Palmer Public Library Statistics

July 2017

Total Registered Patrons 13,179
Total Mat-Su Borough Resident Patrons 10,163
Total City of Palmer Resident Patrons 3,016
New Library Users 46

77% of Palmer patrons are Mat-Su Borough Residents

Statistics:

- Patron Visits/Count 10,196
- Reference Questions 2,260
- Library Computer Sessions 2,517
- Website hits 119,433
- WIFI Sessions 1,553
- Circulation (PPL items) 10,804
- Circulation 10,440 (JLC items checked out to Palmer Patrons)
  - Total Circulation for the month 21,244
- Magazine circulation 696
- Take Home Paperbacks 163

Total Totes sorted 214

- MSLN 150 Mat Su Library Network Libraries (7 libraries)
- MSB 97 (MSB 5 Libraries) Wasilla 59

Total JLC Totes sorted 58 These are totes with PPL items going between JLC libraries.

Postage: Total $351.67 with 166 items mailed

- Bills: $43.12 Bills sent 88
- ILLs: $59.60 ILLs sent 22
- JLC items: $238.62 JLC items sent 46
- Misc: $10.33 items sent 10 (returns, thank you notes, funding requests, etc.)

Programs:

- Children’s Programs 15 Events 1,113 Participants
- Class Visits 6 Events 85 Participants
- Young Adult Programs 6 Events 636 Participants
- Adult Programs 4 Events 376 Participants

Total Library Programs 31 Events 2,210 Participants

Community Events 31 Events 211 Participants

Total Programs and Community Events 62 Events 2,421 Participants

Summer Reading Program

The month of July came and went quickly at Palmer Public Library. Thanks to a short break for the 4th of July, Palmer Library could prepare for its annual Pet Parade. This event is the one time each year that patrons are invited to bring their pets in for show and tell. A variety of animals showed up to create a fun and energetic morning. Mat Su Animal Shelter was there as well to spotlight animal adoption and to show off a few of their more unique pets.
New to the library this year was a visit from the Palmer Musk Ox Farm. They did a fantastic job sharing facts with the audience about Musk Ox biology and specialized adaptations. The information and enthusiasm shared was so well-received that we will be partnering up together again soon.

One popular program that patrons of the library have enjoyed for the past two years is our SRP Geocache Challenge. Each week Palmer Library would release a set of coordinates that was home to a box hidden in town. In the box, there would be either a random library item or a library trivia question. When participants located the box, they were required to either identify the object or answer the question. This offering was so popular, that it became evident we needed to offer two challenges—novice and advanced. To our delight, hundreds of people in the community participated and were able to learn a little more about the library in the process. The final coordinates were released at the end of July and the program wrapped up at the end of SRP. We will offer this program again next summer!

As always, our Summer Reading Program wrapped up with a big party. Nearly 300 people turned out to celebrate a summer of literacy with us! Guests were treated to a new book, prize drawings, a bounce house, face painting, crazy hair, games, crafts, and a BBQ!! This party wouldn’t be possible without community involvement. Thanks to support from Friends of the Palmer Public Library and donations from our local Kiwanis Club, Palmer Lions Club, and the Matanuska Masonic Foundation we were able to offer fantastic prizes and entertainment. New to our celebration this year was a visit from Dr. Meggie Aube. Dr. Aube owns Percussion in the Valley in downtown Palmer and graciously provided a free program for all party attendees. Nearly 50 kids and 30 adults were given instruments to play. Dr. Aube led them in a beat and soon the whole crowd took off on parade around the library grounds. It was fantastic to witness participants of all ages getting carried away with instruments and rhythm. Who said libraries had to be quiet anyway?!

**Summer Reading Program Statistics.**

There were 685 kids registered (ages 0-12)
289 teens
327 adults

**Total = 1301 SRP participants**

Program ran for 8 weeks with one break week for Independence Day. We had 25 Teen Volunteers that provided an average of 45 volunteer hours each week.