Salem Township Library
Monthly Report

October 2026

From the Director
by Lisa Vande Bunte

Our newly onboarded team members have settled in really well. The library's updated onboarding and training modules have been fully implemented, and it's been fantastic to see how engaged everyone is. Each person is bringing a wonderful level of creative energy and fresh ideas to the work we're doing. We're also establishing a great collaborative mindset and communicating well with one another.

As we turn another chapter and head toward the Thanksgiving holiday, I want to take the time to reflect on the broader support system that makes our work possible. Serving a community of over 8,000 residents comes with both great opportunities and its fair share of challenges. Handling them well takes a genuine team effort.

I am deeply grateful for our dedicated library staff, whose daily effort creates a welcoming environment for every visitor; our Library Board and Township Boards, whose continued leadership, stewardship, and partnership keep our organization grounded and forward-moving; and our wonderful patrons and community partners, whose constant support and engagement remain the heart of everything we do. Thank you all for your continued commitment to the library!

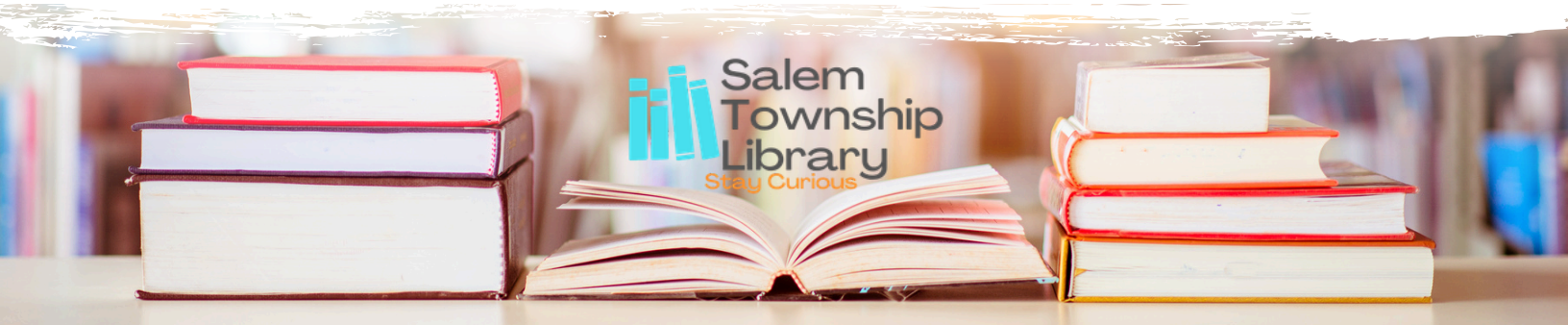
Library Spotlights
by Mabel Brenner

October has been a busy time of transition. A lot of fresh new ideas are being brought to the table, and we are excited for the creativity and potential new programs to come. Watch the library website for new and upcoming events.

Our annual book sale is underway. Many patrons were anxiously waiting for the sale, and are now coming in and purchasing a bag of books.

Participation in the Halloween gingerbread house kit was a success. Two very happy readers were selected in the drawing. Halloween trick or treating at the library was also a success with several kiddos who came in their cute Halloween costumes, parading throughout the library, while the staff and volunteers joined in the fun to pass out candy.

A lot of patrons look forward to the 1st of the month when I put new recipes out. We get a lot of good feedback on how much they enjoy checking out different ones to try, and that they loved the "new" recipe! Coming up will be the compilation of recipes for "Mabel's Cookbook", featuring all the recipes I shared this past year. The recipe book will to go on sale in January. There are a limited number of copies (10) this year, and they do not last long. Some patrons have already asked to be put on a list to make sure that they get a copy. So mark you calendars and as you don't want to miss out!



Activity

923 Patron Visits

146 Program Attendees

16 New Patrons

215 Items Added to Collection

Checkouts

5,386 Physical Items

1,161 Digital Items

25 Hotspots

65 STEAM Kits and LOT Items

Trending at the Library

- Brain Damage by Frieda McFadden
- The unselected Journals of Emma M. Lion by Beth Brower
- Women's World E-Magazine
- Library Book Sale

Mark your calendar

- **November 26-29:**
  - CLOSED for Thanksgiving

Have an event idea you'd love to attend?

Want to share a skill or hobby with your community?

Let's make it happen! Connect with us in person or contact us a:

- stl@salemtownshiplibrary.org
- 616-896-8170

Recurring Programs

- **Story Time** @ 11am; Every Wednesday (September-May)
- **Lego Club** @ 11am; Second Saturday of each month (September-May)
- **Play n' Learn** @ 11am; Second Thursday of each month at the Township Hall
- **Board Game Afternoons** @ 1pm; Third Wednesday of each month (September-May)
- **Adult Book Clubs:**
  - AM Group meets @ 8:30am the last Monday of each month
  - PM Group meets @ 7pm the First Monday of each month

