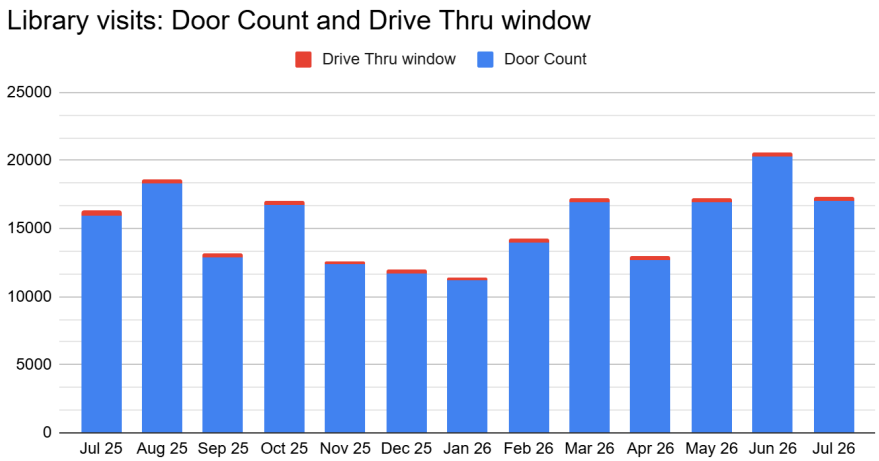
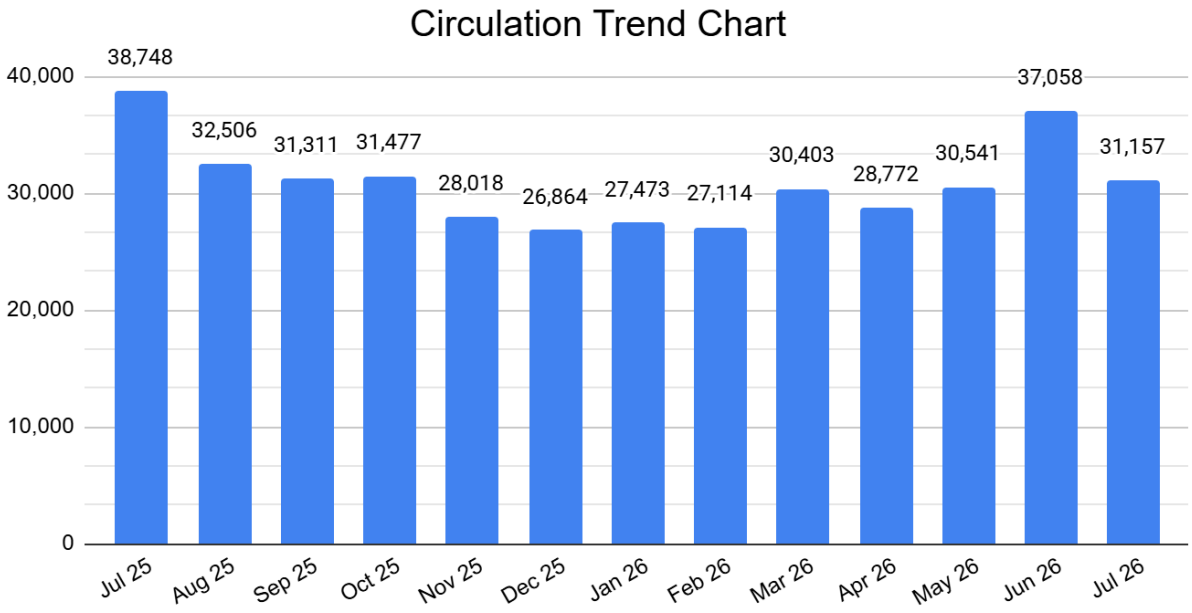
Mammen Family Public Library
Monthly Report – July 2026 Activities

Circulation Team Report

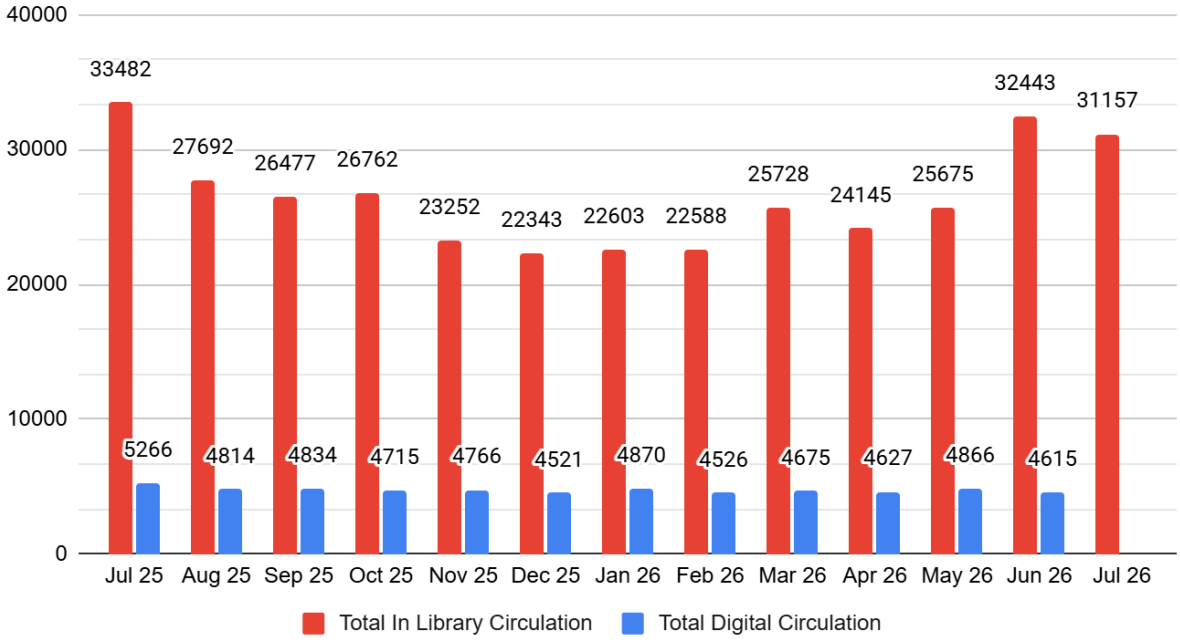
- Number of Visitors to the Library: 17,367
- Total Items Circulated: 31,157
- New Cards Issued: 264
- Number of Active Cardholders: 9,749
- Total Volunteers: 17
- Total Volunteer Hours: 158
- Patron Internet Use: 1,435
- Collection Size: 63,771



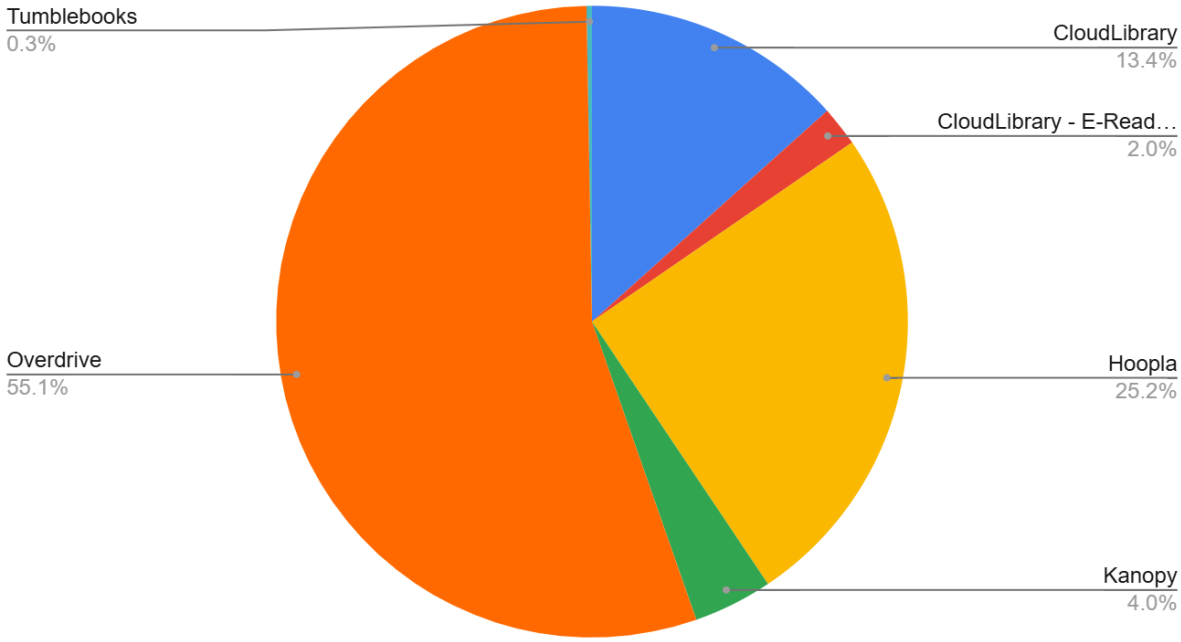
	Jul 25	Aug 25	Sep 25	Oct 25	Nov 25	Dec 25	Jan 26	Feb 26	Mar 26	Apr 26	May 26	Jun 26	Jul 26
Door Count	15958	18292	12860	16687	12376	11730	11178	13970	16907	12733	16960	20311	17054
Drive Thru window	334	315	353	316	246	241	262	253	291	289	251	285	313



In-Library vs. Digitally Downloaded Materials circulation



Monthly Digital Downloads



Programming and Outreach

Adult Programs (Maizie Valdez, Beth Wolfe)



In July, Adult Programs made variety the spice of summer, offering fun arts and crafts, new classes, and adult education offerings, including ESL Conversation and the continuation of the Water Conservation Series. We celebrated America's 250th birthday anniversary with a Constitution Crash Course, as well as a historical program by the Comal Springs Chapter of the Colonial Dames.

Crafty Tuesday included a mini archaeological dig, in keeping with the 2026 CSLP theme "Unearth a Story," as well as a social media-inspired beaded succulent craft. July's Shark Week brought us two shark-themed crafts – acrylic shark paintings, and sublimated shark totes in collaboration with the Makerspace. New instructor Michelle Diaz taught several Beginner Crochet classes as well, and received excellent feedback from students.



In July, several subject matter experts donated their time and talents to the library: Kurt Menking in geology, retired lawyer and professor Richard Caldecott in the United States Constitution, and dance teachers Debra and Ken Hixson to teach the lively Triple Two-Step. We then ended the month with a well-attended and well-received performance by the Guadalupe Dance Company. Their Viva Mi Cultura presentation demonstrated several dances from different Mexican states; patrons also tried out some of the steps and practiced their "gritos"!



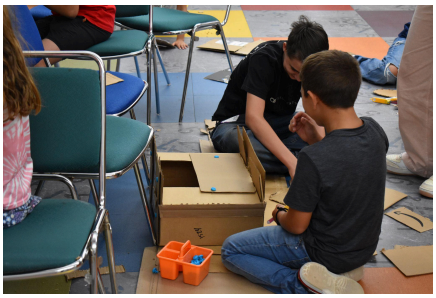
We are looking forward to a slower pace in August, continuing our education in our nation's foundational

documents with Amendments August and in our local natural environment with the beginning of AgriLife's Comal County New Landowner series.

Youth Programs (Ben Gonzalez, Briana Gonzalez, Kansas Terry)

Children's: Our weekly summer programs continued to draw plenty of curious minds this month, including over 30 attendees to one of our Young Explorers Book Clubs, where we read about famous astronaut Mae Jemison and made mini constellation projectors.





At STEM Day, the kids got to work engineering their own cardboard constructions using screwdrivers, cutters, and other simple tools. We continued to have strong attendance at Storytime, Nature Quest, Storybook Adventure Club, Art for Kids, and more!

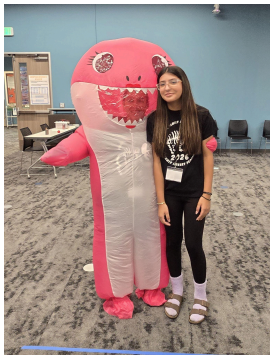


We rounded out our Wednesday morning events in July with our annual Talent Show and some amazing performers! Kids of all ages put their talents on showcase for an audience of family, friends and community members. A husband and wife storytelling/drumming duo joined us one morning and had the ENTIRE audience participating by making everyone play a random "instrument" made out of Frankenstein-ed toys. The kids loved seeing their grown-ups be silly! The next two weeks were filled with magic of both the illusion and science variety and our final Wednesday performer was a ssssssslithering good time with Austin Reptile Show. We had our biggest crowd for a performer of the summer with over 600 attendees between their two performances!





In a continued effort to provide more programming on Saturdays for working families to attend, we held our first annual Jaw-some Family Shark Party with over 125 attendees enjoying all things shark-tastic! Ben hosted a Super Smash Brothers with 40 participants!



Teens: During our weekly Teen Tuesday program this month, the teens made shark inspired drinks to celebrate shark week, experimented with bath bombs, and painted mason jars! Mr. Ben hosted a few teen programs in July , including TTRPG, young gamers club, and a super smash tournament which they loved. Just like in June, our teen volunteers were an amazing help this month. They helped give out reading prizes and assisted with many of our children's programs. They are the best!



Makerspace (Marc Dunlap, Lindy Hargrave)

July in the Makerspace was both exciting and a bit daunting. Yet, we more than survived! We had our Live Demos, in a new format and location, that seemed to be well received. Then there was our Photo Camp, where we learned a lot and will continue to improve for the next time. Embroidery Camp (a totally new program) went really well for its second run this summer. Not only were we maxed out on attendees but they all wanted to stay late and keep working each night. Sewing was as popular as always, and while a few other programs had little to no attendance, our Open Maker Hours always had someone working on a cool personal project! New things are coming down the line… it is a good thing that we have August to reorganize the Makerspace.







Outreach (Javier Gonzalez, Gina Mejia)

In July, the Outreach Department directly engaged with 517 patrons throughout the library district via pop-ups, homebound deliveries and community events. Highlights for this month include the library's participation at the 2026 Hill Country Fun Fest, Pop-Up Libraries and homebound deliveries. Hanna and Javier represented the library at the Hill Country Fun Fest at Jumbo Evans Sports Complex for an evening of vendors, food and fireworks! Our Outreach booth attracted a lot of families with younger children. Visitors got to make a sparkler craft and enjoy a calm reading area.

Book Club: This month, Books & Bites Book Club read ***The Broken Girls*** by Simone St. James. A dual-timeline mystery about Idlewild Hall, a haunted 1950s Vermont boarding school for troubled girls, and a 2014 journalist investigating her sister's murder near the school's ruins, ultimately linking past secrets to the present. Readers enjoyed the book and had a lively discussion led by Gina.

Adult Outreach: Gina and Javier delivered a total of 56 books this month to homebound patrons at Highlander Senior Village and 2 residences.

Youth Outreach: We hosted a total of 5 pop-up libraries this month with a total attendance of about 182 children and adults! Javier also visited the Sanctuary of Hope campus this month to lead a storytime and sensory activity.

Outreach Collection: 15 new titles were ordered for the Adult Outreach collection this month.









Collections

Adults (Kristin Bowman)

We loaned 8 items to and borrowed 79 items from other libraries in the Interlibrary Loan (ILL) system. I proctored one exam in July. We worked one-on-one with eight members to teach them how to use our electronic resources. This month I inventoried the audiobooks and in August I will focus on weeding and inventorying the local author section. We are continuing to fix the series information in the catalog while Alisa is adding the series info to the spines

Youth (Martina Spangrud, Kansas Terry)

Juvenile Collection: 555 items were deleted from the juvenile collection during the month of July based on lack of circulation, damage or wear and tear. 34 of the items that were deleted were reordered (thus far) and about 20 more will be reordered in August. We also fulfilled 15 patron purchase requests.

YA: 14 items were replaced due to poor condition, damage, or being reported missing, and 3 requested items were purchased for the collection. The processing team is making excellent progress on the relabelling project, which has now reached the letter “L” in the Young Adult fiction section. At Briana’s suggestion, a genre dot poster will be created for the Teen Room featuring popular YA authors. Briana, Kellie, Hanna, and Martina will work together to develop the poster, which will help patrons better understand what each genre dot represents and identify authors commonly associated with each genre.

Digital (Martina Spangrud)

Programming: In July, two Senior Planet classes, *Staying Safe Online* and *Getting to Know Your iPhone*, were held, with one and three attendees, respectively. Four additional classes were scheduled but cancelled due to no registrations. The 2027 Technology for Adults class schedule is currently being drafted. Recent changes to the official Senior Planet curriculum and partnership program will also affect technology programming for adults at the library in the coming year.

Library Catalog: Multiple updates were made to the back-end, or administrative interface, of the library catalog. Major updates include:

- Library of Things categories now being able to be hidden and sorted.
- Notes can now be added to items from the Check In screen.

Biblionix, the library’s ILS and catalog provider, was acquired by Soutron Global.

We deleted items for the following reasons:

- Weeded: 780
- Vanished (due to inventory): 2
- Lost and Unpaid For (sent to collections): 34
- Lost and Paid For: 18
- Claim Never Had: 0
- Claims Returned: 0

Marketing and Public Relations

(Hanna Tamez)

This month I continued to work on updating and replacing signage around the library. This included new window clings on the staff entrance and the FOL hallway door stating the entrances are for authorized personnel only. The staff door also received an additional cling with an arrow to better guide delivery personnel to ring the door bell.



Website: In July, I also dedicated time to updating photos on our webpage. Many pictures were 4 or more years old and were outdated. I updated most photos throughout the website with photos with much more recent photos, most are from this summer with the oldest being from Fall 2025. I also updated a few broken links I came across as well as the Teen Volunteer Application for Fall.

Literary Festival: The Lit Fest website also received some updates this month as I updated the date for the upcoming festival and removed past keynote speakers to avoid confusion.

In addition to website updates I also began developing marketing materials for the 2027 festival including a graphic to announce the date which will be posted in August after the end of the Summer Library Program. I also worked with Montana to create a benefits list for sponsors as we would like to market fundraising opportunities for the festival at the library and various events.

Branding & Merch: This month I also began working with the FOL to purchase library branded tote bags to sell. We explored a few different options on how to sell them but determined going through the Friends and using Zeffy would be the best option. We are hoping to purchase these bags in August, however due to the coloring on the bag we

picked our traditional apparel logo is not visible so we are exploring some other options. I also had a mini photo shoot with Javier and Presley who modeled some existing library merch we also plan to sell to better promote items.

Technology

(Marc Dunlap, Rob Lerner)

Tech Help: One-on-One Tech-Help had almost 100% attendance this month, alongside six additional ad-hoc sessions squeezed into the schedule. Once again, the leading topic of the month was “How do I move all my files?” or put another way “Help me clean up my storage, so Google/Apple stops asking me to pay more.” Some people were very excited to know about external drives, while others were more excited to learn how “easy” it was to clean up their files in their respective cloud storage services.There were two individuals who wanted assistance learning the basics of Microsoft Word. However, I learned it was for work, and that their job(s) would be using Google Workspace. So, we spent our remaining time looking over Google Docs and Google Drive. It was a bit of a Hit-or-Miss month for the Adult Technology Classes. The few Patrons that did register and attend a class seemed to truly be thankful that the Library has such a program.

We were also able to find & install software to our MKS laptops that will allow us to use them to “talk” to our Epilog Zing laser engraver. Before, we were *rooted* to the desktop PC under the clock (not mobile).

Technology: In July we contracted with Digital Projections to replace the broken projector in Room A. Digital Projections is the original supplier and installer of all of our projectors, screens, and digital signage that were installed during our 2019 expansion. This made everything very straight forward, because they already had all of the specs, the layout and locations for our systems. On July 7th they came first thing in the morning, removed the old projector and installed and tested the new one. No fuss, no muss and we were up and running.

We began work on a long delayed organizational project of our network hardware. Specifically, debulking the tangle of ethernet cables that we have amassed over the last 7 years. Originally when we designed the network rack layout we had half the amount of equipment we have now and our cabling was very organized and compact.That didn’t last long. It very quickly outgrew its containment as we amassed more switches and a lot more connections.This is one of those things that can only be done after hours and will take time, but when we are done the result will be a neater, more flexible, and manageable arrangement.

Facilities

(Warren Pichon)

Study Room Use: 727

Public Meeting Room Use: 163

- Treated Septic System with two gallons of bleach
- Treated Data Closet drip pan with “Pan-Treat” tablet
- Cleaned 24 hour book drop boxes
- Helped hang monthly quilts in reading room
- Did daily walk around property and picked up trash
- Texas Water Company installed new water meters on the 10th
- Put “Pull forward to exit gate” signs back up on lower and main gate on the 16th
- Sprayed weed killer in master garden on the 20th and 28th
- Star State plumbing fixed broken toilet in ladies public restroom on the 22nd
- Master gardener’s and Naturalist worked in butterfly garden area on the 23rd
- YCO gate company worked on broken main gate on the 24th
- Chabelo did landscaping on the 6th and 27th
- Changed the water filters in the staff kitchen water fountain on the 1st
- Greased the main and lower gate chains on the 6th
- Lindheimer Chapter of the Native Plant Society worked in lower garden area on the 8th
- I re-installed parking sign for 24hr book drop and no parking signs on the 8th
- Installed carpet two sided carpet tape on the area rugs in main area of library on the 8th
- YCO gate company adjusted the chain on the main gate on the 9th
- Hometeam pest control did monthly service on the 22nd
- Treated water feature with AlgaeOff and Sludge Away on the 14th

Administration

(Sophia Bard, Montana Rindahl)

Our biggest update for July is staffing! Briana Gonzalez has re-joined our Youth Services team full-time as a Youth Services Specialist. We are so glad to have her back! Kaci Zhang also completed her practicum on the Library of Things with us in July. She did fantastic work creating a tagging and organizational system, as well as working on liability documents and refreshing catalog records. Beginning August 1st, Kaci is now a Library Assistant with a few dedicated Library of Things hours each week in addition to her circulation schedule!