



August 2017 Report

Presented at the September 12, 2017 Library Board Meeting

1. STATISTICS

Circulation:

	Adult	YA	Juv.	Total	Year to Date
2017	35,860	4,637	27,529	68,026	502,717
2016	35,656	4,628	25,868	66,152	454,573*
2015	35,163	4,767	25,947	65,877	495,494

*2016 YTD numbers are impacted by the February roof repair closure

Self-Service checkouts:

	ITG	ITG#2	ITG#3	Total	% of total circ
2017	13,664	6,979	10,248	30,891	45.4%
2016	14,019	7,085	10,011	31,115	47%
2015	13,647	7,416	10,637	31,700	48.1%

Library cards issued:

	Adult	Juv.	Sr.	Total
2017	138	44	3	185
2016	123	68	7	198
2015	112	68	11	191

LINK holds:

	Loaned to	Borrowed from
2017	19,283	19,573
2016	19,229	19,507
2015	20,362	19,037

Walk-in device WI-FI connections:

2017	9,333
2016	7,046
2015	4,968

Miscellaneous:

	ILL	Visits	Study rooms use	Fax
2017	109	36,789	618.25 Hours / 466 Bookings	87 sessions 325 pgs
2016	71	35,338	613 Hours / 442 Bookings	71 sessions 185 pgs
2015	42	32,653	510.25 Hours / 370 Bookings	69 sessions 190 pgs

2. LIBRARY PROGRAMS / TOURS / PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

Date	Program	Attendance
8/1/2017	<u>Cloud Computing</u> : Demonstrator, Amanda Brzeszkiewicz	27
8/1/2017	<u>August CD of the Month Club</u> : Demonstrator, Brendan	40
8/1/2017	<u>Storytime - Butterflies</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	38
8/1/2017	<u>Storytime - Butterflies</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	64
8/2/2017	<u>KEVA Summer Camp</u> (Outreach) : Demonstrator, Amy Perry	55
8/2/2017	<u>Little Kids Storytime - Butterflies</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	29
8/2/2017	<u>Little Kids Storytime - Butterflies</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	49
8/2/2017	<u>Sushi-Making for Teens</u> : Demonstrator, Lily Kilfoy	12
8/2/2017	<u>Sushi-Making for Teens</u> : Demonstrator, Lily Kilfoy	10
8/3/2017	<u>Baby Lapsit Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	36
8/3/2017	<u>Tiny Tots Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	75
8/3/2017	<u>Adult Craft Event - DIY String Art</u> : Demonstrator, Sarah H., Rebecca L.	19
8/4/2017	<u>Bilingual Spanish-English Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Katy Shannon	30
8/5/2017	<u>Art in the Square: Sidewalk Chalking</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	33
8/6/2017	<u>3DSwitch</u> : Demonstrator, Chris and Jill	15
8/7/2017	<u>Kindermusik</u> : Demonstrator, Angie, Kim	80
8/7/2017	<u>Make-it-Monday: Newspaper Towers</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	52
8/8/2017	<u>Big Kids Storytime: Build a Better World</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	31
8/9/2017	<u>Little Kids Storytime - Build a Better World</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	23
8/9/2017	<u>Little Kids Storytime - Build a Better World</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	27
8/9/2017	<u>Big Kids Storytime - Build a Better World</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	36
8/10/2017	<u>Taking Care of Your Heart</u> : Demonstrator, Dr. Patrick McBride, M.D., Professor of Preventative Cardiology at UW-Madison	30
8/10/2017	<u>Baby Lapsit Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	35
8/10/2017	<u>Tiny Tots Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	50
8/10/2017	<u>Slide Into a Good Book-Parkside Heights Park</u> (Outreach) : Demonstrator, Amy Perry, Deb Dagitz (Elm Lawn), Laura Allord (Northside), Nanci Marshall (Kromrey), Nichelle Galvan (Elm Lawn)	100
8/10/2017	<u>Drop-In Techno Minutes</u> : Demonstrator, Amanda Brzeszkiewicz	1
8/11/2017	<u>Bilingual Spanish-English Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Katy Shannon	41
8/12/2017	<u>Teen Summer Reading Picnic Finale</u> : Demonstrator, Rebecca V.	17
8/14/2017	<u>Evening Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	24
8/15/2017	<u>La Petite Fourier Summer Camp</u> (Outreach) : Demonstrator, Amy Perry	53
8/15/2017	<u>Big Kids Storytime: Trains</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	34
8/15/2017	<u>Big Kids Storytime: Trains</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	36

8/15/2017	<u>Info Day - West Middleton Elementary</u> (Outreach) : Demonstrator, Lori	297
8/15/2017	<u>Info Day - Sunset Ridge Elementary School</u> (Outreach) : Demonstrator, Amy Perry	163
8/15/2017	<u>Pinterest</u> : Demonstrator, Amanda Brzeszkiewicz	15
8/16/2017	<u>Techno Minutes</u> : Demonstrator, Amanda Brzeszkiewicz	1
8/16/2017	<u>Info Day - Northside Elementary School</u> (Outreach) : Demonstrator, Lori	293
8/16/2017	<u>Creative Writing Group</u> : Demonstrator, Kathy Steffen	10
8/16/2017	<u>Info Day - Elm Lawn Elementary</u> (Outreach) : Demonstrator, Amy Perry	208
8/16/2017	<u>Voss Haus Visit</u> : Demonstrator, Katie G.	25
8/16/2017	<u>Info Day at Kromrey Middle School</u> (Outreach) : Demonstrator, Rebecca V.	239
8/16/2017	<u>Little Kids Storytime - Trains</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	26
8/16/2017	<u>A Discussion on Alzheimer's</u> : Demonstrator, Dr. Anne Koplin, Dean Foundation	39
8/16/2017	<u>Little Kids Storytime - Trains</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	28
8/17/2017	<u>Baby Lapsit Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	37
8/17/2017	<u>The Great American Solar Eclipse of 2017</u> : Demonstrator, Donald Sands	225
8/17/2017	<u>Adult Book Discussion</u> : Demonstrator, Jenny Carr	26
8/17/2017	<u>Tiny Tots</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	75
8/17/2017	<u>Drop-In Techno Minutes</u> : Demonstrator, Amanda Brzeszkiewicz	1
8/17/2017	<u>Teen Pool Night</u> (Outreach) : Demonstrator, Amy Perry & Sarah Sampe	18
8/17/2017	<u>Teen Techno Minutes</u> : Demonstrator, Sam	1
8/18/2017	<u>Let's Play Music</u> : Demonstrator, Darlayne Coughlin	85
8/19/2017	<u>Dogs on Call: PAWS to Read</u> : Demonstrator, Dogs on Call dog-owners Courtney and Ginnie	18
8/21/2017	<u>Solar Eclipse Party</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	600
8/21/2017	<u>Gio's Garden</u> (Outreach) : Demonstrator, Amy Perry	7
8/22/2017	<u>Instagram 101</u> : Demonstrator, Amanda Brzeszkiewicz	12
8/22/2017	<u>Big Kids Storytime: Favorites</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	33
8/22/2017	<u>Big Kids Storytime: Favorites</u> : Demonstrator, Lori	36
8/22/2017	<u>Drop-in Job Help</u> : Demonstrator, Jon Krueger	2
8/23/2017	<u>Little Kids Storytime: Messy Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	22
8/23/2017	<u>Little Kids Storytime: Messy Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	24
8/24/2017	<u>Teen Techno Minutes</u> : Demonstrator, Sam (RL eval)	2
8/24/2017	<u>Baby Lapsit Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	48
8/24/2017	<u>Tiny Tots Storytime</u> : Demonstrator, Tiffani	80
8/24/2017	<u>Minecraft Club</u> : Demonstrator, Brian Miles	11
8/24/2017	<u>Middleton Outreach Ministry Backpack Giveaway</u> (Outreach) : Demonstrator, Amy Perry	550

8/25/2017	United Way Middleton Day of Caring (Outreach) : <i>Demonstrator, Amy Perry, Jocelyne Sansing, Lori Bell, Rebecca Light</i>	175
8/26/2017	Good Neighbor Fest (Outreach) : <i>Demonstrator, Amy Perry, Jocelyne Sansing, Rebecca Light</i>	451
8/29/2017	Big Kids Storytime: Active Storytime : <i>Demonstrator, Lori</i>	60
8/29/2017	Big Kids Storytime: Active Storytime : <i>Demonstrator, Lori</i>	65
8/29/2017	Sauk Trail Back to School Night (Outreach) : <i>Demonstrator, Amy Perry</i>	91
8/30/2017	Little Kids Storytime - Favorites : <i>Demonstrator, Tiffani</i>	16
8/30/2017	Little Kids Storytime - Favorites : <i>Demonstrator, Tiffani</i>	60
8/30/2017	Love Your Back : <i>Demonstrator, Andrea Carvin, Occupational Therapist</i>	35
8/31/2017	Baby Lapsit Storytime : <i>Demonstrator, Tiffani</i>	32
8/31/2017	Tiny Tots Storytime : <i>Demonstrator, Tiffani</i>	55
8/31/2017	1000 Books Before Kindergarten (DIY) : <i>Demonstrator, Staff</i>	75
	Number of Programs / Total Attendance	
	Children's	51 / 3751
	Teens	6 / 311
	Adults/Friends/Other/All Ages	20 / 1512
	Grand Total	77 / 5574
	DIY/Passive Program Total (this number included in totals above)	1 / 75
	Outreach Program Total (this number included in totals above)	14 / 2700
	Media/Promo Total (this number is NOT included in totals above)	0 / 0

3. AUGUST SNAPSHTOS

Eclipse Party, August 21st



4. STAFF DEVELOPMENT: MEETINGS & CONTINUING EDUCATION

Date	Department	Staff	Title
8/15/2017	Teens	Rebecca V.	<u>Teen Services Meeting with Monona PL</u>
8/16/2017	Adult Services	Jenny Carr	<u>Recharge Your Book Club</u>
8/18/2017	Teens	Amy Perry	<u>Kromrey Book Club Mtg w/Assistant Principal</u>
8/30/2017	Teens	Rebecca V.	<u>Teachable Moment: using 13 reasons why to initiate conversation on mental health and suicide</u>

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Overview

This month I enjoyed spending time getting to know our new Trustees, planning for the November 4th Friends of the Library & Library Board retreat, and representing the library at the United Way Day of Caring, Good Neighbor Festival Outreach, Mayor's Brunch, and parade.



Statistics

WORKLOAD ACTIVITIES	2013 Actual	2014 Actual	2015 Actual	2016 Actual	2017 Projected
Annual Circulation	769,485	718,840	710,108	675,565	708,100
Registered Borrowers	18,041	18,555	18,880	19,414	19,650
Interlibrary loans provided to other LINK libraries	240,273	240,269	238,464	217,693	240,150
Interlibrary loans received from other LINK libraries	228,858	221,948	224,029	223,375	220,300
Books owned	86,778	87,315	85,215	88,329	88,329
Audiovisual owned	26,518	26,603	27,801	27,956	27,956
OverDrive use: eBooks, audio, video	25,086	36,915	43,118	51,118	63,201
Programs and events	675	750	903	943	952
Number of participants at events	20,348	25,404	30,247	32,174	33,150

Annual visitor count	361,994	344,515	351,363	334,192	355,220
Annual hours of operation	3,520	3,520	3,520	3,520	3520
Public computers	51	61	74	74	74
Public Internet use sessions & WIFI use	116,383	115,152	147,572	179,445	192,000
Study Room Bookings	4230	4644	4371	4582	5004

2018 Budget Update

Capital Project Name	Priority	Severity	2018
Dumpster/ Mechanical Enclosure/Rear Entrance	1	Mandated	25,000
Shelving	2	Critical	52,000
Furniture upgrades	3	Very Imp.	50,000
Meeting Room Chairs	4	Important	32,000
Painting	5	Important	16,500

2018 Funding Sources				
Capital Budget	Tax Increment Financing	User Fees & Dept. Revenues	Fund Balance & Repl. Fund	Grants, Donations, & Other
25,000	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	43,000	9,000
37,000	-	-	13,000	-
31,000	-	-	-	1,000
15,500	-	-	-	1,000

Facilities and Collections

The LED lighting project is nearly complete and we should start to see a savings in monthly costs immediately. Over the course of the rest of 2017 we will be preparing the collections for shifting and additional shelving.

Staff

This year's 2017 WLA Annual Conference will be at the Kalahari in WI Dells. We are currently collecting interest from staff and Board members who wish to attend.

<http://wla.wisconsinlibraries.org/events-conferences/annual-conference/wla-conference-home>

Please contact Rebecca Light rlight@midlibrary if you are interested.

6. LIBRARIAN'S REPORTS

Patrick Williams, Head of Information Technology



The backup router was updated and configured with the current network settings, and walkthrough troubleshooting steps were updated for staff; something always done before I leave town for any length of time, which I did this month. Some minor updates were done to our PrintMe system. It allows patrons to print via a webpage, if they want to print from their walk-in device.

Rebecca Van Dan, Head of Young Adult Services



Programming/Collaborations/Outreach: August marked the end of another very successful Summer Reading Program and we continued to have large numbers of parents and children come in even after the program ended. Our SRP registrations at the Help Desk totaled 1,791 this year (1,502 in the 0-12 age range, 289 in the 12-19 age range this year.) We were happy to see quite a few new faces as well! 406 reported that this was their first time signing up for Summer Reading! (362 for children's, 44 for teen.) The Community Clues Scavenger Hunt for

teens was a new addition this year and proved very popular! It was great to have community businesses more involved as well, and they enjoyed seeing the increased teen traffic.

This month I continued working with seven area libraries on the Short Video Contest and Film Fest that was funded through a Beyond the Page grant. I also attended Kromrey's Info Day and drove in the Good Neighbor Parade, where our super-fluffy dog was quite a hit.

The public response to the solar eclipse this month was a bit overwhelming, as we were flooded with requests for glasses and other places to find them. Staff worked hard to keep a list of locations at the ready, and we were grateful for Lori's foresight in keeping solar glasses for distribution at the viewing party.

I finalized plans with Adulting 101 presenters this month from BMO Bank, UW Career Center, Middleton EMS, and a professional nanny and met with the new Teen librarian at Monona Public Library to talk about programming, publicity, etc. to help jumpstart their new focus on teen programming.

Staff/volunteers: We were happy to welcome a new SLIS practicum student this month! Jessica is learning our collection and policies very quickly and is already familiar with Koha. We are still doing some training on the Help Desk and have started explaining collection development procedures. Tiffani announced this month that she is expecting a new addition to her family in February, and I talked with Lori and Jocelyne about storytime coverage, etc. Our Youth Services meeting was this month and we discussed what worked and what needed work in terms of the Summer Reading Program. We also started creating a mission statement for the YS department and talked about upcoming fall programs and a template for meeting room bookings. Everyone is looking forward to the YS workshop in Nov. I also trained 3 new teen volunteers this month.

Weeding/Collection Development: Our teen volunteers were a great help this month in helping us collect the books on our weeding reports! We worked on weeding teen hardcover and paperback fiction and started a report for Jessica to work on our teen graphic novel collection. After an incredibly packed summer, we tried to catch up on ordering toward the end of the month.

Sarah Hartman, Head of Technical Services



We added about the same number of items this month as last month, at 1,461 items total, a very respectable number for a slower summer month. One of our TS Pages took the last two weeks of August off, and we were extremely lucky that a former TS Page was in town and eager to volunteer her time to fill in! We have missed her and were happy to see her around again.

Rebecca L. and I hosted a string art craft event that was very successful, with only one hammer-related injury, and we are looking forward to mentoring our new practicum student, who will be creating and hosting an adult craft event for us in November. That is an additional date for which we didn't budget, not knowing we would have a practicum student, so we're planning on the ever-popular and very affordable Color Your Cares Away event for October.

I had time near the end of the month to get caught up on catalog clean-up reports generated by SCLS, and I'm starting to look ahead to evaluating our physical processing for adult books.

Jim Ramsey, Head of Adult Services



The Adult Services department usually takes a brief programming hiatus during the month of August; this year, however, we had a full slate of programs for adults, including a presentation

on the solar eclipse that drew almost 300 people and a series of classes on health and wellness. As usual, I spent some time this month firming up details for programs in the near future, including the Library's participation in the Greater Madison Jazz Consortium's "Strollin' Middleton" jazz concert series. For the second year in a row, the GMJC has asked the Library to host a trio of performances; much like last year, we're expecting upwards of 500 people throughout the course of the night.

We wrapped up our annual Adult Summer Reading Program at the end of this month. In all, we gave out almost 350 reading logs and collected almost 150 complete forms. This was without a doubt the largest number of participants we have ever had in any of our adult reading programs, due in large part to Youth Services cross-promoting the adult program by making "sign your parent up for the adult reading program" a task to complete on their SRP form.

Erin Dedin, our latest practicum student from UW-Madison's School of Library and Information Studies, started late this month and has already completed her reference desk training. As I've noted previously, Erin will be assisting with programs like book discussions and craft events throughout the fall semester, in addition to her duties on the reference desk.

On a personal note, my wife and I are expecting our second child in early October, so I will be taking around 2 weeks of leave to help out with the new baby. Our practicum student, Erin, will be working the desk during my Monday morning shifts, and I've made arrangements for other staff members to back her up while I'm away.

Brendan Faherty, Head of Circulation Services



August saw the summer wind down with another busy circulation month. While our self-check percentage saw a dip, the overall numbers remained strong, with over 30,000 items checked

out on our three self-check machines alone.

We said goodbye in August to long-time circulation employee Nivi Nair, as she is beginning Med School at UW. She has been with the library since she was a teen volunteer, and will be missed at the Circulation Desk. She is staying on the sub list, but I expect she will be quite busy with school over the next couple of years. We have promoted Page I Elizabeth Nelson, another long-time employee to Nivi's Page II position at the desk, and are excited to welcome her to the service team!

Barbara has also added three new Page I employees in the back room: Mary Loving, a long-time volunteer, Caitlin O'Connor, and Celia Hiorns, who joins her older brother (Charlie) and mother (Jenny) as library employees.

Our Online Card Registration Portal has had a tumultuous month, as we work through some perceived security issues with SCLS staff. After taking it down for a couple of weeks, it is now back online, and proving as popular (and secure) as ever, with eight new registrations already this week. As September is National Library Card Sign-Up Month, we felt it important to continue to offer this wonderful service to our local and system-wide patrons.

The system ILS evaluation is slowly getting underway as well. The work groups are starting to look over tasks and features that will be given to each of the vendors ahead of the three-day demos that begin at the end of September. A lot of work needs to be done between now and the end of the year, but I am hopeful that we will come out of this process with at least a better understanding of what we (as a system) want from our library software, if not an entirely new ILS altogether.

Amy Perry, Outreach and Children's Services Librarian



August was a busy month with the summer reading program winding down and big summer events happening. Highlights for events were the “Slide Into a Good Book” school/public library collaborative event at Parkside Heights Park. Everyone was thrilled with the turnout this year as it grew in attendance at least by two-thirds. This year’s United Way Day of Caring, now called Seasons of Caring, was a great event for the library to participate in again this year. We provided free books, craft activities, outdoor games, character meet and greet, etc. The Good Neighbor Fest was super this year as our location changed bringing us closer to the playground, kid’s events, and craft fair. We gave away library event information, promoted the Friends, and brought lots and lots of free books for all ages. Finally, our third year of participation in the Middleton Outreach Ministry’s Backpack Giveaway went great this year. We had about 600 free book coupons stuffed into the backpacks and had 45 students return to the library to redeem their coupon. This number isn’t huge but it is an increase from 2016. In fact, each year more students return to the library with their free book coupon.

Regarding the Summer Reading Program (SRP) for 0-12 year olds, our numbers increased across the board in comparison to 2016. I was also pleased that the number of SRP signs up during outreach visits increased too. This year, I signed up 72 total kids & teens when in 2016, I only signed up a total of 37.

2017 SRP: kids who signed up: 1,567

2016 SRP: kids who signed up: 1,535

2017 SRP: kids who reached halfway: 718

2016 SRP: kids who reached halfway: 670

2017 SRP: kids who reached final goal: 579

2016 SRP: kids who reached final goal: 468

Lori Bell, Children's Services Librarian



While the Summer Reading Program officially ended Saturday, August 12, readers can pick up their final prizes until school starts after Labor Day. We've had over 100 very grateful readers benefit from our relaxed finishing date. 34 lucky winners chose from a wide variety of grand prizes including a Biplane Ride for 4, Marcus Movie Gift Card, ukuleles, science kits, American Girl Gift Bags, and much, much more! While our participation rate remained steady, 1502 compared to 1507 last year, we had well over 100 more half-way and final goals finishers!

Storytimes continued through the end of August, and both Tiffani and I have seen many new faces from libraries currently on a storytime break. I offered two extra storytimes presented by representatives from *Kindermusik* and *let's play music*. Both organizations offer music instruction for young children, and it was nice to introduce our patrons to their services. I picked a few new tricks myself!

Patrons are still talking about The Solar Eclipse Party held on the greenspace across the street. I've received some of the nicest compliments from our patrons and fellow staff members. I had two goals in mind. One was to enable as many people as possible to view the eclipse safely. By reserving glasses for my viewing party, I believe I achieved that goal by spreading our limited supply of glasses among a very large group. My second goal was to create a true sense of community by sharing the amazing experience of an eclipse together. I've heard from so many people how much they enjoyed meeting and chatting with new people. The best part is we get to do it all again in 7 years! I can't wait!

Rebecca Light, Administrative Librarian



August was a busy month with a peak of summer events. Sarah Hartman and I hosted a DIY String Art craft program for adults at the beginning of the month, which received rave reviews. I also assisted with the Eclipse Viewing Party on August 21st, which drew about 600 people to the lawn space across the street from the library. This was such a wonderful event to witness, and I was delighted to see such a diverse crowd come together to experience this together as a community. Kudos to Jim and Lori for the many months of preparation that went into our eclipse events. Snow White also made an appearance at the United Way Day of Caring, along with many library and city staff members. This is always a great day each summer to give back, enjoy some sun, and meet other community leaders in Middleton. Finally, Jocelyne, Amy, and I set up a booth at Good Neighbor Fest to promote the library and give away withdrawn books. We had a record crowd of visitors this year!

At the end of the month, we said goodbye to our Techno Minutes volunteer, Sam Smith, who is leaving for college. Sam started volunteering with us in 8th grade, and has assisted dozens of people, mostly older adults, with one-on-one technology instruction over the past 5 years. In the years we've known Sam, we've watched him grow from a middle schooler to a mature and ambitious young man who has grown a successful lawn care business and has many academic and personal goals for the future. Fostering connections between people in our community and providing paths to success are some of the great powers of the public library. We feel lucky to have been a part of this for Sam and the many people he helped.



Sam Smith, July 2013



Sam Smith, Aug 2017

Jenny Carr, Acquisitions Librarian



After the frenzy of summer, a welcome calm seems to come over the library in late August and early September. This easier pace is reflected in materials purchasing, which have been on the lighter side this past month. Overall, we are at 62% of our budget spent with the goal being 67%. Interlibrary loans, however, have been on the rise this entire summer. We filled 109 requests in August (12 year August average is 64 requests). An interesting item of note came from the Archive of American Art in Washington, D.C. This archive houses the papers and correspondence of Harvey Littleton, a UW Professor and artist. There is no extensive finding aid for his papers, but the archive agreed to lend us all reels of microfilm containing his papers. A local author is carefully going through these reels in our library, doing research for a story on Harvey Littleton – and she is very appreciative of her public library for making this happen!

7. AGENDA ITEMS

- Bylaws review and update

Trustee Ward-Reichard will lead us through the major changes and additions to the Middleton Public Library Board of Trustees Bylaws.

- Liaison Updates

Please be prepared to share updates, initiatives, etc.

- Trustee Training reflections and highlights to share

Bring notes, etc.

One of the best things about being a library director is receiving emails like this:

"I just want to share with all the folks at Middleton Library how very much I love the Overdrive system of getting and reading books.

I have always enjoyed reading, but getting to the library was often hard, especially when I was out of town, working late, etc.

With Overdrive, I have read a ton of books on my iPad in the last several years, and I really love being able to access books whenever and wherever I hear about them or think of it. I have downloaded books while in Turkey, and New Zealand, and California, and Texas. I only need to bring my iPad, and not an armload of books when I travel.

I can read at night with the lit screen and not keep my husband awake. As soon as I see an article about, or hear a radio news report about a book, or have one recommended by a friend, I put it on my iPad, using Overdrive - and read it!

You may not see me at the library very often, but I am one very satisfied customer!

PS - I will be sending a donation to support this service - it is wonderful.

Nancy S.

Middleton resident"