

Chambers County Library System – September, 2017

Remnants of Hurricane Harvey continue to leave a mark on Chambers County. The library system was home to FEMA representatives during the month of September, and the staff provided extra assistance to people who needed to apply for FEMA, Red Cross, or just a little extra one on one computer help. We ended up cancelling several programs, but it allowed us to serve our patrons in any capacity needed. Several county departments were displaced because of damage, and as a result the WIC Department has a temporary home at the library. We're thankful we have space for them, and it's also a bonus to have new clientele in our doors who are getting library cards and taking advantage of some of the free services the library has to offer.



FEMA representatives helping at the library



Landis Moss and Jessica Leskowski in their temporary office at the library

The programs that we did have were a good distraction for people wanting to get back into a normal routine. Storytime and Babygarten kicked off a week later than usual and started the week of the 11th. Moms, dads, grandparents and caregivers brought their little ones for stories, crafts and songs. GED classes also continued this same week.

On the staff side, we held our monthly staff meeting on the 18th. Each month the Branch Librarians and Technical Services Librarian meet with us to swap AV, hear news from the County Librarian/Assistant County Librarian/Technical Services, and allow each branch to talk about the latest happenings at their location.

On the 28th the Adult Programming staff met for a good part of the day to discuss and brainstorm ideas for upcoming adult programs, and the adult summer reading program. We try to get the teen, children, and adult programmers together at least once a year to discuss what worked, what didn't, and what direction they want to go for upcoming programs.

Banned Books Week was held the week of September 24th. Banned Books Week is an awareness campaign promoted by the American Library Association where libraries celebrate the freedom to read. Libraries participate by creating eye-catching and often thought provoking displays with books that have been banned over the years. We tend to get quite a bit of feedback from the public asking if the books in question are banned at our libraries. The quick answer is no. But we have had challenges for certain titles over the years. The idea behind promoting Banned Books Week is to make the public aware that the public library offers information of all types, to all readers, and part of our job is to not censor what anyone wants to read.



The “Banned” wagon at Mont Belvieu

Several staff from Anahuac and Mont Belvieu were the guinea pigs for one of the newest teen programs at Mont Belvieu. Teen programmer Shelby Fielding created an “Escape the Room” (library edition) program that includes a little bit of mystery, intrigue, and a lot of detective work to find your way out of the locked library. It took 7 librarians 45 minutes to figure out how to escape, and it was evident that a lot of thought was put into each step. The official program will be held on October 14th with 3 packed sessions.



Until next month!

Year 2017	June	July	August	September
Books	22865	12956	7374	7232
Vertical Files	0	0	0	0
Magazines	234	175	67	82
Newspapers	47	40	53	29
Permits	0	0	0	0
Total Print Circulation	23146	13171	7494	7343
AudioCassettes	6	8	4	2
AudioCDs	816	362	165	163
Cassettes (Music)	0	0	0	0
CDs	8	4	110	4
CD-ROMs	1	0	0	0
DVDs	3577	2357	1439	1238
Kits	12	4	8	16
Microforms	0	0	0	0
Optical Disks	20	21	8	12
Total A-V Circulation	4440	2756	1734	1435
E-books	0	0	0	0
Equipment	140	103	37	94
Puzzles	0	0	0	1
Rooms, Meeting	55	100	14	46
Public Computer Logons	2427	2566	1877	2072
Database Logons	5217	3766	3709	3328
Total Other Circulation	7839	6535	5637	5541
Total Juv Circulation				
Total Circulation	35425	22462	14865	14319
Remote Logons	6309	3626	2822	3780
Number of Juv Programs	25	11	5	22
Children at Juv Programs	3359	610	70	178
Adults at Juv Programs	2347	291	30	144
Total at Juv Programs	5706	901	100	322
Number of Adult Programs	8	7	4	6
Total at Adult Programs	63	41	15	34
Computer/device assistance use	113	102	32	47
Total at adult computer classes	0	0	0	0
Number of YA Programs	11	7	2	1
Teens at YA programs	102	96	8	2
Adults at YA programs	22	18	0	1
Total at YA Programs	124	114	8	3
Number of Outreach programs	0	0	0	5
Children at outreach programs	0	0	0	390
Adults at outreach programs	0	0	0	142
Total at outreach programs	0	0	0	532
Patron Visits to Library	21002	13196	10395	10101
Site visits: Anahuac	5537	3518	3411	3265
Site visits: Winnie	5414	3245	2491	2362

Site visits: Mont Belvieu	10051	6433	4493	4474
Interlibrary loans returned	137	132	130	111
Interlibrary loans sent	7	3	15	7
Intralibrary loans to Anahuac	71	43	26	32
Intralibrary loans to Winnie	45	40	31	35
Intralibrary loans to Mt Belv.	226	86	73	93
Year 2017	June	July	August	September
Volunteer Service Hours	199.5	182.5	164	119.5
Hours Open for Patrons	660	614	565	577
Family Card Totals				
Patron cards: Anahuac	2971	2984	2994	3029
Patron cards: Winnie	3408	3437	3457	3474
Patron cards: Mt Belvieu	6437	6516	6579	6645
Patron cards: Blocked	1891	1894	1900	1894
Collection development:				
Book titles added	448	530	240	154
Book titles withdrawn	0	0	0	0
Previous total	84922	85370	85900	86140
New book title total	85370	85900	86140	86294
Magazine titles added	0	59	0	61
Magazine titles withdrawn	30	0	44	0
Previous total	1297	1267	1326	1282
New magazine title total	1267	1326	1282	1343
Audio-visual titles added	40	40	73	31
Audio titles withdrawn	0	0	0	0
Previous total	5730	5770	5810	5883
New audio-visual title total	5770	5810	5883	5914
Other item titles added	2	0	0	0
Other item titles withdrawn	0	4	1	1
Previous total	1612	1614	1610	1609
Other item title total	1614	1610	1609	1608
TexShare Cards Issued:	0	0	0	0
Reference question	242	169	105	202
Wireless logons	659	531	538	630