

Watauga County Public Library
Library Report September, 2023

Advocacy/Library Promotion

A press release will go out to promote Library Card Sign Up Month and also to announce our LSTA grant award for the outreach van and technology.

Displays near our entrance include Friends of the Library are selling puzzles, books on the classics, poetry, essays and plays, children's specially priced books including vintage, sorters' picks; High Country Writers book selections; Cook the Books and Book Bunch book club selections and summer reading raffle prizes.

Several hundred families were reached at the Back 2 School Festival in August at the Library's table.

Partnerships/Funding

The Library will receive a \$7600 distribution from the Endowment for matching funds toward our van outreach LSTA grant. Watauga County Schools will be sending their 2nd graders from throughout the district to visit and learn about the Library's offerings.

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. We hope to partner with the Board of Elections for National Voter Registration Day on September 26 and beyond until election day.

Programs/Services

We had 642 kids sign up for the Summer Reading program and the Western Watauga Branch had 127. Last year it was 457 and 64 respectively. Programs were very well-received. September is Library Card Sign Up Month so we will be giving out local coupons for those who get a library card. Thus far, Espresso-News will donate 100 coupons. We are in the process of planning Hispanic Heritage Month bilingual story times and hope to partner with the Immigrant Justice Committee on activities. Jackie Cornette is organizing a children's concert in Avery county at the YMCA for Headstart children in Avery, Mitchell, Yancey and Watauga counties through the Intermountain Children's Services Inc. The Civic Federal Credit Union is sponsoring the event.

Staff/Volunteer News

In August, we welcomed a new Circulation Assistant, Jenny Brunner as well as a new Digital Watauga Intern, Gramm Coffman. We are searching for another Circulation Assistant to replace Bonita Gragg, who resigned. Candice Trexler, Media Specialist at Hardin Park Elementary, has joined the local Library Board. Ala Sue Moretz, Laura Johnson, and Anita Clemmer have joined the Friends Board. A volunteer drop-in celebration is scheduled here for Friday, November 10, 9:30 pm – 11:30 am. A big thank you to all of our volunteers, past and present, who have participated in Reading & Rolling; they had a 20th anniversary party on August 15. Thanks to volunteer Marsha Hoffman, Arly and staff members Jenna Kissel and Kristian Brown for attending the Back 2 School Festival. Volunteer Troy Brooks has once again offered computer tutorial assistance on Saturdays.

Looking Ahead

We will be closed for Labor Day on September 4.

Statistics for fiscal years 2020 - 2023

SUMMER READING PROGRAM

MAIN

2021 2022 2023

Registration	499		457		642
Programs	44/12		64		42
Attendance	2,183/553		2,601		1,978
Minutes Read	Didn't have		249,630		307,385

2021: programs –in-person/virtual

WESTERN WATAUGA

2021 2022 2023

Registration	52		64		127
Programs	6		4		6
Attendance	278		113		269
Minutes Read	21,840		26,880		53,340

2021: programs are all take-it make-its

E-BOOKS AND E-AUDIO THROUGH OVERDRIVE - REGIONAL CIRCULATION

FY 2021 FY 2022 FY 2023

E-Books	12,874		10,657		11,262
E-Audio	4,136		4,188		4,855

MAIN				
	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	
CARDHOLDERS	29,294	31,148	33,525	
CIRCULATION	160,256	178,818	185,634	
VISITS	52,249	85,417	102,245	
PROGRAMS – Virtual/Live- hybrid	66/86	28/ 204	278	
ATTENDANCE – Virtual/Live- hybrid	568/5,642	11,330/8114	8,274	
PAGE VIEWS	60,995	48,922	57,030	
JUVENILE BK CIRC	86,194	101,818	108,362	
ADULT BK CIRC	54,968	58,497	61,339	
AUDIO/VISUAL CIRC	18,427	17,565	15,564	
COMPUTER USE	2,695	6,413	7,886	
WI-FI	39,249	85,170	79,568	
MEETING ROOM USE	1	49	258	
MEETING ROOM ATTENDANCE	8	836	5816	

WESTERN WATAUGA BRANCH				
	FY2021	FY 2022	FY2023	
CARDHOLDERS	1,377	1,428	1,475	
CIRCULATION	12,279	16,114	14,716	
VISITS	391	4,762	6,285	
PROGRAMS – Vrtual/Live- hybrid	2/22	43	59	
ATTENDANCE – Vrtual/Live- hybrid	62/603	1,019	946	
JUVENILE BK CIRC	3,879	5,602	4,282	

ADULT BK CIRC –Includes Outreach	7,427		9,077		8,924
AUDIO/VISUAL CIRC	939		1,193		1,326
COMPUTER USE	5		301		337
WI-FI	2,295		3,589		5,569