

Ashe County Librarian Report: November-December 2021

Strategic Plan 2022-2026

- Soft roll-out of the plan in January 2022; public roll-out in April 2022
- Work and development plans for all staff members aligned with strategic plan

Programs

- Hosted two On the Same Page Festival events with Bland Simpson and Georgann Eubanks (79 attendees)
- Hosted three Honoring Our Veterans events with filmmakers Ken and Betty Rodgers and author Tom Baker (42 attendees)
- Patrons donated 920 items during Food for Fines week, and 144 patrons had fines removed because people who had no fines donated items
- Holiday kits for all ages served nearly 500 patrons
- Kids made 87 ornaments to decorate the Youth Services Christmas tree

Advocacy/Outreach

- Gifted handmade paper ornaments to each outreach patron
- Attended the Ashe Co. Veterans Day event and introduced Volume 4 of the Veterans History Project (125 attendees)

Building/Maintenance

- HVAC serving the computer lab must be replaced; this won't happen until spring (average temp is 77 degrees)
- Go Postal has agreed to remove and reapply vinyl lettering to front and back doors; this won't happen until spring

Partnerships

- Provided 170 treat bags with library information for ACAC's Saturdays with Santa
- Partnered with ACS to distribute 1600 Winter Reading Challenge cards to elementary students

Finances

- Submitted an American Rescue Plan: Humanities Grants for Libraries grant to expand OTSP
- Awarded a LSTA Adapting Technology grant (ARL) that will buy new PCs and monitors for the computer lab, children's depot, and teen area as well as learning keyboards and small mice
- The Be An Angel: Support the Library campaign (donations given in exchange for handmade ornaments) netted over \$350

Personnel

- Ashley Wilson was hired as a part-time Adult Services Librarian. She comes to us from Ames Public Library in Iowa.
- We have offered the Youth Services Manager position to a candidate and should know by January 10 if she will accept the position.

Looking ahead

- January: the Food Hub Satellite at Ashe County Public Library begins operation on January 5 (pickup is every Wednesday, 4-6 pm); in-person health seminars with VAYA health resume on January 6 (first Thursdays at 10 am); new 2022 reading challenges for kids, teens, and adults
- February: Sip and Stroll Story Walk