

## Director's Report—August 2017

### Door Count:

Month	Door Count	Hours open
July 2017	17645	288
July 2016	29518	285

### Circulation:

Circulation	Jul-17	Jun-17	May-17	Jul-16
Checkouts/renewals in-house	26,918	27,966	23,861	29,912
Ebook circulation	1,563	1,493	1,422	1,566
ILL Total Circulation	4,966	4,974	4,554	5,325
New Patrons	224	288	201	240
Total Patrons	17,774	17,906	17,703	18,718

- The downturn in checkouts between July 2017 and July 2016 can be attributed to encouraging patrons to check out materials in anticipation for the extended library closing that occurred in August/September of 2016.

### Staff and Volunteer Updates:

- Kristine Ohman has shifted to a part time schedule.
- We have accepted a candidate for part time reference librarian, whose start date is pending the completion of a background check.
- Applications for a part time circulation clerk and maintenance specialist have been collected and the interview process is underway

### Youth Services:

Programming	Adults	Children	Total
Homeschool Happenings	9	20	29
Pokemon League	10	36	46
Read to Rover	17	26	43
Recurring Story Times and Crafts	385	533	918
Little Learners Outreach	17	65	82
School Visits	33	101	134
Special Visits	5	15	20
Movie Showings	30	47	77
Music for Toddlers	42	50	92
Lego Club	12	24	36
Bookcraft	34	99	133
Methodist Church Outreach	5	5	10
Three Little Pigs	22	30	52
Get Excited About Science	32	90	122
Stuffed Bunny Science Adventure	9	10	19
Crosstown Exotics Reptile Show	118	209	327
Crosstown Exotics Bug Show	53	98	151
Parties with Character	48	83	131
Fun Fest at Hopkins Park	124	180	304
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>1005</b>	<b>1721</b>	<b>2726</b>

- 1508 children registered for summer reading this year! That is the largest number we have ever had, and far exceeds the initial goal of 1000 readers. Summer Reading officially ended July 31, but children are still claiming their reading rewards.
- Summer programs were very popular—everyone loves reptiles and bugs!
- Several passive programs and contests were also conducted during July, including a Railway Museum ticket raffle, Code Hunters, and DAR essay contest.
- Outreach events included Fun Fest at Hopkins Park on Tuesday, July 25, and marching in the Kish Parade Friday evening, July 28.



Exotic Insects



Needle felting



Exotic reptiles



Needle Felting

### Teen Services:

Teen and Tween Programs	Total
Adventure @ Your Library	18
Anime & Manga Club	8
Fourth of July Tie Dye Tee-shirts	4
Magic Muffins Book Discussion NONE/HOLIDAY	0
Magic Muffins Activity	22
Magical Theatricals	10
Magic Muffins Magazine	2
Open Mic Hour	22
Teen Advisory Group	3
80's Movies	16
Your Write	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>110</b>

- Summer Reading participation this year saw a big jump from 2015 numbers—135 compared to 86.
- Teens particularly enjoyed reading several popular fiction series (Hunger Games, Maze Runner)
- Thanks to the Friends for contributing to the cost of awesome prizes (a Samsung Galaxy E Tablet & 6 - \$25.00 gift cards.
- Word is spreading about our program line-up. Teens are calling friends to meet them at the library to participate.
- Open Mic has been a big hit--both times we have had 10-15 tweens come to share their talents with each other. We plan on keeping the momentum going by continuing to Open Mic once per month during the school year.
- Staff have been adding program information and engaging surveys on the green boards and more frequent facebook postings that seem to be encouraging interaction and program participation.



Summer Reading winner



Open Mic



Chalk Painting

## Adult Services:

### Adult Programs

Adult/All Ages Programs	Adults	Children	Total
Book Clubs*	36	0	
Computer Classes	5	0	5
Maker Classes	33	67	100
English Conversation	9	0	9
One-on-one Philanthropy Center Trainings	3	0	3

\* We are no longer including the attendance statistics for the book clubs that the library collects books for, but does not facilitate.

- Unlike the Children and Teen Summer Reading programs, the Adult Summer Reading program attracted fewer participants this year—105 compared with 177. Next year we will change the way adults participate in the hopes of enticing more participants.
- The summer English conversation group ended on August 2. We are currently evaluating the timing and format to improve upon the pilot.
- Upcoming Book Club books:
  - Off the Beaten Path (August 8) – A Plague of Angels by Sheri S. Tepper
  - General Book Club (August 14) – The Wright Brothers by David McCullough
  - Crime Fiction Book Club (August 21/22) – Burning Bright by Nick Petric
  - Other upcoming Adult Services programs:
- We have added two upcoming programs to help acclimate patrons with the Philanthropy Center. These are Getting Started with Foundation Directory Online (August 15) and The Basics of Wealth Engine (August 22)

### Tech Desk and Collaboration Studio

- July was another busy month for us, with a total of 19 programs run and a total attendance of 105.
- Demand for fidget spinners as an item to purchase has died down (with the exception of a “party package” of 16 special order ones) but the class is still quite popular, with nearly full attendance when it is offered.
- Josh McCarthy led several programs for teens and children as part of the Summer Reading program that were very well received. The Balcony Egg Drop event led drew patrons and staff alike from every corner of the building.



*Balcony Egg Drop*

## Public Internet Usage

Adult	July-17	June-17	July-16
Total Sessions	1980	1811	1816
Total Time (min)	83821	78793	69882
Average Session	42.3	43.5	38
Teen			
Total Sessions	48	11	N/A
Total Time (min)	840	446	N/A
Average Session	17.5	40.54	N/A
YS			
Total Sessions	550	540	350
Total Time (min)	28834	24288	19943
Average Session	52.42	44.9	39

- Computer usage is up across the board. We have been watching the numbers and will be investigating potential changes to the internet usage procedures after school starts again and we can gauge how much these increases are tied to District 428 students not having access to chromebooks over the summer.

## Collections and Materials

- All selectors have been working to remove excess duplicate copies of books.
- Adult and Youth Services have been working together to create a uniform set of criteria to determine which books are candidates for repair or replacement.

## Staff Training and Development:

- Several staff members have participated in webinars regarding using Sierra for circulation (July 12), using the Decision Center module of Sierra (July 19), and the new app for OneClick Digital (July 17).
- Technical Services staff have been fully trained on our Acquisitions module.

## Public Relations:

Media coverage for the month of July:

Date	Media Outlet	Topic	DKPL Staff Reference(s)	Link
7/5/2017	Midweek	Summer Lunch	N/A	<a href="http://www.midweeknews.com/articles/2017/06/27/67dc581b804841d6a5f2663616f59044/index.xml">http://www.midweeknews.com/articles/2017/06/27/67dc581b804841d6a5f2663616f59044/index.xml</a>
7/5/2017	Daily Chronicle	Stage Coach Performance	N/A	<a href="http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/06/30/stage-coach-players-musical-takes-on-classic-little-women-story/am21wu3/">http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/06/30/stage-coach-players-musical-takes-on-classic-little-women-story/am21wu3/</a>
7/29/2017	Daily Chronicle	Paper Tigers Documentary	N/A	<a href="http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/07/27/educators-unite-to-bring-documentary-screening-to-library/ax9jx74/">http://www.daily-chronicle.com/2017/07/27/educators-unite-to-bring-documentary-screening-to-library/ax9jx74/</a>

- The Library’s first wedding went off beautifully. Everyone had a good time, and we got great reviews from the family: *“The staff helped us throughout the wedding reception of my daughter. The facility was absolutely wonderful. I highly recommend them to anyone!”* – K Scot Reynolds (mother of the bride). Another couple has had a preliminary meeting about possibly holding their wedding here in 2018.
- The library will be listed in the 2018 Winter Edition of *Bride Guide* as a possible venue for weddings and receptions.
- The DeKalb County Non-Profit organization will be cross-promoting all library programs pertaining to the Philanthropy Center.
- NIU’s Common Reading Experience Committee will be promoting the library’s “8 Countries in 1 Day” programs.

**Grants/Fundraising/Donations:**

- The library has submitted a request to the Friends for funding for three “high boy” tables, button making equipment, reimbursement for additional tables, and a table rack for round banquet tables.
- The library will be given a \$50.00 speaker fee from the DeKalb Kiwanis Club.

**Other Programs:**

Adult/All Ages Programs	Adults	Children	Total
85th Army Band Woodwind Quintet	18	7	25
Farmer's Market (twice)	56	27	83
Stitch Niche	3	0	3
Blood Drive w/ Heartland Blood Center	19	0	19
Seed Saving Workshop	4	1	5
	<b>100</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>135</b>

*\*Lizzie Borden and the Borden Murders was re-scheduled for October.*

**Upcoming Events:**

- Medicare and You – Friday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m.
- Funky Fruits! – Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m. Installment of the DeKalb Kiwanis/DKPL “Healthy Mind in a Healthy Body” initiative.
- Homeschool-Palooza: Vendor Fair – Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Coordinated with DeKalb County Home Educators.
- Solar Eclipse Programs – held in conjunction with NIU STEM
  - Celestial Treasure Hunt – Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m.
  - Fun with the Sun – Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m.
  - Sun Art – Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 p.m.
  - Nature of Light, an Interactive Demonstration – Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.
  - Eclipse Viewing Party – Monday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 11:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- The Influence of American Rock ‘n’ Roll on the Beatles – Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 p.m. (after hours)
- STEAM Day – Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- Finding the Right College and Tips on How to Pay for It – Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.

### Meeting Room Reservations:

Meeting Room Reservations for the month of July:

Space	Library	Government	Non-profit/Organization	Business/Individual	Total	Revenue
Adult Study Rooms	1	0	7	74	82	\$0.00
Teen Study Rooms	0	0	0	5	5	\$0.00
Youth Study Rooms	4	0	0	33	37	\$0.00
Story & Activity Room	32	0	8	1	41	\$0.00
Bilder Family Meeting Room	12	1	19	0	32	\$137.50
Zimmerman Meeting Room	5	1	0	1	7	\$40.00
Yusunas Meeting Room	10	0	1	0	11	\$0.00
Nancy D. Castle Collaboration Studio	12	0	0	0	12	\$0.00
					<b>227</b>	<b>\$177.50</b>

### Building:

- The air handlers continue to have issues. DeKalb Mechanical has asked Pepper Construction for guidance. They have not yet been fully paid for the job.
- The plumbers have determined that the water main for the library may be a larger diameter than we can fully flush regularly, which would cause the water smell issues. The library is working with the city to come to a solution, which may involve flushing the system on a regular basis to get enough water flow through.
- After investigating the bike racks and benches it was determined that it is not possible to remove a bench in the courtyard for bike parking.
- The fire marshal came to measure capacity in our meeting and study rooms. We are awaiting the official numbers. During his visits he also pointed out the need for two additional illuminated exit signs—one in the Yusunas Room and one in the staff corridor near the ramp. A quote has been requested for the installation of both.
- Upon request from several Board members we have begun the process of re-writing the library phone tree. We have reduced the number of available choices to four (hours/location, Adult Services, Youth Services, and Circulation) in the hopes of simplifying things for patrons who call the library.

### Security Issues:

- Several unlocked bikes have been stolen while on library property. In all cases the police have been notified, and one bike was later returned. I am working with staff to draft a bike policy that will hopefully address both this and the issue of bikes being locked in inappropriate areas.
- A homeless individual who was living between library property and the Lutheran church has been banned for disruptive behavior.
- A small amount of graffiti was removed from the main entrance.
- Staff is creating a disaster plan in the event of fire or natural disasters.