

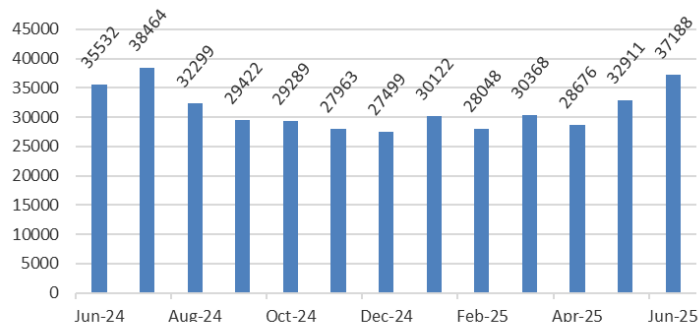
Mammen Family Public Library

Monthly Report – June 2025 Activities

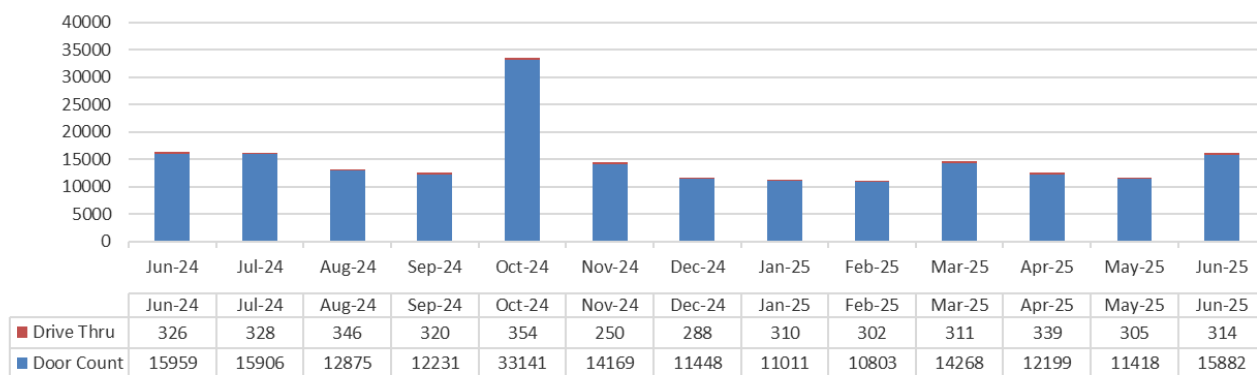
Circulation Team Report

- Number of visitors to the library: 16,196
- Total items circulated: 37,188
- New cards issued: 363
- Number of active members: 10,672
- Total volunteers: 156
- Total volunteer hours: 1,121
- Patron internet use: 1,540
- Collection size: 65,923

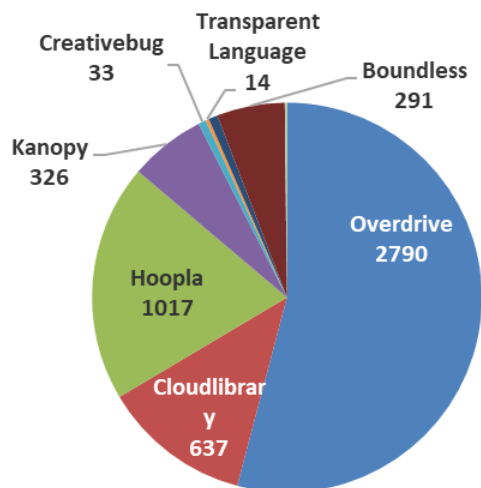
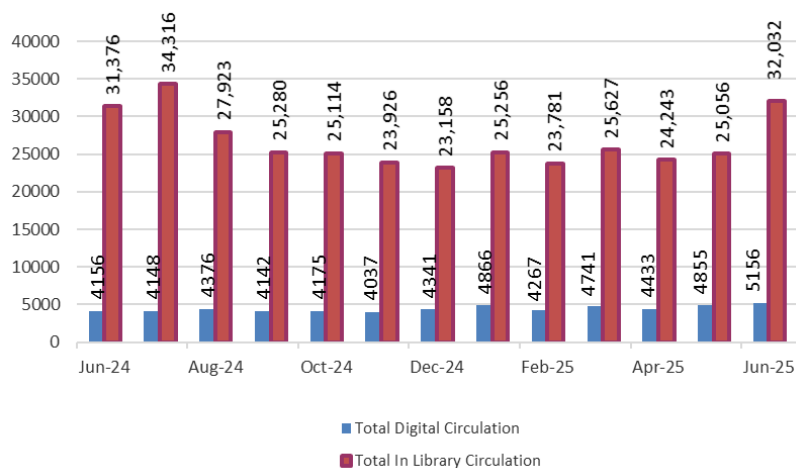
Circulation Trend Chart



Library visits: Door count and drive up window



In-Library vs. Digitally Downloaded Materials circulation



Monthly Digital Downloads

Programming, Outreach and Community Collaboration

Adult Programs (Alex Depree, Hanna Stratton, Sophia Bard)

We launched our Summer Library Program at the beginning of June, introducing several new initiatives, including our Water Conservation Series and Lunch and Learn.

The Water Conservation Series is presented in partnership with Dr. Steven Grainger and Dr. Larry Sunn, rain harvesting consultants with Rain Bees. These workshops were developed in response to frequent questions and concerns from our community about water conservation, water quality, increasing pollution, and broader ecological issues.

Our Lunch & Learn series launched on June 10th and has already seen fantastic attendance! This engaging program invites patrons to bring their lunch and discover practical ways to preserve and protect the natural world around us. Every Tuesday from June 10th to July 29th patrons are invited to explore a new topic each week with expert-led sessions designed to inspire and inform. Whether they are a nature enthusiast or just curious to learn more, there is something for everyone.

June Lunch & Learn sessions included:

- June 10: *Birds 101* with Mitchell Lake Audubon Center
- June 17: *Bats 101* with Bat Conservation International
- June 24: *Toxic Plants* with the Native Plant Society – Lindheimer Chapter

We will be continuing our Lunch and Learn series through the month of July. We have been pleased with the attendance so far and have received positive feedback from patrons. For the month of July, our Lunch and Learn series will cover:

- Composting
- Feral Hog Management
- Snake Identification and Safety
- Chronic Wasting Disease

Special Event: Family Birdhouse Workshop – June 21 - Adult Programs and MKS were very pleased with our Family Birdhouse Workshop that we hosted on June 21st. We had a total 15 of attendees. Everyone was excited with how their projects turned out! We are looking forward to our Bee House Project which will take place on July 19th.

Crime and Coffee: In June we discussed the case of Scott and Laci Peterson. One of the most infamous true crime cases of the early 2000s, this case centers on the disappearance of 27-year-old Laci Peterson, who was eight months pregnant, from Modesto, California, on December 24th, 2002. Her husband, Scott Peterson, initially appeared as the concerned spouse but quickly became the prime suspect due to inconsistent statements and a secret affair. Laci's and the baby's bodies were found months later in San Francisco Bay. In 2004, Scott was convicted of first-degree murder for Laci's death and second-degree murder for the death of their unborn son, Conner. The case gained massive media attention and remains controversial, with ongoing debates about the evidence and fairness of the trial.

In July, we will be doing an extensive deep dive into Ted Bundy.

Outreach (Javier Gonzalez and Gina Mejia)

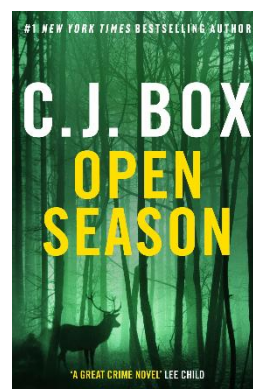
In June, Outreach directly engaged with 590 community members and impacted many more through books and materials.

This month Outreach began new Pop-Up activities at Chick-fil-A, The Loft Coffee House and Riverside Community Church. We are also visiting Bulverde Community Park every other Friday and Winding Branch Ranch once a month.



BOOK CLUB: Books & Bites this month read *Open Season* by C.J. Box. The book follows Wyoming game warden Joe Pickett as he investigates the murder of a local hunting outfitter found dead on his property. Book Club members enjoyed this book very much and had a great discussion led by Gina. There were 9 participants in addition to library staff.

ADULT OUTREACH: A total of 72 books were circulated by our senior and homebound patrons. At Bulverde Assisted Living, 23 books were checked out between the 2 residents. Lobby stops at the Highlander Senior Village have 7 regular patrons that attend our bi-weekly lobby stop. Between those patrons we had 35 books and 2 Kindle Paperwhite devices checked out for the month.



Bella Groves residents visited the library this month for a special "Cooking with Javier" class. The



residents and their families made Frozen Apple "Margarita" mocktails and enjoyed a nice charcuterie spread.

YOUTH OUTREACH:

Since Comal ISD is on summer break, most of the elementary schools we visit are not having programs. We are still visiting Rahe Bulverde Elementary, which is hosting summer school up until

the first week of July. Javier leads a weekly bilingual storytime and crafts every Tuesday. Eva has also continued to assist with various Outreach activities. We are so grateful for her!



Javier and Montana visited SJRC this month to check out books and do a simple activity with the teens. They also visited Sanctuary of Hope to lead a storytime and give away free books to the moms and their children.



OUTREACH COLLECTIONS:

- The giveaway collections, consisting of adult and children's books and a few bilingual books in Spanish, continue to reach the community at Provisions Food Pantry and Acacia Medical Mission.
- Outreach purchased 44 new ebooks for our Paper White Kindles!

LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES:

- This month we distributed 1 book bundle to our subscribers.
- Little Free Library, bookcase restocking and prize give away books combined were at 120 books distributed in June!

Makerspace (Lindy Hargrave, Marc Dunlap)

Summer is Here and the Makerspace is Pop'n. We had some very successful classes, both in terms of attendance as well as in terms of new memberships! We were also excited to launch four new programs this summer, specifically targeted to younger makers, and though we had to do a little extra legwork making sure everyone stuck to the MKS-Policies, we feel they ended up being very successful (plus we learned a lot for "next time"). All in all, June has been a very busy & fruitful time for the Makerspace.

Program Highlights

Maker-Space Camp: Space camp was a lot to organize and prep for, but aside from a couple registration hiccups we have a solid foundation to offer it again yearly with a few tweaks. We had many

new young makers join us who took readily to the crafts and watching their parents delight as much and get involved was rewarding.

Father's Day: Laser Project: While there was a bit of confusion as to "what" they would be laser engraving on, the turnout was quite fair and everyone left happy with their creations. There were a few hardwood nameplates, several "fridge magnets" (some of which had hand-drawn images engraved on them), and even two *custom job where people brought in something to be lasered. Are hope is that there a plenty of happy "dads" out there who weren't disappointed they didn't get their annual new tie this year.

Live Demos: (Sublimation, Laser Engraving, & 3D Printing): The demos went really well. Patrons were engaged and asking questions. We then saw almost everyone who attended show up for an Open Maker Hour later in the month!

Family Bird House Project: Despite needing to recommunicate some details of this program to those attending, the actual program went very smoothly (of course, we did have several lovely helpers for this program, TY). The day was beautiful, and surprisingly quite pleasant in the shade, even during the later session. Though we didn't get the age-miz turnout we were looking for (as most patrons who attended were 18+) everyone seemed to truly appreciate the chance to handle some power tools and leave with a bird house they had made themselves.

TEEN-MKS: Team Project: It was a bit odd that the three *teams that registered didn't show day-of, but we did have a family group register minutes before the program... and with the assistance and blessing from Montana, we allowed the whole family in. It ended up a really great class; definitely a "crash course", but one that the four attending Teens seemed to really enjoy. Not everyone stuck strickly to the outlined project, but they all learned a bit about 3D printing, laser engraving, and even the Cricut. Ending up with some pretty cool *Minecraft-inspired creations (sorry I was too distracted to get pictures, but trust me they were really neat).

Scrapbooking for Booklovers: The patrons really enjoyed the series. Two were out of town for the second class, however, the third and final class was a success. Patrons used the Cricut machine to embellish their scrapbook page and took advantage of the amount of scrapbooking paraphernalia we have at the library. At times, the patrons were so engrossed into their project that the only noise heard was scissor cutting paper. Those who could not finish have already scheduled open-time.

Youth Services (Montana Rindahl, Briana Gonzalez, Ben Gonzalez)

Teens June was a busy month for the teens here at MFPL! We've been having a blast at our weekly Teen Tuesday program, where the teens decorated the teen room window, made walking tacos, and created their own stickers and buttons. We've also brought back our teen watch rotation, where on alternating weeks we have a movie night and anime club. Ben has also been leading all of our teen gaming programs to include Esports club and our monthly Smash Bros tournament!



This month we also began our summer volunteer program and the teens have been such a huge help this summer! They helped with our big Wednesday programs where they made snow cones and popcorn for patrons. They also assist during various children's programs as an extra set of hands. Also, we can't thank them enough for independently manning the Beanstack table, where they distribute the summer reading prizes to patrons.



With 60 active teen volunteers, they earned a combined total of 466.5 service hours for the month of June. We love our volunteers!

Children's June brought the beginning of our Summer Library Program with a force! We had 977 people turn out for our Kickoff Party on June 7th and ran out of t-shirts in just ten short days! For reference, last year we had approximately 550 people attend our Kickoff Party, and we were still distributing t-shirts well into July.



Our other big June programs included Touch-a-Truck, Tie-Dye, and concerts by Lucas Miller, "The Singing Zoologist." This was our first year to offer tie-dye as a Wednesday program and on the weekend, to great success! All of our patrons enjoyed the opportunity to add their own colorful flair to this year's summer library t-shirt! More program highlights include Stay and Play: Splash! – a water play morning for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers – as well as a Flag Day program led by the local VFW Auxiliary.



As a new program this summer, we started a Book-to-Movie Club for ages Kindergarten-Fifth grade. In June we completed activities inspired by some of our favorite books, and in July we plan on watching the movie adaptation of the novels.





Young Artists Book Club, a program designed to teach young patrons about famous artists while they channel their own creative skills, has also been a huge hit. The kids have loved creating their own Van Gogh-esque skylines and Kahlo-esque self-portraits, among other famous works.

A pleasant morning visit from the Mid-Texas Symphony drew patrons of all ages to enjoy a



picture book with musical accompaniment. Afterwards, young patrons saw the instruments up close and felt what it's like to hold a flute, an oboe, a clarinet and more!

In Tween Club this month we had a watercolor painting party, made energy snack balls, and competed in a lego build challenge!

Collections Reports

Adults (Kristin): We loaned 6 items to and borrowed 63 items from other libraries in the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) system. We worked one-on-one with 6 members to teach them how to use our electronic resources.

Youth (Montana): Summer is too busy for inventory! However, in preparation for the new fiscal year, Montana created a new budget spreadsheet that will automatically track spending on juvenile collection materials from month to month (July 25-June 26).

Young Adult, Graphic Novel, and Anime Collection (Martina): In June, I created a spreadsheet to track purchases in the young adult, graphic novel, and anime categories. This tool will help monitor purchasing trends and, over time, provide insight into patron interests. The goal is to better understand what materials resonate with our community and how the library can more effectively meet their informational needs and interests.

38 items were purchased for the Young Adult and Graphic Novel collections:

- 2 anime DVDs
- 17 graphic novels
- 19 young adult books

Large Print (Alex): 32 titles were purchased for the Large Print collection in June. My LP patron surveys are showing an interest in historical fiction so that is what I am going to be focusing on for the month of July.

Library of Things(Alex): I have been focusing on incorporating the cake pans into the Library of Things collection. We have a decent sized collection of cake pans so editing them in the catalog has taken some time. I am excited to get them fully integrated into the Library of Things collection. I have also started purchasing new storage containers for materials. The kettlebells have moved from being stored in cardboard boxes to bowling bags. This is great because the bowling bags can carry a high weight capacity and they came with an insert so that the kettlebell stays in place while being transferred. I am currently waiting on new storage bags for our foil application machines. My goal is to get every LoT item out of a cardboard storage container and into something more durable and aesthetically pleasing.

Digital Library (Martina): We are currently reviewing our existing contracts with Beanstack and NewsBank, including meetings with customer service representatives from both vendors. I will continue this process with other digital resource providers as their renewal dates approach. These meetings often include demos and one-on-one training, allowing me to become more familiar with each product so I can better support staff training and patron troubleshooting. This process will also help shape future marketing and programming efforts related to our digital collections.

In addition, we are exploring opportunities to expand our digital resource offerings. These potential additions are being evaluated based on usage statistics and testimonials from other libraries, as well as product demos and trial access provided by vendor representatives.

We deleted 197 items for the following reasons:

- Weeded – 132 items
- Vanished – 4 items (due to inventory)
- Lost and unpaid for – 46 items (sent to collections)
- Lost and paid for – 15 items

Marketing & Public Relations (Hanna Stratton)

June saw a lot of different marketing projects! Due to the increased programming of summer, social media posts increased to two posts a day on most days. This allowed time to highlight special summer programs as well as continuing to highlight library services and digital resources.

Additionally, I began discussing with Alex some evergreen marketing materials for the Library of Things, including a social media graphic, a website/email header graphic, and beginning to determine what information should be included in a brochure. We have also discussed the possibility of creating a webpage on the library website to highlight the collection and allow patrons to view the general Library of Things agreement, similar to how the Makerspace agreement is accessible on the Makerspace page of the website.



I was also able to meet with the Makerspace to finalize and confirm the "Made in the Makerspace" materials and the Makerspace specific branding page of the Brand Guide. There was a slight hiccup with the exporting of some of the files when the Makers tried to load it into their machine software but Marc was able to correct the issue.

In June I boosted two different posts for eight days on Instagram, one highlighting the Tuesday Lunch & Learn series and the other highlighting the Wednesday Family Programs. This boost led to these posts being seen by over 6,000 accounts! This also led to us gaining 150 new followers from these ads! Our total new followers on Instagram in June was 168 which is a 500% increase from May.

I also created some new graphics for the Herald-Zeitung for the month of July highlighting the upcoming Library Golf Event. After SLP ends I plan to update these at the beginning of the month and halfway through to feature different library services and programs.

Technology (Rob Lerner & Marc Dunlap)

Rob: June was relatively quiet month. We continued our move to Windows 11. We are slowly upgrading the machines that we can or replacing those that we can't. Before October, when Windows 10 loses support, we will be completely transitioned to Windows 11 machines. The next step is replacing the machines from our vendors. We have several systems that are running on older machines. Things like our book sorter, lockers, and public printers are all just running Windows. Some of the services, like our public printers, are strictly software running on PC's that we provide. Others, like our kiosks and lockers, are built into the machines. While that is out of our control we know that at least some of our vendors have reached out with active plans to deal with the deadline. We have reached out to those that haven't, and hopefully they will come back with a plan before October.

The weather is also out of our control and decided to play havoc with our HVAC system. Twice, in June the Library lost power during some thunderstorms. While brief, they were long enough for the generator to kick in, so we were mostly unaffected. Our chiller, however, didn't like it and decided not to run. It took 2 visits from our HVAC maintenance company to figure out that the chiller has a giant ground fault interrupter (GFI) like we all have in our power outlets at home. When the power was going out and the generator was kicking in the switch was tripping. We didn't realize it was tripped because it's hidden behind an unlabeled black box. Once the tech figured that out the chiller came right back up. Now that we know it's there we wrote a procedure for safely resetting the chiller, since we know, things being what they are, we will definitely lose power again.

Marc:

Things of Note: 80+ Patrons Assisted in the PAC Room

- Still getting a few Patrons that come in and *note that the Printers/PACs have moved to a new location!
- There were some "interesting issues" after the latest power outage... but all seem to have been resolved (not all at my hand).

- More & More devices and browsers are now "seeing" our Wi-Fi login Splash Page as "not secure", and therefore need to bypass the warning through "Advanced Settings" (in browser) in order to connect to the Wi-Fi. This does seem to be happening each time they visit; even after they have done this more than once...
- I believe that having a Staff Member at the Technology Help Desk has significantly reduced the "simpler" One-on-One Help requests, leaving those that do register for a session, ones that really do *need a full hour off guided assistance.

One-on-One Technology Help: 12+ Patrons came to their Appt.

- One-on-One sessions do seem to be the best way we can meet the needs of our community.
- More & more of these sessions are to assist people with navigating Government Websites, to one end or another.
- This just used to be DMV related, but I have helped several people this month with both Tex.gov items/forms and even a few U.S. Department of State requests/submissions.
- Several "Ad-hoc" appointments ended up being multipart sessions, as they needed help getting a document, then had to come back to scan it in and submit it online.
- Several instances resulted from *over the phone "appointments" where the Patrons then didn't bring in their device(s), and thus needed to return another day as well.

Let's Learn Technology Together: Had 6 people signed up this month for the "Basic Security and Email Best Practices" class, and had even talked to one on the phone the day before the class, but only one patron ended up attending. I am working with Javi and Martina to think about and potentially develop an Outreach Technology Program, where we hope to have a little more success with these kinds of classes. It isn't that there is no interest in the program(s), it is simply we haven't found the time/day and frequency that supports our Patrons *best yet. Therefore we are also working on another more focused survey as well as some other Program ideas for the fall.

Facilities Management (Warren Pichon)

Study Room Use: 578 (518 in regular, 60 in Zenbooths)

Public Meeting Room use: 191

- Cleaned "Old Bulverde Wood Store" display case
- Cleaned drive up windows inside and outside and sanitized
- Septic System Treated with 2 gallons of Bleach
- Treated AC unit drip pan in Data Closet
- Changed the batteries in the deodorizer in Children's library
- Shampooed stained tiles in the Children's library area
- Put Story Time Sheets up for June
- Monthly Pest control completed
- Tightened all toilet seats throughout the library including employee toilets
- Treated water feature weekly with Algaeoff and "Sludge Away"
- Did daily "Walk Around" that includes blowing debris from all entrance ways, walkways, patio areas and butterfly

- garden area. In addition: check grounds for trash and debris left by raccoons and others and for anything out of place
- Cleaned and sanitized 24hour book drop, and Drive up window containers
- Used blower to clear entrance and exits of fallen leaves and debris
- Cleaned inside all book lockers

Chabelo Landscaping:

- Trimmed trees around property, weeded area by 24 hour Book drop, weeded area across from cistern and at new property back gate, and trimmed areas around parking area 6.2.2025
- Trimmed along FOL parking area, areas in front of AC units, weeded flower beds, cut grass at gates and sidewalks 6.23.2025

Chabelo Landscaping Weeded and Trimmed Around Property



Advanced Door Control: Annual PM performed for our automatic doors 6.5.2025

Michael Berube:

- Installed 4 "Safe Step" stools in public restroom and children's library 6.11.2025
- Installed metal flag for FOL on front patio at Veteran's monument

Metal US Flag Installed



Comfort Systems USA:

- Worked on Chiller that went out after power outage 6.16.2025;
- Repaired Chiller and reset after power outage 6.19.2025

HomeTeam Pest Control: June services completed 6.17.2025

Master Gardeners and Naturalist: Weeded and trimmed in Butterfly Garden 6.26.2025

Master Gardeners and Naturalist Weeded and Trimmed in the Butterfly Garden



Administration (Susan/Cathy)

Part time Circulation team member Savannah Bianchi resigned from the library staff. We will be filling her position in July since Eva Arriola, who worked for the library during high school, is home for the summer and helping out with Circulation and as a Librarian Assistant.

Susan attended a TLA workshop "Law for Librarians" in Abilene and received updates on how new legislation passed by the current session in Texas will affect our library. From the insight she received she will review existing policies to ensure the library policies are in line with legislation.

Susan and Rob worked with the landscape architect to find some companies to bid on work on the trails and other enhancements to the 143 Bulverde Crossing property. This will help the board determine the cost and assist with fundraising for the efforts. They also contacted a local landscape company for a bid and will share the results at the July board meeting.

Two positions are up for election in November on the BARLD board. The first day to file for a place on the ballot is July 19th and the last day to apply is August 18th.