

Ashe County Librarian Report: July & August 2023

Programs/Partnerships

- All summer reading programs combined read 387,825 minutes this summer. With that number of minutes read, you could read Ken Follett's Kingsbridge series (Pillars of the Earth, etc.) 137 times or the Harry Potter series 96 times! Each program had an increase of about 15% in reading time.
 - 19% increase for kids, 14% for teens, 10% for adults
 - 70% increase in the number of kids who completed the program (107 to 182)
 - Children's programming five days a week for eight weeks
 - Highest juvenile book summer circs since 2014 (13,698)
 - Nearly 30,000 visitors to the library
 - Gave away nearly 1200 books
 - Best-attended programs included the Bubble Brigade Foam Party, Farmer Minor and Daisy, Schiele Gem Mining, Book Character Parties, Shred Event, and Backstreet Concert

Advocacy/Outreach

- Attended Lansing Board of Aldermen meeting to initiate a request to install a permanent story trail in Lansing Creeper Trail Park
- Co-sponsored WJCP Backstreet Concert with Trevor McKenzie and Jackson Cunningham
- Regular outreach events currently include: Hart's Grocery Author Series, Ashe Farmers Market, and Reminiscing with Reta

Collections

- Battle of the Books relocated to accommodate new lactation pod
- Completed the adult weeding schedule for 2023

Building/Equipment

- [Mamava lactation pod](#) (LSTA grant) ordered and will be delivered and installed in October
- New tables and chairs installed in teen computer area
- Repair of a water leak necessitated a library closure on Thursday, August 31

Technology

- Website refresh complete
- Kilby has almost finished installing 10 new staff PCs

Personnel

- Lee Payne celebrated her 6th anniversary (July) and Leena Stark celebrated her 5th (August)

Looking ahead

- Library Card Sign-up Month giveaways and email updates; [On the Same Page Festival](#) Sept. 12-16; [Concert with international artist Sarah McQuaid](#) (partnership with ACAC) on Sept. 29
- Grand opening of Mamava pod; [Hart's Grocery Series](#): Oct. 7 Nick Ochsner & Michael Graff; Oct. 28 Mimi Herman; Farmers Market Fall Festival; WJ Halloween