Monthly Road Map Report
August, 2026

midlibrary.org/board

Prepared by Director J. Sansing

Month in Review & Highlights:

The Bookmobile was deployed 9 times in August, reaching 1,456 people - nearly 30% of total program attendance for the month. Several of August Bookmobile community event highlights include:

- Capital Flight's 'Aviation and Auto's 444 attendees interacted with the Library and this is always a great event to register new library card holders.
- 'National Night Out' connected with 384 residents
- 'Good Neighbor Festival' outreach, closed out the month with 187 attendees and a crew of 27 parade walkers!

August 2026, delivered 65 total programs reaching 4,939 people.

This month closed out several regular summer outreach offerings like: 'Library in the Park' at Orchid Heights and Lakeview Parks, Pope Farm Elementary School visits, and Keva Summer Camp. 'Camping in the Conservancy' was a new initiative led by Parks and Recreation with the bookmobile servicing 75 campers. The annual WayForward 'Backpack Giveaway' outreach, served 446 community members next door at St. Luke's and 67 readers attended the 'Police Station Story Time'.

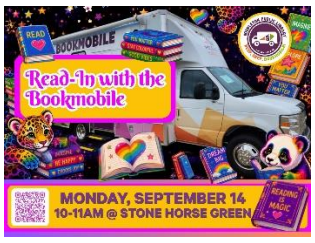
August offered something for all ages inside the library - ‘Circus Cameron: A One-Man Marvel’ closed out Summer Reading Program (SRP) 2026 with 120 attendees. SRP 1,076 total: Children 656, Teen 125, Adult 295 and over 20 prize winners!

Teen volunteer and MHS student, Sophia, offered a money safety workshop for teens and more teen volunteers assisted with ‘Midweek Make Mayhem’ where 37 kids ages 6-11 spent 90 minutes using up as many craft leftovers from the storage room as possible. The Teen Murder Mystery was ‘Death at the Casino’, ‘Chocolate Chip Cookie Day’ blended data and food science for delicious fun, ‘Tween Karaoke’ provide a fun and safe place for expression and winners walked away with random surprises at ‘Bunco Night’.

Looking Ahead:

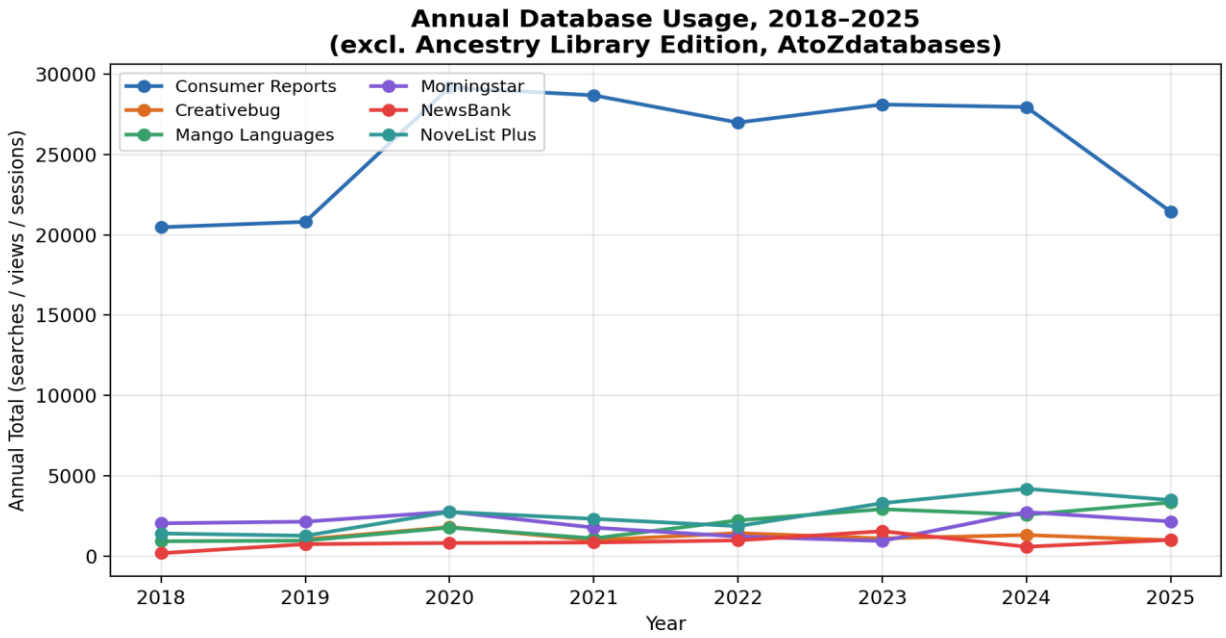
The Middleton Public Library's Christensen Family Art Gallery is seeking local area artists for the 2027 exhibition year! The gallery offers 120 linear feet of exhibit space in the library, which sees an average of 1,000 visitors per day. It is the Library's goal to present a diverse Middleton area community with artwork and exhibitions that reflect a wide range of views, expressions, interests, and mediums. Preference is given to local artists and exhibited works may be for sale off of library property. The 2027 Annual Call for Art closes on September 13.

Renaissance Faire October 3, 1-4pm Lakeview Park, Middleton!



By the Numbers:

The Library offers a variety of online electronic resources. These are purchased in cooperation with the state wide organization, WiLS, the South Central Library System, or direct. Below is a snapshot of use since 2018, of several of the higher used databases.



Electronic Resource	2025 Total	Trend	2026 Pace vs. 2025
Consumer Reports	21,440	High but declining from 2020 peak (29,167)	+7%
Mango Languages	3,342	Steady, sustained growth since 2018 (927 → 3,342)	Flat
NoveList Plus	3,494	Strong multi-year growth, peaked 2024 (4,193)	+20%
Morningstar	2,159	Choppy increase	+26%
NewsBank	1,013	Small but growing since 2018	+39%
Creativebug	990	Flat since 2020 peak (1,812)	Flat

On February 22, 2027 the Middleton Public Library will turn 100 YEARS OLD!

Patron Spotlight:

"Dear Jocelyne, it was lovely to meet you and thank you for taking the time to chat with me. As I mentioned, I am a longtime Middleton resident but admittedly, have not been in the library for quite some time. Now that my grandkids stay with us in the summer, we visited, a lot. I went for them, but I will be back for myself. Wow! Libraries sure have changed and boy did we have a fun summer. Thank you for leading a Middleton asset with joy and an open heart."- Judy M.

Staff Spotlight:

Patrick Williams began his career at the Middleton Public Library forty years ago as a Page and has since dedicated his entire professional life to serving the residents of Middleton through the Library, growing to become the Library's Head of Information Technology. In the four decades of Patrick's service, the field of public libraries has been transformed by extraordinary technological change, including the transition from card catalogs to online public access catalogs, integrated library systems, the birth and growth of the World Wide Web, the shift from dial-up connections to broadband and wireless networks, the rise of personal computers and public computer labs, the digitization of newspapers, photographs, and historical archives, the advent of self-checkout and RFID technology, the emergence of e-books, downloadable audiobooks, and streaming media, the growth of digital databases and online research tools, and the development of makerspaces, 3D printing, and other emerging technologies now found in public libraries – WOW! Patrick was personally responsible for bringing internet access to the Middleton Public Library and, through it, to the greater Middleton community, opening a gateway to information, opportunity, and connection for generations of residents. Throughout his career, Patrick has demonstrated a rare and enduring talent for building and implementing new technology while listening closely to how patrons and staff actually use it, ensuring that innovation at the Library has always served the needs of the community first. He was honored at the August 18, 2026 City of Middleton Common Council Meeting in honor of 40 years on August 26. Thank you Patrick!

Welcome Courtney as the new part-time Supervisor, Lunel as the new Library Assistant, and congratulations to Jessica on a promotion from Page to Library Assistant!