

WASHINGTON COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD MEETING

**Park Grove Library
7900 Hemingway Ave S
Cottage Grove, MN 55016**

**January 26th, 2026
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

- 1. 6:30 Call to Order
Recognition of Public**
- 2. 6:32 Consent Agenda**
 - A. Approval of Agenda
 - B. Approval of November 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes
- 3. 6:35 Park Grove Library Construction Update- Jacquie Kramer, Library Director**
- 4. 6:50 Officer Elections**
- 5. 7:00 Park Grove Library Update – Jessi Schulte, Park Grove Library Manager**
- 6. 7:30 Statistics and Updates – Jacquie Kramer, Library Director**
- 7. 8:00 Adjourn**

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Library Administration | 8595 Central Park Place | Woodbury, MN 55125
P: 651-275-8500 | TTY: 651-430-6246
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Washington County Library Board
November 24, 2025

Present Board: Bigham, Fink, Jansen, Olufson, Patnaik, Seim, Williams

Absent: Burke

Staff: Carlis, Hall, Kramer, Leonard, Wylie

1. Call to Order/Recognition of the Public

Jansen called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm. No members of the public were present.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Jansen asked for a motion to adopt the agenda and minutes from September 22nd, 2025. Patnaik made the motion and Williams seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Recognition of Mary Burke

The Board took a moment to recognize Mary Burke's last meeting and her years of service to the Library Board. Mary's seat will be filled by Heather Cosby from Mahtomedi, commencing January 2026.

4. Park Grove Library Construction Update

Mandy Leonard, County Project Manager, continued her recurring updates on Park Grove Library's construction project, including the upcoming bidding process and the closure of Park Grove Library. Closure of the library is scheduled for Sunday, March 1st, 2026. The construction project will start in April 2026 and is estimated to finish in January 2027. Furniture installation and moving in will follow through February 2026, and the library is estimated to re-open to the public early March 2027. A temporary library location is being set up at the Cottage Grove South Service Center, where a curated amount of Park Grove's materials will be accessible for the public. A closing communications plan is currently being developed by library staff.

5. 2026 Library Board Meeting Schedule and Locations

The Board reviewed a draft of the 2026 meeting schedule and locations. A couple of location changes were requested, and the finalized schedule was approved.

6. Statistics and Updates

Library Director Jacquie Kramer provided current statistics and trends with circulation and foot traffic. The re-opening of Woodbury's Central Park has seen an increase in patron traffic and circulation, especially with children and families. The closure of vendor Baker & Taylor has created a hiccup in the availability of physical circulation materials, skewed the data slightly. Physical media has also been

trending downward nationally in recent months. Some updates highlighted were the library's all-staff training day, initial planning for the R.H. Stafford Library's upcoming construction project, and onboarding of the library's new communications specialist. Kramer also updated that there will be officer elections for the Board at the next January meeting.

7. Central Park Tour

Woodbury Recreation Specialist John Haldeman provided the Library Board with a full tour of the newly renovated Central Park facility, which is connected to the R.H. Stafford Library. Highlights were rentable communal spaces, a renovated Lookout Ridge playground, a more accessible garden/water feature, and improved lighting and fixtures.

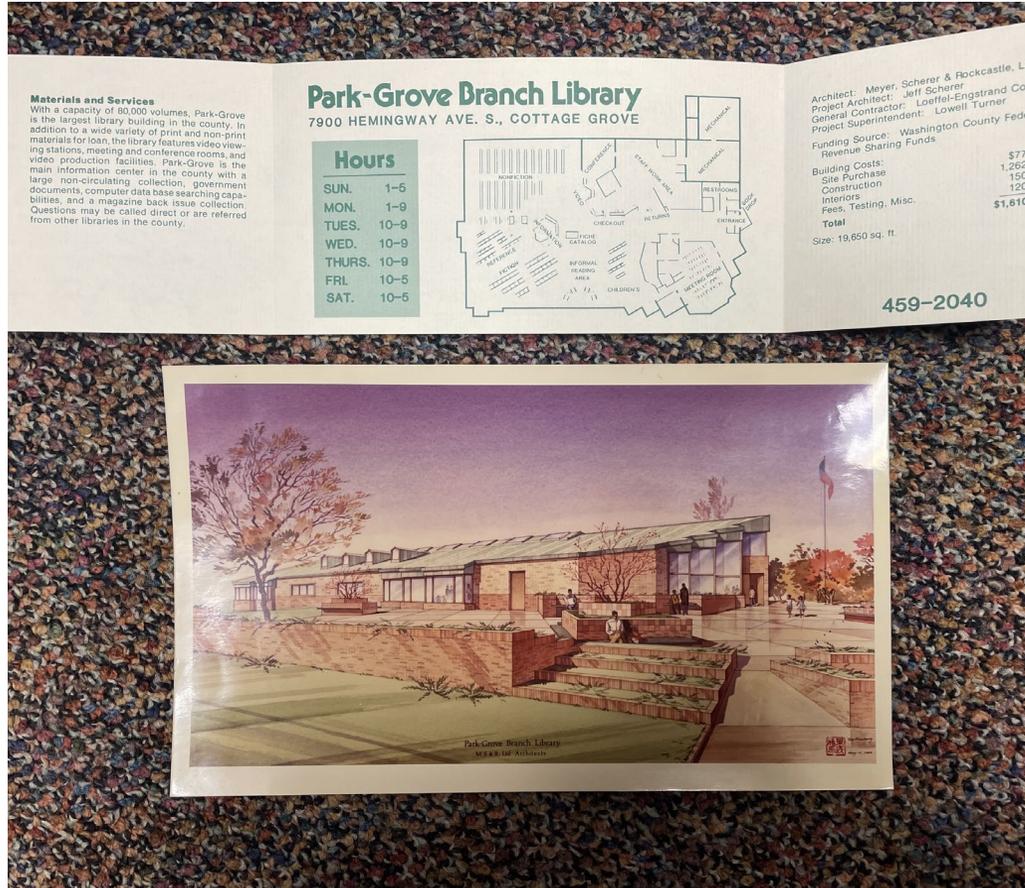
8. Adjournment

Jansen asked for a motion to adjourn. Seim made a motion to adjourn, and Patnaik seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

The next scheduled meeting of the Library Board is Monday, January 26th, 2026, at 6:30 p.m., at Park Grove Library.

Park Grove Library Redesign

A Little Background



- Park Grove Library opened in 1984.
- When it opened Park Grove was the largest library in Washington County.
- Park Grove was the “main information center” for the library with high tech “video viewing stations” as well as a video production center.
- Park Grove had the very first desktop computers in Washington County library. We started with TWO public stations!

Park Grove Library Redesign Project



- Architects: Alliance
- Redesign Feature Highlights:
 - New façade
 - Increase in workroom size
 - Expanded access to meeting rooms
 - Teen Gaming Space
 - Dedicated Learning Lab (Contraption Club)
- Construction begins in the New Year of 2026.
- Construction will last about a year.
- Reopening Spring of 2027.
- Library's temporary location will be the Cottage Grove Service Center.

The MOVE



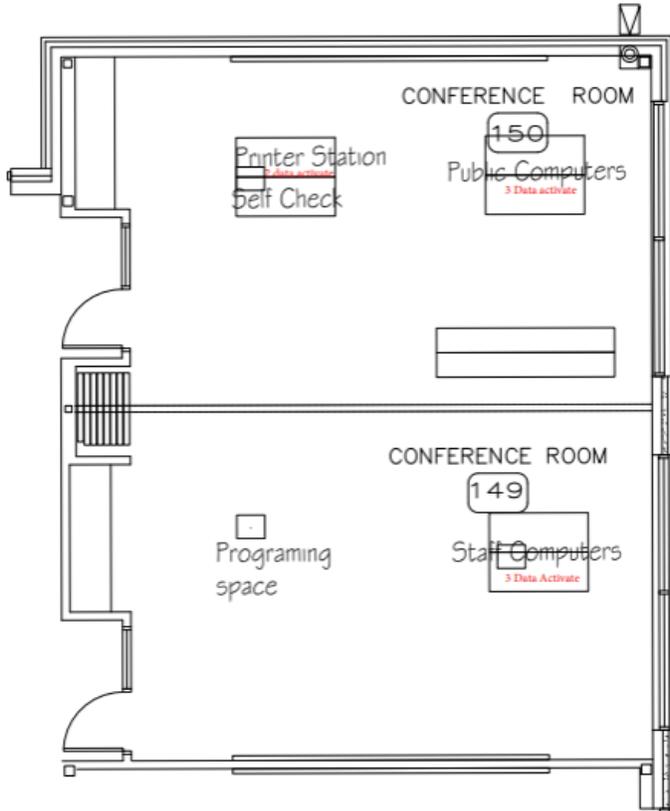
- Park Grove Library Closes to the public on February 28
- Our Temporary Location opens on March 2
- What about collection?
- What will the staff do?
- Where will supplies go?
- What are we doing with furniture?

Continuity in the Community - Temporary Locations



- Cottage Grove Service Center
 - Circulation
 - Reference
 - Limited patron computer access
 - Printing
 - Hold Pickups
 - Limited browsing collection
 - Program Space
- Cottage Grove Armory
 - Program Space

Temporary Service Center Hours

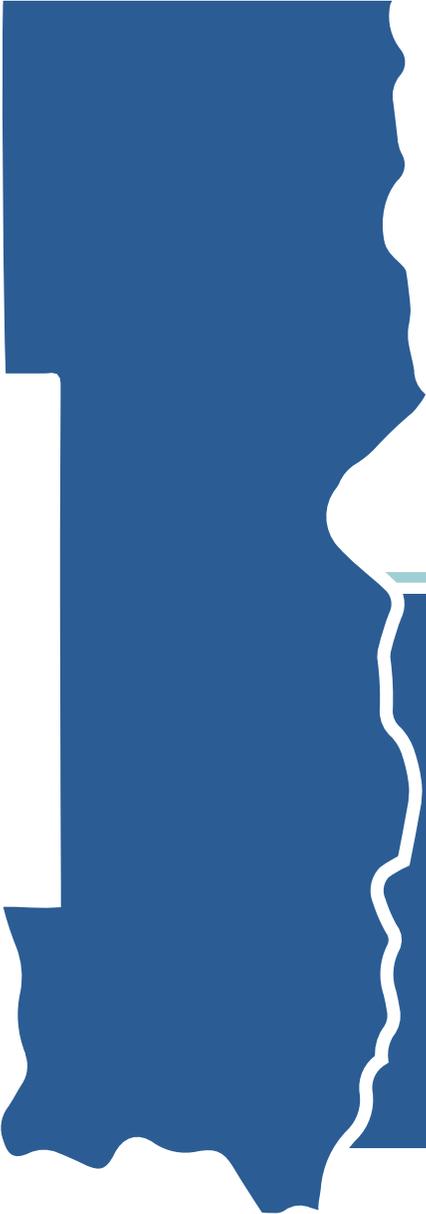


- Monday/Wednesday 10am-7pm
- Tuesday/Thursday/Friday 10am-5pm
- Saturday 10am-2pm
- Sunday Closed

Programs – Armory, Service Center & Beyond!



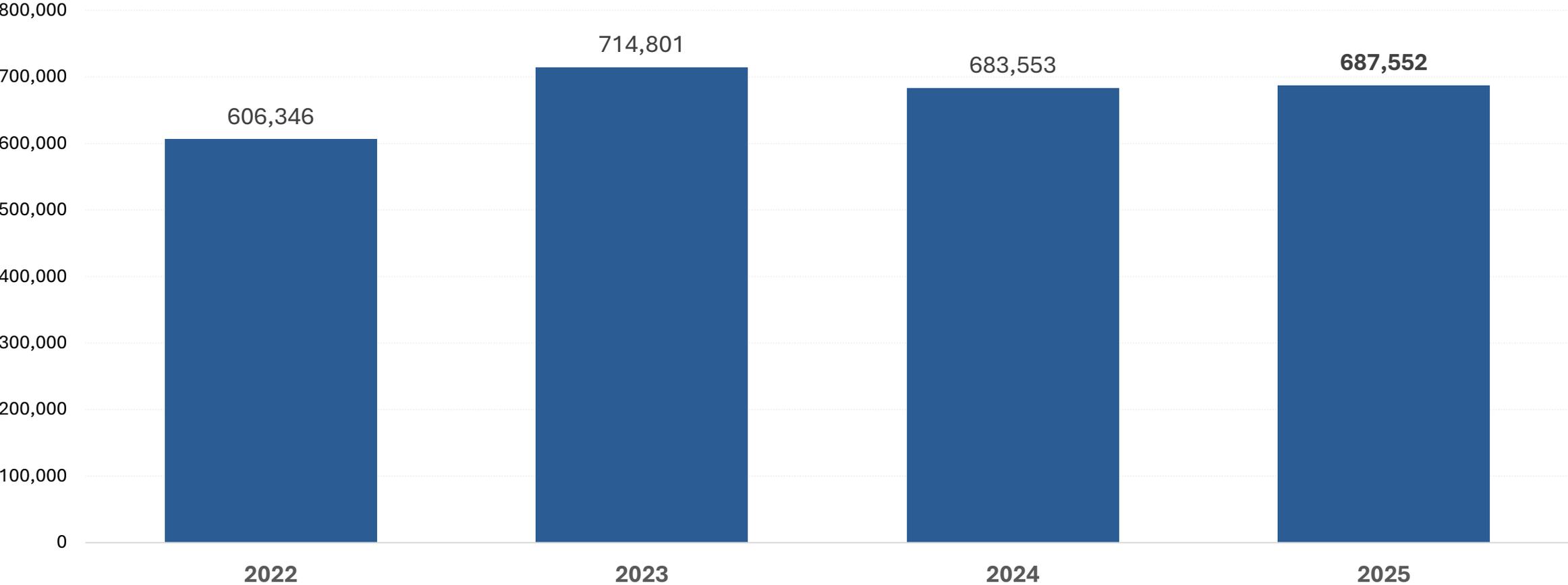
- Children
 - Storytimes
 - Outreach Events
 - Legacy Programs
- Teens
 - Legacy Events
 - Contraption Club
- Adults
 - Book Clubs
 - Let's Make Stuff
 - Legacy Programs
 - Taxes
 - Outreach Events



Washington County Library 2025 Statistics Update

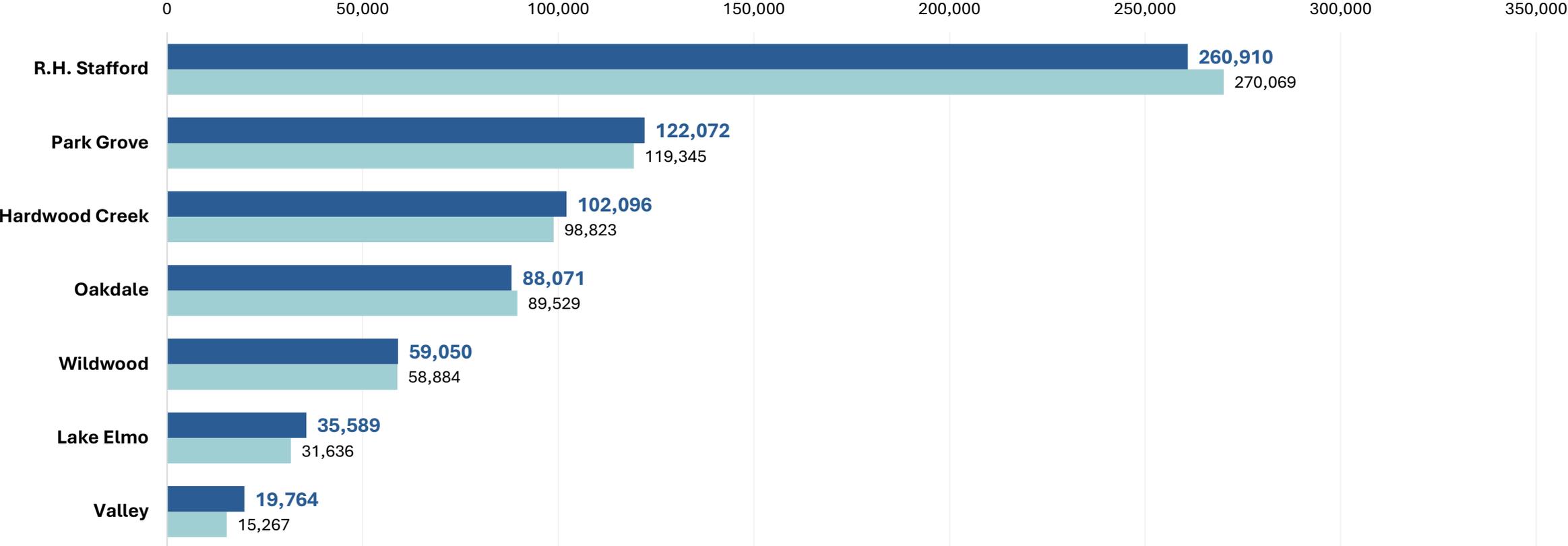
January 26, 2026

Library visits



Library visits by branch

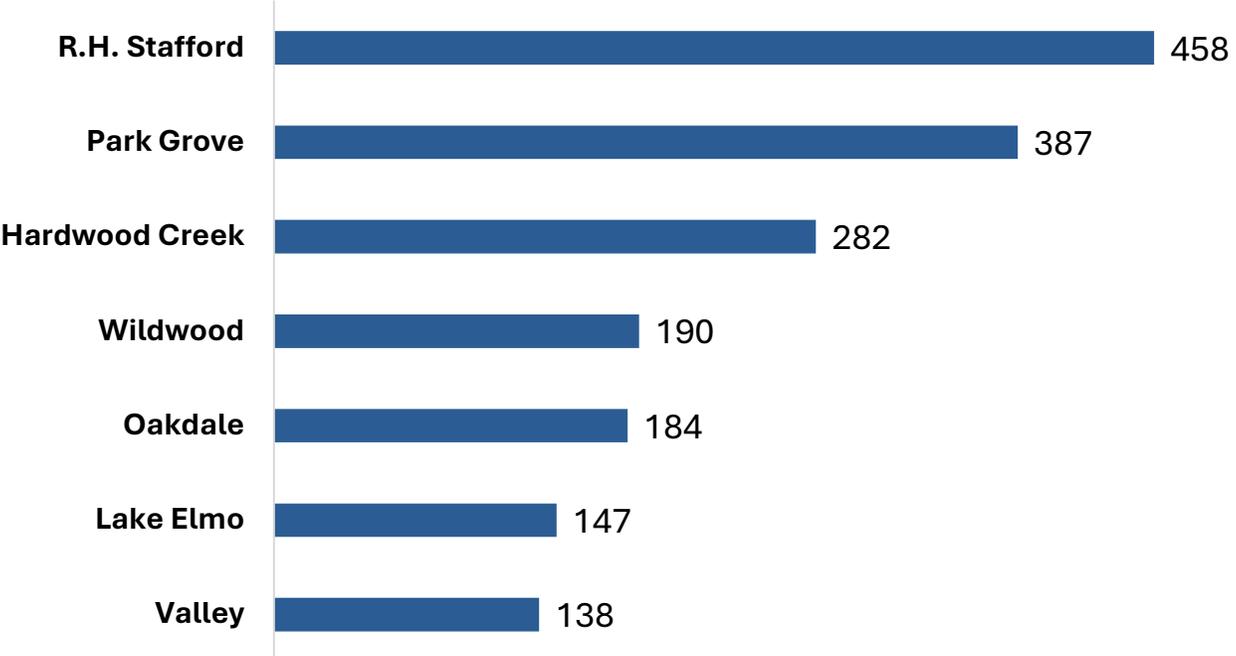
January to December 2025 in comparison to 2024



Branch programs in 2025



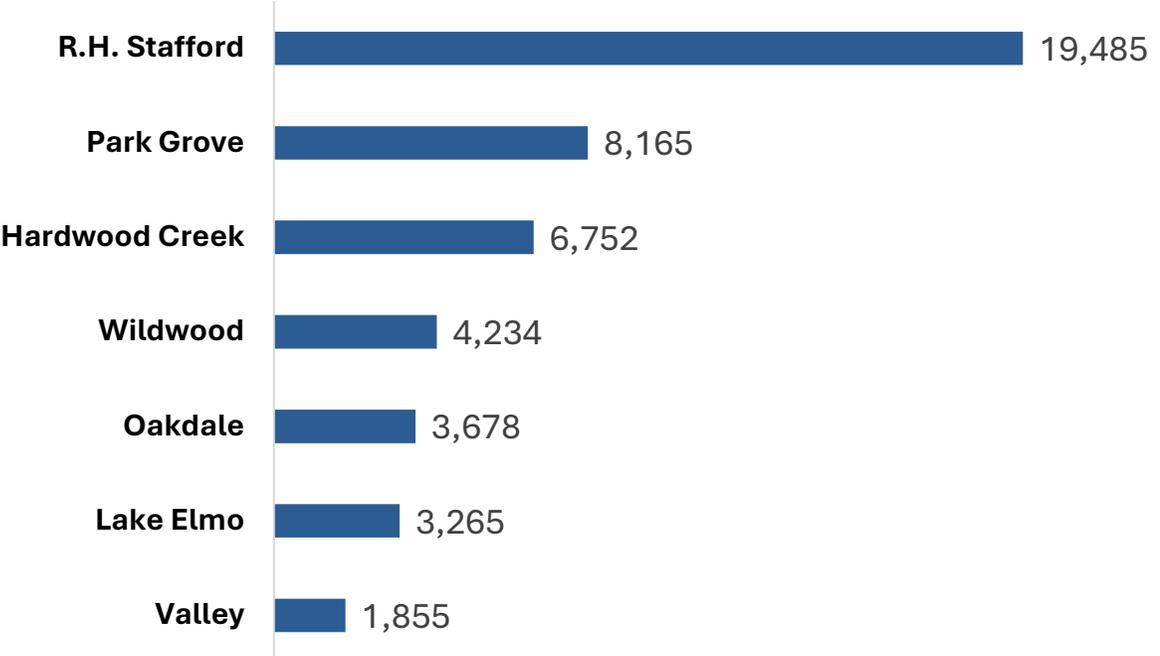
1,786 programs across branches



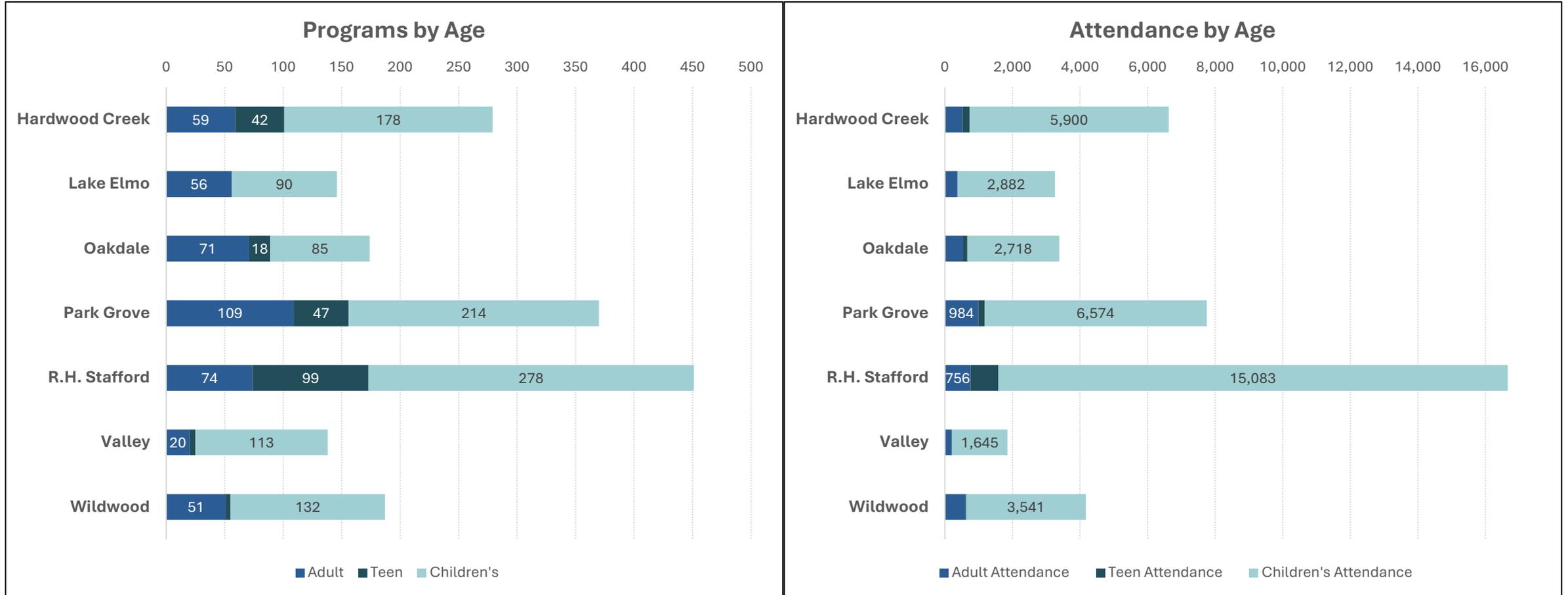
Branch program attendance



47,434 people participated

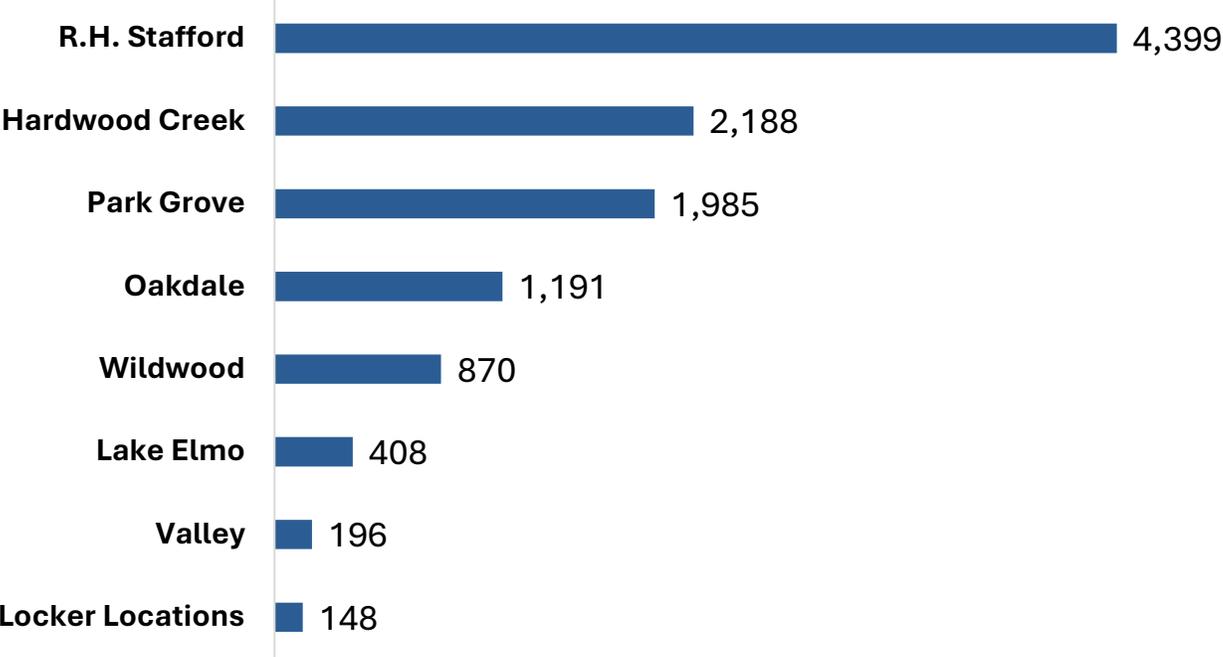


2025 branch programs by age



New Library Cards in 2025

11,385 New Library Cards



Outreach events in 2025

204 events attended by staff

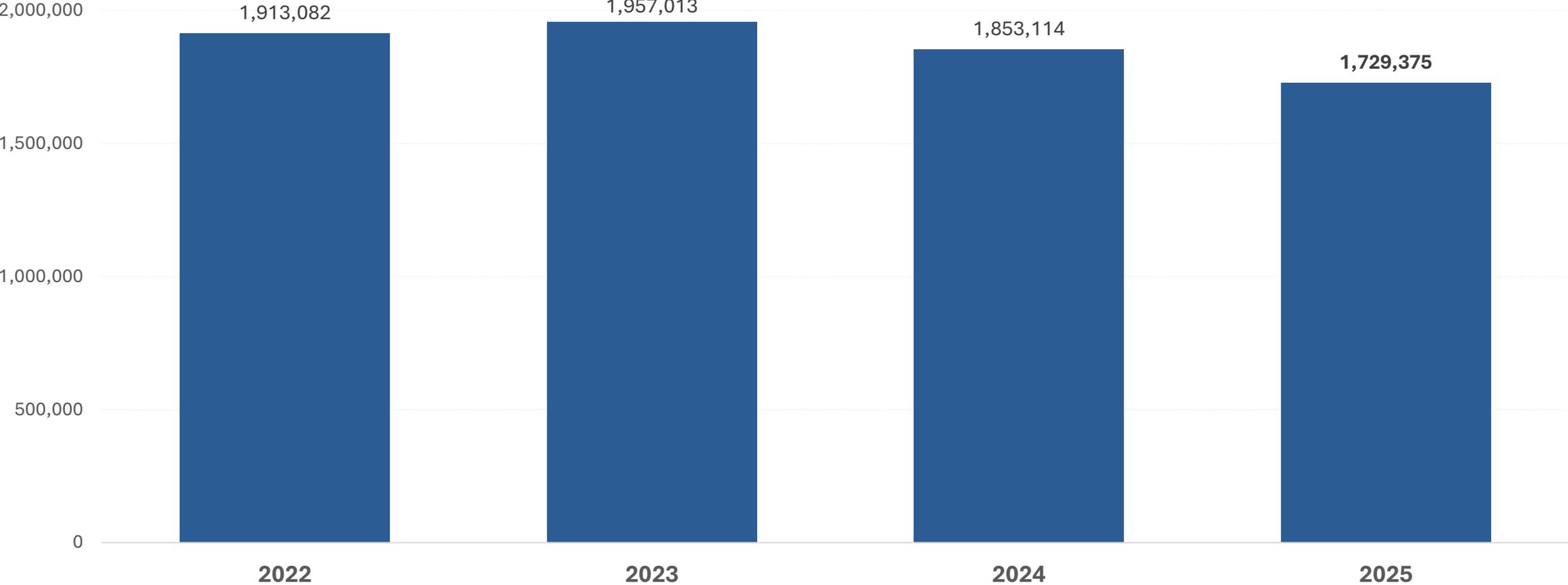
Over 8,200 community members engaged

Some locations we visited:

- ♦ Afton Strawberry Festival
- ♦ Knowledge Beginnings
- ♦ Sally Manzara Interpretive Nature Center
- ♦ Scandia Farmer's Market
- ♦ Tartan High School
- ♦ White Pine Senior Living
- ♦ Wildwood Elementary School

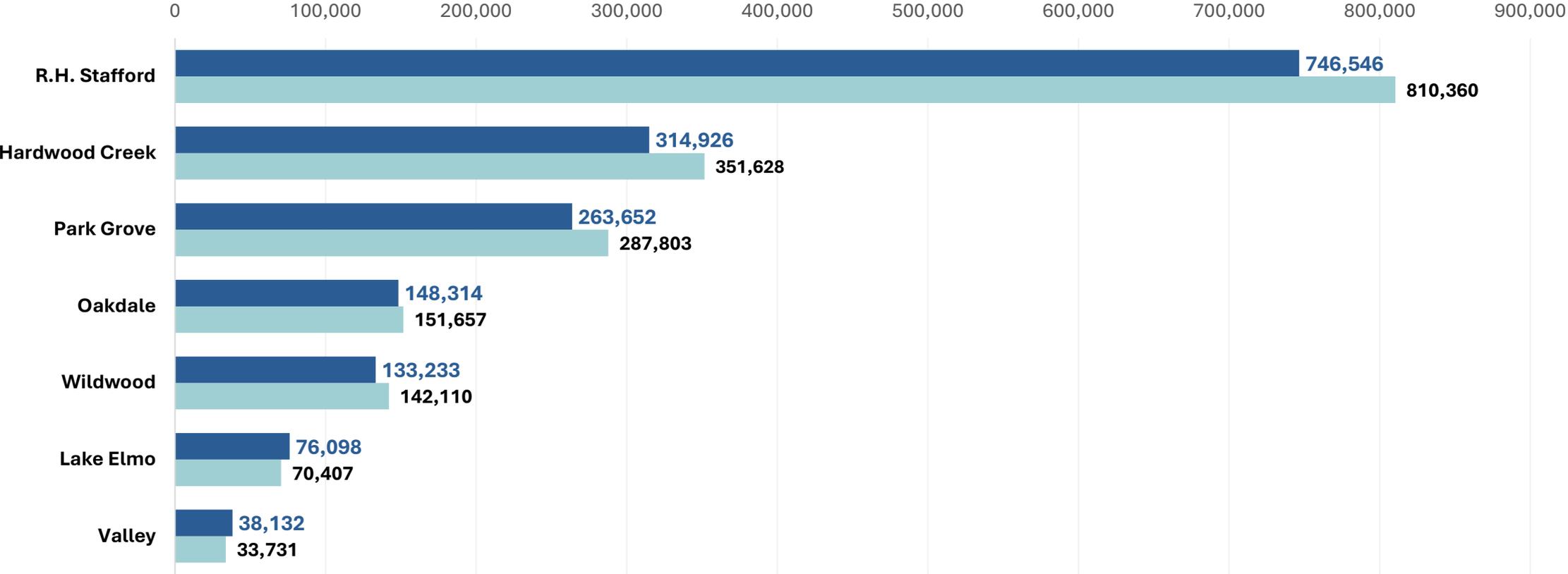


Physical items checked out

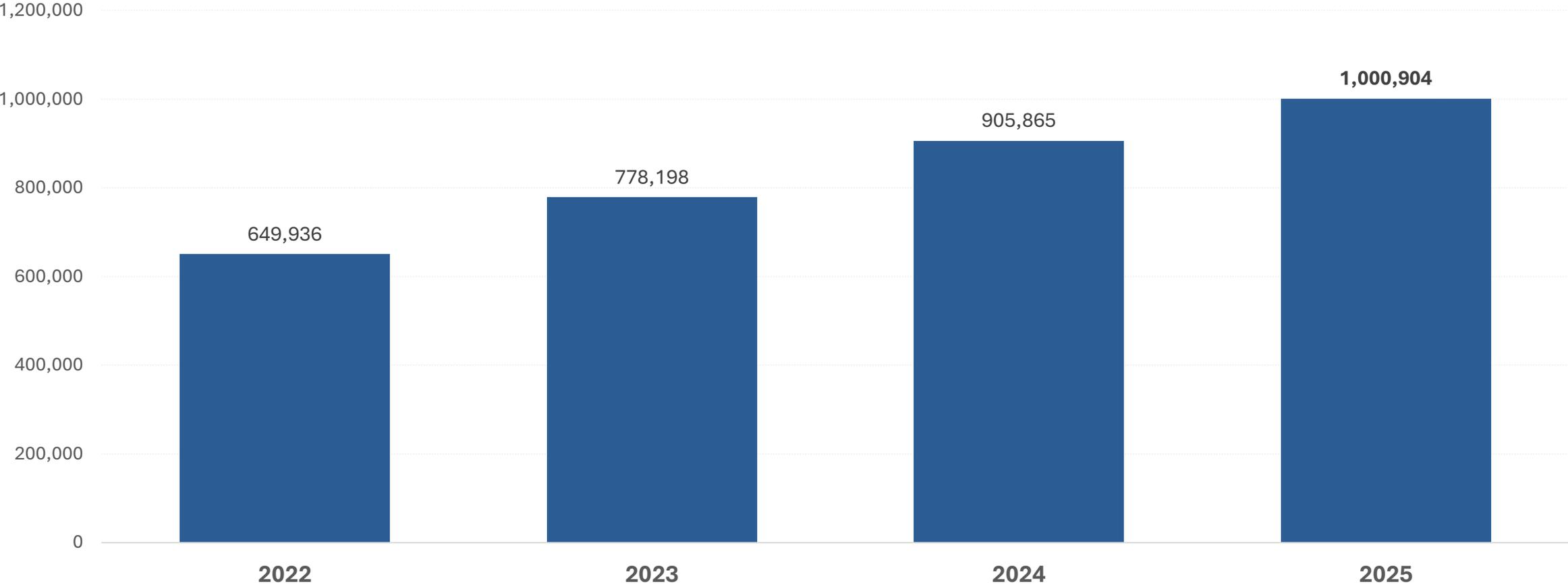


Checkouts by branch

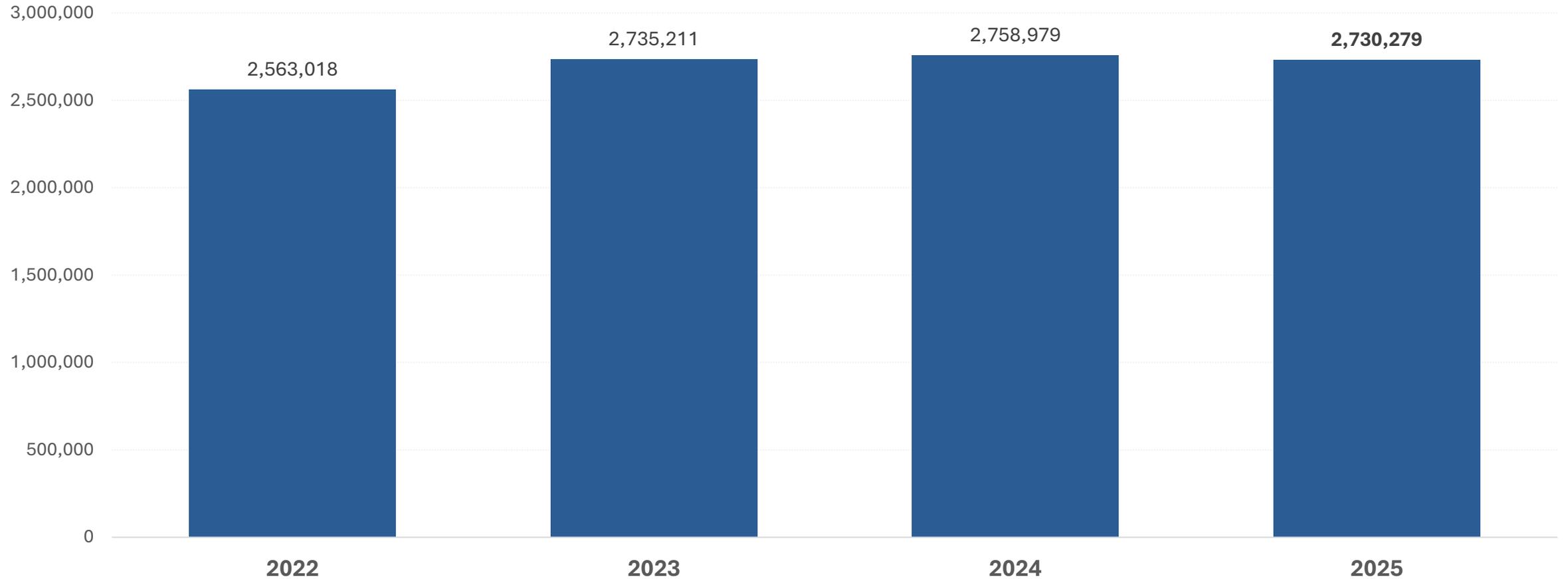
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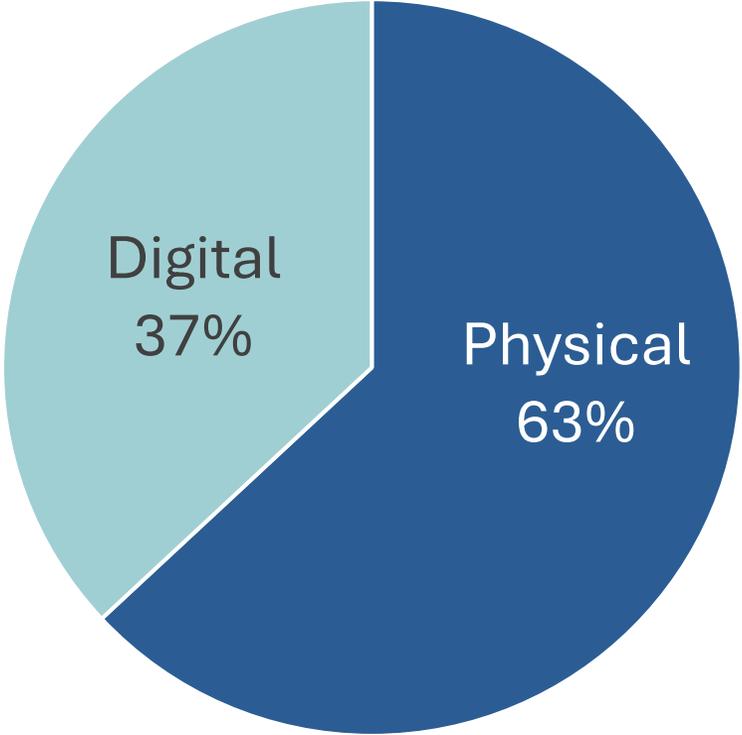
Digital items checked out



Total items checked out



Circulation breakdown



January - December 2025

Write in Our Midst and Winter Reads

- Winter Reads = Reading program for adults in January and February
- Write in Our Midst local author series
 - January 17 – February 10
 - Local authors visiting five WashCoLib branches
- WashCoLib.org/WinterReads

The graphic features a blue background with white snowflake patterns. At the top, the text "Write in our Midst" is in large white font, with "Winter Reads" in a white script font below it, followed by "Author Series" in a smaller white font. Below this, five circular portraits of authors are arranged horizontally. Under each portrait is the author's name in white text. Below each name is a small image of a book cover, also in white. The authors and their books are: Ellie Palmer with "Anywhere With You", Ethan Johnson with "DISHONOR", Kenneth Kerns with "Anything but Frank", Tasha Coryell with "LOVE LETTERS TO A SERIAL KILLER", and Varla Ventura with "Enchanted Plants".

Write in our Midst
Winter Reads Author Series

Ellie Palmer
Anywhere With You
ELLIE PALMER

Ethan Johnson
DISHONOR

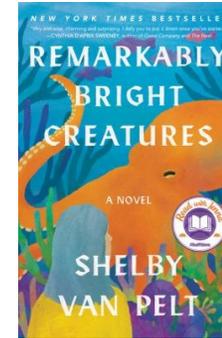
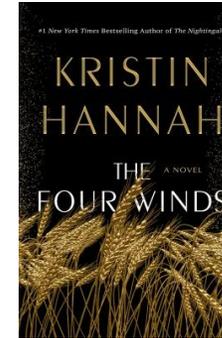
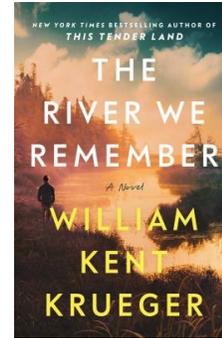
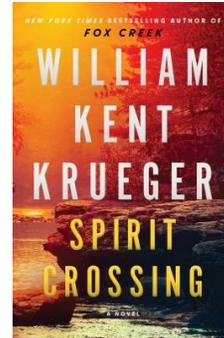
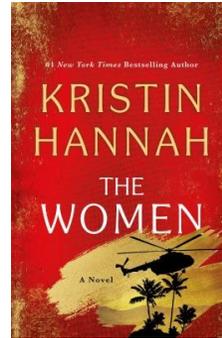
Kenneth Kerns
Anything but Frank
Kenneth Kerns

Tasha Coryell
LOVE LETTERS TO A SERIAL KILLER
TASHA CORYELL

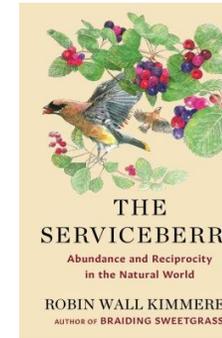
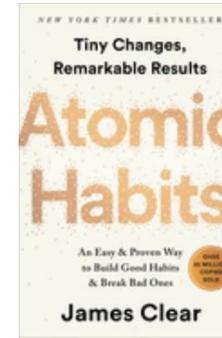
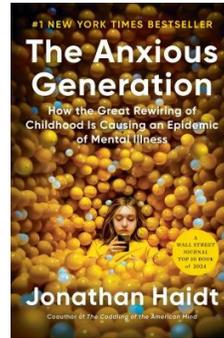
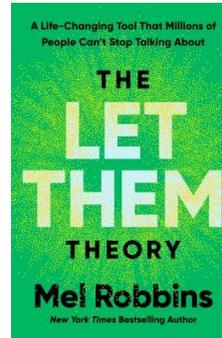
Varla Ventura
Enchanted Plants
A Treasury of Botanical Folklore & Magic
Varla Ventura

Top physical books in 2025

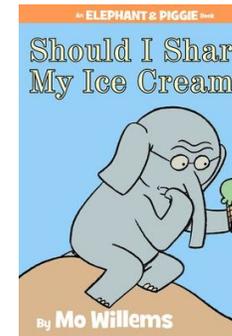
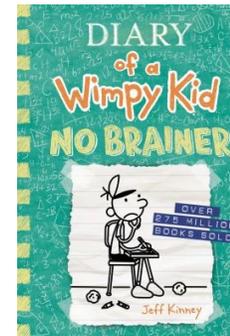
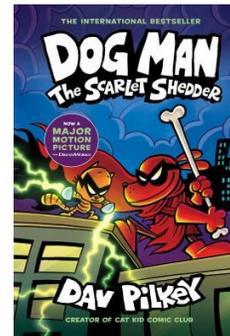
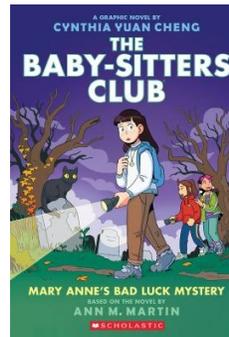
Adult Fiction



Adult Non-Fiction

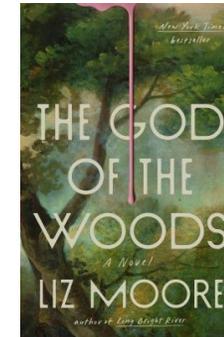
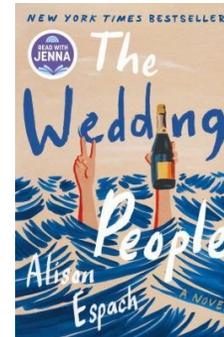
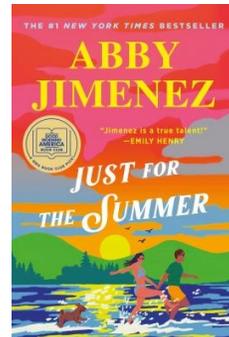
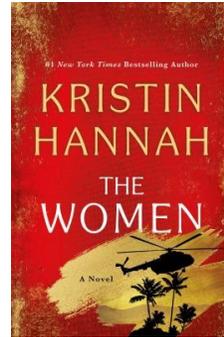


Children

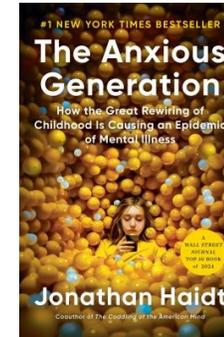
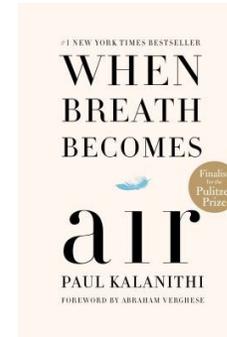
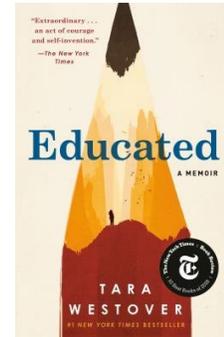
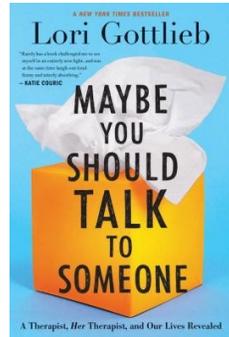
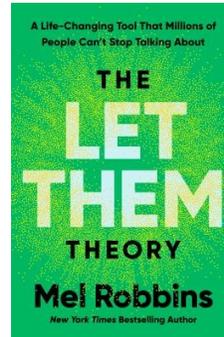


Top ebooks in 2025

Adult Fiction



Adult Non-Fiction



Children

