

Library Director's Report

September 2023

Did you know? Cornelius Public Library has the largest Spanish language collection in WCCLS. There are over 8,200 Spanish items. That is 21% of the collection!

Total Checkouts

| | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | FY Total |
|----------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|--------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|----------|
| 2021-22 | 8,509 | 9,253 | 9,093 | 9,906 | 9,732 | 9,209 | 9,818 | 9,081 | 10,405 | 10,000 | 9,548 | 9,699 | 114,253 |
| 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 | | | | | | | | | | 31,261 |
| % change | 1% | -1% | -2% | | | | | | | | | | -74% |

E-book only Checkouts

| | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | FY Total |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| 2021-22 | 1,473 | 1,526 | 1,245 | 1,308 | 1,333 | 1,403 | 1,733 | 1,521 | 1,614 | 1,586 | 1,568 | 1,617 | 17,891 |
| 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 | | | | | | | | | | 6,836 |
| % change | 6% | 5% | 29% | | | | | | | | | | -73% |

Public Computer and Wi-Fi Sessions

| | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | FY Total |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| 2021-22 | 1,384 | 2,043 | 2,153 | 1,852 | 1,323 | 1,682 | 2,217 | 1,331 | 467* | 1,177 | 1,329 | 1,834 | 18,792 |
| 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 | | | | | | | | | | | 3,119 |
| % change | 8% | -12% | | | | | | | | | | | |

Visits

| | Jul | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | FY Total |
|----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| 2021-22 | 6,669 | 6,378 | 6,366 | 5,923 | 4,799 | 4,635 | 5,360 | 4,931 | 6,270 | 5,702 | 5,772 | 6,581 | 69,386 |
| 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 | | | | | | | | | | 23,953 |
| % change | 13% | 7% | 16% | | | | | | | | | | -69% |

WCCLS Activities

- Vacancies and changes. WCCLS has 7 open positions of 28 (not counting 8 in courier warehouse).
- The Hillsboro Library Director, Hillary Ostlund, resigned for WCCLS Community Relations Manager.

Library Activities

Youth Services

- The Toddler Fun Program has been very successful with the new schedule on Monday mornings. Many parents are enjoying the safe space provided for kids to practice their socializing skills. Adults also get an opportunity to share success and struggles as caregivers of toddlers.

“A volunteer commented that one of the toddlers in the library program started walking for the first time and all the parents in the program were clapping.”

- Volunteer Lisa Miller secured a book donation from Lisa Libraries for over 400 books! The Friends of the Library supported this by paying shipping costs (\$275).
- Jeff Arp, Cornelius Booster Member, will be bringing 2 large telescopes for the public to use during the October 14th 8:20am eclipse viewing.
- Maria Aguilar, Youth Librarian, applied for a grant to receive 500 solar eclipse glasses. These glasses will be used during the October 2023 and April 2024 eclipses.
- The Homework Help program has resumed on Wednesdays with one volunteer. The library is currently looking for additional volunteers to support Homework Help.
- The Cornelius Police and Firefighters were special guests during the Preschool Storytime for English and Spanish. They shared safety tips with families and answered all questions from our little patrons.
- 4 families had a great time working on their decoupage characters as part of the Hispanic Heritage celebration activities with Centro Cultural.

Public Services

- September was Library Card Sign-Up Month. Front desk library staff signed up 55 patrons for new library cards.
- The Public Services Team has made a few changes to help front desk staff manage tasks such as new signage for books carts and updating the Aide Priority Task List.
- Patron Comments and Staff Interactions:
“The Cornelius librarians are a wonderful group. One of them helped me select some Pokémon movies; I'm watching my third: Pokémon Secrets of the Jungle. I enjoy animation and the characters, and they have enlivened conversations with my oldest grandson, who lives in NYC.” – Patron
- Volunteers contributed a total of 444 hours for the month of September! This is a 54% increase from July with 288 hours.



Toddler Fun Program

Outreach

- 90 Student Access Library Cards were created for 3rd and 4th grade students at Fern Hill Elementary School.
- Outreach provided an Indigo Tie Dye program and 38 shirts were dyed.
- The Cornelius Public Library has become home to a geocache! A geocache is an activity where participants hunt for a hidden item by following clues and deciphering puzzles. A few other WCCLS libraries host geocaches. We are hopeful this will lead some new folks to visit and discover Cornelius Public Library!
- The last day for the Cornelius Farmers was September 29. It was a Día de los Muertos celebration and the outreach team set up an ofrenda, a Day of the Dead altar, during the market.

Administration

- Itzel Sayago accepted a new position as **Communication and Community Engagement Manager** for the City of Cornelius. The Outreach/Publicity Coordinator position will not immediately be filled in order to consider this vacancy strategically.
- The children's area is getting a colorful makeover! With the support of a grant from Betsy Priddy, and the Friends of the Library, the library hired local artist William Hernandez to paint a mural. William has done many public art programs in Hillsboro and the Portland area.
- The library received Pacific University work-study funds to hire two students: Maximus, who previously worked with Zach, our Technology Coordinator, and Ryley, who will be helping with processing new materials.
- The library is again seeking a vendor for the café area in the library lobby.
- We are celebrating our 2nd Art Gallery Installation with local artist, Luis Jiménez, Pyrographer and Mixed Media Artist. (below)



Local Artist William working on the children's area mural



Hispanic Heritage Event: Decoupage Portraits | Mosaicos de Personajes



Cornelius Booster Club



Preschool Storytime



Cornelius Library Hosts a storytime at the Farmers Market



The Cornelius Library booth was teaching visitors to do tie dye shirts!



Hispanic Heritage Event: Decoupage Portraits | Mosaicos de Personajes



Summer Reading Kids Winner