



Spice up your autumn by joining this all ages reading challenge.

christiancountylibrary.beanstack.org

NOTICE OF LEVY HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday, August 22, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Nixa Community Branch located at 208 N. McCroskey St., Nixa, Missouri, for the setting of the tax rate proposed for the Christian County Library for the 2023 tax year:

CHRISTIAN COUNTY LIBRARY CHRISTIAN COUNTY, MISSOURI ASSESSED VALUATION

(Prior Year Ending 8/1/2022)

(Current Year Thru 8/1/2023)

Real Estate by Category:

Residential	\$ 1,040,460,260
Agricultural	\$ 9,290,930
Commercial	\$ 210,179,440

Total Real	\$ 1,259,930,630
------------	------------------

Personal Property	\$ 329,343,278
-------------------	----------------

Local R.R. & Utility	\$ 5,344,859
----------------------	--------------

State R.R. & Utility	\$ 36,940,348
----------------------	---------------

Total Assessed Value	\$ 1,631,564,745
----------------------	------------------

Current Tax Levy	\$.1875
------------------	----------

Real Estate by Category:

Residential	\$ 1,171,844,700
Agricultural	\$ 9,490,600
Commercial	\$ 233,260,140

Total Real	\$ 1,414,595,440
------------	------------------

Personal	\$ 350,524,046
----------	----------------

Local R.R. & Utility	\$ 5,821,311
----------------------	--------------

State R.R. & Utility	\$ 36,467,582
----------------------	---------------

Total Assessed Value	\$ 1,807,408,379
----------------------	------------------

Proposed Tax Levy	\$.1861
-------------------	----------

The amount of property tax revenues to be budgeted for FY24 will be \$3,363,586 if rate (per \$100 of valuation) = \$0.1861.

This notice has been posted at service locations of the Christian County Library District for at least seven days prior to the hearing date in accordance with §67.110, RSMo.

New Business: Board Packet

Statement and Motion:

Fellow Trustees, I would like to thank you for the commitment and dedication each one of you extends to our common purpose of enriching our community's knowledge and literacy. What an honor to continue the work of so many who came before us over the last 66, almost 67 years. I think about the ways that our community members have served in that time to make our Christian County Library the incredible thing that it is today.

Looking back over even just the last one year, this meeting has grown from little to no citizen involvement, to packed rooms overflowing with those seeking to continue improving. I know that this Board and the Executive Director are committed to bringing solutions, solving problems, even challenging ones, and being excellent representatives of those in our respective townships.

Today, I would like to discuss a proposition that I believe can help foster deeper connections with the community we serve and elevate the visibility of the impactful work we are undertaking here at our libraries.

In an effort to further our commitment to transparency, I propose that we make our Board of Trustees Packet publicly available. By sharing this compilation of insights and updates, we can give our community members and patrons a holistic view into the heart of our operations. In my estimation, this move will serve a number of valuable purposes.

As you are aware, the Board Packet encompass the informational materials that we as the Board receive to review and help inform our work, decisions, and ultimately our votes and action. While some of these documents are available to public upon request, I believe that we can do a better job of making all relevant materials more easily available in a way that demonstrates that the Board is transparent in its operations and decisions.

The Board Packet is more than just about our business, they also encapsulate just some of the highlights of the great work being done by staff, volunteers, and libraries. The Executive Director's report, which forms a vital part of this packet, is a testament to the excellence in the ongoing initiatives, innovations, and achievements. Sharing this report more readily with the public will help illuminate the dedication and diligence that goes into managing our libraries, fostering a deeper appreciation for our work.

As your newly elected Treasurer, I believe that financial transparency is crucial in building trust and understanding within the community we serve. By revealing the operational health and financials of our library, we give our taxpayers a clear view of how funds are being utilized. This gesture of openness further demonstrates our commitment to judicious use of public funds and encourages a stronger sense of ownership among our community members.

The inclusion of details regarding public commentary, testimony, and educational materials provided to the Board underscores our mission to engage with our community actively. It reaffirms our openness to feedback and the value we place on public input, making it evident that we are a listening and learning organization.

In making these packets publicly available, we not only adhere to the principles of transparency and inclusivity but also underscore our unwavering commitment to the community we serve. It is, indeed, a step towards creating a more engaged, informed, and participatory relationship with our patrons and stakeholders. It will also go a long way to serving those who might be unable to attend these meetings to see the presentations and hear these discussions happening.

Drawing from my personal experiences attending many of these meetings over the past year, I can attest to the challenges audience members often face in viewing the displayed information, particularly from the public seating area. Providing this documentation directly on our website, I believe, will significantly improve the insight into the Trustees' decision-making processes and the materials influencing their votes. Removing unnecessary barriers and staff time will allow better ease of access in a self-serve solution seems like a simple way to achieve this end.

In doing so, we send a clear message about our devotion to open dialogue, public service, and community partnership. I trust that you all will join me in this endeavor, for the collective good of our community and the continued growth and success of the Christian County Public Library.

Therefore, I would like to put forward a motion.

I move to make the Board of Trustees Packet, along with public comment forms, any received written testimonies, and handouts from public comment, available on the library website as a separate attachment in addition to the minutes.

I move that this change goes into effect starting from the July 2023 meeting materials with redaction of the home addresses that packet contained.