



Richards Library

2024 REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY

10,845
VISITORS



Wifi



3,332

TIMES ACCESSED

eBook



2,339

DOWNLOADS

HOW WE GOT IT DONE IN 2024

Anniversary Open House

OATS Classes

Seed Library

Community Room

Community

Red Cross Blood Drive

Warrensburg Repair Café

Community Survey

Card Holders



1,447

Flip over for full

"Report from the Director"



Programs



125

PROGRAMS

1,024

ATTENDANCE

15,564

Items
Borrowed



18,540

Items in the Collection



Report from the Director

2024 - A YEAR OF GROWTH AND DISCOVERY

In 2024, we continued to expand programs and other “non-traditional” offerings available at The Richards Library. We added Vox Books, expanded the "Kits" shelf, added drop in tech help with Logan, and still have new take & make crafts and puzzles each week by Tammy.

We started The Richards Library Seed Library, in an old card catalog, with a grant from the Soil & Water Conservation District. For our first growing season, we shared 99 “servings” of seed varieties and offered 7 free gardening workshops led by Warren County Master Gardeners. We received a large donation of Bentley Seed Packets and seeds from community members during the Community Seed Swap in October. It was great connect with so many individuals excited about gardening.

Our OATS (Older Adults Technology Services) classes continued with new topics, such as AI. Our Homeschool Meet-up group continues to grow. The Library hosted free children's crafts at the six Riverside Farmers' Markets, which was held at the Recreation Field for the first time. We made great connections! Private use of the Jeffrey M. Levine Community Room continued to increase - remember it is free to use.

August 13th was the Library's 123rd Anniversary, which was celebrated with an open house - catering, scavenger hunt, curated displays, PowerPoint, and numerous members from our community and local representatives!

We started the Warrensburg Repair Café, hosting it twice, in the spring and fall. For this new program, people can bring items to be repaired with guidance from our volunteer repair coaches. We held a Red Cross Blood Drive in July - it very successful! Our Book Club typically meets the first Thursday and is always looking for new members.

Marie has been organizing and cataloging our Archives and changing out the displays with different items collected by the founding Richards Sisters and their family members. We will continue to change displays and share historical information as we know/find it.

We created and collected responses for our Community Survey, July through December. This feedback will be used to inform our next strategic plan. Thank you to all that gave feedback!

A NYS Construction Grant was implemented to add an automatic door opener at our main entrance, infant changing stations in our two public restrooms, and directional signage to guide patrons through the building. This also includes names around the family portraits in the Adult Room.

We were so grateful for all of the financial donations received in 2024! Many were leftover change from copies/print outs and some came in memoriam for past community members. Every penny is appreciated and put to good use! We also received a new to us document magnifier, which is located with the public computers. Any page in a book, a document, et cetera can be magnified and color adjusted for easier reading.

Thank you!

Shelby Burkhardt
Library Director, The Richards Library