



Looking Back to 2022

Looking Ahead to 2023

EAST LAKE COMMUNITY LIBRARY IN 2022

COMING OUT OF HIBERNATION...



- Restored Public Hours of Operation
- Changeover to more “hybrid” programs that offered in-person and virtual options

AND MAKING LEMONADE OUT OF THE PANDEMIC “LEMONS”...

- COVID Information Stations & Assistance
- Community Food Pantry – still needed today!
- Mental Health Series for Teens
- 24/7 Locker System
- Collections Connection Home Delivery



WHAT DID OUR PATRONS WANT?

More of everything...not just downloadable materials. The patrons STILL want their BOOKS!!! This challenges national trends and reflects the need to have a wide variety of materials available at our library.

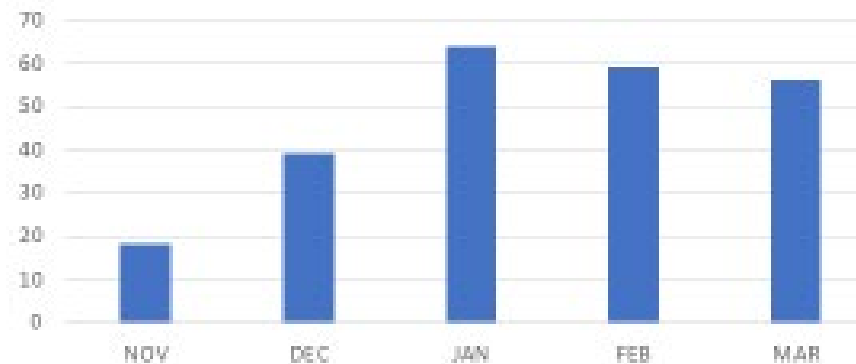
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Our library became a passport acceptance facility last November and averages over 50 applications per month! We also do passport photos!



Passports Completed
November 2021 to March 2022





ELCL'S 24/7 OUTDOOR LOCKER SYSTEM

"If you build it, they will come!"

Since it was unveiled in November 2021, the locker system is averaging 400 ITEMS PER MONTH.

The main benefit is the ability to provide a level of customer service to the community outside our regular hours.



EAST LAKE COMMUNITY LIBRARY TRAFFIC COUNT (TWELVE-MONTH OVERVIEW)

Although we have not yet reached pre-pandemic numbers in terms of patrons IN the library, we do see a gradual rise in monthly traffic count. As we continue to open up with programs and services, these numbers should continue to increase.

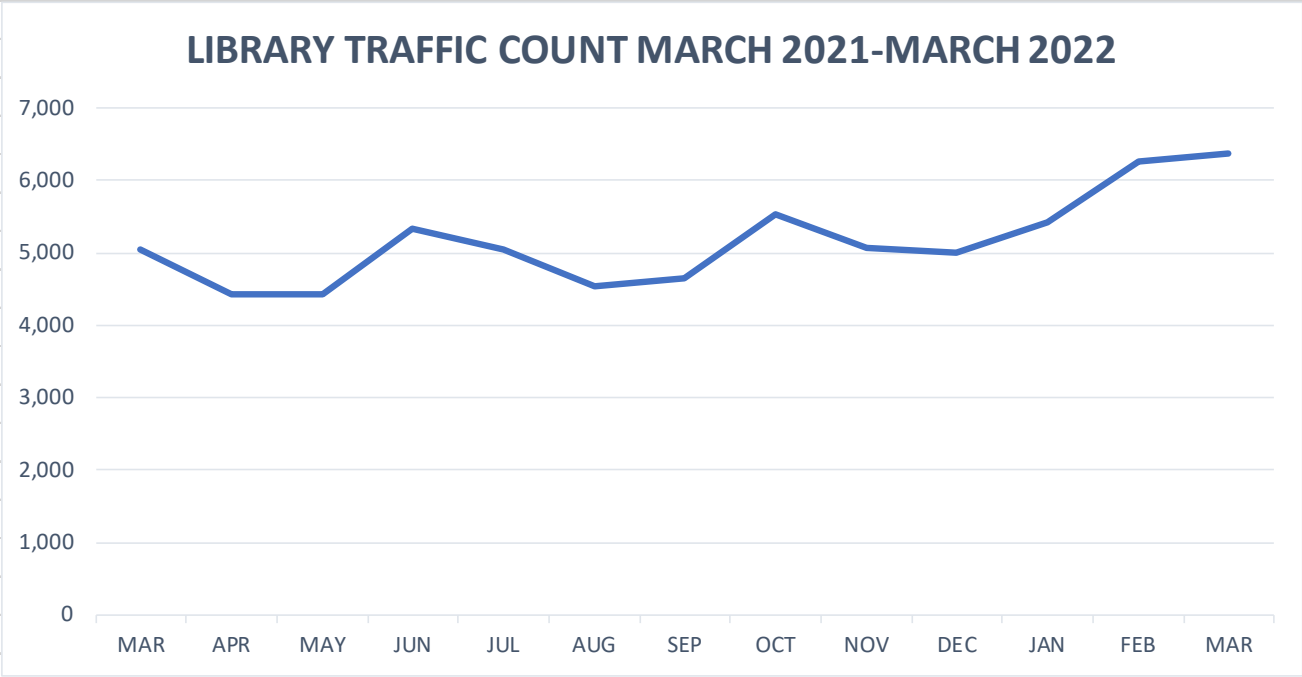


FROM THIS IN 2021...



TO THIS IN 2022...

| MAR | APR | MAY | JUN | JUL | AUG | SEP | OCT | NOV | DEC | JAN | FEB | MAR |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 5,050 | 4,437 | 4,435 | 5,347 | 5,048 | 4,544 | 4,641 | 5,534 | 5,077 | 5,012 | 5,425 | 6,267 | 6,374 |

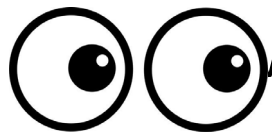


INSIDE OUT: EXTENDING THE LIBRARY'S FOOTPRINT

COVID-19 had made the value of fresh air very apparent. Outdoor spaces on library grounds increase the usable space and reduce the density of patrons indoors. Outdoor spaces will remain useful allowing patrons to enjoy the natural environment while having access to library amenities.



MSTU funds for FY2022 were used in part to create our Tech Deck, which includes
A SOLAR CHARGING BENCH AND A
WHEELCHAIR-ACCESSIBLE PICNIC TABLE.



We are looking towards FY2023 to continue transforming outdoor spaces to enhance library service...

LOOKING AHEAD - FY2023 OUTDOOR SPECIAL EVENT VENUE



From two rotted wooden sheds to one large aluminum shed for storage & supplies for outdoor events, thanks to MSTU funds for FY'22.



From an unprotected cement slab to a permanent canopy for outdoor programs, thanks to funding from the Friends of the Library.



Developing a Library Technology Plan for Today and Tomorrow

East Lake Community Library's Technology Plan for 2022 – 2025 (Anticipated completion: July 2022)

This project will document East Lake Community Library's current technology status and the plan for technology improvements over the next three years.



The main goal is to use staff and patron surveys to determine technology needs and wants, receive recommendations from outside vendors and technology specialists, and create a viable plan for upgrades, replacements, and new technology.



Where has the time gone?!



A new three-year strategic plan for East Lake Community Library will be created in the latter part of 2022, with input from all stakeholders.



Our biggest issue continues to be a lack of space, preventing us from expanding collections, programming, staffing, quiet study areas, small meeting rooms, etc. With the help of our support groups and Pinellas County, we will continue to find creative ways to face this issue and begin preliminary planning in FY'23 for a building expansion of a second floor in the hopes of Penny for Pinellas funds being available at some future date.

Thank you to Pinellas County and the Board of County Commissioners for your continued support!

**Lois Eannel, Library Director
East Lake Community Library**

