

August 2018 Monthly Update

	Hart	St Cloud	BVL	Poinciana	West Osceola	Kenansville
Visitors	28,068	15,832	8,932	15,453	16,100	106
Circulation	27,441	29,999	9,503	8,663	17,759	220
Computer Sessions	6,983	2,858	2,995	4,215	1,767	32
AWE Computer Sessions	n/a	1,131	1,358	n/a	n/a	n/a
Programming Onsite, In-Community, and Schools	Events: 97 Attendance: 1,547	Events: 52 Attendance: 1,207	Events: 32 Attendance: 564	Events: 51 Attendance: 465	Events: 35 Attendance: 944	Events: 1 Attendance: 5

***Does not include electronic resource circulation**

Other Statistics

- Electronic Resource Circulation for the month was 11,043 up 25% from 2017
- Visitors to the Libraries for the month totaled 84,491
- The Library held 268 events attended by 4,728 persons
- Computer sessions at the networked public computers numbered 21,339, an increase of 11%
- Wi-Fi sessions numbered at Hart Memorial, St. Cloud, Kenansville and Poinciana Libraries totaled 73,287
- 1,405 persons registered for full-service Library cards and 147 registered for eCards
- 9,737 holds were placed on Library materials
- Self-Check-Outs numbered 18,731 resulting in nearly 17% of circulation
- Total circulation for August was 110,681, up 25% from 2017

Highlights

Back to School Bashes

The Summer Reading program officially wrapped up in July, but the summer fun kept going in late July and August. Both Buenaventura Lakes and Hart Memorial Libraries celebrated the impending return to school with back pack giveaways, refreshments, stories and even a princess.

On July 30, the Buenaventura Lakes Library was the place to be as Commissioner Janer coordinated the generous distribution of 500 book bags and school supplies to parents and children. The following Friday, Commissioner Grieb presented a “royal” storytime complete with crowns and a knight from Medieval Times, after distributing over 100 backpacks and supplies to a packed children’s library. We are grateful to the commissioners for their commitment to ensuring school age children have the tools they need to be ready to learn at the start of the school year and for partnering with the Library for these back pack giveaways.

The Living Library: Diversity in Our Community

This month we kicked off our series entitled Living Library with the goal of encouraging participants to engage in conversation with others to learn more about different aspects of life in Osceola County and the diversity of its citizens, to challenge stereotypes, get informed about the community, and, most of all, practice conversational skills in a friendly and safe environment. The Living Libraries are made possible by a grant from the American Library Association and the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

August’s Living Library focused on “Diversity in Our Community” and featured several prominent community members speaking about their personal experiences, how those experiences have shaped their lives and world view and in turn what impact it’s had on the growth and development of Osceola County. Guests included:

- Dr. Kausik Mukhopadhyay: a scientist originally from India and now currently a UCF faculty member who also has a joint appointment with BRIDG, representing the advanced technology aspect of our county.
- Victoria Laos: a transgender activist representing the LGBTQA community. She is an advocate and Contigo Fund Decision Maker, which helps to strengthen and support grassroots causes of the Latinx and LGBTQA community.
- Richard and Melissa: a homeless couple who are consistent patrons of the Hart Memorial Library and volunteers at Daily Bread of the Christian Service Center.
- Jeremy Lanier: representing one of our pioneer families, the Laniers. Jeremy works at Lanier's Historic Downtown Marketplace, and brought a host of memorabilia and photos representing the history of Kissimmee.
- Dayivet Velez: a student at Osceola High School and survivor of Hurricane Maria who relocated to Osceola after the storm with her family. She is a published author along with fellow Osceola High School students who contributed to the book *Coming to America* about their immigration journeys.

It was very much a moving experience for everyone involved and will hopefully be repeated in the future.

Prevención de Diabetes (Diabetes Prevention) and Physician Lecture Series

The Poinciana Library has found success with offering health-related programming presented by experts in the field. In August, they presented two series that resonated with audiences in that community: Prevención de Diabetes and Physician Lecture Series.

The Diabetes prevention program is sponsored by the Hispanic Federation and consists of weekly meeting with health sponsors and diabetes prevention specialists who help design and encourage healthy living strategies, presented in Spanish.

The Physician Lecture Series brings doctors from the Poinciana Medical Center to the Poinciana Library for Q&A sessions on heart disease, osteoporosis, diabetes and more.

Libraries are a fantastic place to bridge the knowledge gap for citizens when it comes to their health. With these informational health programs, the Library becomes a place the community can turn to for factual and timely information to enable them to take an active role in managing their health and well-being.

TBLC VIP Conference

Branch Manager Candice Casey and Youth Specialist Jonathan Robbins Leon traveled to the University of South Florida to present at the Tampa Bay Library Consortium VIP Conference which focuses on professional development for Library paraprofessionals.

Having partnered together on several multi-generational events, they gave pointers on planning programs that appeal to a range of ages. After discussing techniques for engaging kids vs. adults and sharing some of their favorite successes, they discussed how to tell when a program could work as a multi-generational event and how to tell when something works best when it's offered exclusively to one age group. It was a very well received presentation!

The Osceola Library System also sent two additional staff to attend workshops and make connections.

Gallery



RIGHT: Commissioner Viviana Janer distributes 500 book bags and supplies to children at the Buenaventura Lakes Library's Back to School Bash.

BELOW: After distributing 100 book bags and supplies to students, Commissioner Cheryl Grieb, dressed as a Queen, had the Green Knight from Medieval Times knight all the students in attendance at Hart Memorial Library's Back to School Bash.



RIGHT: Hart Memorial Library hosted the first of our **Living Library series**, focused on "Diversity in Our Community."

Among the featured individuals was **student and author, Dayivet Velez**, (far left in the photo) sharing her experience with surviving Hurricane Maria and relocating to Osceola with her family.

