

## Director's Report for May 05.21.2026

- It seems like this month is going so fast that I can't even think of what all we have accomplished! We had a fun week celebrating National Library Week at the end of April. We gave away books for both adults and children through a drawing and on Books and Roses Day, we gave away a dozen roses, one rose to each of the first dozen patrons!
- Our parade throws arrived and we are very happy with them! I think everyone will enjoy receiving a cute dinosaur squeeze toy/stress reliever. The calendars are set for the summer months and program activities confirmed. Our plans for the Summer Learning Kickoff are coming together, and supplies have arrived or have been ordered. The Summer Learning Store is filled with awesome items and gift cards for participants to spend their library bucks on.
- Our biggest project for this month was to establish the seed library. I researched other seed libraries to see how they are managed and had a good conversation with Joe Rector, director at the James River Library. He informed me that our ND laws for seeds is fairly strict and we cannot give out seeds that local growers collect from their gardens because they are not inspected or tested for germination or purity of variety. Therefore, we started looking for donations of seeds from our local vendors and we were able to get quite a few from the Petro Garden Store. We also purchased some seeds to fill in for varieties we thought would be popular. I also developed a policy for managing the seed library and guidelines for patrons to follow. The seed library is open to anyone, and they do not need a library card to access it. We will also accept donations of seed packets from patrons as long as they are not open or damaged in any way and are less than a year old. People are already taking advantage of the seed library, so I am excited to see how it goes.
- Melissa heard from Ryan at the State Library and he said he just helped another library install Librarica for their patron computer system and that it went very well and they are happy with it. I think this is what we will recommend when we decide to leave Useful. We will be looking into getting proposals for Librarica and for the new equipment we will need.
- I attended a meeting of the Kiwanis last week and spoke to them about the library and our accomplishments over the last couple of years.
- The Kruger family will once again take care of the library flower gardens. They did a great job last year and I am happy that they want to continue taking care of them again this year.
- The Carnegie Committee is meeting again before the board meeting, and Deedra will attend our meeting and give a report. The decisions we made before are coming to fruition. The 250 books for give away during the Carnegie Carnival scheduled for August 13<sup>th</sup> were ordered and have arrived. Tom Gibson has agreed to come and do his Sam Ting program about how immigrants came to this country. We are looking for volunteers to help with monitoring and implementing the games for the evening and for serving the popcorn and root beer floats.
- Plans are being made for the library float in the Community Days parade. We are looking forward to this and the dinosaur theme will be fun.

- As of April 30th, the library saved our community \$173,529 for physical checkouts. As of that same date, a total of 8,236 physical and 7,254 digital checkouts took place. Approximate savings to our patrons for both physical and digital media for the year 2026 equals \$326,368. We have gained 69 new patrons so far this year!