

Total Registered Patrons	12,454	
Total Mat-Su Borough Resident Patrons	9,601	77% of Palmer patrons are Mat-Su Borough Residents
Total City of Palmer Resident Patrons	2,853	
New Library Users	105	

Statistics:

Patron Visits/Count	10,165		
Reference Questions	1,281		
Library Computer Sessions	2162		
Website hits	110,864		
WIFI Sessions	3,495		
Circulation(PPL items)	13,689		
Circulation	12,442	(JLC items checked out to Palmer Patrons)	
Magazine circulation	445		
Take Home Paperbacks	240		
Inter Library Loans:	15	Incoming	9 Outgoing
Volunteers	12	Volunteer Hours	59

Programs:

Children’s Programs	3	Events	872	Participants
Class Visits	0	Events	0	Participants
Young Adult Programs	9	Events	137	Participants
Adult Programs	10	Events	119	Participants
Total Library Programs	22	Events	1,128	Participants

<u>Community Events</u>	15	Events	127	Participants
Total Programs and Community Events	37	Events	1,255	Participants

Summer Reading Program (SRP) started June 6th

- Summer Reading Program final participant numbers was 1,318, (797 kids, 289 teens, and 332 adults)
- Back Pack Challenge: Three age groups 5-8, 9-12, and teens completed scavenger hunt sheets to be eligible for the drawing of a backpack stuffed full of school supplies. Total participation of 95 in the one-week challenge, 75 kids, 20 teens.

Banned Book display:

September 25th marks the kick off to Banned Books Week across the nation. Palmer Public Library is celebrating the right to read by displaying a selection of materials that have been challenged or banned in various schools, libraries, or bookstores throughout America. Banned Books Week started in 1982 in response to a large surge of challenged materials. Books are usually challenged with the best intentions—to protect others (frequently children) from difficult ideas and information. A challenge is an attempt to remove or restrict access to materials, based upon the objections of a person or group. A banning is a result of those challenges being accepted. Challenges do not simply involve a person expressing a point of view, but rather they are an attempt to have materials removed (from schools, bookstores, or libraries), thereby restricting access others may have to that material.

Postage: Total \$391.38 with 217 items mailed

Bills: \$58.31 Bills sent 119

ILLs: \$62.84 ILLs sent 22

JLC items: \$257.98 JLC items sent 66

Misc: \$ 12.25 items sent 10 (returns, thank you notes, funding requests, etc..)

Total Totes sorted 258

181 MSLN Mat Su Library Network Libraries (7 libraries)

118 MSB (MSB 5 Libraries) 63 Wasilla

Total JLC Totes sorted 77 These are totes with PPL items going between JLC libraries.

Activities:

- MTA technician was here on Tuesday and swapped out the old modem for a new modem that will allow MTA to look at the usage. This is an effort to figure out the phone issues and the slowness of the internet and WIFI at the library.
- Tekmate ran cabling in library that was partially funded ERATE. This was to clean up the spaghetti like cables hanging with duct tape from the walls and mount the cable boxes on the wall.
- Radio Free Palmer interview 12 August talked about the library being the hub of the City and what the library brings to the City.
- **Donation** from John Coyne: the Palmer Public Library is the proud owner of "The Valley" original oil painting. It will be displayed in the library as soon as it is framed.



- Attended MSLN directors meeting August 16: MSB libraries asked to add the mailing address on the MSLN brochure. Several libraries mailing and physical addresses are the same. Beth has the master and will wait to see the outcome of the MSB pulling out of MSLN.
- Attend JLC Member Council meeting at UAA/APU Consortium Library August 19.
The executive director report:
Joint Library Catalog will be transforming to the Alaska Library Catalog when UAF is added into the Consortium 2018. This addition will make resources stronger. Which means the tech. services would be assured to not be cut in future UAA budgets. Cuts would not come to JLC. UAF is a well-resourced and Sirsi user and would be able to resource share and offset costs.
Courier Billings for Anchorage JLC members- Anchorage agreed to pay half of the courier service bills for libraries paying courier costs to Anchorage. This is a decrease in cost (-\$2,969) leaving the JLC cost for 2017 at \$2,762.
A cross – JLC circulation study was completed for July. This study counts items owned, borrowed and lent by libraries. There should be a balance in lending and borrowing. Palmer Public Library was noted and talked about having a perfect score of 1.04. Most libraries were either heavy borrowers or lenders.
- Attended Mat Su Borough Library Board Meeting in Talkeetna August 20. Hugh Leslie MSB Community Development Director stated that the Mat-Su Borough does not support the MSLN anymore. That Borough Director sent an email stating that MSLN was a duplication of duties and it would be a cost savings to pull out. When asked what those duplication or cost savings were Hugh could not give an answer. He stated: Because we all are in JLC under the automation agreement it is a duplication of efforts to be in MSLN.
If they are pulling out of MSLN then Palmer does not need to be the hub for all of the MSLN totes. As you can see above the Palmer Library sorted items in 181 totes. The MSLN totes come filled with items that are for any MSLN library. Palmer staff open each tote and virtually empty it by placing each item in the receiving libraries tote. Palmer does this service for MSLN in exchange for not having to pay courier service fees between the MSLN libraries.
When asked what that meant for the Palmer and Wasilla representatives he told they would/could be removed, or the board could be dissolved. Hugh told all board members to talk to their respective librarians and to talk it over with their administrator on a response to the pullout from MSLN. That he expected a rebuttal.
There are many collaborative things that are done between all 7 libraries in the MSLN. We all agree on having the same policies, fees and other items to be consistent to the Mat Su Valley residents. Collective buying helps lower the cost of similarly bought items, (i.e. bar codes for books, patron cards among other items)
Most of the board members were in shock and did not understand what had happened. I was asked by several members what this action meant, and I could not explain. The Chairperson emailed me with assurance that the board members could not be removed unless the code was changed or the mayor removed them. She personally believes that all 7 libraries should be represented.
- PLA 2016/2017 partial grant money was received. Due to a typo at the State Library the incorrect amount was sent the additional \$210 is being sent for a total of \$6,900. The PLA Grant expenditures will include professional cleaning of the library carpet, patron black and white copier with coin operations upgrade, and patron Wi-Fi system.

- PLA 2015/2016 grant final reports: this year the State Library is updating the way final reports are done. The State Library contracted with Counting Opinions to create a report that all information is entered online. That system is not working. Until it is fixed, final reports are delayed. Typically, it is a 20+ page word document that is filled out with library statistics and emailed in. The State Library enters all libraries information into excel and publishes the reports.

Wasilla Library closing has increased traffic at the Palmer Library:

Moving the library will start **Monday, August 22nd**. Although the move itself will only take about a week, the remainder of the time that WPL closed, WPL will be training on the new systems (like the self-checkout), fine tuning policies and procedures in the space, doing dry runs, and doing staff training.

In regards to the book drop, WPL will keep the one at the current building open and use book drop check-in on the items returned there until such time as they are ready to use the book drop in the new building and then they will put up a sign asking people to return any materials there. They will also continue to do totes (courier) throughout their closure.

As for holds, a request has been made to have a 'block hold' line added to the hold map for Wasilla items on Friday, August 5th; this means it should go in effect after the halt/run Friday night and holds won't be able to placed on WAS items in WorkFlows without an override. So, **starting Saturday, August 6**, MSLN-WAS should *not* be an available pick-up location for a hold.

Katie and I had a sneak preview tour of the new Wasilla Library. It is beautiful and very roomy.