

**Librarian's Report
Friends of the Library
May 2, 2020**

Kanopy has been popular with library patrons all along, but it's been an especially important resource for patrons stuck at home these days. Here is a summary of use since the beginning of the year:

Month	# Visits	# Plays
January	260	72
February	346	59
March	394	106
April	936	172
Totals	1936	409

Having the workroom space available for use has made a huge difference to me. Before the library shut down, we used it for additional space for the Afterschool Program, for the kids' book club, for Trustees meetings and for more attractive and safe space for serving food at Game Nights and the Winter Film Series. Now the space is being used for quarantining returned materials.

Speaking of the Winter Film Series, it feels like years ago, such old news now, but we were able to show 5 out of 6 films to very good attendance with loyal participants eager for the next showing. Thank you for your support of this program. We have a program on Zoom scheduled for next Wednesday, May 6 at noon, sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Gardening expert Kerry Ann Mendez, who has spoken in person here for Friends of the Library programs several times, is giving a talk entitled "Power Up Garden Beauty, Power Down Garden Maintenance." I expect very good attendance for this program.

As you all know, I have been busy continuing to be there for patrons, including lending materials, making copies, sending faxes, providing reference services, ordering and processing new materials and providing online storytimes with crafts supplies provided for participants. Cindy Fleming and Ann Pierce have been volunteering, thank goodness, because otherwise I have been on my own. Margarete, our new Library Assistant, has just begun working extra hours this week which will be a big help. Although it's been a lot of work, I have been proud to provide service during this time, such good service that I think some people may have mixed emotions about us re-opening!

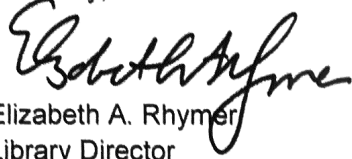
This summer is a huge question mark, of course, but it is highly unlikely that we will be able to have any programs at the library or any of the larger events planned for Summer Reading Kickoff, Ducky Day, and Old Home Week. We are probably going to go with passive programming where kids and teens pick up materials for projects at the library to complete at home and online storytimes. We may be able to do some virtual programming on Zoom as well. There is so much planning to be done.

I assume the library will be able to open at some point and we can have our Summer Reading Programs for Pre-K, Kids, Teens and Adults. I do not feel comfortable soliciting donations from local businesses this year and instead plan to purchase gift cards from them to help *them* after so many years of their helping us. The adult prize for reading two books will be a Louie notebook. I have gotten a large shipment of books from Scholastic to give out to kids this summer every week they bring in their reading log. I am also going to have a by-appointment event at the end of the school year for the students at Freedom Elementary to come choose three books which I will organize on tables out in the parking lot. I have

ordered personalized notepads and pencils to give to them as well, along with information about the summer reading program. This is funded with money we have received from the Margaret S. Morrow bequest. I have ordered a new sticker mosaic for summer readers to work on through the summer as we have done the last two years.

I am unsure at this point what help I will need to get through the summer, but I know I can count on you all to step up where needed. Thank you so much for all of your support.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth A. Rhymen
Library Director