

**PUEBLO CITY-COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT**  
**Report of the Executive Director – July**  
**Submitted to the Library Board of Trustees**  
**August 28, 2025**

## **Barkman Library**

Summer Reading 2025 is slowly coming to a close at the Barkman Branch. We ended the month of July with a total of 1,234 Game Boards turned into the branch exceeding the 1,000-game board goal by 234 so far but we still have more time! Two grand prize drawing winners were drawn for the grand prize art baskets. To help promote the game board goal with our patrons, we altered the rules of Barkmans' own prize basket. For every game board the kids returned to the branch, they would have their name put into the drawing of the Barky Basket as well. We received 308 entries for the Barky Basket and the lucky winner is the Ridd family.



Ximena holds her Grand Prize Art supply basket



Son, mother, and daughter with the Barky Basket

Barkman Promotions: Karaline Porter-Halden, our CSR2 has been promoted to the Branch Librarian position at the Greenhorn Valley Library. We all wish her the best but

she will be missed. A kind and considerate, Karaline is a fantastic addition for their team and patrons.



Karaline leading her first solo program working with clay sculptures



Young girl posing with her storytime craft

A Storytime in July hit the highest attendance we have seen in the last 2 years with an attendance of 22 patrons. While numbers do flux, base attendance number ranging from 5-15 have remain constant and is a credit to Brigitta Myerhofer and Penny Jerman, the Branch Librarian and Program and Outreach Specialist.



Mixed media display for grades 3-5.

As the Summer Reading Program begins to wrap up, the Barkman team is starting to plan for the school year. Barkman CSR2, Ashleigh Campanella, created a fantastic mixed media display promoting books for the ever popular “Battle of the Books” event held in the middle schools. All physical books and book titles sporting QR codes are available in the PCCLD collection.

CSR2 Stela Mungaray continues to support staff and patrons with her amazing “Make N’ Takes.” She helps support the Storytime programmers with crafts and she provides extra crafts for young kids to take home. They are always in high demand and we have parents that stop by the desk to specifically ask for them.



Stela posing with a fish puppet “Make N’ Take” craft.

## **Giodone Library**

We hosted several collaborations at Giodone for the month of July.

Sandy borrowed the Colorado Book Award books from the State Library, and displayed these books during the month. We hosted our first ever book tasting where people could sample drinks and snacks that were inspired by the books.



Jessica Blaha from Lucero hosted A “Blende” of Spices at the Giodone branch, and we had a good turnout. Many were surprised to discover that Lucero Library has a spice library.



Our most popular Adult Program was Titanic and the Supernatural. 20 people came to learn more about the titanic from a guest speaker.

Summer Reading programs have been well attended. Our programs are on Thursday mornings at 11am for Juveniles, and Tweens and Teens at 3pm. Many of the families are coming to both programs! We had 145 attend all the Summer reading programs combined.

In total we had 451 in program attendance. We had 8 public meeting room reservations and 21 study room reservations.

## **Greenhorn Valley Library**

### **Program Highlights:**

The summer reading rush held up through July, continuing to lend to well attended staple and Summer Reading Centralized programs as well as a collaborative Glass Jewelry Making program collaboration with Catie at the Makerspace. Our patrons of all ages especially enjoy programs where they get to learn a skill and take something home so this was especially well received and we hope to be able to collaborate with the Makerspace more in the future. Ashley has also introduced a children's yoga class which has weekly themes and has been very well attended, and both of our D&D programs continue to be popular.

This month our Daytime book club run by Jess Driscoll discussed Not the Killing Kind which lead to lively discussion, and the Book Club After Dark run by Katherine and Ashley covered The Only One Left, a very twisty thriller that everyone was excited to discussed their suspicions through the book.

One of our special recurring programs took place this month; Ashley's perennial Tiny Art Show. Prizes were awarded based on public vote cast over the course of the month.





### **Outreach:**

Through July Ashley continued to participate in outreach with the zoo, providing crafts and library information weekly to camp attendees. Otherwise we have mostly been planning collaborations with teachers at each of the local schools for when the kids go back. So far there has been interest in starting different book clubs for kids at multiple age levels.



### **Displays:**

We kept our displays light and fun with several plays on vacations (bad or good), adventure, staycations, con artists, and several circulating around Christmas in July including our patriotically decorated tree! We also made sure to have a patriotic movie display to celebrate Independence Day.



## **Lucero Library**

### **Tina**

#### **Highlight: Live Bird Presentation with the Raptor Center- Tween/Teen Program**

**Description:** We had 91 attendees for a live bird presentation with the Raptor Center. This program was organized for the community with help from the Raptor Center to come in and have an instructor describe the birds of prey. This well attended program consists of a packed room of 2 Boys and Girls Clubs, the East Side Child Care Center, families, skaters and El Centro regulars. The Raptor center had two birds that they brought in (a turkey vulture and an owl)! It was educational and the youth organizations told me afterwards that they appreciated this event in the lineup of their field trips that they complete over the summer.

This was a collaboration between the lead by Tina Gonzalez and Lucero team, Natalie Gallegos in Youth Services, Veronica Collins at El Centro. Many attendees shared their thoughts afterwards, one being 8-year-old Emma who said that, "...the birds were cool. But it smelt like Thanksgiving dinner...a BAD Thanksgiving dinner!". I look forward to when we can have them again at the Lucero branch.

**Additional programs during the month were:** Picnic Story times held weekly on Wednesdays outside, Summer Reading centralized programs, Snack and a Show, Water Balloons Bubbles and Tacos

## Jessica

### Highlight Adult Program: Crafty Crew: Fantasy Busted Canvas

**Description:** The last Crafty Crew that was facilitated at the El Centro del Quinto Sol was Busted Canvas with the theme of fantasy. A busted canvas is two canvases that are layered with one canvas that has been cut open, like it's been punched open to reveal a picture inside. Seventeen patrons enjoyed making their own busted canvas and traveling to another world. Patrons are excited about the new adventures in upcoming classes. I can recall Deborah, a regular patron, was super excited to make a busted canvas that featured Alice from Alice in Wonderland.



example of the Fantasy Busted Canvas created by a patron.

Description: The image features a decorative frame showcasing a whimsical, fairy-tale-like scene. At the center is a charming treehouse, nestled among flowers and moss, evoking a magical woodland setting. The treehouse is delicately adorned with small lights, which add a soft, enchanting glow to the scene.

Surrounding the central image, the frame itself is richly decorated with pink and red paper accents, stars, and floral designs

**Additional programs during the month were** Crafty Crew Book Binding (Immediate level), which was a collaboration with Alisha Cunzio (LHG librarian); Spice Blend Class that featured a BBQ rub at the Giodone Library; and Crafty Crew kit to go: One in a melon garland.

## Chris

### Highlight Youth Program: Water Balloons, Bubbles and Tacos!

**Description:** This was a great outdoor program featuring giant bubbles, water balloon games, and tacos.



The Lucero team led by Chris Rivera and Stacy Righini (PW) together had a program for the kids. The youth were able to cool off for the summer and have fun and eat some tacos and ice cream. Some of the activities that they enjoyed included throwing balloons into buckets to win prizes, making giant bubbles, eating tacos from Tacos Fuego and having ice cream as well. This program encapsulated the joys of community and working together with staff to end the summer with a bang!

**Additional programs during the month were:** The summer reading programs that were provided to Lucero were #MyPueblo - Bring in your digital photos to curate for show, The Mini Artist Workshop - Tween Summer Reading, Live Bird Presentation with the Raptor Center, Summer Hangout 2025, and Brickmania. The kids enjoyed all the activities that were provided as well as the snacks for facts program and snack attacks.

## **Lamb Library, Library @ the Y, Beulah Library**

### **Program Highlights**

- Adult Programming

July was a fun and exciting month full of creativity and connection, with several unique programs that sparked curiosity and engagement. Participants explored art and nature through summer relic boxes crafted with gathered materials, experimented with cyanotype on fabric in the dark, and tried their hands at wet felting. One standout was our 4th of July wood painting class, which truly resonated with attendees. As we painted American flags, we challenged ourselves with flag trivia, shared favorite 4th of July memories, and enjoyed patriotic music—making it a meaningful and memorable way to celebrate the holiday together.

The ladies really let their creativity flow in this week's craft of Mini Surfboards! They enjoyed some relaxing Hawaiian music, tiny paint brushes, and an endless amount of inspiration!



Seniors enjoying patriotic crafts!





Mini Surfboards!

- Teen/Tween Programming

Teen/Tween Night Spotlight - Red, White & Blue Tie-Dye Bandana Party

R, W, & B Bandana Party was a hit! With the highest engagement of the summer teens/tweens & families all showed up to come enjoy an outdoor program and celebrate the 4th of July through tie-dye!



Teens/Tweens and Adults outside for patriotic tie dye!

- Children's Programming

Storytime continues to be a powerful way to build lasting relationships with families in our community. This summer, a young patron named Vincent, who has since graduated from school and no longer regularly attends, stopped by a storytime just to say hello because he missed it so much. Moments like this highlight the lasting impact of early literacy programs and the strong connections they foster between the library and the families we serve.

**YMCA:**

Preschool Storytime - **Summer** Reading and Music

We spent the month really leaning into the fun fewer known "holidays" of the month! The kiddos responded well and really enjoyed the new themes, songs, and coloring pages to go along with our stories!

Adult Craft - This month's featured craft—book page wood slice magnets—was a hit! It was exciting to see new and returning faces, with several participants sharing that they now look forward to this program each month. It's quickly becoming a regular creative outlet and community connection point for many.



Adults enjoying crafts at the YMCA!

### **Outreach Highlights**

In one week, the outreach team attended both a community health and resource fair and the Steel City Arkansas River Festival, reaching nearly 250 people. These events allowed us to connect with a wide range of community members and share information about library services, programs, and resources.

### **Thank You from Patrons**

*"I have been to the library several times when Crystal is here at the library. She is most helpful & knowledgeable. I really enjoy coming here for her to help me when needed. - Diane Parkhurst*

*"I love Lamb! Keep it up! 100" - Anonymous*

*"Crystal was friendly and helpful. Thank you so much." – Anonymous*

## **Pueblo West Library**

### **Community Display Cases**

Pueblo West Women's League Membership Drive Display

Summer Reading Display

### **Art Exhibits, Estimated Attendance**

Karen Larkin water color paintings and photography

**Pueblo West Library held a total of 63 programs, outreaches, club meetings, technology training, and Kits2Go with a total attendance of 1420.**

## **Program Highlights**

### **Summer Reading: Zoo Visit**

The youth loved the visit from the zoo. They got to touch and feel different feathers, furs, and meet a lizard and some salamanders.



### **Summer Reading Program: Watercolors**

The kids had a wonderful time using watercolor paints to create a rainbow of designs. Some of the kids noted it was their first time using watercolor paints and they enjoyed it thoroughly.





July Bluey Checkout Challenge Drawing Winner!

## Painting the Summer Sea

With our Pueblo West Branch temporarily closed for roof maintenance, the spirit of the library is still shining brightly beyond our walls. We brought summer scenes and creative joy to residents at Pueblo West Gardens and Capella Assisted Living through our monthly outreach. Participants painted their own ocean and beach landscapes, capturing the warmth and whimsy of the season while building meaningful connections. Programs like these remind us that the library is more than a building. It's a relationship with our community





## **Tech Services**

### **DIRECTOR:**

- Jill Kleven, Nick Potter and Sherri Baca met with LibraryIQ for a demo on their demographic's module. The district will be purchasing this in conjunction with our regular LibraryIQ subscription.
- Jill hired Billy Carrington as the new float to replace Martin Newman.
- The vacant position of the courier was transferred to the Technical Services department. Interviews began for this hiring.
- Jill completed the state grant report for our early literacy materials.
- Two sets of security gates were procured for Barkman and Lucero with a projected installation in August.
- Jill met with Amy, Kristi, Terri, Sherri and Bri to discuss the increase in sub usage and impact on the budget. Jill and Amy discussed this at the PSM meeting.

### **COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT:**

- The holiday media collection will be expanding to Rawlings.
- Danielle Cowles met with Jill to discuss come shelving changes to media at Rawlings.
- The Technical Services Department took over Books Alacarte and the new courier will be making the weekly deliveries.

### **ACQUISITIONS:**

- The team processed over 1000 new items for Lucero's opening day collection.
- The team processed and sewed 120 new puppets for Circulation.

### **ILS:**

- There were ongoing connection issues with Bywater and Bibliotheca on Rawlings self checks. Those appear to be resolved.
- Theia Bravo and Adina Vega processed 300 hotspots for circulation.

## **Local History & Genealogy**

### **PROGRAMS**

#### **HRC**

Bilingual Storytime: 16

Bilingual Storytime @ El Centro: 10

Beginner English Class: 18  
English Conversation Class: 0 (Catherine took the month off)  
Intermediate English Class: 0 (Class not offered until September)  
Beginner Spanish Class: 30  
Language Hangout: 9

### Department

#### Archives

Digital Memory Lab Open Hours: 2

#### GEN programs:

Family History Help, 7/11: 2  
Genealogy w/Joy Oria @ Barkman: 7  
Fold3, 7/19: 5

**Total Attendance (in person): 99**

### **OUTREACH**

Steel City Arkansas River Festival: 100

Boys and Girls Club of Pueblo Branch/Department Tour - 12 students, 7/25 - Twelve 10th graders visited Rawlins where they were provided a tour of the branch and spent time in the LHG department. Students learned about the resources offered in the branch and department, and met library workers throughout. Students learned about what it's like to work in a library and what qualifications they would need to work in a library. LHG department staff recounted their journeys to working at PCCLD.

Katalina tabled for PCCLD/LHG at CSU-P's Aztlan Research Center Summer Institute, 7/29 - Katalina set up an informational table at the Occhiato Student Center conference area where attendees of the Summer Institute encountered promotional materials about the resources and programs/classes offered throughout the District. This included a Save-The-Date flier for the Latino/a/x Book Festival (9/27/2025). Additionally, PCCLD provided the Summer Institute organizers with PCCLD branded lanyards and pens which were included in welcome packets given to all attendees.

### **INREACH**

### **SPECIAL PROJECTS, INITIATIVES, NEW PARTNERSHIPS**

#### **Shared Memories**

Static Memory Lab installation at Trinidad Public Library, Tuesday, July 8 - Blake/Aaron

Mobile Memory Lab installation at Alamosa Public Library, Thursday, July 17 -  
Blake/Aaron

Mobile Memory Lab installation at Canon City Public Library, Thursday, July 31 -  
Blake/Alisha

### **Genealogy Projects**

- Checked in periodicals: 21 issues ( from mail + donated + found unprocessed in vault)
- Periodicals on carousel rearranged to be alphabetical by title
- Prepared and submitted bindery shipment of 75 items to Technical Services
- Shelf read LHG checkout collection
- Created Revolutionary War display
- Created *Could you be related to a Pope?* Display
- Submitted ticket to create an introductory genealogy packet

### **Digital Archives**

- Continuing work on Glen Canyon rock art metadata
- Editing rock art controlled vocabulary to ensure that it is consistent with LOC and Getty AAT subject headings
- Traveled to Trinidad, Alamosa, and Cañon City to deliver shared memories equipment and train staff
- Created slack for Shared Memories participants to network
- Performing Omeka backend tasks including page and user creation for Shared Memories

### **Physical Archives**

- Received donation from SCEA, and am in the process of assessing and storing the collection.
- Continued vault inventory (80% finished) and update of vault locations within ArchiveSpace.
- John Korber Business Buildings binders scanned through volume 55
- Have obituary pdf files added to database through the F's.

### **Archival Reference Sessions: 11**

#### **Feedback from Patrons:**

Dear Tabitha,

Warm thanks for getting great aunt Rebecca's obituary to me. It's the second time that the library in Pueblo has helped me. Since that first time, I have been unable to locate her grave via the owners of the once Valhalla cemetery. I'll keep trying.

All the best,

Andrea Massion, Port Hueneme CA USA, Researching Greenspoon, Massion from UKRAINE

## **Experiential Learning**

### **Makerspace Services**

#### **Fairy Doors**

This month, we had the fairy doors program. It was a means to clean out some extras from the closet, but also was a lot of fun. Patrons really enjoyed creating doors, houses, and other creative things from the supplies we offered and let them use liberally to free up some storage space for new goals and needs.

#### **Make Your Own Drop Spindle**

This is a first in a series. We made the drop spindles in July, in August we will be learning to spin yarn on them, in September we will use a Niddy Noddy to take the next steps towards making the fiber into usable yarn, and then in October we will ply and dye to achieve a final result of usable yarn. So far, people are enjoying and expressing excitement for this series, and I am also looking forward to its progress. Patrons really enjoyed getting to build their drop spindles and decorate them with nearly limitless creativity. I really enjoy how no two that were made are alike, they are each quite unique, and we are all looking forward to getting to spin on them in August!

#### **Zen-Zone Crafting**

I think this one truly hit the mark for July. With all the stress in the world and our community this summer, lots of patrons and their families came to this program and just relaxed, colored, painted, beaded, some brought their own crafts, and many expressed gratitude that we had this program to create some sense of respite for them. While the next few months have a lot of bigger things going on that would make it difficult to keep this as a regular program, it is one that I plan to bring back in the future.

#### **SCA**

The Society for Creative Anachronism usually has their arts and sciences nights at our Pueblo West branch, but reached out to me to book one night a month here at the Rawlings Makerspace so they could do some crafts and projects that needed more space. This month was the first one and it was delightful. Anyone who brought in 2 yards of fabric got to turn that fabric into boho style pants, which made of a cotton or muslin have been quite comfortable to wear, if baggy visually.

### **Museum Services:**

**My Pueblo Photography (Lucero 7/2, Rawlings 7/9, Barkman 7/11, Greenhorn Valley 7/16, Giodone 7/17, Lamb 7/24):**



This summer, museum services had the opportunity to travel to each branch and work with the community to create a district wide exhibit. Participants brought photos into branches and learned how to mount, cut, and hang foam core. The most successful program took place at the Giodone branch where one tween participant was so excited to learn about how this process worked. He did not have a phone at home, but instead used the camera we provided to him. He walked all over the library taking photos and had the most fun cutting them out with my foam cutter. He did not hesitate to help others with their cutting as well.

### **A Special Post Secret Session - Submit Your Story 7/18 and 7/25:**

This program was in collaboration with an exhibit and took place in the 2nd floor exhibit space. Participants told their stories about their invisible disabilities, but also had the opportunity to create paper portraits of themselves. Strangers gathered and had conversations about their art and lives. For my second session, despite not having as many participants, I was able to sit down with one of our regular patrons, Cowboy (Fred), for the first time and learned so much about his life.

### **New Exhibits:**

#### **Post Secret: Invisible Disabilities:**

This interactive exhibit allowed patrons to interact by sharing their own invisible disability stories and learn about resources. Stories shared demonstrated the struggle many people have, but also allowed people to share encouraging messages such as "keep on going." It was an excellent display that provided a snapshot of our community and reminded people that you never know what people are going through.

#### **From Trash to Treasure:**

This collaboration was with Jordan Residential and Vocational Services, an organization that provides skill building and collaborative programming for adults with disabilities. Each student created a piece of art and was able to showcase their recycled pieces. I was able to meet every student who provided an art piece. They were all so happy to see their art in a public space. They were the friendliest bunch and were so happy to be at the library.

#### **Steelworks of the West Exhibit at Barkman:**

This exhibit loan came back to the district and was put up at the Barkman branch. This was an effort to rebuild our relationship with the Steelworks Center and showcase a Pueblo history exhibit within a branch other than Rawlings.

#### **New Partnerships/Boys and Girls Club and District 70:**

This month, I had the opportunity to meet with representatives from both the Boys and Girls Club and District 70 to host art shows in our 2nd floor exhibit space. They had

heard in the community about the work we do with community partners and they reached out to us to see how we can accommodate their group. Immediately, both groups were impressed by the space and appreciated how willing we were to work with their students.

### **Circulation Services**

As always, circulation services is a busy hub during the summer months. We provided space to host the Junior Latino Chamber's group that partners with USD every July, so we welcomed a group of smiling tweens and teens every morning in Bret Kelly A, as well as our many other regular groups. We celebrated Disability Awareness Month with our displays and we received so many comments and so much praise. We have one patron who is deaf and blind. Her grandmother submitted a comment on her behalf saying how seen and recognized she felt by the displays and materials we had that highlighted people like her, and how welcome she felt because of that. We are all so grateful for her, and all our patrons.

### **Pictures**



## **User Services**

### **YOUTH PROGRAMS:**

#### ***Youth Team***



Pictured above: A young tween girl with blonde hair is shown from the side, eating a sundae from a cup while wearing a white t-shirt.

Families attended the Summer Reading Wrap-Up party, where the Youth Team served ice cream sundaes and organized giant games for the 84 attendees.

### **Tween/ Teen**



Pictured above: A group of children and two adults are seated at a long table covered with a black cloth, participating in a painting activity.

The Rawlings Youth Services staff offered a different program each week for tweens and teens, drawing a total of 73 attendees.

### ***Big Events***



Pictured above: A young girl in a pink hat and jean shorts swings a blue bat at a colorful piñata hanging from a tree branch.

Youth Services concluded the "Books in the Park" event, which ran from June 9th to August 1st at Lake Minnetonka and Langoni Sports Complex, with a celebration that included free hot dogs, chips, cookies, and snow cones. During the event, 2,198

materials were given away, and 1,113 people attended, with Mary from Parks and Recreation continuing her annual tradition of helping children make piñatas.

## **ADULT PROGRAMS:**



Pictured above: Museum Exhibit with a table in the middle of two panels. The table has art supplies, and there is a string on top of the two panels with postcards hanging off.

### ***Invisible Disabilities Awareness Month Exhibit Encourages Community Voices***

The Museum Services Administrator, Reference Librarian, and Adult Literacy Administrator collaborated to create a unique, passive art program inspired by PostSecret. Adult patrons were invited to share their experiences with invisible disabilities by decorating postcards, which were then displayed in the Sky-Wing exhibit at Rawlings Library.

Art stations with supplies, prompts, and postcards were available in the exhibit space and throughout the second floor's Adult Fiction and Nonfiction areas. A curated resource list, available on take-home bookmarks with a QR code, provided information and materials on invisible disabilities from the library's collection and online sources.

### ***Library to You and Aging Adult Programming***





A silver ladder leads into a silver boat carrying a red, blue, and green castle. Gold stars are sprinkled in the background. Shrink art made by an older adult at the all ages Tea & Makes program. July saw many all ages programs, unique art, and community.

### ***Adult Literacy Program***



A poet reads aloud from his book in front of a group of seated library patrons. Local poet Mark Chartier gave a reading of his poetry in honor of Disability Pride Month!

### ***Adult Services Tie Dying Program***



A group of people, that are all ages, gathered around tables, tying and dyeing fabric.

## **Facilities**

### **Work Order Statistics**

- 569 Work Orders Completed

### **Giodone**

- Cleaned up the property.

- Mowed grounds.

### **Greenhorn**

- Mowed grounds.
- Grounds clean up.
- Removed wasps.
- Purchased new refrigerator.

### **Lamb**

- Installed Breeze.
- Cleaned up property
- Installed new drinking fountain.

### **Lucero**

- Supported remodel.
- Purchased new refrigerator.

### **Pueblo West**

- Mowed grounds.
- Supported re-roofing project.
- Replaced CU #4 fan.
- Repainted bike and skateboard racks.
- Purchased air scrubber.

### **Rawlings**

- Repaired front doors.
- Repaired café ice machine.
- Setup new picnic table on 3<sup>rd</sup> floor balcony.
- Painted first floor columns.
- Installed new blinds in Brett Kelly B meeting room.
- Installed new water feature controls.
- Conducted semiannual chiller service.
- Had contractors repair AHU #4 and #5
- Removed Steel Mill display.

### **Other project/duties – District**

- Supported Books in the Park.
- Repaired courier van.
- Responded to several roof and window leaks
- Responded to several after-hours emergencies.
- Repaired library vehicle slashed tires.
- Repaired tractor.

## **Volunteer Hours**

PCCLD Volunteer estimated hours for the month of July.

<b>ADULTS</b>	<b>355.50 HOURS</b>
<b>TEENS</b>	<b>88.50 HOURS</b>
<b>BOOKS AGAIN</b>	<b>1211.60 HOURS</b>
<b>BOD TRUSTEES</b>	<b>20.00 HOURS</b>
<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	<b>1675.60 HOURS</b>
<b>VALUE OF VOLUNTEER HOURS</b>	<b>\$58,294.12</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
Sherri Baca  
Executive Director

