

The Ayer Library

Director's Report for August 2019

Adult Book Displays:

- **Summer/Beach Reads;**
- **Book Bingo Adult Summer Reading Program** book ideas, with bingo sheets, instructions, and raffle ticket bags on display;
- **Remembering Toni Morrison**, featuring her books;
- **Climate Change Awareness**, in preparation for National Preparedness Month (September) and Climate Preparedness Week (September 24-30)

Adult Department – New Service: Discount Passes to Nashoba Paddler!

- August saw the launch of a new discount pass program that we're piloting with the Ayer Cultural Council and Nashoba Paddler. From now through the end of October, patrons can use their library cards to borrow a pass entitling them to a \$15 discount on rentals at Nashoba Paddler. This pass program would not have been possible without funding from Cultural Council and a lot of thoughtful work by Council Member Laurie Nehring and others, and we hope it succeeds in encouraging people to get out and explore the Nashua River.

Adult Programs & Activities:

Program/Presenter	Attendance	Date
All Booked Club – Reading <i>Between the World and Me</i> by Ta Nehisi Coates	4	August 1
Board Game Night	17	August 8
Board Game Night	12	August 22
Introduction to CBD Oil	32	August 26

- **Book Bingo Adult Summer Reading 2019** rolls on. The program is intended to encourage patrons to read books that they might not often read and to interact with library staff for reading recommendations. Promotional materials were put on AyerLibrary.org (with downloadable bingo sheet), Ayer Library's Facebook page, and in the library. Prizes are five \$25 gift certificates to O'Neil Cinemas, Markoh's on Main (can also be used at Lucia's Tavola and Tipo Tacos); Kimball Farms, Capri Bakery, and Shop 'n Save. The program will last until September 10th, and a winner will be drawn that week.

Library Director's Activities:

- Assistant Director Samantha Benoit, with a small amount of help from me, compiled the statistics for the Annual Report Information Survey (ARIS) required for our annual State Aid Program application. The report was submitted online to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners on August 15th.
- On Monday, August 26th, I participated in a call and online demo with Aaron Schmidt of InFlux, a design company that specializes in improving the user experience in libraries, about their PreFab library website platform. InFlux has set up a trial site for some of our staff to experiment with.

The Ayer Library
Director's Report for August 2019

Library Director's Meetings:

- Town of Ayer Affordable Housing Committee Meeting, August 16th
- Ayer Open for Business Breakfast Meeting, August 28th

Library Operations:

- The Community Bulletin Board area also received a bit of a makeover this month. With the arrival of two new display units upstairs, the long display table was moved down to serve as the new information table. Two bulletin boards were hung up to replace the previous one, and Tim and Christina purchased an acrylic brochure holder from The Great Exchange in Devens, MA to help keep all community flyers organized.
- The Book Sale Room was overflowing with recent donations, so the Friends of the Ayer Library Book Sale had a Fill-A-Bag for \$1.00 special sale begin this month. This sale is always a success and patrons look forward to these sales all year long. One patron came through and purchased 16 bags of books!
- In a related development, Friends of the Library Board Member Laurie Sabol began volunteering a few hours a week in the Book Sale Room to help keep the room organized. Her work has made a big difference!

Youth Services Programs & Activities:

Children's Programs	Attendance	Date
Mighty Mouse the Mini Horse	36	August 1
Solar System Headbands	36	August 1
Star Wars Symposium	26	August 3
Solar System Mobile	16	August 6
Read with Mead the therapy dog	6	August 6
Astronaut Training Obstacle Course	45	August 8
Cardboard Tube Aliens	23	August 13
Jungle Jim's Ballooniverse of Stories	88	August 15
Harvard Alpaca Ranch visit	53	August 22

- Summer Reading 2019: *A Universe of Stories* came to a close this month, and the Youth Services staff took a great deal of satisfaction from the results – 22 programs hosted over seven weeks and attended by 744 kids – and also breathed a collective sigh of relief at the conclusion of another fun but challenging summer of programming. 234 kids signed up to participate in the reading contests, with 178 of those kids participating in the program at least long enough to earn at least one prize or turn in one raffle ticket. ***Details of the 2019 Summer Reading Program are attached as an addendum to this report.***

The Ayer Library

Director's Report for August 2019

- Christina, who puts up the community question in the main stairwell, requested a large whiteboard at the end FY'19 to help make keeping up with that program a little easier. Don, Keith, Samantha, and Christina all worked together to get the whiteboard hung up and Christina has since created spots for the Quote of the Day, Fact of the Week, and Question of the Month.
- **Young Adult (YA)/Teen Programs & Activities:**
 - Book displays
 - Science Fiction

Programs	Attendees	Date
<i>Board Game Nights & Book Club</i> are now being reported under Adult Programs		

- In August, the Makerspace was personalized duct tape banks and duct tape zippered pouches.

I would like to thank the following Ayer Library staff members for their contributions to this report: Nancy Askin, Autumn Dore, Amy Leonard, Justine Paulson, Thomas Tagliavento, and Christina Zoller.

Respectfully,

Tim Silva
Library Director

Addendum:

Summer Reading Program 2019: *A Universe of Stories* Final Results

Summer reading started on June 27, 2019
The program ran for 7 weeks and ended on August 15, 2018

The Ayer Library

Director's Report for August 2019

Participation and Prizes

Participants of the programs signed-up at the Children's Circulation Desk. A reading log was offered so that each child could keep track of the books they had read. Every child was to set a personal goal for themselves, and as long as they attempted to reach their goal they were able to win that week's prize. Prizes were numbered to correspond with each week of the program. Young Adults were not required to sign up, and were only given a reading log if they wanted one. For each book a Young Adult read they were given a raffle ticket in which they had to write their name, phone number, and the title of the book they read. There were a total of 12 prizes available.

Young Adult: 10+

Children: 1-10

This year 10 year olds were allowed to choose which program to participate in. This informed our prize choices- as last year we dropped the sign-up age, and purchased predominantly tech-electronic based prizes. Not all of our kids have access to I-phones, computers, and tablets.

234 people signed up for the Summer Reading Program

- **46** were Young Adults
- **188** were children
- **178** people participated in the program long enough to earn at least one prize or turn in one raffle ticket.
- **37** people completed ALL 7 weeks

The Young Adult program had twelve prize winners. One raffle had no entries.

- Amazon gift card 25\$ - Anna K. (12)
- Amazon gift card 25\$ - Tyler C. (11)
- Diary of a Wimpy Kid, book set –Nathan B. (12)
- Hot Topic 15\$ - Lena W. (12)
- Encyclopedia Dinosaurs – Micheal D. (13)
- Target 15\$ - Annika F. (12)
- Target 15\$ - Abby K. (12)
- XBOX 15\$- Nick H. (13)
- Thirty Nine Clues Set – No Entries
- Game Stop 15\$ - Annaliese E. (11)
- Percy Jackson Set- Janice F. (11)
- McDonald's gift card 15\$ - Noah S. (10)

Prizes were purchased from CSLP/Demco, Shaws, Amazon, and Oriental Trading.

\$760.52 was spent on prizes. Book prizes were collected from the Book Sale Donations.

The Ayer Library
Director's Report for August 2019

Ages of Participants

Age	Total # Signed-up		Young Adult - Age	Total # Signed-up
1	3		10	8
2	10		11	22
3	14		12	5
4	20		13	6
5	19		14	2
6	30		15	0
7	33		16	1
8	29			
9	18			
10 (not YA)	8			
11 (not YA)	2			

Summer Reading Programming

The Library planned a total of **22 programs**.

There were a total of **744 attendees**, with an **average of 37** people per program.

Program	# Attendees
Animal Adventures	141
Movie: How to Train Dragon #3	4
DIY Meteor Shower	12
4 th July Bike Decorating Party	8
Annual 4 th July Parade	Canceled due to weather
Drawing Lesson with Ralph Masiello	27
Aldrich Astronomical Society	75
Ayer Family Partnership	7
DIY Straw Rockets	24
Harvard Alpaca Ranch	rescheduled

The Ayer Library
Director's Report for August 2019

Recycle Robots	27
YA Cupcake Decorating Challenge	14
AP Literature Class	10
Blue Star Planetarium/ 2 shows	62 (sign –ups only)
Mead- Therapy Dog International	~with Gravity Painting
Gravity Painting	47
Movie: Lego Movie 2	10
Andromeda One ASRHS	23
Ayer Family Partnership	10
Mighty Mouse	36
Solar System Headbands	~with Mighty Mouse
Star Wars Symposium, All Ages	26
Solar System Mobile	16
Mead- Therapy Dog International	~with Solar System Mobile
Astronaut Training Obstacle Course	45
Cardboard tube Aliens	23
Jungle Jim of Boston	88
Harvard Alpaca Ranch	53
RED = altered program schedules	

Volunteers

This summer we continued our volunteer program for students and adults.

4 people volunteered regularly throughout the summer.

56 hours of work were completed by volunteers.

Goldman, Eban	18
Marble, Lili	5
Sabol, Laurie	12
Ugles, Jason	21