**JUNE 2025**

**The MPL Mission**

Spark curiosity. Make connections. Thrive together.

Missoula Public Library achieves its mission by fostering community engagement, providing core services, and promoting sustainability and wellness.

* **Circulation**

**Community Engagement**

* The Makerspace now offers physical passports for patrons to use while learning about the Makerspace services. Patrons can get stamps to track their progress in using various equipment.

**Core Services**

* The Montana State Library selected Western Peaks Logistic as the successful proponent of the courier service provider RFP. WPL recently acquired our previous courier, Montana Air Cartage. There should be no disruption in service. Monthly additional crate costs will rise from $3 to $5. WPL has promised implementation of a crate tracking system which should better inform transit status updates.
* On June 10, Elizabeth attended a Montana Shared Catalog training on patron privacy and data management policy. A link to the recording was shared with all staff.
* The Montana State Library hot spot lending program ended on June 30th.
* Lead Circulation staff and IT now have access to the Lyngsoe self-check virtual machine which will permit better connectivity management and customization of the kiosks.
* With the help of Joshua Daidone, Cataloging updated over 1000+ TV show records to comply with the MSC’s new call number analytic regarding disc content.
* All branches of MPL assisted with the annual catalog cleanup of anomalous or missing data in MPL records.

**Sustainability & Wellness**

* The staff SOP on Government Investigations was updated include information about ICE agents and the types of subpoenas or warrants that government agents or investigators might present to staff when onsite at MPL.
* **Community Engagement**

**Community Engagement**

* Hosted a variety of demo-kitchen programs that explored how best to deliver programs in the space and engage community members in meaningful and educational ways.
* Attended the Missoula Foodbank and Community Center Summer Kick-off event with the bookmobile.
* Attended Missoula Refugee Day hosted by Soft Landing Missoula.
* Visited Animeals with the Bookmobile for a Read with Cats afternoon.
* Attended a Paddleheads game with the Bookmobile for the family game night.

**Core Services**

* Supported teens by hosting a College Admissions 101 workshop.
* Hired and began training a new Bookmobile Specialist.

**Sustainability & Wellness**

* Selya was interviewed by KPAX for their Community Spotlight Series about Resource Access Day prior to the June RAD event.
* **Reference**

**Community Engagement**

* Scheduled AARP tax help sessions for 2026 (Mondays, Tuesdays).
* Using Archive-It crawler to capture The Missoula Current content and scheduling regular crawls of that site as well as to run a test crawl on The Pulp.
* Met with the Friends of the Library and agreed upon updating volunteer Job descriptions and expectations. This should happen over the next couple of months.
* Went to Missoula Aging Services on the bookmobile.

**Core Services**

* Shifting MTR collections to make room for quality genealogy donations.
* Evaluating potential donations from MAM (art books).
* All BKCHAT kits are rearranged in the closet with new kits featured on the website, and all lists updated.
* Sorted through 24 boxes of donations from the Kalispell FamilySearch Center. Accepted a little less than half of the items to expand our genealogy collection. Made arrangements to dispose of the rest at the Montana State Genealogical Society's annual book sale fundraiser.
* Completed Notary training and shared resources with other notaries.

**Sustainability and Wellness**

* Making time for continuing education for MSL recertification.
* **Youth Services**

**Community Engagement**

* The Summer Learning Program started this month, with a well-attended kickoff concert and tie-dye event featuring Cowboy Andy and the Salamanders
* Between MPL, branches, and Bookmobile, over 1,000 reading logs were handed out
* SLP: Teen Art – Terrible Teddy Bears program in the MakerSpace
* SLP: Wildlife Habitat on the Balcony program – kids planted flowers and helped put together a solar water feature for bugs
* SLP: brought 80% Studios to MPL for 2 graphic novel storytelling workshops
* Ongoing SLP programs: Colors in the Library scavenger hunt and Art Box Art Gallery (kids bring in their own art to display all summer long)
* Sensory Story Time and Story Time for Diverse Abilities continuing with steady attendance and appreciation from patrons who attend
* Partnering with the Boys & Girls Club of Missoula to host Crafting for a Cause this summer – patrons drop in and create crafts/decorations for the B&GC fundraising event later in the year
* Joining the Bookmobile once a month this summer at Meadowlark to bring Tiny Tales to that space
* Infant Play Group continuing to go strong, with 30-60+ attendees each Tuesday morning
* Story Time with the Paddleheads – very successful and fun

**Core Services**

**Sustainability & Wellness**

* Cooking for Kids class featured “bagel faces” snack – using various vegetables to create faces on bagels
* Altered Books SLP program takes old and discarded books and transforms them into works of art (these are on display in the 3rd floor display case right now)
* Offering additional Tiny Tales at Westside Park all summer – great opportunity to experience this program outside
* **Branches**

**Community Engagement**

* **Big Sky**
  + Slow start to kids Arts & Crafts programming on Tuesdays, but slowly building awareness for the program. No interest in drop-in D&D this month. Two patrons attended writers’ group and say they’ll keep coming back, corresponding with a few others via email who might join. A regular patron came to Tech Time and one came several times in a row to get help 3D printing pieces for a new board game she and her son were working on.
* **Frenchtown**
* **Lolo**
  + SpectrUM Program "Be a Health Scientist
  + Story Times
  + Crafternoons
  + Clean Air Location
* **Potomac**
  + Monthly book club
  + Presented on the SLP to the Potomac students to get them excited about summer reading! As of the end of June, I have given out 22 reading logs, and have had 4 kids complete half their logs. 1 has already completed their log.
  + Maintaining the Little Free Library that is outside of the school/library
* **Seeley Lake** 
  + I’ve continued to spread the word about the Summer Reading Program and the AOUR Road Show, including putting a column in the local paper.
    - So far we’ve had 12 registrations (since beginning on the 16th) and 4 completed Reading Logs. Each completed Reading Log earns the reader 10 book books (to “spend” on prizes in the library), a coupon for a free small cone at the Ice Cream Place, and an entry in the Grand Prize Drawing held at the end of the summer.
  + I’ve put fliers about the Bookmobile summer stops around throughout the community.
* **Swan Valley**
  + Summer reading has been going good. We’ve had 32 children sign up so far. I allow them to sign up all during the summer so we may still have a few more.
  + Story time is going well this summer. We have been having record attendance this year. It gets a bit hectic at story time with so many people in such a small space, but it’s fun to see enthusiastic readers.

**Core Services**

* **Big Sky**
  + Changed over to summer hours and communicated with MCPS staff what times we’ll be open and need the front doors unlocked.
* **Frenchtown**
* **Lolo**
  + Large air purifier and smaller purifier along with informational handouts from Climate Smart Missoula are now located at the Lolo Branch. This will provide a clean air facility for those needing a reprieve from wildfire smoke.
  + Summer program on Monday, June 9th. SpectrUM will facilitate the "Be a Health Scientist” to kick off our summer program. Also, there will be story time each week, a crafternoon, reading logs and stickers and fun activities and games for the children over the summer
  + Cataloging and processing new items for the Lolo school collection.
* **Potomac**
  + Continuing to bring in new-to-the-branch books from the MPL adult collection
* **Seeley Lake**
  + Active book club with dynamic participants—continues through the summer.
  + I’ve changed the “After School Book Club” name to “Student Reading Group.” This group of teens continues to meet every Wednesday afternoon. I read to them from a book of their choosing while they color, draw, and have snacks. This summer they are working on a “Color Our World” table-length coloring sheet.
* **Swan Valley**
  + Our Book Chat book for June was Loving Frank by Nancy Horan. We all agreed that we thought the portrayal of Frank Lloyd Wright made him seem a bit egotistical. We took out some books of his architectural buildings and looked over what he achieved over his lifetime.
  + Notary services continue to bring community members who have never entered the library in for a visit. In the month of Junel we had 13 notary visits.

**Sustainability and Wellness**

* **Big Sky**
  + Begun serving free summer meals from the Food Bank.
* **Lolo**
  + Clean air facility at the Lolo branch.
* **Seeley Lake**
  + Phase 3 of Climate Smart’s clean air program has been implemented. Two air filters (super nice) have been installed so that when wildfire season hits, the branch can be a clean air center during open hours. I put out the “Clean Air Center” signage every open day.
* **Swan Valley**
  + We got a grant from the Swan Valley Community Foundation for $1,500.00 to put a new front door in the library. The current one has not been functioning great and has a very small window. We are having it custom built by the same creator as the door on the community building so that they will be compatible. The new door will have a larger window to let in more light.