

# ***Chester County Library Update***

February 2021

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## **Updated Website and Address**

Recently, the library updated the website for a combination of reasons. The new URL is <https://chestercountylibrarytn.weebly.com/> and we would love for you to visit our new website and familiarize yourself with it. This new website offers many upgrades and extremely beneficial information for our community and library patrons alike. From community resources (still under development) to technology training to policies to information about our library and newsletters- it is all in one place. We would love it if you would share this with the members of our community. As always, I am welcome to recommendations and resources that you or other members of our community feel would be beneficial.

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## **COVID-19 Update**

All items are quarantined for 72 hours (3 full days).

Masks are recommended but not required.

A hand washing sanitizing area is set up in our foyer.

Computer sessions are limited to one hour, per person, per day.

Patrons are able to check items out from the library, as well as browse the library and select their own materials.

If we are notified that a patron is being tested for COVID-19, the library renews ALL of their items for a full month and asks them to not return them until they and their whole household is healthy and have tested negative.

We offer curbside services (except during the hours of 11am through 1pm) and contactless pickup for members of the community that would like to utilize this service. We require a minimum of 2 hours notice for items requested for pickup the same day.

Computers are sanitized and all touched surfaces are wiped down regularly as well as a thorough cleaning at the end of every day. We are using keyboard covers to minimize any risk of damaging the keyboards with the additional cleanings.

We ask that all return items be placed in a blue bin in front of the circulation desk or in the drop box- this enables staff to check all items in at one time, clean, and avoid cross contamination.

We offer mystery bags for all ages- for those not wanting to spend a large amount of time in the library or are uncomfortable browsing for books can utilize this option. Staff select a variety of titles for a patron to check out. As we have done this, we have really been able to tailor our bags to each individual patron's likes and dislikes and this has become a popular option with adults, teens, and children.

We feature an item a day on our Facebook page and staff recommendations every two weeks. This helps ensure that the public is made aware of all new items coming in that they may wish to checkout, even if they are not coming into the physical location of the library. Our website also includes listings of items that are new and featured items specific to holidays and events.

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## **2nd Quarter Circulation Statistics Highlights**

There are 17 total library systems in our region as of February 2021.

We had the fourth highest (right behind Jackson Madison County Library, Tipton County Library, and Hardin County Library) physical materials circulation with 7,307 physical items checked out (DVDs, books, audiobooks, learning kits, etc.). Last quarter we were third with 8,821 checkouts.

We had the fifth highest (right behind Jackson Madison County Library, Tipton County Library, Somerville-Fayette Co. Library, and Hardin County Library) READS circulation with 4,586 digital materials checked out (through the Libby/ Overdrive app. These are e-books and audiobooks). Last quarter we were third with 5,156 READS checkouts.

We had the seventh highest (right behind Jackson Madison County Library, Tipton County Library, Everett Horn Library [Henderson County], Hardin County Library, Elma Ross Public Library, and Somerville-Fayette Co. Library) computer usage with 517 computer sessions. Last quarter we were fifth with 772 computer sessions.

We had the second highest WiFi usage (right behind Somerville-Fayette Co. Library with 9,194 logins to our wi-fi. Last quarter we were first with 9,034 WiFi usages.

We also had the highest hotspot circulation with 119 checkouts of hotspots. Last quarter we were first with 92 hotspot checkouts.

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## **Grant Applications and Awards**

***Southwest Change for Community Change Grant:*** The Chester County Library applied in December for a grant from Southwest Electric Change for Community Change to purchase four filing cabinets, an additional small shelf for our juvenile/children's section to house graphic novels (these are similar to comic books. These items are great for reluctant readers and to help build confidence in young readers), and finally to purchase 12-24 new juvenile large print items. The library recently began developing our juvenile large print collection as these items can really help readers with vision complications, dyslexia, various learning disabilities, and difficulty concentrating. We were awarded a grant in the amount of \$1,300.

***State of TN 2021 TOP Grant:*** The Chester County Library applied in February for a grant from the State of TN to cover the cost for technology training for our patrons as well as to cover a portion of our hotspot expenses. If awarded, we will offer technology training from May 2021 to October 2021. The courses we are looking at offering are as follows: Computer Basics, Google Drive Overview, Internet Safety Practices, Email Basics, How to Use the Libby App and the Library Catalog, and three separate dates for customizable one-on-one technology training. If awarded, this grant would also offer a reimbursement for some of the expenses associated with our hotspots. Pending library board approval, the Chester County Library will also be applying for another grant that would allow us to purchase book club books for juveniles and teens for the Summer Reading Program book clubs.

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## Summer Reading Program 2021

This year, the Summer Reading Program Theme is *Tails and Tales!* This theme allows participants and focuses on animals of all kinds- from animals that roam on land, soar through the sky and the fact that they ALL have a story. This year, the Chester County Library is beginning to make plans and preparations for the Summer Reading Program 2021. With the presence of COVID19, the library is exploring options to offer hybrid programs (the choice to attend virtually or in-person). In person programs will have limited availability to ensure that the library can safely and adequately practice social distancing. Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, or our website for the most up-to-date information about the Summer Reading Program in the upcoming months.

### Library Statistics

<b>November 2020 Check Out</b>		<b>December 2020 Check Out</b>		<b>January 2021 Check Out Stats</b>	
<b>Material Type</b>	<b>Check-outs</b>	<b>Material Type</b>	<b>Check-outs</b>	<b>Material Type</b>	<b>Check-outs</b>
Audiobooks	12	Audiobooks	16	Audiobooks	4
Adult Books	797	Adult Books	796	Adult Books	471
Juvenile Books	972	Juvenile Books	961	Juvenile Books	390
WiFi Users	274	WiFi Users	4192	WiFi Users	2,846
Computers	169	Computers	148	Computers	252
DVD	362	DVD	414	DVD	78
Hotspot	27	Hotspot	36	Hotspot	20
ILL Loaned/Borrowed	14/32	ILL Loaned/Borrowed	19/28	ILL Loaned/Borrowed	18/11
R.E.A.D.S Checkouts	1,526	R.E.A.D.S Checkouts	1,489	R.E.A.D.S Checkouts	1,761
Programs Offered/Total Attendance	6/18	Programs Offered/Total Attendance	6/72	Programs Offered/Total Attendance	6/3
Collection Development: Added/Removed	152/ 137	Collection Development: Added/Removed	128/ 3	Collection Development: Added/Removed	59/ 98
<b>Reference Questions</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>Reference Questions</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>Reference Questions</b>	<b>0</b>

