



CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON | W. J. NIEDERKORN LIBRARY
David Nimmer, Library Director

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY

Sprint Mobile Hotspots

At the end of 2015 the library added Sprint MobileWiFi Hotspots for public checkout (Netgear Zing Mobile Hotspots). These hotspots create an unlimited data wifi connection through a 4G LTE or 3G connection and can provide access for up to 8 devices. The units can run on battery power for 8 hrs or stay plugged in for continuous power. As they check out for a two week time period, they can be enjoyed on a vacation, can fill in gaps in reliable Internet service in our area, can help provide access in order to find a new job, do homework, or fill out government forms, and they can be used by new people moving into the area who are transitioning between Internet services. There is sure to be lots of good uses of these devices that we can not yet anticipate or guess. The units have already been a hit and they were only introduced late in the year.

Author Visit - Michelle Wilden

This year's author was Michelle Wilden from the Madison area. She spoke about her books and the movie based on her book "You're Not You". The Friends of the Library sponsored the event's food and author fee. Thanks again to the wonderful Friends for continuing to fund this event each year.

Another Digital Magazine Collection (Overdrive)

In 2015, though efforts by select ESLS libraries, we were able to add digital magazines to the offerings from Wisconsin's Digital Collection (Overdrive). Now we offer the option for patrons to access digital magazines from two services based on their preference and their needs. Zinio continues to be our most popular digital magazine service.

Teen Services - Again

Teen services program attendance doubled in 2015 from 831 in 2014 to 1,675 in 2015. Around 20-40 teens show up every Tuesday and Thursday for the Teen Cafe which runs from 3:00-5:00. Food, games, music and study space make it a good match for all. Teens have become so comfortable at the library, that now, everyday after school, teens show up and study and hang out in groups of 2-4. It is great to see.

LIBRARY OPERATION

The W. J. Niederkorn Library operates under Wisconsin State Statutes Chapter 43 as well as under the provisions of City Ordinance 87-14. The Library functions as a department of the City of Port Washington and extends service to residents of the City of Port Washington, residents having a valid card in the Eastern Shores Library System, and residents of other library systems with which we have a Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement.

Financial Support for the library is obtained by taxation through the City of Port Washington, Ozaukee, Sheboygan and other adjacent counties with the budget being set by the Library Board.

POLICY STATEMENT

It shall be the Policy of the W. J. Niederkorn Library to serve the community as a general service center of reliable information and of quality recreational materials and programs.

THE LIBRARY BOARD

This board shall consist of seven members who shall be residents of the City of Port Washington. There shall be one member from the Common Council, one member shall be a school district administrator or his representative, and the Mayor shall appoint the rest with approval by the Common Council.*

**The County Chairperson, with approval from the county board, may appoint from among the residents of the county additional members to the municipal library board when the annual sum appropriated to the library by the county meets certain percentage thresholds. One additional appointment was made by the Ozaukee County to our library board.*

YEARS OF SERVICE

In 2015 the WJ Niederkorn Library celebrated 54 years on Grand Avenue as the WJ Niederkorn Library and 116 years of continuous public library service in Port Washington (established in 1899).

LIBRARY BOARD MEMBERS

At the end of the year

President:	Mr. Justin Ritter (County Appointment)
Vice President:	Mrs. Marie Zirbes
Treasurer:	Mr. Thomas Hudson
Secretary:	Ms. Kay Goodwin
Members:	Mrs. Karen Vollmar
	Dr. Michael Weber (School Superintendent)
	Mr. Robert Bretl
	Mr. Paul Neumyer (Aldermanic Representative)

THE BUDGET

The operating revenue of the library can be broken down as follows

City of Port Washington	\$466,391
Ozaukee County	\$115,080
Other Counties	\$5,862
Grants	\$730
All Other	\$46,185
Total	\$634,248

The operating expenditures of the library can be broken down as follows:

Salaries and Wages	\$338,012
Employee Benefits	\$118,290
Library Materials	\$51,876
All Other	\$117,153
Total	\$625,331

The capital revenue/expenditures of the library can be broken down as follows:

	Expenditure
None in 2015	\$0
Totals	\$0

The Library held \$85,538 in its reserve account at the end of the year.

STATISTICS

Circulation: The library circulated 211,298 items in 2015 a 6.6% decrease from 2014 (this number does not include the checkout of 13,128 digital items). The circulation can be broken down as follows: 107,418 adult items were circulated and 103,880 children's items were circulated.

2015	211,298
2014	226,353
2013	250,461
2012	263,134
2011	278,586
2010	280,588
2009	265,515

Electronic Digital Download Circulation: 6,938 e-books, 3,322 digital audiobooks, 63 videos and 2,279 magazine issues were downloaded (total: 13,128).

Number of Registered Borrowers: The library keeps a database of current registered library card holders. In 2015 there were 7,519 registered Port Washington card holders and 2,097 non-resident registered card holders for a total of 9,616. Cards not used in three years are purged. In 2015, 4,601 unique library cards were used at our library, 598 new library card accounts were added and 1,368 were purged.

Library Visits: 110,938 people visited the library in 2015. On average over 400 people visit the library each day.

Holds Filled: 44,587 holds were filled in 2015, 21% of all check outs.

Interlibrary Loans: We supplied 34,749 items to other libraries and received 38,992 from other libraries. This means we borrowed 4,243 more books than we lent to other libraries.

Overdue Statistics and Collection Agency: 11% of check outs were returned late in 2015. Our overdue fines are as follows: most items are \$.10 per day with new books, mobile hotspots and DVDs being \$.25 per day. Fines or fees over \$25 are submitted to a collection agency after a two week notice. A \$10 collection agency fee is added.

Library Collection: The library continues to add new materials to the library collection, but each year we also withdraw outdated and worn out materials. The library added a total of 4,772 items to the library collection in 2015 and withdrew 8,418 items (not including magazines). In 2015 the Children's Department undertook a major weeding of the picture books.

Our library housed 49,138 books, 3,272 audiobooks, 8,849 videos and 326 other items for a total of 61,585 items. 173,959 electronic books, audiobooks and videos are part of the our digital collection and available in digital versions online through the Wisconsin Digital Library Collection. This does not include digital magazines.

EasiCat, our online shared library catalog, provide a catalog covering 13 public libraries in Ozaukee and Sheboygan County, the Bookmobile and Lakeland College. The EasiCat database holds well over 1.3 million items. www.easicat.net

Magazines: The library subscribes to, or receives through a gift, 91 magazines and newspapers and provided access to over 200 digital magazine subscriptions in 2015.

Computers: There are 14 Public Access Computers, 9 offer Internet access (with Microsoft Office products, Adobe Reader and various web browsers including Chrome), 3 only access the library catalog - EasiCat, and 2 are early childhood literacy computers (1 English and 1 bilingual Spanish). There are 14 staff computers, an iPad2 and a Chromebook.

Programs: The library held 511 programs for people of all ages. The attendance for the year was 11,327. The Children Department hosted 199 programs, Teen Department hosted 100, and the

Adult Services hosted 212. Attendance for Children's programs was 6,276, Teens 1,675 and Adults 3,376.

STAFFING

The library had a staff of 9.31 FTE, including the maintenance staff. David Nimmer served as the Library Director in 2015.

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

A total of 742 children registered for the Summer Reading Program. 61,040 books were read. 90 teens registered for the Teen Summer Reading Program. Program attendance for the Summer Reading Program alone was 2,486.

DROP-IN PROGRAMS

36 programs were offered as drop-in-programs. Attendance doubled to 4,252 in 2015.

LIBRARY HOURS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Library Hours:

Monday - Thursday	9:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Friday	9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Sunday	Closed

316 W Grand Ave., Port Washington, WI 53074

Phone: 262-284-5031

FAX: 262-284-7680

Webpage: www.wjnlib.org

Find us on Facebook

Library Catalog: www.easicat.net

BOOK CLUBS

The library hosted 4 book clubs in 2015.

The Friday Morning Book Club is hosted at the library on the 2nd Friday of the month in the morning in partnership with the Port Washington Senior Center.

[Finger Lickin' 15 by Janet Evanovich, Ladies of Covington by Medicott, The Storied Life of AJ Fikery by Gabrielle Zevin, The Longest Ride by Nicholas Sparks, The Vacationers by Emma Straub, The Silver Star by Jeanette Walls, Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker by Jennifer Chivarini, Major Pettigrew's Last Stand by Helen Simonson, Lighthouse Road by Peter Geye, All Girl Filling Station Last Reunion by Fannie Flagg, You're Not You by Michelle Wildgen, I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai, Mistletoe Promise by Richard Paul Evans.]

Barb's Book Club is run by Barbara Roob as a volunteer and takes place most months on the first Tuesday in the afternoon.

[The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by Rachel Joyce, The Buddha in the Attic by Julie Otsuka, Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton, The Storied Life of AJ Fikery by Gabrielle Zevin, The Ship of Brides by Jojo Moyer, Orphan Train by Christine Baker Kline, You're Not You by Michelle Wildgen, Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee]

The W.J. Niederkorn Library Fiction Book Club is held once a month on the third Monday in the evening and is hosted by our Adult Services Librarian.

[The Lowland by Jhumpa Lahiri, Claire of the Sea Light by Edwidge Danticat, The Storied Life of AJ Fikery by Gabrielle Zevin, To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee, The Piano Teacher by Elfriede Jelinek, Bel Canto by Ann Patchett, 1984 by George Orwell, Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee, ExPats by Chris Pavone, As I Lay Dying by William Faulkner, You're Not You by Michelle Wildgen, Life After Life by Kate Atkinson, Station Eleven by Emily ST. John Madel.]

The Summer Teen Book Club is hosted by our Teen Services Librarian. The book club runs from June - August. Teen titles include:

[Wonder by RJ Palacio, Endangered by Eliot Schrefer, A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness]

PROGRAMMING

Children's story times:

In the year 2015, the WJ Niederkorn Library conducted 124 story times with a combined attendance of 2,901. The library offers several different story times for families. Each one differs as they try to appeal to the different stages of development of young children.

Our youngest story time is structured for babies from 6 months through 24 months (although newborns have been known to attend). Each session includes 2 short concept books, finger plays, songs and movement. These guided activities last approximately 15 minutes. Afterward, the children are given a chance to play with toys that are provided by the library. During this story time the infants build a comfort level with the community room, the librarians and the other children and parents. Each session begins and ends with the same songs and flows with a predictable pattern. Every parent is encouraged to take the story time sheet home with them and repeat the songs and rhymes that were used in class.

After the baby story time, children progress into a story time designed for 2 year olds. These themed sessions include picture books, poems, songs, finger plays and movement. Books are still short in length and are broken up with other activities to keep the attention of the toddlers. Each session includes a theme-related craft at the conclusion of the program. The structure of the program includes the same songs at the beginning and the end, so the children learn to recognize what will occur next.

The library offers two identical 30 minute story time for 3-4 year olds at different times. This is typically the largest group of preschoolers. The story times for this group follows the same theme as the 2 year olds, but can include longer books and more pre-literacy concepts. The finger plays and songs are written out for the children to follow along. Counting, rhyming, colors and the alphabet are practiced on a regular basis. Listening skills, following directions and increased attention spans are all enhanced through participation in preschool story times. These sessions also include a craft at the end.

The library also offers a Saturday morning family story time once a month. These programs are designed for families with young children to all come together in one story time. It includes books, songs and finger plays and concludes with a family craft.

The success of our storytimes can be attributed to following important elements. We offer several program options throughout the month for the majority of the year. The story times are led by two trained staff members. We have a big, bright community room that allows for larger groups so there is always space for everyone. We do not require preregistration and

never put a cap on the number of people that may attend. People can drop in and enjoy our programming whenever they have the opportunity.

Children's programming:

The Children's Department continues to provide services and programming for children birth through 6th grade. In 2015, 201 programs were held and attendance was 6,297.

Programming held in our Community Room included the following:

Preschool Story time: 4 different sessions each week. Summer attendance is very large.

Family Story time: held once a month on a Saturday morning. This program has consistent attendance. Great fun.

Pajama Story time: held during the evening, 2-3 times a year. Always a popular event. Librarians wear their footed pajamas. Evening ends with a light snack.

Lego Creator Club for children 1st – 5th grades: Our Lego collection continues to grow. The club has consistent attendance.

Lego Junior for children 4-7 years of age: 2015 showed a continued increase in awareness and attendance.

Free Movie Matinees, usually on early release days, vacation weeks and summer: 11 movies shown in 2014 with an attendance of 407.

Summer Reading Program Events: The Magic of Rock Allen, Wisconsin Humane Society - The Wonders of Wisconsin Bats, Stuart Stotty - Entertainer and Songwriter, Animal Heroes Art in a Suitcase with Mary Tooley, and an Local Heroes Open House. The Pirates' Hollow Pool Party concluded the 2015 Summer Reading Program.

The Library also reaches out to the community at large. Some of the programming included the following: Hippity Skippity Easter Egg Hunt, Port Washington Street Festivals, School visits to every elementary aged school child within the PWSSD, Story times in local day cares, Thomas Jefferson Wellness Fair, 4K visits, Scouting Fieldtrips, Week of the Young Child, 1,000 Book Before Kindergarten.

Teen programming:

Teen Programming is for teens 7th grade and up. Our Teen Café, which is held on Tuesdays & Thursdays @ 2:45 - 5:00, is one of our most popular programs for teens. Teens can have a snack, relax with friends, listen to music, play games or do their homework. We also have special craft days such as making holiday gifts or making valentines!

After Hours movies have include in 2015 Mockingjay, Pitch Perfect 2 and The Scorch Trials.

We have had quite a few craft programs this year. We have made Pipe Cleaner Puppies, Valentines Puzzles, Rolled Paper Bookmarks and Teeny Tiny Book Necklaces!

The Teen Summer Reading Program included Shrink Plastic Jewelry, Bleach T-Shirts, Super Hero Post It Note Art (Which brightened up our community room all summer!), Sushi Art Competition (with candy!), a Photo Scavenger Hunt, Making Tie Fleece Blankets for kids in the Hospital, A Photo Booth with Pizza, Teen Jeopardy, Glowing Bracelets, a Cupcake Decorating Contest, Adding Monsters to Paintings, Making Art out of Recycled Materials and finally a very popular comedy/caricature closing program with Bill Begos!

Adult programming:

The increase in guest speakers and local author presentations reduced the number of cooking classes offered in 2015. Still we had great fun and food with lineup of Cooking Classes. We had It's Icing on the Cookie, Healthy Meal Planning, Homemade Pet Treats, Green Smoothies, and Water & Oil Infusions.

Our Seven Hills Seed Library (SHSL) celebrated a great year with 94 patrons who borrowed seeds. We also had many well attended gardening classes, beginning with Starting Seeds, How Healthy Does Your Garden Grow (which also included some cooking), Saving Seeds with Master Gardener Kathleen Awe, Vermiculture (worms) with Port Washington Garden Club member Pat Baganz, and of course meetings with the SHSL volunteers.

Craft classes took a wonderful turn by including some of the teens from Robyn Laforest's Teen Cafe. Classes combined Adults and Teens to great success. The Adult classes included Pipe Cleaner Puppies, Heart Blossoms for Valentine's Day, Tiny Books, Book Quote Mugs, Beginner's Knitting, Mosaic Stepping Stones, Zentangle & Doodles, Intro to Weaving, Arm Knitting, Techniques in Weaving, Zentangle: Fall Leaves, Bird Seed ornaments, Zentangle: Snowflakes, and Bookish Art: Snowmen.

Our Beginning Knitting class was so well received that we started a Library Knitting Club, twice a month, starting in June, and has been going strong with an average 12 people per meeting.

Thanks to Tello's Grille and Café, our Movies are more popular than ever, averaging 40-75 people for any given night! Our Movies included: This is Where I Leave you, Fury, Birdman, Into the Woods, Still Alice, Serena, The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel, Child 44, The Age of Adeline, Tomorrowland, Jurassic World, and Mr. Holmes.

Our Art House Movies in 2015 were: The Dark Valley and 84 Charring Cross Road.

For our fourth annual Author and Dinner series, we welcomed author Michelle Wildgen in November. It was well attended with about 75 people enjoying a dinner catered by Tello's Grille and Cafe.

Other Authors we hosted in 2015 included local author and friend John Riordan to a crowd of nearly 80 people. Rebekah Bryan and Malinda Andrews both had book releases, Sara Dahmen came to talk about writing and self publishing, Mary Wagner also come by to talk about how It's Never Too Late for Mid-Course Corrections! Christine Keleny came by to talk about her fiction representation of the authors behind Nancy Drew, and Port Washington resident June Eastvold came by with her true story of ministering to the homeless men of Seattle.

We hosted two NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) write-ins, one in July (Camp) and for the second year one in November. A snowstorm happened to be brewing that morning so our attendance was down from the previous year. Smith Bros Coffee House as kind enough to donate coffee for the event.

David MacGregor heads a Writer's Block group that meets twice a month on Monday mornings. The group is open to all to talk and discuss your way through your writer's block, or just to test ideas, concepts or new writings. Again a big thanks to Smith Bros Coffee House for providing coffee for each meeting.

Throughout the months we had our regular programs such as our highly popular Yoga (ranging from 20-30 participants every week!) and our Library Recipe Club which gained a few members. The Overdrive one-on-one appointments also include instruction on our online magazine collection, Zinio. We also started monthly classes on how to use the 3Doodler, a 3D creation pen, in November. We also started a Trivia night which we ended after three months of low attendance.

The Special Events we hosted over the year include:

- Beginner's Snowshoeing

- ShenYun: The Performing Arts

- Diet & It's Role in Addiction by Jan Halonen

- Natural Spring Cleaning for the Home

- Natural Spring Cleaning for the Body

- Investing with Adam Ryback

- Identity Theft and Fraud Protection with Officer Steven Footit of
The Port Police Dept.

- Simple Steps for a More Secure home with Officer Steven Footit.

- An LM Montgomery Christmas performed by players from
Memories Ballroom

Port Reads 2015

We changed up our One Book, One Community to just include Port Washington, calling it Port Reads (once again). Our title was The Storied Life of AJ Fikry by Gabrielle Zevin. With the help of YA librarian Robyn LaForest, we also held several book related classes including three craft classes, a movie and a documentary, and book discussions.

Book Fair 2015

Our 3rd Annual WJ Niederkorn Library Book Fair was Saturday, August 1st, 9 am-2 pm (during Maxwell Street Days) and free and open to the public.

Featuring Wisconsin Authors

Robert Brumm "Windigo Soul" "Desolate: the Trilogy" "Stage Five: Short Stories"; Mary Wagner "Running in Stilettos" "Fabulous in Flats" "Heck on Heels"; Kelly Wojahn Maddern "Badger State of Mind"; Sara Dahmen "Doctor Kinney's Housekeeper" "Hazard the Story Master"; Jason M Waltz with Rogue Blades Entertainment Publishers; Genevieve Davis "Secret Life, Secret Death"; Christine Keleny "Rosebloom" "A Burnished Rose" "Rose from the Ashes"; Alan Schmitz "Memories Never Die" "DNA Never Lies"; Tom Mueller "Building Bridges to Victory" "Duty, Honor, Country and Wisconsin"; June Eastvold "The Boys on the Porch"; Susan Farrell "Don't Act Like Prey!" "52 Weeks of Wisdom"; Lisa J. Lickel "The Gold Standard" "The Map Quilt" "Healing Grace"; Jim Bayer "Gary the Garbage Can"; Art Schmitz "A Tourist in Uniform"; E.D. Meyer & James Meyer "Unforgiving Sun" "Port Washington by James Meyer Photography"; Laurel Bragstad "In the Comfort of Shadows"; J Nathan Couch "Washington County Paranormal" "Goatman: Flesh or Folklore?"; Rebekah Bryan "Front Row" "Flowerantha"; Malinda Andrews "Through the Mountains Book one of the Incandescent Trilogy"; LaToya Watson "Color of Feelings"

Booksellers

The Friends of the Library Book Store

Guest Speakers

Mary T. Wagner "Adventures in Self Publishing"

Christine Keleny "Editing 101: Common Writing Mistakes"

J. Nathan Couch "A FAQ about Facts: How to publish non-fiction"

Refreshments Available for Purchase:

Smith Bros. Coffee

OTHER SERVICES

Book Club Corner: The Library maintains a collection of books that are available for use by local book clubs. Usually 12 copies of each book are available for checkout.

Internet access: Internet service is available on 8 PCs and is made available via a T1 line. Wireless Internet service (Wi-Fi) is available for wireless capable devices in the library. And now in 2015 mobile WiFi hotspots are available to checkout providing Internet access at home or on the go.

Tax forms: Access to tax forms is provided throughout the year. From late January through April selected state and federal forms are available for free. Other forms can be printed off the Internet by staff or printed off the Internet by the patron.

FAX service: Fax services include both sending and receiving faxes.

The library catalog, EasiCat (www.easycat.net), provides online access to our collection and to your library account information. Card holder's can place requests for materials, check on availability of items in our collection, check on the status of holds, renew items checked out and check due dates. With our new library automation software consenting patrons can keep a reading list of all items checked out from the library and that they can even edit out titles they no longer want listed. New in 2015 is the integration of digital materials in EasiCat. Now items checked out from Wisconsin's Digital Collection can be viewed in EasiCat by the patron.

Book drop: The book drop is located outside on the alley entrance and is available all hours for quick drop off.

Services offered: The library offers adult books, young adult books, children's books, large print books, videos, audiobooks, music CDs, CD-ROMs, DVDs, children's cassette/book sets, reference materials and indexes, business and investment materials, magazines and newspapers, pamphlets, college class schedules and catalogs, tax forms, community information, access to local newspapers on microfilm, computers, a photocopier, ebook readers, mobile WiFi hotspots and a microfilm reader/printer.

Community Room: the Community Meeting Room is available for use or rental, as availability allows. The room can be set up in a variety of layouts to suit the needs of the meeting. We now offer a video projector cart if requested. The Community Room is equipped with Wi-Fi access.

Display Case: a two level display case is available for month long displays in a protected glass enclosure near our upstairs entrance.

Art Displays fill the Community Room and the Children's Department each year bringing families in to view the very creative work of their children.

The Library provides areas in the Children's department for interactive play. There is a play house in the Children's vestibule that provides great play functions for kids and a respite for moms and other caregivers. There is also a DUPLO table with two sets of pieces for quick swap out and cleaning.

The Friends of the library maintain the Thomas the Tank Engine train table in the Children's Department in addition to an ongoing Book Store, a yearly Book Sale and an ongoing coffee and tea service.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DN', with a horizontal line underneath.

David Nimmer
Library Director.