

April 2026

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Presented by Sarah Trover

Brazil PUBLIC
LIBRARY





New Adult Resident

15



Renewals

16



New Juvenile Resident

1

We created 43 cards in April.



New Non-Resident

5



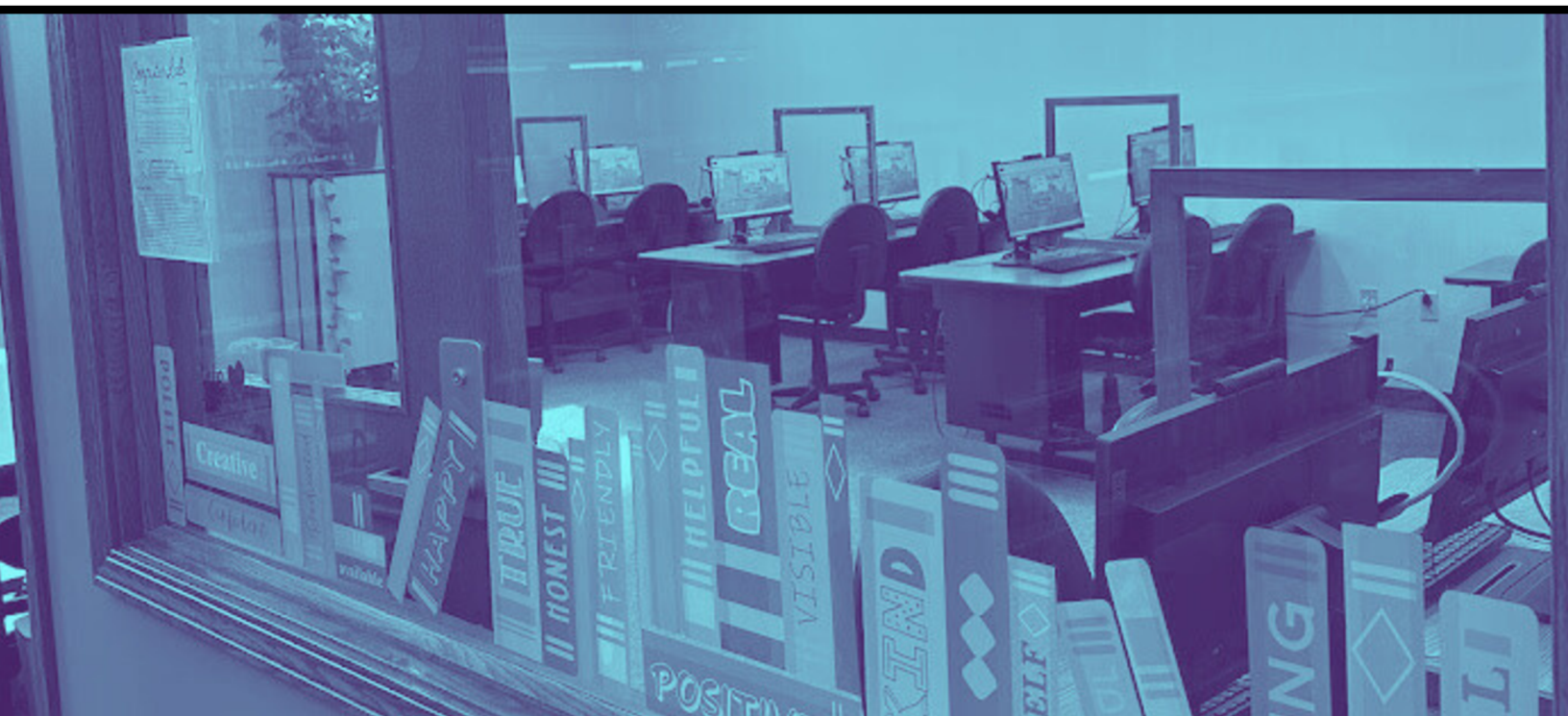
Renewed Non-Resident

6



Renewed Juvenile

0





Easter Bunny Photos

65

EASTER BUNNY

The Easter Bunny visited the Library on April 4. Sarah Duenez volunteered to dress as the Easter Bunny again this year. She received tons of hugs and high-fives all day. Despite the rain, 65 people attended the event and 51 Easter eggs were distributed. Most visitors brought their own cameras, but we also took photos during the event that we later posted on Facebook with parent permission.

I had a blast! We had a couple terrified screamers as well as very devoted loving Easter Bunny fans. Sarah even got one of the terrified screamers to fall in love with her, to the point that he didn't want anybody else to have pictures taken with his Easter Bunny. I vote for Sarah to be the Easter Bunny as long as we continue this event. She absolutely rocked it!!

NAN ALGIE



Art Pieces

4



Votes

39



Books Distributed

158



BIG READ ART SHOW

To celebrate the National Endowment for the Arts Big Read, we asked local artists to participate in an Art Show by creating art inspired by “By by Bite”. Four pieces of art were submitted.

This show was on display in the hallway on the lower level of the library right next to the meeting rooms. Customers were asked to vote for their favorite piece of art and 39 votes were cast, compared to only 17 in 2025.

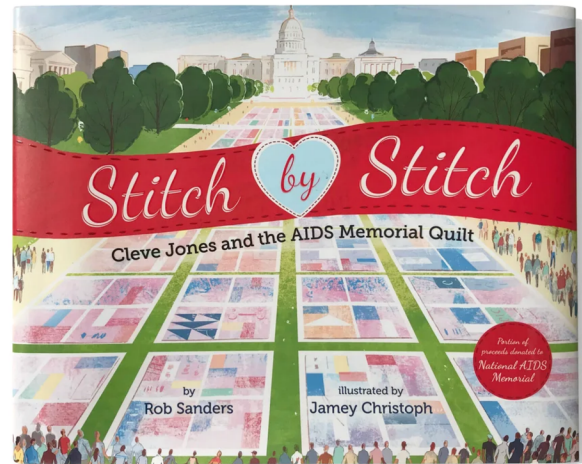
On April 27, an event was held to celebrate the show and present awards and 9 people attended. People’s Choice was won by Johanna Ochs for “A Piece of Cake for Mom”. Best in Show was awarded to Anna Mattox for her piece “Substitute Vanilla”.



AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT



Melissa Hicks Giles participated in an event hosted by the Pride Center of Terre Haute Inc. at the Vigo County Historical Center on April 24. This program brought the AIDS Memorial Quilt back to the Wabash Valley to display and celebrate.



The quilt was created by Cleve Jones- a Wabash Valley native. His family was from Clay County and we were invited to highlight Cleve's local connection.

Melissa created both a poster and a binder highlighting Cleve Jones' family history and his connections to Clay County. She presented the family tree and facts about the family in these two unique ways.

These two projects were a great way to show how you can display genealogy research. They were also a great example of what you can find through the Library.

Melissa did a tremendous job representing the Library.

We also purchased *Stitch by Stitch* about Cleve's life and the AIDS Memorial Quilt. This book specifically mentions his grandmother.





WEEDING PROJECT

Jim Newman spent much of April weeding the Western section of the adult collection. This was done to remove old materials to highlight newer ones. It also gave us more room in general adult fiction.

CARPET CLEANING

On April 30, the carpets throughout the build were cleaned by DC Cleaning. This was done before the Library opened and it did not impact customer access.

CARNEGIE'S BIRTHDAY

We celebrated Carnegie's 13th birthday on April 24 and April 25 with new Carnegie bookmarks created by Melissa Hicks Giles, crafts for kids, and cupcakes. This was a two-day drop-in event.

Drop in April 24 & 25 to celebrate!

HAPPY
13th Birthday
CARNEGIE

Brazil PUBLIC LIBRARY

204 N. WALNUT ST.
BRAZIL, IN 47834

812-448-1981

BRAZIL.LIB.IN.US

Crafts for Kids!



Pick up a new Carnegie bookmark!

Cake!

ROUTE 40 FEST

We applied to participate in the 10th Annual Route 40 Fest on April 24. The event is scheduled for September 19 from 11:00am-7:00pm this year.

NONPROFIT FORUM

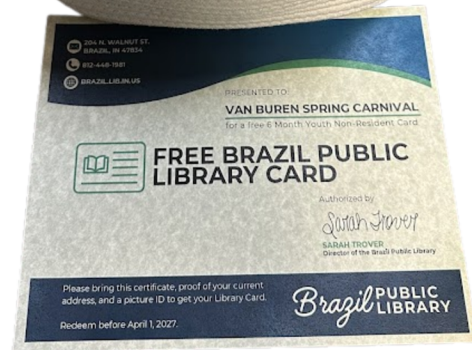
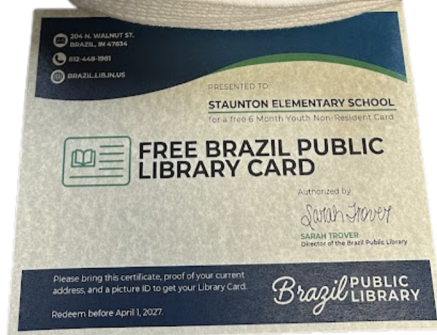
Sarah Trover attended the Wabash River Regional Development Authority and West Central Partnership's Regional Nonprofit Leadership Forum on April 7 in Sullivan. This meeting gathered leaders from throughout the Wabash Valley to connect on large problems facing the region. Sarah participated in discussion about planning about childcare for both preschools and school-aged children.

These meetings are planned quarterly and will be held throughout the region.



SPRING CARNIVAL PRIZES

Prizes were provided to both Van Buren Elementary School and Staunton Elementary School in April for their Spring Carnivals.



Both baskets were unique, but they both included coupons for free 6 month youth Library cards.



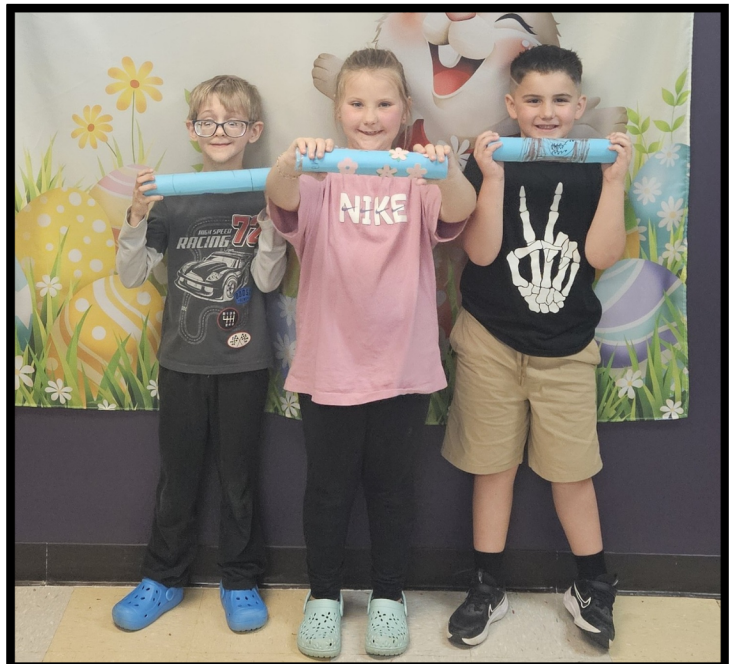
YOUTH CRAFT: RAIN STICKS

On April 2, Rebekah Dillman hosted the Youth Craft. 11 people had a wonderful time creating rain sticks together. Rebekah loved watching new friendships blossom during this event.



Youth Craft Attendees

11



ADULT COLORING

Melissa Hicks Giles hosted Adult Coloring on April 14 in the meeting rooms. 7 people attended this month. There was a supervised visit happening at the same time as this program, so there was one child that also participated.

Though this program is intended for adults, Melissa welcomed this family into the program and it was a great way to spend their time while they visited the Library.



Coloring Program

7

STAFF SHIRTS

To celebrate National Library Workers Day staff received new shirts designed by Katy Nelson and a boxed meal from Honeysuckle Hill Bee-stro on Tuesday, April 21.



Door Count

3,782






TAB OUTREACH

On April 18, Nan Algie and the TAB volunteers went to the Towne Park Assisted Living facility to host a craft. 10 out of 16 current residents attended and made at least one May flowerpot with many making two or three for their rooms. Some chose their favorite colors while others went for a colorful display. They were served mini gluten free/sugar free/vegan chocolate and vanilla cupcakes. Four members of TAB assisted the residents with their crafts. The residents loved the craft, as well as the cupcakes, and they look forward to us returning in September for another visit.



DIGITAL FOOTPRINT



Website Views

40,947



Facebook Followers

2,015

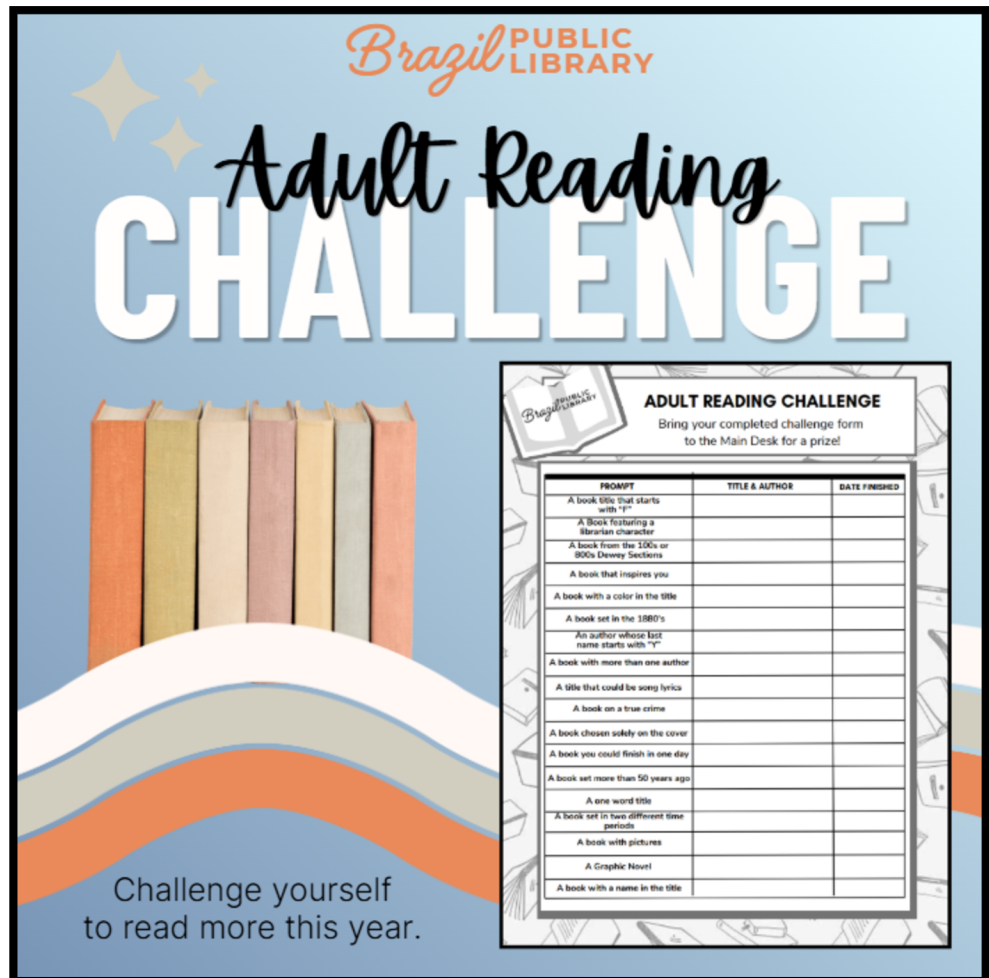


Instagram Followers

47

ADULT READING CHALLENGE

On April 20, we launched an Adult Reading Challenge. This challenge was created by Melissa Hicks Giles and it challenges adults to read beyond their usual genres and formats. Completed challenges will be accepted until the end of the year. Customers will turn in their completed forms to choose a prize and earn a chance to win a gift card to a local business.



Brazil PUBLIC LIBRARY

Adult Reading CHALLENGE

Challenge yourself to read more this year.

PROMPT	TITLE & AUTHOR	DATE FINISHED
A book title that starts with "I"		
A book featuring a librarian character		
A book from the 200s or 900s Dewey Sections		
A book that inspires you		
A book with a color in the title		
A book set in the 1880's		
An author whose last name starts with "Y"		
A book with more than one author		
A title that could be song lyrics		
A book on a true crime		
A book chosen solely on the cover		
A book you could finish in one day		
A book set more than 50 years ago		
A one word title		
A book set in two different time periods		
A book with pictures		
A Graphic Novel!		
A book with a name in the title		



Meeting Room Reservations

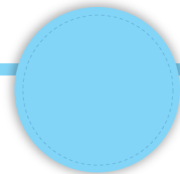
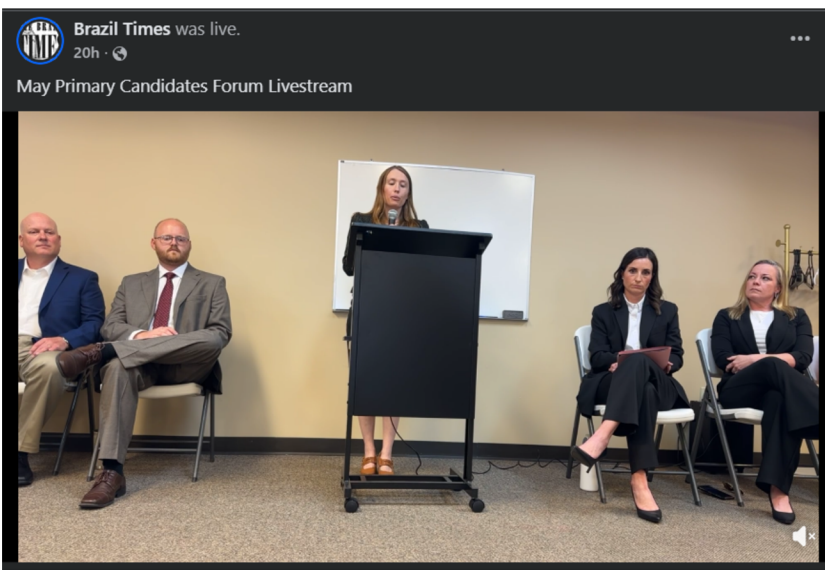
19

MEETING ROOMS

CANDIDATE FORUM

The meeting rooms were full when the Brazil Times hosted a Candidate Forum on April 23. Local candidates that are in contested races and are on the May Primary ballot were invited to attend. Candidates shared their platforms with the community at this event in a non-biased location.

Every chair was filled and this event was livestreamed so those that couldn't attend in person could still participate. More than one thousand people watched this event from home.



Candidate Forum Attendees

60+

MEETING ROOMS

MARY ALLEN FOR CONGRESS

Mary Allen returned to the meeting rooms on April 29 to host "Meet Mary at the Library!"

The first time they hosted an event at the Library was November 19, 2025.



Book Sale Donations

\$193



Donations Received in the Library

\$9.50



Computer Users

107

TECHNOLOGY

READER ZONE

In April, we subscribed to Reader Zone, which is an app that customers can use to track their reading and earn prizes. This service will be used for Summer Reading this year, but we can also use it for programs like 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten and 100 Books Before Graduation.

It was \$224 for 90 days and we can renew it for next summer or keep it active all year. This program was much more affordable than its competitors and we hope it will be easy to use for both staff and customers.



hoopla



Check Outs

129



New Users

6



Total Cost

\$344



kanopy



Visits to Kanopy

78



Videos Played

9



Minutes Watched

267



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

INDIANA LIBRARIES AND LITERACY SYMPOSIUM

Tammy Robison and Sarah Trover attended the 4th Indiana Libraries and Literacy Symposium at IUPUI to learn about STEAM programming and way to incorporate STEAM concepts into libraries. There was also a hands-on project that was accomplished as a group, which required us to construct a new design using only cardboard and tape.

This training was worth 3 LEUs.



STEAM Literacy

Thursday, April 9, 2026, 9:00 am-4:00 pm

IU Indianapolis Campus Center Room 450AB



EVERY CHILD READY TO READ PRESENTATION AT EVENT

Sarah Trover presented at the Childcare Provider Resource & Professional Development Event at Ivy Tech on April 18. This event was hosted by the United Way of the Wabash Valleys Success by 6 Coalition, of which Sarah is a member.

Twenty-four Attendees left with a Make & Take storytime kit that provided materials to create an engaging storytime based off of the practices of Every Child Ready to Read.

It was a great way to promote literacy.



INDIANA GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CONFERENCE

Melissa Hicks Giles attended the Indiana Genealogical Society Conference on April 17 and 18 virtually. Friday was learning about AI for Genealogists, the New State Archives building, The City-County Archives of Indianapolis and items that you can find at the Indiana Historical Society and State Library. The AI sessions was Melissa's favorite of the four. This session demonstrated how you can use AI to transcribe handwritten documents, to organize research notes, and even how to ask for suggestions on where to search next.

Saturday was a full day of learning about German immigration, resources for finding items pertaining to the Revolutionary War in newspapers, the Indiana Genealogical Society Annual Meeting, a session on where to look for family before they ended up in Indiana, and one of Tips & Tricks for use with FamilySearch.org. Melissa enjoyed learning where her Germany ancestors might have come from, where they migrated to and from on their way to Indiana. She also learned that the Library can become an affiliate with FamilySearch. We are in the process of making that connection.

BRAZIL KROGER

The Brazil Kroger has recently undergone a renovation and the Brazil Public Library is now highlighted as a community asset. You can find this installation on the Eastside of the building above the bread section.



INTERLIBRARY LOAN



Received

245



Sent

164



Notary Services

13



Study Room Users

83

April
**BY THE
NUMBERS**



Faxes

29



Supervised Visit
Attendance

33



Help Printing

53



Circulation Total

1,680



Libby Circulation

11,838



Adult Best Sellers

20

New MATERIALS

We are at 1.89% of our 8% goal.
We have \$46,011.70 left to spend.



Adult Non-Fiction

18



Large Print

14



Youth Services Fiction

23



Youth Services Non-fiction

10



Teen Fiction

7



New Items Added

145