

Watauga County Public Library
Library Report September, 2022

Advocacy/Library Promotion

Monica went on the radio with Lisa Flanigan to promote Youth programming and services. A press release will go out promoting Library Card Sign Up Month.

Displays near our entrance include an informational display about our two book clubs, a display put up by DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution), books for Youth to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, a selection about birding, High Country Writers book promotion, a road trip book display, and a Boone 150 promotional display with copies of "Junaluska: Oral Histories of a Black Appalachian Community". Several hundred families were reached at the Back 2 School Festival in August at the Library's table. The Library had a table with information at Mabel, Cove Creek and Hardin Park's parent nights. Whitney Jones Inc. will soon begin a campaign survey to gauge support and leadership for a potential capital campaign to raise funds for renovation and expansion of the Library. The Western Watauga Friends will have a holiday basket raffle fundraiser with plans to sell tickets in October; the winner will be announced in early December.

Partnerships/Funding

The Library will receive a \$3,650 distribution from the Endowment for meeting room tables, a microfilm reader/software, and a PC to run with it as well as funds for up to 14 dementia kits.

The Library will be partnering with Legal Aid this fall to allow for a health care navigator to be here certain days and time periods; more information will be forthcoming.

Programs/Services

We had 457 kids sign up for the Summer Reading program and the Western Watauga Branch had 64. Attendance for programming was 2,601 at the main library and 113 at the Branch. September is Library Card Sign Up Month so we will have a drawing for those who get a card in September. The prizes include passes/gift cards for Rock Dimensions, Sky Valley, High County Souvenirs and Mysterium Escape Adventure. We are partnering with local residents Maria Hernandez and Elizabeth Weinreb for Hispanic Heritage Month bilingual story times.

Staff/Volunteer News

In August, we welcomed two new Youth Services Specialist: Jenna Kissel and Kristian Brown. We are searching for a new Youth Services Manager to begin at the end of September. Linda Young, Circulation Assistant, will retire effective September 24. Local board member Patricia Swartzbaugh has joined the Regional Library Board. Lisa Reynolds and Geri Purpur began recently as new Friends book donation sorters. Erica Church and the Joy Camp Women's Group are now volunteering at the Western Watauga Branch. A public farewell for Judith Winecoff is planned for September 28, 11:30 am – 1 pm. A volunteer drop-in celebration is scheduled for Saturday, September 24, 1:30 pm – 3 pm, right before the King Bees perform on the lawn. A big thank you to all of our volunteers who have helped us with the Friends book sale, Reading & Rolling, and the Summer Learning Program. Thanks to volunteer Marsha Hoffman and Jenna Kissel for attending the Back 2 School Festival and to Jenna and Judith for attending parent nights at Mabel and Hardin Park Elementary. Thanks to Ingrid for attending the Senior Health Fair.

Looking Ahead

We will be closed for Labor Day on September 5.