

# Library Director's Report

## September 2024

**Did you know?** ALA documented 4,240 unique book titles targeted for censorship in 2023—a 65% surge over 2022 numbers—as well as 1,247 demands to censor library books, materials, & resources.

### Total Checkouts

|          | Jul    | Aug    | Sept  | Oct    | Nov   | Dec   | Jan    | Feb   | Mar    | Apr   | May    | Jun   | FY Total |
|----------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|----------|
| 2022-23  | 10,558 | 11,434 | 9,671 | 10,321 | 9,780 | 9,375 | 11,382 | 9,398 | 10,373 | 8,939 | 9,627  | 9,756 | 120,614  |
| 2023-24* | 10,495 | 11,293 | 9,473 | 9,687  | 9,579 | 9,865 | 10,639 | 9,311 | 10,520 | 9,726 | 10,096 | 9,664 | 120,348  |
| 2024-25  | 10,268 | 9,862  |       |        |       |       |        |       |        |       |        |       | 20,130   |
| % change | -2.2%  | -12.7% |       |        |       |       |        |       |        |       |        |       | -83.3%   |

### E-book only Checkouts

|          | Jul   | Aug   | Sept  | Oct   | Nov   | Dec   | Jan   | Feb   | Mar   | Apr   | May   | Jun   | FY Total |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| 2022-23  | 2,190 | 2,288 | 1,634 | 2,201 | 2,244 | 2,178 | 2,469 | 1,986 | 2,159 | 1,977 | 2,063 | 1,979 | 25,368   |
| 2023-24* | 2,320 | 2,401 | 2,115 | 2,229 | 2,078 | 2,241 | 2,555 | 2,287 | 2,491 | 2,513 | 2,408 | 2,325 | 27,963   |
| 2024-25  | 2,754 | 2,590 |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | 5,344    |
| % change | 18.7% | 7.9%  |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | -80.9%   |

### Public Computer and Wi-Fi Sessions

|          | Jul   | Aug   | Sept  | Oct   | Nov   | Dec   | Jan   | Feb   | Mar   | Apr   | May   | Jun   | FY Total |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| 2022-23  | 1,431 | 1,793 | 1,350 | 1,158 | 1,248 | 1,146 | 1,402 | 1,366 | 1,651 | 1,751 | 2,054 | 1,657 | 18,007   |
| 2023-24* | 1,551 | 1,568 | 1,248 | 1,664 | 1,541 | 1,426 | 1,189 | 2,376 | 3,471 | 3,145 | 2,729 | 2,222 | 24,400   |
| 2024-25  | 2,159 | 2,404 |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | 4,563    |
| % change | 32.9% | 53.3% |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | -81.3%   |

### Visits

|          | Jul    | Aug    | Sept  | Oct   | Nov   | Dec   | Jan   | Feb   | Mar   | Apr   | May   | Jun   | FY Total |
|----------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| 2022-23  | 6,978  | 7,797  | 6,688 | 6,175 | 5,334 | 5,419 | 6,018 | 5,485 | 6,478 | 6,745 | 7,101 | 8,179 | 78,397   |
| 2023-24* | 7,870  | 8,336  | 7,747 | 6,067 | 6,061 | 6,163 | 5,542 | 6,285 | 8,267 | 7,282 | 7,464 | 7,540 | 84,624   |
| 2024-25  | 7,223  | 7,438  |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | 14,661   |
| % change | -8.22% | -10.8% |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | -82.7%   |

### WiFi Hotspot Checkouts

|          | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | FY Total |
|----------|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| 2023-24  | n/a | n/a | n/a  | 123 | 24  | 28  | 24  | 26  | 34  | 26  | 32  | 35  | 352      |
| 2024-25  | 21  | 19  |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | 40       |
| % change | n/a | n/a |      |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     | -88.6%   |

\*From Feb – Aug 2024, library operations were significantly impacted by construction that closed study rooms and a leak that reduce access to the collections.

## WCCLS Activities

- Adventure Passes are currently unavailable. WCCLS is looking to work with a different vendor.

## Library Activities

### Youth Services

- Summer reading is officially over! We had 1,387 sign ups, 127 finishers, and together they read 271,273 minutes!
- We had over 200 attendees at our last summer reading presentation – Reptile Man!

### Adult Services

- We received a Federal Work-Study grant from Pacific University for three student positions we applied for. Angelica attended the Pacific University Fall Job Fair, promoted the positions to 40 students, and highlighted volunteer opportunities at the library for the students. One student will be rehired for the same position they had last year.
- We had our second Meet the Artist event. The Artist name is Alejandro Ceballos. His exhibition consists of works inspired by traditional Mexican pottery, everyday objects and scenes, flowers, and other subject matters: oils on canvas, watercolors on paper, and hand-painted prints.
- Average hotspot data usage for July is 56GB.

### Public Access

- Onboarded a new library aide, Troy Pigman!
- Due to staffing vacancies, the library is taking a pause on accepting volunteer applications.
- A total of 40 VOX books have arrived, and are in process from the WaFd grant. They will be ready to check out soon!

### Outreach and Volunteer Services

- Participated at the National Night Out and engaged 325 members of the community with the Bookmobile.
- Outreach attended 3 Flicks in the Park events engaging 257 members of the community.
- Distributed free books and information about library resources to 93 attendees at the first OHDC Farmworker Appreciation event through the Bookmobile.
- The library distributed thousands of donated school supplies to elementary schools in Cornelius and attended Cornelius Elementary School's back to school event where we distributed free books and school supplies to 233 students and their families.
- WCCLS allotted almost \$8,000 for outreach books to support next summer's outreach initiatives.
- Attended the first ever *Arte de la Pinta* event, an art gallery pop-up at Centro organized by the organization Brown Sueños. The gallery event seeks to sell art works made by incarcerated individuals in order to purchase school supplies and books for the children of incarcerated individuals. Interacted with 123 community members.

### Administration

- A water leak from the residential boiler room was quickly identified and addressed.
- The Drake Learning Center Grand opening will be on Saturday, September 7 at 10am.
- Library Director, Karen Hill, retired on 08/31/24 and recognized for her almost 20 years of library service at the September 3 City Council meeting.



*Featured Artist for August/September*



*Cornelius Farmers Market*



*Teen Summer Reading String Art*



*Family Family Summer Reading Reptile Man*



*Teen Summer Reading DIY Ice Cream*





*Calligraphy Taiwan Sky Lanterns*



*Bookmobile at National Night Out*



*Karen Hill's Retirement Celebration*



*Library foundation presenting Karen Hill a retirement gift*



*Library foundation presenting Karen Hill a retirement gift*