

YEAR IN REVIEW

Adapting to Changing Times

- In April 2020, during the the Governor's 'stay-at-home' order, fines were waived. Library staff answered phones and email inquiries from patrons when the physical building was closed. Readers advisory and **reference questions** answered via phone and email.
- To help stay farther apart inside the building; SPL cardholders can borrow a laptop to use inside the Library facility, check out the **TechItOut kiosk** near the East Service Desk.
- **24/7/365** Streaming and downloading services available
- The **Hoopla Digital app** allows users to stream movies, TV shows, comics, and music. In 2020, double the number of usual patrons used Hoopla, with a 23% increase in the number of titles borrowed from 2019.
- Patrons also increased use of movie, music, and other digital streaming library services via **Kanopy** and **Freegal**.

In keeping staff and patrons safe as the goal, the following procedures are being practiced:

- Proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as masks, hand washing, hand sanitizer, and gloves when appropriate, are used by all staff.
- Following City of Sanibel guidelines, the Library requires that everyone in the building wear masks and follow social distancing practices.
- As another safety precaution, the library is quarantining all materials for 24-72 hours between loans to stop the spread of COVID-19. The items sit for 24-72 hours depending on format (print, acrylic, plastic, etc.).
- About half the furniture has been removed, self-checkout service is encouraged, social distancing guidance floor tape is in place, and public hand sanitization stations are available at all entrances.

Policies may change based on best practices from CDC, and State of Florida Department of Health guidelines.



New service in 2020: borrow a WiFi hotspot with your Library card



Staff answered phones and email inquiries when the Library facility was closed for two weeks in 2020



Many students have been using the SPL's WiFi to attend school virtually



"Cooking in the Bag" kits have been popular as more people are eating at home

Adapting Services During the Pandemic

- **Contactless curbside pickup** has been very popular, more than 5,000 items have been placed on hold since May 1, 2020. About 40 to 50 bags go out to the tables for pickup each day.
- **Schedule Tech Help Online** and tech help via FaceTime: Request help with Library apps like downloading eBooks, video streaming, and more at www.sanlib.org/techappointment
- Youth Services Librarian, Deanna Evans, posts **online storytimes** each week. Her videos can be found on the Children's Page at sanlib.org/children.
- To meet increased demand, Sanibel Public Library Foundation provided a \$5,000 grant for additional eBook support in April of 2020. The grant allowed the Library to increase the number of **popular fiction and nonfiction eBooks**. The Library offers more than 6,000 eBooks and audiobooks via the OverDrive/Libby app.
- Several new apps have been added in the past year, including **PressReader**, which provides online access to newspapers and periodicals from around the world.
- Patrons can now borrow **WiFi hotspots**. Hotspots allow users to connect enabled devices (laptops, tablets, smartphones, etc.) to the internet, from home or even outdoors.
- New service: **Brainfuse HelpNow** is an on-demand, anywhere, eLearning module, offering cardholders of all ages. Access live, online tutoring, test prep, and other skill-building resources, like live chess tutoring from expert chess players.
- **Virtual programs:** Library staff created videos ranging from "How to Borrow eBooks," to "WWII History."
- Sanibel Public Library's **digital archives are now online**. With over a thousand items, this ever-growing collection is a dynamic view of Sanibel's past. From the first homesteaders to important events in the island's recent history, the Sanibel Public Library **Digital Archive** collects, preserves, and provides access to all items that are valuable to Island history. Seed development for this ongoing project is supported in part by the Roni Jo Freer Fund of the Sanibel Public Library Foundation. The library is seeking stories, photos, and videos of people and places of Sanibel and Captiva for the archives.



Hundreds of green bags go to patrons each week via the popular contactless curbside pickup service



meeScan app



Patrons have been using chess, and borrowing puzzles and board games during the pandemic



New Service: PressReader news app