

# Wilkes County Librarian Report for November /December 2021

## ADVOCACY / OUTREACH

- Nicole was called on to judge the Poetry Out Loud competition (for high-school students) on December 2<sup>nd</sup>
- The Wilkes Endowment Committee met and reviewed terms for members. There are several vacancies for outgoing committee members – they are meeting again on January 7 to vote on new members.
- Suzanne visited the veteran coffee (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday, 9:00 am-monthly) to promote Talking Service Book Club meetings and the Wilkes County Veteran History Project.

## PROGRAMS

- Jennifer started a YS blog to share new reads for teens
- YS hosted an Among-us scavenger hunt which included social media clues
- Mara-Lynn is working with Marissa, a patron, who wants to start up a 20/30 book club – reaching out to new-millennials
- The library partnered with the Marine Corps to promote Toys for Tots

## FINANCES & RESOURCES

- Two mini-grants were awarded; Flettie Alifair Church Literacy awarded \$500 to support YS ABC Ready programming and \$1000 was awarded from Texas A&M University for veteran-related programming.
- Regional Technology grant provided funds to order a new digital micro-film reader and new laptops
- A Community Inclusion Grant was awarded in partnership with NAMI and programming is planned for the coming year. Books are being ordered for reading and sharing for programming participants (\$2500)
- Suzanne and Elizabeth submitted a grant for a Laundromat Literacy Project to service the Wilkes Laundromat Patrons and will target the Latinx population.
- The annual endowment mailing went out at beginning of December.

## FACILITIES

- Panic buttons were installed at service desks in the main library, and installation at Traphill is scheduled

## STAFF/VOLUNTEERS

- Suzanne met with Glenda Adams, FOL president, and discussed ways to work together on reaching goals set in the new 5-yr plan
- Sarah Watson, Jennifer Earp-Johnson, and Deb Beckel – now working as a marketing team for the library
- Staff Training took place on Dec 3 – fire drill, review of 5-yr plan, individual work plans, Suzanne's Wilkes Leadership talk, and Brigett's review of ARSL conference
- Aruna Ross, ASU student, will begin as a social services intern in January
- Faith Kilby, WCC intern graduated and left in December
- Nicole was awarded a trip to Oregon for PLA 2022 (in March) through SLNC

## LOOKING AHEAD

- Virtual Coffee with the County Librarian launches on January 6 at 9:00 a.m.  
( <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7408880269#success>) sharing library news, talking about books, asking for community input – special guests each month – every first Thursday at 9:00 a.m.
- The Reading Trap begins meeting in Roaring River Vineyard on January 6 at 5:00 p.m.  
(<https://www.arlibrary.org/wilkes-county-blog/reading-resolutions-and-the-reading-trap>) – every first Thursday at 5:00 p.m.
- Food For Fines is scheduled for week of January 10-15
- Jammin at the Branch is back – meeting every fourth Saturday (1- 3 p.m.) at the Traphill Branch

- Beginning monthly Workplace Wellness mini-challenges for staff – January kicks off the *Water You Waiting For? Challenge* – ask Suzanne for board member participation information. On the library’s wish list is a water dispenser and monthly supply of drinking water (for staff)
- February 5 Martin Tucker will visit to share his photography and book (*1000 Words*) to launch the interest in a local Veterans History Project
- The theme for National Library Week 2022 is “Connect with Your Library” - This will be the perfect time to host a Community Reception / Open House to increase awareness of goals in the new plan.