

Wilkes County Librarian Report for September / October 2022

ADVOCACY / OUTREACH

- Partnered with Wilkes Literacy to host a tent at the North Wilkesboro Spooktacular event on October 29
- Suzanne was recruited to serve on a ARSL/ULC committee to research how libraries are addressing food insecurities . . .
- Suzanne spoke to Wilkes County Commissioners on October 18 and North Wilkesboro Town Commissioners on Oct 27
- Deb Beckel served as library liaison to ESL Learners at a Wilkes Schools event.
- Suzanne (and Marathon Jam founder, John Santa) recorded a video podcast with Carl White's Life in the Carolinas to support veterans programming
- Suzanne started monthly radio spots on 97.3 WKBC (every first Tuesday) to share library news with listeners.
- Suzanne attend Pumpkin Fest at Yadkin Valley Marketplace to promote the library

PROGRAMS

- Youth Services hosted the library's annual Pumpkin Decorating Contest . . . a favorite program with many creative entries. Some of these will also be on display for the town's Spooktacular event on 10/29
- Partnered with Wilkes Acoustic Folk Society and Wilkes Heritage Museum to host an event featuring Alice Gerrard, with Kay Justice, and her new documentary.
- Partnered with Friends of Wilkes Library to host an author event featuring *The Tannery* by, Michael Almond
- A book vending machine was delivered and installed to accompany a downtown story walk experience. Made possible with a grant from First National Bank by Wilkes Partnership for Children
- Partnered with Wilkes Literacy to host Health Literacy programs in October
- Resumed weekly in-person story times every Tues. at 11:00 am with stories, crafts, & lots of FUN!

FINANCES & RESOURCES

- The Town of Wilkes ordered new items for the non-traditional collection (skateboards, tennis rackets, etc.)
- Applying for a Food Programming Grant with State Library
- Wilkes Literacy received funding through a Rotary grant to partner with our library in developing a high-interest / low-level collection for adults learning to read.

FACILITIES

- Town of North Wilkesboro installed a new bicycle rack in front of the building (right side/lower parking lot)

STAFF/VOLUNTEERS

- Chloe Wagoner was promoted to PT Youth Services Assistant
- Traci Baldwin was hired as a PT Youth Services Assistant
- Deb Beckel was hired as the new Branch Manager
- Elizabeth and Suzanne attended ARSL Conference in Chattanooga
- Mara Lynn attended a State Library Technology Training Session about getting broadband into rural communities, and another training on digital story-telling and preservation.

LOOKING AHEAD

- Print edition of Wilkes Library Veterans History Project to be released in November
- Veterans programming dates-to-remember
 - Marathon Jam on 11/5 from 1:00 pm – 11:00 pm, in partnership with VFW and WAFS to support Fisher Houses in NC . . . several veterans to be wrapped in patriotic Quilts of Honor
 - Veteran Story Walks are going up downtown North Wilkesboro and Fish Dam Creek for month of November
 - Library hosts VFW Coffee Call, 9:00 am, on 11/8 at Post 1142
 - Laura Bailey, WWII historian to speak at the library, 1:30 pm on 11/9
 - SOS Brunch served with Talking Service Book Club at 10:00 am on 11/10 – at VFW Post 1142
 - Jim Groce visits to share his book *The Canteen* at 6:00 pm on 11/10 at the library
- Light up North Wilkesboro takes place on November 18
- Polar Express Float in the North Wilkesboro Holiday Parade – December 3
- Library Holiday Open House is being planned for December 13
 - Community Thank-you Reception for Jane
 - Wilkes Acoustic Folk Society will hold their Christmas concert from 4:30 – 6:30 pm