

# SITKA PUBLIC LIBRARY

## QUARTERLY REPORT

FEBRUARY THROUGH APRIL 2026

### **Staff**

2 unfilled part-time library assistant position

#### Full-time Staff:

Acquisitions Librarian -Angela Schieler Adult  
Adult Services Librarian -Margot O'Connell  
Library Assistant- Mary Beth Palof  
Technical Services Librarian -Joanna Perensovich  
Youth Services Librarian -Maite Lorente

#### Part-time Library Assistants:

1. Jolene Malzac

#### Temporary Employee:

1. Adriana Brian
2. Klyr Oines

### **Budget**

As of April 17th, the Library has used 78% of its FY26 budget.

### **Programs**

#### February

##### **Youth**

*Weekly:* Stay & Play, Preschool Storytime, and Storyline (new stories in Spanish & English available on the telephone), Winter Olympics programs, Freedom to Read Teen Ambassadors Program

*Monthly:* Sitka Babies & Books, Teen Advisory Board Meeting, Youth Bird Event, Valentine's Day Block Printing

##### **Adult**

Technology Assistance Appointments, Books & Brews @ Harbor Mountain Brewery, Sound Bath with Laura Humphreys, Weaving Workshop with visiting Ketchikan artist Kathy Rousso, Armchair Travels with Mim McConnell: England part I

Community Event: Heat Pumps

## March

### Youth

*Weekly:* Stay & Play, Preschool Storytime, and Storyline (new stories in Spanish & English available on the telephone), Freedom to Read Teen Ambassadors Program

*Monthly:* Sitka Babies & Books: Teen Advisory Board Meeting, Red Cross Storytime, Baby Raven Reads, Needle Felting Class, Dungeons and Dragons, Flight Path Event, Make It and Take It free craft projects over Spring Break,

### Adult

Technology Assistance Appointments, Books & Brews @ Harbor Mountain Brewery, Armchair Travels with Mim McConnell: England part 2, two earring workshops with Sitka artists Cayla McCutcheon, Sound Bath with Laura Humphreys, Sitka Tells Tales Meet Me at the Library: Tales of Curiosity and Connection!

Community Event: Wayfinder Wealth Financial Literacy for Young Adults

## April

### Youth

*Weekly:* Stay & Play, Preschool Storytime, and Storyline (new stories in Spanish & English available on the telephone), Freedom to Read Teen Ambassadors Program, Family Yoga with STA

*Monthly:* Sitka Babies & Books- A Spring Program, Teen Advisory Board Meeting, Youth Bird Event, Unbanned Books Escape Room,

### Adult

Technology Assistance Appointments, Books & Brews @ Harbor Mountain Brewery, Mending Workshops for Adults, Rain to Root Sound Bath with Laura Humphreys, Native Conservancy Mariculture Open House, Local Author Event with Owen Kindig, Personal Finance Workshop with Spruce Root,

Community Event: Bill of Rights, Spring Renewal Meditation

## **Library Highlights**

*Alaska Library Association Conference- March 26-28*

109 Alaskan Librarians attended

55 different libraries represented

33 different Alaskan communities

*Books Unbanned Grant Update*

Books Unbanned is a national initiative founded by the Brooklyn Public Library in 2022

Sitka Public Library was a recipient of \$8,000.00 grant for this project

Sitka Public Library partnered with Pacific High School (PHS) & Mt. Edgecumbe High School (MEHS)

*PHS*- developed a school-based course about banned books and access to information in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. PHS met at the library for this course twice a week throughout the semester. The PHS students chose to use art as a tool for their advocacy with the creation of *FrankenZine*, a self- publication that explores ideas about freedom of speech and having access to books and information.

Their zines will be on display at the library April 28<sup>th</sup>- May 8<sup>th</sup>.

The Sitka Public Library used \$3,500 of grant money to purchase new books for PHS library.

*MEHS*- Students from MEHS joined our Freedom to Read Teen Ambassadors program. They had to apply for this program and commit to meet once a week for 1.5 hours at the library to discuss ideas, plan and implement programs that work on advocacy to fight censorship.

They created a popular Banned Books Escape Room and have written a letter to the editor that is included with my report.

*Preparing for summer reading-*

- Looking for Adult Reading Buddies
  - Meet an entering second or third grade student at the library to read for one hour per week.
  - June 6 to August 8
  - Registration forms at the library- applications due May 16<sup>th</sup>
- Adult Services Librarian Margot O'Connell recipient of the Sitka Rose Award
  - Nominated for her civic service: Blessings in a Backpack, Library programs

## **Statistics**

Checkouts (February & March) - 8,197

Wi-Fi Sessions (February & March) -5,102

Public Computer Sessions (February & March) – 564

Door Count (February – April 18<sup>th</sup>) – 13,576

Meeting & Study Room Reservations (February – April 18<sup>th</sup>) - 321

# City and Borough of Sitka - Library Department

Library Director

Youth Svcs  
Librarian

Technical  
Svcs  
Librarian

Acquisition  
Librarian

Adult Svcs  
Librarian

Library  
Asst.

PT Library  
Asst.

PT Library  
Asst.

PT Library  
Asst.

The Freedom to Read Dear Editor We are a group of teens participating in the Freedom to Read Teen Ambassadors program at Sitka Public Library.

We have committed to learn, and protect the freedom to read, and defend and extend intellectual freedom. Everyone deserves the right to read what they choose, free from censorship or restriction, because access to diverse ideas is essential to a healthy and informed society. Programs like the Freedom to Read Teen Ambassadors initiative highlight this principle by encouraging communities to explore challenged and banned books while reflecting on the importance of intellectual freedom.

Activities such as escape rooms designed around banned literature offer creative and engaging ways to raise awareness, inviting participants to “unlock” stories that have been restricted and to think critically about why they were challenged in the first place. When examining banned books, common themes often emerge, topics like identity, race, gender, mental health, and social justice are frequently targeted, not because they lack value, but because they provoke thought and discussion.

This is precisely why these books should be read, they expand perspectives, foster empathy, and encourage readers to question the world around them.

Shielding individuals from complex or uncomfortable ideas does not protect them; instead, it limits their ability to grow and understand others. By supporting the freedom to read and engaging with banned books, we actively defend the right to learn, imagine, and explore without boundaries.

Claire Talus, Alexia Nestic- Kewan, Kabeh Samah, Anna Lestenkof, Denise Gonzales, Yakoba Hoover, Freedom to Read Teen Ambassadors program, Sitka Public Library



# Budget Performance Report

Date Range 07/01/25 - 06/30/26

Include Rollup Account and Rollup to Account

Account	Account Description	Adopted Budget	Budget Amendments	Amended Budget	Current Month Transactions	YTD Encumbrances	YTD Transactions	Budget - YTD Transactions	% Used/ Rec'd
Fund <b>100 - General Fund</b>									
EXPENSE									
Division <b>540 - Public Service</b>									
Department <b>041 - Library</b>									
<b>5110</b>									
5110.001	Regular Salaries/Wages	474,260.49	.00	474,260.49	.00	.00	290,326.09	183,934.40	61
5110.002	Holidays	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	18,268.87	(18,268.87)	+++
5110.003	Sick Leave	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	13,711.31	(13,711.31)	+++
5110.004	Overtime	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	25.16	(25.16)	+++
5110.010	Temp Wages	17,557.84	.00	17,557.84	.00	.00	24,017.70	(6,459.86)	137
<b>5110 - Totals</b>		<b>\$491,818.33</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$491,818.33</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$346,349.13</b>	<b>\$145,469.20</b>	<b>70%</b>
<b>5120</b>									
5120.001	Annual Leave	22,941.00	.00	22,941.00	.00	.00	34,379.03	(11,438.03)	150
5120.002	SBS	31,554.83	.00	31,554.83	.00	.00	23,352.54	8,202.29	74
5120.003	Medicare	7,464.01	.00	7,464.01	.00	.00	5,523.81	1,940.20	74
5120.004	PERS	104,337.12	.00	104,337.12	.00	.00	73,678.99	30,658.13	71
5120.005	Health Insurance	168,771.12	.00	168,771.12	.00	.00	129,678.58	39,092.54	77
5120.006	Life Insurance	86.76	.00	86.76	.00	.00	49.59	37.17	57
5120.007	Workmen's Compensation	1,279.36	.00	1,279.36	.00	.00	1,054.27	225.09	82
5120.011	PERS on Behalf	12,276.00	.00	12,276.00	.00	.00	.00	12,276.00	0
<b>5120 - Totals</b>		<b>\$348,710.20</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$348,710.20</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$267,716.81</b>	<b>\$80,993.39</b>	<b>77%</b>
<b>5201</b>									
5201.000	Training and Travel	11,760.00	.00	11,760.00	.00	.00	3,650.79	8,109.21	31
<b>5201 - Totals</b>		<b>\$11,760.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$11,760.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3,650.79</b>	<b>\$8,109.21</b>	<b>31%</b>
<b>5203</b>									
5203.001	Utilities	25,000.00	.00	25,000.00	.00	.00	14,095.24	10,904.76	56
<b>5203 - Totals</b>		<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$25,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$14,095.24</b>	<b>\$10,904.76</b>	<b>56%</b>
<b>5204</b>									
5204.000	Telephone	.99	.00	.99	.00	.00	.00	.99	0
5204.001	Cell Phone Stipend	300.00	.00	300.00	.00	.00	225.00	75.00	75
<b>5204 - Totals</b>		<b>\$300.99</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$300.99</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$225.00</b>	<b>\$75.99</b>	<b>75%</b>
<b>5205</b>									
5205.000	Insurance	66,750.00	.00	66,750.00	.00	.00	59,313.08	7,436.92	89
<b>5205 - Totals</b>		<b>\$66,750.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$66,750.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$59,313.08</b>	<b>\$7,436.92</b>	<b>89%</b>
<b>5206</b>									
5206.000	Supplies	57,501.00	4,750.00	62,251.00	.00	1,245.07	28,397.88	32,608.05	48
<b>5206 - Totals</b>		<b>\$57,501.00</b>	<b>\$4,750.00</b>	<b>\$62,251.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,245.07</b>	<b>\$28,397.88</b>	<b>\$32,608.05</b>	<b>48%</b>
<b>5208</b>									
5208.000	Bldg Repair & Maint	143,902.00	.00	143,902.00	11,991.83	.00	143,901.96	.04	100
<b>5208 - Totals</b>		<b>\$143,902.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$143,902.00</b>	<b>\$11,991.83</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$143,901.96</b>	<b>\$0.04</b>	<b>100%</b>



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Fund <b>100 - General Fund</b>									
EXPENSE									
Division <b>540 - Public Service</b>									
Department <b>041 - Library</b>									
<b>5211</b>									
5211.000	IT Fees	197,400.00	.00	197,400.00	16,450.00	.00	197,400.00	.00	100
	<b>5211 - Totals</b>	<b>\$197,400.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$197,400.00</b>	<b>\$16,450.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$197,400.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>5212</b>									
5212.000	Contracted Services	44,035.00	28,786.72	72,821.72	.00	6,384.18	49,649.94	16,787.60	77
	<b>5212 - Totals</b>	<b>\$44,035.00</b>	<b>\$28,786.72</b>	<b>\$72,821.72</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$6,384.18</b>	<b>\$49,649.94</b>	<b>\$16,787.60</b>	<b>77%</b>
<b>5222</b>									
5222.000	Postage	13,000.00	.00	13,000.00	.00	.00	5,000.00	8,000.00	38
	<b>5222 - Totals</b>	<b>\$13,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$13,000.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$8,000.00</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>5223</b>									
5223.000	Tools & Small Equipment	500.00	.00	500.00	.00	.00	1,199.80	(699.80)	240
	<b>5223 - Totals</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$500.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,199.80</b>	<b>(\$699.80)</b>	<b>240%</b>
<b>5224</b>									
5224.000	Dues and Publications	1,505.00	.00	1,505.00	.00	.00	560.00	945.00	37
	<b>5224 - Totals</b>	<b>\$1,505.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$1,505.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$560.00</b>	<b>\$945.00</b>	<b>37%</b>
<b>5240</b>									
5240.000	Books & Publications	81,999.00	.00	81,999.00	.00	17,646.64	45,002.76	19,349.60	76
	<b>5240 - Totals</b>	<b>\$81,999.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$81,999.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$17,646.64</b>	<b>\$45,002.76</b>	<b>\$19,349.60</b>	<b>76%</b>
	Department <b>041 - Library Totals</b>	<b>\$1,484,181.52</b>	<b>\$33,536.72</b>	<b>\$1,517,718.24</b>	<b>\$28,441.83</b>	<b>\$25,275.89</b>	<b>\$1,162,462.39</b>	<b>\$329,979.96</b>	<b>78%</b>
	Division <b>540 - Public Service Totals</b>	<b>\$1,484,181.52</b>	<b>\$33,536.72</b>	<b>\$1,517,718.24</b>	<b>\$28,441.83</b>	<b>\$25,275.89</b>	<b>\$1,162,462.39</b>	<b>\$329,979.96</b>	<b>78%</b>
	<b>EXPENSE TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,484,181.52</b>	<b>\$33,536.72</b>	<b>\$1,517,718.24</b>	<b>\$28,441.83</b>	<b>\$25,275.89</b>	<b>\$1,162,462.39</b>	<b>\$329,979.96</b>	<b>78%</b>
Fund <b>100 - General Fund Totals</b>									
	<b>REVENUE TOTALS</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>+++</b>
	<b>EXPENSE TOTALS</b>	<b>1,484,181.52</b>	<b>33,536.72</b>	<b>1,517,718.24</b>	<b>28,441.83</b>	<b>25,275.89</b>	<b>1,162,462.39</b>	<b>329,979.96</b>	<b>78%</b>
	<b>Fund 100 - General Fund Totals</b>	<b>(\$1,484,181.52)</b>	<b>(\$33,536.72)</b>	<b>(\$1,517,718.24)</b>	<b>(\$28,441.83)</b>	<b>(\$25,275.89)</b>	<b>(\$1,162,462.39)</b>	<b>(\$329,979.96)</b>	
Grand Totals									
	<b>REVENUE TOTALS</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>.00</b>	<b>+++</b>
	<b>EXPENSE TOTALS</b>	<b>1,484,181.52</b>	<b>33,536.72</b>	<b>1,517,718.24</b>	<b>28,441.83</b>	<b>25,275.89</b>	<b>1,162,462.39</b>	<b>329,979.96</b>	<b>78%</b>
	<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>(\$1,484,181.52)</b>	<b>(\$33,536.72)</b>	<b>(\$1,517,718.24)</b>	<b>(\$28,441.83)</b>	<b>(\$25,275.89)</b>	<b>(\$1,162,462.39)</b>	<b>(\$329,979.96)</b>	