



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2024-2025

# HIGHLIGHTS

Springfield Memorial Library had an incredible year during the 2024-2025 season! We continued to serve the community and remained a strong center of reliable information, encouragement and opportunities. We worked hard to increase our collection, built on successful reading programs, hosted fun and interactive events, and continued to be involved with the Springfield community.

Springfield Memorial Library may be known as a community center where families and friends come for fun and interaction, but at our foundation we will always tie into the importance of reading. We have several book clubs that regularly meet at the library. Two of these clubs - our "Fiction Book Club" and our "Once Upon a Crime Book Club" - are mainly tailored to our adult readers. These groups have formed a community of their own, the members getting to know each other over a wide genre of selected monthly reads. We have seen these two groups start to interweave as members often move from one group to the other to discuss a variety of literary topics with their peers. These groups have become important to these members and sometimes we even see some arrive at the meetings without having read the monthly book just to catch up and check in with the other book club participants. Creating and building that sense of community is just as important as stretching their minds with new reading topics and discussions.

We have also seen an increase in interest in our youth reading groups. During our Kids Chapter Book Club, elementary students are able to meet with their peers and listen to the first chapter of a new story. They then take the book home and finish it on their own, coming back the following month to discuss their thoughts on the story, before again listening to the first chapter of the next book. No matter how old these kids get, they always love to listen to that first chapter being read aloud, often asking for "just one more chapter!" Another successful read-aloud program is our Milk & Cookie Reading Club, aimed at the younger elementary crowd. The kids meet at the library to dunk Cookie Crisp cereal in a cold cup of milk as they listen to a librarian read from a chapter book. They continue to meet weekly until they finish listening to the chapter book, after which they start counting down the weeks until Milk & Cookie Reading Club starts up again!

Springfield Memorial Library also loves getting the community involved in passive programming. This is programming that is not necessarily led by a librarian but remains just as interactive based on patron participation. One of the community's favorite passive programs is our annual Tournament of Books, running each year in conjunction with basketball's March Madness Tournament. The library selects 16 books each year to enter into the tournament and, for several weeks prior to the first match-up, patrons are able to fill out their favorites on the Fantasy Bracket. At the end of the Tournament voting - of course, all of the brackets have been broken - but the person with the most accurate bracket is a winner! During the Tournament, patrons are able to vote on a new book match-up every day, causing the tournament outcome to be completely patron-led, letting them decide on their book champion!



Pumpkin Walk Winner



Magician Jeff Quinn



Making tie-dye teddy bears



Noon Year's Eve Party



Science Workshop



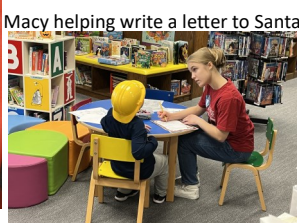
Crafty Tuesday



Halloween Science



Chili Contest



Macy helping write a letter to Santa



Native American Heritage Day



Stuffy Sleepover



Story Time

# HIGHLIGHTS

Another favorite passive program we do at the library is the Pumpkin Walk. During the 2024-2025 fiscal year, we hosted the Library's 8th Annual Pumpkin Walk. Members of the community, in addition to local businesses and organizations, are encouraged to enter a decorated pumpkin into the contest. Sometimes the pumpkins are decorated as a childhood story, sometimes a school logo. The community is then able to vote every day for their favorite pumpkin. We saw nearly 800 votes in just short of two weeks! This is definitely a favorite event for the public to get involved, spend some family time together at home creating incredible pumpkins and then showing those masterpieces off to the community through friendly competition.

We also had a great summer full of exciting events! The theme of our Summer Reading Program was "Color Our World" and focused on art and creativity through various mediums. Our patrons had a blast. For the kids, the messier the better! The teens just loved to create and the adults enjoyed slowing down and trying some art classes and different art-themed activities, all while reading toward their end goal. A favorite family event this summer was our Edible Book Contest. Patrons were able to choose a book and create the title out of food. Some very clever creations included "The Snowy Day" by Ezra Jack Keats made out of marshmallows and strawberries and "The Missing Piece" by Shel Silverstein featuring a pan of brownies with one corner missing.

As a library, we also like to get out and get involved in our community. You will often see us in local parades, at special community events like the Springfield Business Association's Shop & Hop, hosting events during Springfield Days, handing out candy on Halloween, and even participating in neighboring Papillion Public Library's annual LibraryCon. Being part of a great community is hugely important to all the staff here at Springfield Memorial Library and we are thankful to be in Springfield.

Springfield Memorial Library would not be where we are today without the unending support of our city and community. On behalf of library staff and the Library Board of Trustees, we want to thank everyone for their support. We offer special appreciation to our dedicated library patrons, visitors, donors and volunteers. A big thank you to city administration, city officials and the city maintenance department for assisting us in making 2024-2025 a very successful year! We look forward to continuing to provide great services and events to our community in the coming year!



Papio NRD Visit



Wildlife Encounters



Teen Fort and Movie Day



History Talk with Paul Maudlin



Volunteering to count all the rubber ducks!



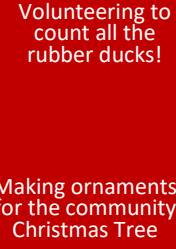
Touch-A-Truck



Humanities Nebraska Talk



Teen Night: Match the author's name, picture, and book title.



Making ornaments for the community Christmas Tree



Senior Art Class



Crafty Tuesday





# 2024-2025 Statistics



## Springfield Memorial Library

### CHECKOUTS

#### Physical Materials

Adults: 6,351

Youth: 12,289

Other: (Puzzles, Adventure Passes, Games, Library of Things) 813

Total Physical: 19,453

#### Digital Materials

Adult Digital: 5,679

Youth Digital: 831

Total Digital: 6,510

#### Total Circulation

25,963

### COLLECTION

Items Added:

1,720

Items Withdrawn:

900

Total Collection:

22,576



### CARD HOLDERS

Residents: 804

Nonresidents: 566

Faculty: 57

Military: 4

Youth: 76

Fire Department: 0

(Active Nebraskard: 33)

Total: 1,507

## LIBRARY FINANCE

#### Revenue

Local Government Revenue:  
\$229,657

Library State Aid:  
\$1,190

Grants:  
\$0

Donations, Fines, Fees, Interest:  
\$26,685

Total Operating Revenue:  
\$257,532

#### Expenditures

- Staff: \$172,602
- Continuing Education: \$280
- Biblionix Apollo System: \$1,650
- Library Materials in Print: \$23,432
- Library Materials in Electronic Format: \$892  
(NewsBank)
- Other Physical Materials: \$1,977  
(Audio CDs, DVDs, etc.)
- Miscellaneous: \$26,761  
(utilities, office supplies, insurance, janitor, etc.)
- Total Operating Expenditures: \$227,594

# LIBRARY SERVICES

## LIBRARY VISITORS

18,000



## REFERENCE QUESTIONS

3,810

## PUBLIC SERVICE HOURS PER YEAR

1,924



## COMPUTER USERS

1,904

## INTERLIBRARY LOANS

18



## LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

118

## MEETING ROOM USE

103



## WIFI SESSIONS

12,792

# LIBRARY PROGRAMMING

## PROGRAMS

Age 0-5:	92
Ages 6-11:	106
Age 12-18:	15
Age 19+:	129
General Interest:	14

**Total Programs: 356**

**(On-site: 344)**  
**(Off-site: 12)**

**ABC**

## PROGRAM ATTENDANCE

Age 0-5:	1,296
Ages 6-11:	1,545
Age 12-18:	97
Age 19+:	698
General Interest:	1,495

**Total Attendance: 5,131**

## PASSIVE PROGRAMMING

(Scavenger Hunts, Pumpkin Walk, Trivia, Reading Challenges, Tournament of Books, 1000 Books Before Kindergarten, Guessing Jars, Santa Letters, etc.)

**Total Participation: 2,921**

# Summer Reading Program 2025 by the Numbers



Library Books Checked Out  
During the Summer: **5,043**

Total Minutes Read by Kids: **85,422**

Total Hours Read by Kids: **1,424**

Total Number  
of Events  
(all ages):  
**109**



Teen Thursday  
Attendance:

**69**

Teen Bucket Lists  
Returned and Gift Cards  
Earned:

**31**

Library Dollar  
Prizes Awarded:

**381**

(\$1 = 200 minutes [or  
3.3hrs] of reading)

Adult Events  
Offered:

**33**

Adult Event  
Attendance:

**283**

Total Event  
Attendance:

**2,419**

Number  
Registered for  
the Summer  
Reading Program:

Kids — **175**

Teens — **36**

Adults — **37**

