

FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

ANNUAL REPORT



SHERRARD PUBLIC
LIBRARY DISTRICT

Dreams grow at the library!

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WELCOME

FROM OUR LIBRARY DIRECTOR
AND BOARD PRESIDENT

It is our pleasure to share with you the 2020-2021 Annual Report from the Sherrard Public Library District. The report highlights our key statistics and achievements that support our mission to meet the educational and recreational needs of the community, promote the exchange of ideas, and aid in the lifelong learning of the library community.

We hope you enjoy this peek into the work of our dedicated Library staff, and the many services, resources, and events that we provided during the past year.

We invite everyone to engage with the Library! Visit us on Instagram or Facebook, check out the online resources on our website, or stop in to explore the possibilities.

Tori Drews
Library Director

Allen Holdsworth
President, Board of Trustees

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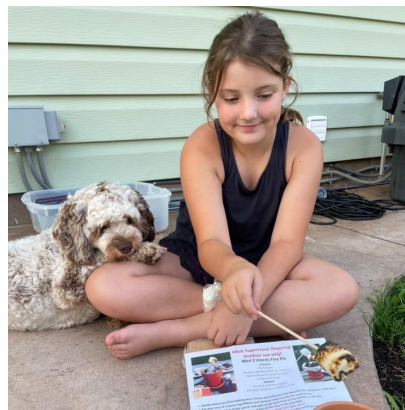
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NEW SERVICES

THE PROGRAMS MUST GO ON...

The past year has been an unprecedented time for our community. Like many local businesses, the library closed for 75 days - but we were determined to return with the needs and safety of our community in mind.

Take Home Programming was unveiled in June 2020 - featuring Storytime Bags, Little Explorer Boxes, and crafts for all ages! Each Take Home Kit reflected all of our favorite library events: Craft Kits included all supplies needed (plus a candy or two) for paintings, wreaths, and more; Storytime Bags featured themed picture books with an accompanying craft and snack; and Little Explorer Boxes encouraged little ones to learn through imaginative play with tactile items and a boardbook.



A new addition to our program line-up, Tween & Teen Book Bundles offered a convenient and exciting way to keep older kids engaged.

Each bundle featured chapter books or graphic novels, paired with a craft and surprise to enjoy! Also new to our calendar, Movie Night To Go encouraged you to relax at home with two movies (selected by our librarians) - popcorn included!



SUMMER BOOK SALE

The Library hosted its first Summer Book Sale in August 2020, featuring thousands of books and movies - all for \$1 per bag.

PRINCH



We were pleased to announce Princh, a wireless printing solution. With Princh, you can print at the library using your own mobile device or laptop, and pay via credit card, cash or check!

REFERENDUM

To address increasing minimum wages, the library submitted a public question to voters on April 6, 2021. The referendum proposed an additional 0.04% in taxes to be used toward staff wages, library collection materials, programs, and dues for PrairieCat (which is the consortium that supports Interlibrary Loans), Libby eBooks, etc. For a property with a net taxable value of \$40,000 the proposed increase would equal \$16 in one year. In total, your library taxes account for less than 3% of your total property taxes.

The initiative did not pass, as the library was short about 100 votes. Because public libraries do not operate on a profit margin and are not typically allowed to save monies, increased property tax revenue is the primary avenue for adjusting to financial challenges. Indeed, a lack of additional income necessitates budget cuts.

Sherrard Public Library District's ballot measure to increase property taxes by less than 1/2% would alleviate many of these difficult decisions, so we intend to present this public question again in 2023 - stay tuned!

In the meantime, the Library will be operating on new hours - namely, closing on Friday's at 5 PM, beginning August 2021.

New operation hours will be:

Monday - Thursday: 10 AM - 8 PM

Friday: 10 AM - 5 PM

Saturday: 9 AM - 12 PM

Sunday: CLOSED

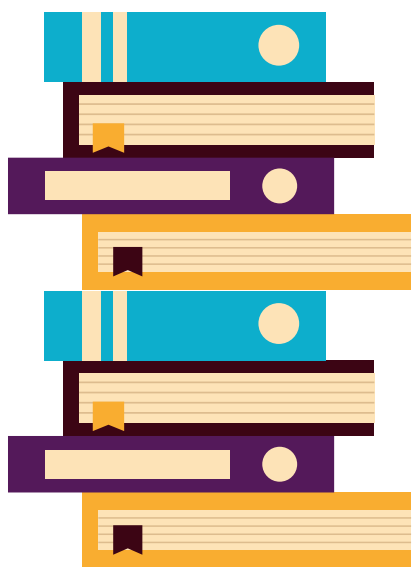
For more information about your library taxes, this ballot measure, or the library's new operating hours, do not hesitate to contact us!

PROPOSITIONS
<p>SHERRARD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT</p> <p>SHALL THE ANNUAL PUBLIC LIBRARY TAX RATE FOR THE SHERRARD PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT, MERCER AND ROCK ISLAND COUNTIES, ILLINOIS, BE ESTABLISHED AT 0.19% OF FULL, FAIR CASH VALUE INSTEAD OF AT 0.15%, THE MAXIMUM RATE OTHERWISE APPLICABLE TO THE NEXT TAXES TO BE EXTENDED?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES</p> <p><input type="radio"/> NO</p>

READING PROGRAMS

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

Each Summer, the Library offers a reading program that helps your family prevent the "summer slide" in reading skills through engaging goals and rewards. This year, 119 community members participated in Summer Reading!

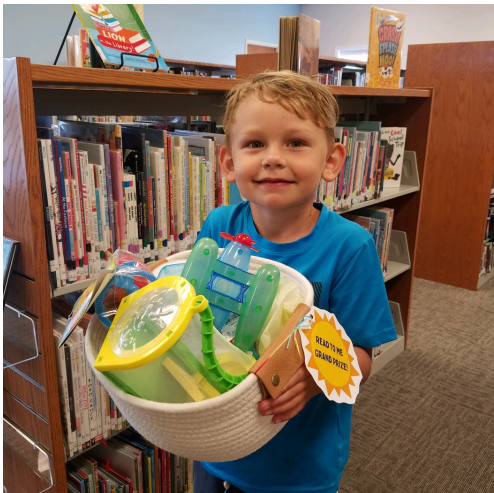


425 Books Read
by Adults & Young Adults



28,080 Minutes Read
by Children

Meeting the summer reading goals allows you to earn prizes, and also enters you for chances to win our Grand Prizes! The more you read, the more you can win!



Summer at the library wouldn't be complete without our programs!
Summer Programs are designed to accompany our reading theme and promote educational goals, as well as be FUN for the whole family!

We were pleased to provide take-home programs to 374 community members throughout June and July. Plus, nearly 300 people enjoyed drop-in programs and social media challenges!



1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

Children ages 0-5 are eligible to participate in 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten, available year-round. Families can read any book with their child to participate, and children will be rewarded for their progress for every 100 books read! This is a great program for building pre-reading skills necessary for academic success.



Families can start their 1,000 Books journey anytime before Kindergarten! Visit our front desk for more information and to receive reading logs.

OUR COLLECTION

The Library offers the latest books, audiobooks, graphic novels, and movies for Adults, Teens, Tweens, and Children at all reading levels! Check out some of our collection highlights:

HOMESCHOOL & EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Science experiments, writing prompts, early word development, art instruction and more await in our Juvenile Nonfiction section.

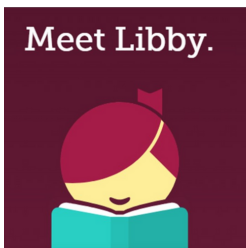
Homeschooling families can also utilize our Homeschool Collection for curriculum development guides, and textbooks for early readers, grade school and high school students.

BEGINNING READERS

Children who are starting to sound out stories will find our Beginning Readers section to be the perfect mix of easy words and fun illustrations. Be sure to also look for our First Little Readers packs, which include a small collection of storybooks correlated with a specific letter of the alphabet. Toddlers will also enjoy our Boardbook collection. Made from cardboard, these books can handle a little more wear-and-tear than picture books

GRAPHIC NOVELS

Like traditional novels, graphic novels have exciting plots and are full of text. With more illustrations, however, many reluctant readers find graphic novels to have the extra support they need to finish a book. These are also a great option for children moving from picture-books to chapter books!



EBOOKS & AUDIOBOOKS

Can't make it to the library? Check out thousands of eBooks and eAudiobooks using Libby or Axis360! Use your Sherrard Library Card number as username, and the last four digits of your library barcode number as your PIN to access these apps for free.



NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES

Find daily copies of The Dispatch-Argus, Aledo Times Record, and USA Today at the library! We also subscribe to plenty of popular magazines, like People, All Recipes, Field and Stream, and more.

Newspapers are in-library use only, while magazines check out for one week.

BY THE NUMBERS

14,928

Visitors



370

Computer Sessions



1,468

Reference Questions

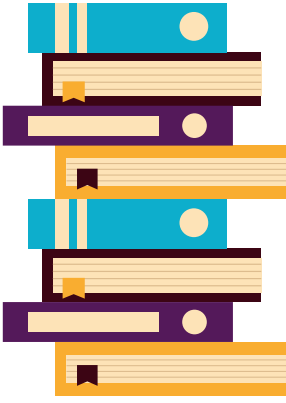


1,419

Library Cardholders



\$489,283.96
Collection Value

27,421

Checkouts

4,947

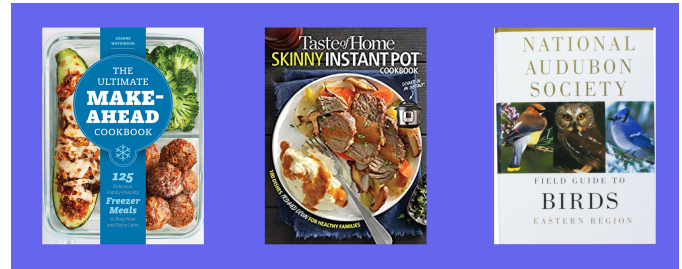
eBook
Checkouts

2,523
Items Added to
the Collection

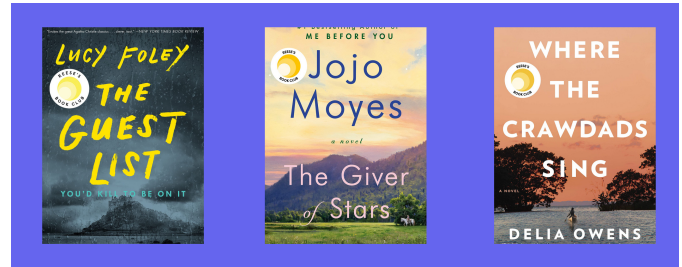


23
Book Club
Members

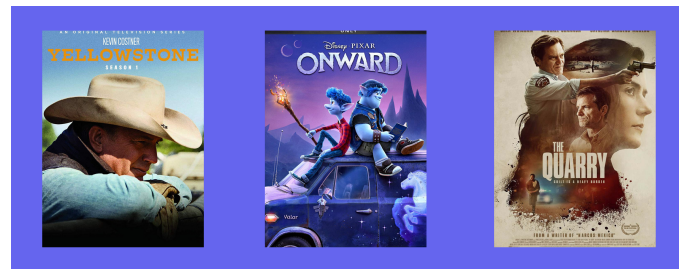
TOP CIRCULATING NON FICTION TITLES



TOP CIRCULATING FICTION TITLES



TOP CIRCULATING MOVIES





1,321
Book
Kits



138
Programs



1,771
Program
Attendees



THANK YOU!



On behalf of the Library Board of Trustees, Library Director, and staff, we thank you for your support of the Sherrard Public Library District.

Please continue to learn, enjoy, and explore what the Library has to offer!

HOURS

Monday - Thursday 10 A.M. - 8 P.M.
Friday 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.
Saturday 9 A.M. - 12 P.M.

