

Ashe County Librarian Report: January & February 2023

Strategic Plan 2022-2026

- See attached

Programs/Partnerships

- Served over 1000 people through traditional programs, self-directed programs, and program kits (Jan & Feb)
- Gave away 158 books (Jan & Feb)
- Offering a five-part series on infant massage in collaboration with Partnership of Ashe
- Started a Stitch N Yarn club for teens and adults to build on the success of January's crocheting kits
- Working with Town of WJ and County of Ashe to plan Trail Town event for August 4-6

Advocacy/Outreach

- Installed a little free bookcase at Mountain Family Care Center
- Attended the January meeting of the Town of West Jefferson Aldermen; received positive feedback from two board members about the library's events and services

Collections

- Integrated young adult audiobooks into the adult audiobook collection
- Began our biennial inventory of all library materials with plans to be finished before summer
- Added 291 items to the collection

Building/Equipment

- An issue with a water leak and water pressure required a cascade of interventions from town and county maintenance, the Fire Marshal, our security company, the sprinkler company, a county-contracted plumber, and a great deal of staff time. We are now keeping incident reports on significant building issues.
- Five panels of the Jefferson Storywalk have been damaged or vandalized since January. We have replaced 12 plexiglass panels at this location in the past year. The wooden frames and the trail that leads from one panel to the next are in need of serious repair.
- Billings Heating and Cooling (Sparta) installed a whole system dehumidifier in the community room.

Finances

- Applied for an LSTA grant for \$22,000 (notification in June)

Personnel

- Celebrated Staff Appreciation Day with lunch and treats, cards for each staff member, and token gifts

Looking ahead

- Read Across America and kindergarten readiness programs for kids; Reading Challenge book club, a "You Had Me at Jello" party, and a Kentucky Derby event for teens and adults; pre-k-12th grade poetry contest