



# Annual Visits 169,578



**8,542** Middlebury Population

**4,502** Current Cardholders

Total Uses of Collection  
**175,892**



**10% INCREASE**

**900** Programs  
**18,232** Attendees

## 2019 Impact Report

**14,040**  
Computer Uses



**18% INCREASE**



**16,452**  
Wi-Fi Uses



Downloads  
**5,803** Ebooks  
**9,838** Audiobooks



Total Value of Library Services  
**\$2,756,648**

in 2019 according to ALA Library Value Calculator\*

**43% INCREASE**

Total Uses of  
**Digital Materials**

\*Data source:  
ALA American Library Association



Question: what do snow shoes, sewing classes, and your neighbors have in common? They can all be found at your local library! In 2019, Ilsley Public Library expanded our collections, our programs, and provided vital space for community engagement. Despite construction downtown the number of visitors held steady at 169,000, and our number of new registered borrowers increased. Over the past year, Ilsley has embodied two major trends in library services; a shift towards digital materials, and an increased focus on programs and outreach.

Digital circulation rose by 43%, with patrons checking out 5,803 e-books and 9,838 digital audio-books. While digital materials will never replace our physical collection, they are an incredibly valuable addition. They take up no shelf space, don't incur fines or fees, and, perhaps most importantly, patrons can access them from anywhere.

In July, Renee Ursitti joined the library staff as our new Adult Services and Circulation librarian, focusing specifically on adult programming. We tried out new types of programs, like our Wild Game Cooking workshop in August, and held more programs offsite, in locations like the Parent Child Center and retirement homes. Patrons are enjoying this increase in programming for adults. We know Middlebury is a diverse community and we're striving to design programs that offer something for everyone.

Despite national trends, public libraries continue to reflect local values and needs. During a series of focus groups last year I learned that library users value Middlebury's natural beauty and access to the outdoors. In considering how Ilsley could honor and support this community value, the library staff realized that winter sports like skiing can be difficult to access due to the high price of lift tickets. The library reached out to Middlebury College, who generously donated two season passes to the Snow Bowl and Rikert Nordic Center for the library to circulate. These season passes are now a shared community resource that patrons can checkout, making winter sports more accessible to all community members.

These ski passes are a perfect example of how, when the community and the library work together to identify needs, we can fill gaps in service in exciting and surprising ways. What will Ilsley do next? It depends on you. In 2020, I encourage you to think big when you think about the library. As an Ilsley patron you are not just a customer, you are an agent of change that can drive the library's direction. Ilsley Public Library is here for you, I look forward to shaping our future together in 2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Hart". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dana Hart  
Director