



**LIBRARY SYSTEM UPDATES**

Our 2020 Summer Reading Program was anything but normal. We did a very quick change from in-person programs to all virtual, and our public embraced the change right along with us. Our new online reading program Beanstack, allowed readers to track their reading progress and win prizes along the way. Our virtual programs included Jester Jim, magician John O'Bryant, Zoomagination, book clubs, adult/teen programs and much more!

Curbside service continued through summer and will proceed through the remainder of the year. Curbside quickly turned into a very popular service and one we will continue when we reopen. Patrons email documents to print, fax items, use notary services, and of course check out books, DVDs, & audiobooks.

The staff has done an excellent job of adjusting to this new normal.

**Total circulation for June-September: 38,873. Not bad for the middle of a pandemic.**

**SUMMER AT A GLANCE**



Number enrolled: 418  
Programs offered: 83  
Program views: 1,516  
Minutes read: 138,611



**Duck scavenger hunt**



**Jester Jim**

**VIRTUAL PROGRAMS**



← Teen take and make craft



Children's Librarians doing their weekly virtual storytimes. They each do a FANTASTIC job entertaining the kids. (Left to right: April Knight, Clarice Martel, and Liz Sandoval)

**DERBY RACE AT THE LIBRARY?**

Staff member Kellee Traylor held a fun and creative program at Mont Belvieu last month. A Library Derby was held in the parking lot with some interesting racers at the starting line. The lineup included a flamingo, rooster, unicorn, dinosaur, ostrich, and of course a horse. As a virtual program, the public was able to watch the race live and vote on who they thought would win the race. The winner of the race was Harry Trotter! Watch the race [here](#).



**IN THE SPOTLIGHT**

The Technical Services & Administration unit of the library has been in its new location right at 2 years. This arm of the library serves as the main shipping/receiving location for the library system. New items are cataloged for the branches, interlibrary loans are processed, all publications are created, website maintenance, staff & board meetings take place here, and other administrative activities happen in "Tech". Kudos goes out to the staff and the ongoing hard work they do. Sometimes the people behind the scenes don't always get the recognition they deserve. Thank you Tech Services staff!

**ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE**

Chambers County Library System was accredited for another year through the Texas State Library. Throughout the year we gather monthly stats from the branches and submit those to the state who then reviews them for accuracy. Being accredited allows us to participate in Interlibrary Loan, apply for competitive grants, apply for e-rate (internet discounts), and participate in other activities. Our monthly reports are also shared with the County Commissioners and Library Advisory Board members.

County Librarian Valerie Jensen and Assistant County Librarian Annie Vass attended the American Library Association's annual conference (virtually) in June of 2020. The conference included sessions on a variety of library topics. Special guest speakers included Stacey Abrams, Natalie Portman, Misty Copeland and more.

**NEW WINNIE LIBRARY**

Progress continues in Winnie with the new library on track for an early 2021 opening date. The new building will feature a meeting room for the public, a children's storytime room, staff workroom, and an open and modern floor plan. Brick pavers will also go on sale soon for people to leave a lasting legacy at the library. Pavers will be sold at 2 sizes, 4"x8" (\$100) and 8"x8" (\$200). Brick pavers are limited. Please contact Branch Librarian Cindy Alegria at 409-296-8245 for more information.



**NEW SERVICES/DATABASES**

One of the ways the library is responding to COVID-19 is by offering eCards to the public. eCards serve as access to all our online services (databases/eBooks/eAudiobooks, etc.) without any face to face exposure. A simple [form](#) is completed on our website and within one business day a card number with instructions is sent by email. We have registered over 200 eCards in the last few months.

A new database we added in September was [Brainfuse](#). Our goal with this was to help students who are doing virtual schoolwork or just need extra help with test prep &/or study features. Brainfuse includes live tutors for all grades in math, reading, writing, science, and social studies from 2pm-11pm. Tutoring is available in English and Spanish. We've seen a huge interest in this database with over 127 features utilized in the past month. All you need is your library card.

**CONNECT WITH US**



<https://www.facebook.com/cclsreads/>

<https://twitter.com/cclslibrary>

<https://www.instagram.com/chamberscountylibrarysystem/>

<https://www.youtube.com/user/cclslibrary>