



Lake Pleasant Public Library  
Katrena Cohea, Director  
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## **Monthly Report August 2024**

The Collection Committee met via email to review purchases for the month. 42 items were ordered, and all the items ordered have been received, and processed. The Collection Committee has received the collection list for September, and it will be approved via email.

The Friends of the Library held another Book Sale of the summer season on August 23 and 24. There was a Friends meeting on August 22, which I attended, along with Pam Pooler. I gave the Friends a thank you note for all their support during our summer season, and noted how their financial support of programs makes a big difference with our limited budget. I also gave them a copy of the July Director's Report, so they could see the numbers our summer programs have been bringing in. They approved the two financial requests I submitted; one for \$500 for a children's magic show, and \$600 for a children's theater performance for summer 2025.

### **Director's Report**

During the month of August:

- We had total of 1,334 patrons visit the library.
  - 995 adult patrons
  - 246 children patrons
  - 76 teen patrons
  - Computers used by 63 patrons
- 1,200 items were checked out
  - 292 children's books
  - 426 adult books
  - 67 new/popular books
  - 185 adult and children's videos
  - 131 econtent
- There were 198 PAC logins, with 85 holds placed
- We registered 20 new patrons
- 130 items were received to fill holds between MVLS & SALS
- 259 items were transferred to fill holds between MVLS & SALS
- 148 holds were placed
- There were 881 total unique clients who used the wifi, for an average of 61 people per day



## Programs

In August, we had the following events:

- Summer Reading Program (Aug 1) ..... ATTENDANCE: 3
- Story Time & Craft at Waterfest (Aug 2) ..... ATTENDANCE: 45
- Family Reading Fort Night (Aug 2) ..... ATTENDANCE: 8
- Zoomobile @ Speculator Pavilion (Aug 3) ..... ATTENDANCE: 37
- Town BOT meeting (Aug 5)
- Summer Reading Program (Aug 6, 7, 8) ..... ATTENDANCE: 21
- Library BOT meeting (Aug 6)
- 15 Miles on the Sacandaga Canal Program (Aug 7) ..... ATTENDANCE: 13
- Family Reading Fort Night! (Aug 8) ..... ATTENDANCE: 5
- Blind Date with a Book (Aug 9) ..... ATTENDANCE: 23
- Family Reading Fort Night (Aug 13) ..... ATTENDANCE: n/a
- Summer Reading Program (Aug 13, 14, 15) ..... ATTENDANCE: 11
- Legends of Sacandaga Lake & The 3 Hotels (Aug 14) ..... ATTENDANCE: 30
- The 115th Anniversary of Fire Towers in the Adks (Aug 14) ..... ATTENDANCE: 7
- CCE: Black Bear in the Adirondacks (Aug 17) ..... ATTENDANCE: 39
- Town BOT meeting (Aug 19)
- Quack-a-Palooza (Aug 21)
- Making Comics Workshop (Aug 21) ..... ATTENDANCE: 19
- Adk Author Talk with Aurora Pfaff (Aug 23) ..... ATTENDANCE: 19
- Story Time with Ally the Dog (Aug 23) ..... ATTENDANCE: n/a
- Family Reading Fort Night (Aug 28) ..... ATTENDANCE: 8
- Blind Date with a Book (Aug 30) ..... ATTENDANCE: 13
- School Supply Swap (Aug 30) ..... ATTENDANCE: 6

In September, we have the following events planned:

- Library BOT Meeting (Sept 3)
- Town Board Meeting (Sept 3)
- Story Time with Ally the Dog (Sept 7)
- CCE Board Meeting (Sept 10)
- WIC (Sept 11)
- Beth's Brush (Sept 12)
- FOTL Book Sale (Sept 13, 14)
- Musical Bingo for Seniors (Sept 16)
- Town Board Meeting (Sept 16)
- National Voter Registration Day (Sept 17) events TBD
- Historical Society Meeting (Sept 17)
- Ice Cream Social w/ Mtn Valley Hospice (Sept 23)
- Book Club (Sept 26)

I'm working on getting a series of 3 programs scheduled for September, all along a back to school/work theme. Topics include art for stress relief, yoga, and mindfulness. Dates and times of these programs are TBD. There will also likely be some informal, in-house activities for Library Card Sign up Month, which is in September.



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## Other Updates

August was one of the busiest months the library has seen this year. Our first Summer Reading Program wrapped up on August 15, and over the course of this 6 week program, a total of 92 individuals participated. 20 kids ages 0-5, 57 kids ages 6-11, and 15 teens. Our Summer Reading Bingo Challenges also wrapped up at the end of the month. 33 kids ages 4-9 participated, 2 kids ages 10-16, 3 families, and 6 adults. We received great feedback from both kids, and adults about both programs.

In addition to all the summer programming that happened in August, we also held our second Quack-a-Palooza fundraiser, which was a huge success. Big thank you to board members Pam Pooler, Toni Morrison, and Donna Benkovich for their dedication and planning in making this event successful. Thank you also to Beth, for all her work with the Art Auction. All the 5x7s were wonderful to see around the library this summer, and the auction raised over \$200 for the library.

We held our first School Supply Swap at the end of the month. The idea of this program was that students, and parents, could swap gently used school supplies they don't need, for gently used school supplies they do need in preparation for the upcoming school year, hopefully cutting down on both waste of materials, and of costs associated with back to school. We held this event in conjunction with our final Blind Date with a Book event for the summer, and it didn't have as many participants as I'd hoped, but we got some great school supply donations, which I will pass along to LPCS.

I took the NYS Notary Exam on August 28 in Albany, and will receive my results via mail. I'll report back to the board and let you know the status of my exam, and next steps. I've registered for the NYLA Annual Conference, and will be attending in Syracuse from November 7-8. I'll also virtually be attending the ASRL (Association for Small & Rural Libraries) conference Sept 9-14.

Looking forward to fall, there are a handful of projects and events in the works. I've signed up for a "Train the Trainer" program from OATS (Older Adult Technology Services), that I was made aware of by SALS. The goal of OATS is to empower seniors through technology, and the online training sessions I've been taking are showing me how to teach various technology elements (ipads, iphones, laptops, etc.) to seniors. I will finish the training mid September, and hope to schedule the first of many OATS classes for October.

Also this September, our YA/Teen Book Box subscription will be back. We took a break in August, as many kids were out of town, or too busy to participate. I'm working with Dana Ordway, who is teaching 7th and 8th grade Language Arts, and putting together boxes for her students, who will then complete a book report on one of the books. Dana and I hope that some of the students will then want to continue to participate in receiving book boxes.

On October 18, Gregory Dwyer will offer a library program on magic at LPCS. This is the program the FOTL gave us the financial award for, and the Friends indicated they'd like the program to happen at the school if possible, in order to reach more local kids. I've filled out a building use request for LPCS and submitted it, and am working out the final details with Gregory. The program will happen during the school day, so kids in all grades will be able to enjoy it. This would be an idea time to spread the word about our Trunk-or-Treat event, and the Pumpkin Smash event (more on that below.)



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Now that summer is over, Tanisha and Roxy will begin the process of taking inventory of our books, and then start the process of weeding. To continue the project we began in the spring of space planning in the library, and moving books to new locations in hopes they'll be circulated more, I'd like to move the autobiography books to the Adirondack room, and clear a space where the autobiographies currently are for a "Zen Zone". This would create more seating in one of the main, quieter sections of the library that is used the most. If anyone is able, or willing, to reach out to Ruby & Quiri to see if they would be able to donate, or discount the cost of a loveseat, or chairs, that would be helpful to this project.

Some other building related items that need attention are paint touch ups, all around the library, and outdoor hooks to hang holiday lights on. Thank you to Kathy, for all her work this summer in catching up on building projects around the library, including installing new memorial bricks, creating outdoor signs, overseeing the art rails being hung in the hallway outside the Adirondack room, and more.

I do think having outdoor hooks for holiday lights, and decorating for the holidays would be good, but I'd like to ask the board their thoughts on hosting another Light up the Library. It's my feeling that we should still host a Light up the Library event, but that perhaps this year, it should only be an event, and not a fundraiser. We could still decorate with all the materials we purchased from 2023, but I feel with the Art Auction, Quack-a-Palooza, the upcoming Gift Card Raffle, and all the donations we received this summer for our Summer Reading Program, that one more fundraiser might feel like too much. Maybe Light up the Library is a fundraiser we can do on the years we don't do an Art Auction? Or maybe it's a fundraiser we do every other year? Please let me know your thoughts.

I'm working with CCE Hamilton County, and Soil & Water on the idea of a Pumpkin Smash event, which we would all co-host, sometime in early November. I watched a webinar on how to host this event, and it could be a good opportunity for us to work with CCE, and Soil & Water to educate the public on composting, and waste management. Plus, it's fun to smash pumpkins. This would be a free event for the public. I'll keep the board updated on how this project progresses.

All board members have been emailed an update on Schenectady County Public Library leaving the JA system, and SALS. To highlight what was in that email: there is a new withdrawal date of 12/31/24. The recommendation of the JA ad hoc committee on ending reciprocal holds was 4 months prior to SCPL's exit; this timeline has been approved by both the MVLS and SALS Boards of Trustees. Therefore, reciprocal holds between SCPL and other MVLS/SALS member libraries ceased on 8/31/24. All of our staff have been updated on this, and are aware of the latest details.

In closing, I'd like to remind the board that Sarah Dallas from SALS will be visiting us October 1st, for our board meeting on that day. Please also note that I will be out of the office September 24-27.

Thank you for your continued support,  
Katrena Cohea  
Director



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