

Grayson Branch Report February – April 2017 By Phyllis Bobbitt – Branch Manager

They say you can't buy happiness, but patrons and visitors are finding it in abundance at the newly renovated public library in Grayson County. Since the library reopened after being closed to the public from February 20 to March 27, patrons have expressed that they are well pleased with the freshly painted walls and new carpet and laminate flooring.

Timeline of Renovation:

February 1 – 22: Intensive planning and scheduling was done. Trips were made to obtain hundreds of boxes. Books were removed, inventoried and boxed first from the shelving along all exterior walls, then the interior shelves were started. All shelves were dismantled, and moved to their designated area. Shelving in the office was unloaded and dismantled for painters to start. Volunteers worked along with staff continuously in boxing books after they were inventoried and then moving them into the conference meeting room which was filled to its capacity on February 22nd.

To improve the interior visibility all blinds and valances were removed from the thirteen windows to provide more natural light throughout the building.

February 20 – 24: The main library walls, foyer and office was painted by Greg Busic Painting of Elk Creek, VA.

February 23 to March 6: Carpeting & laminate flooring was put down by Wythe Carpet Sales and Service, Wytheville VA.

February 24: The library was divided into four areas. As soon as the new carpet was placed and the glue dried in the areas, empty shelving units were moved back and forth with the aid of five hand trucks. This was an engineering brain storm and saved us much valuable time.

February 22-March 31: All areas of the library were cleaned, scrubbed and wood polished. Daily, boxed books were brought from the conference meeting room, sorted and placed on designated shelving units. Books were then sorted by Dewey decimal classification and shelf reading began. Currently is still ongoing.

March 27 – 31: Library opened to public from 9:00-3:00.

April 1: Library opened to public on regular hours.

Yes, it was hard work and yes it was well worth it. You heard it often said “Next time we need to...” So lessons were noted. Renovating and upgrading branches is a necessary and important process to make sure we are providing a library experience that is positive and reflects the needs of the community. Hopefully soon, a new LED lighting system will bring a more cost efficient, lighting

throughout the building. When funds are available future renovations include energy efficient windows installation.

Here are some numbers to ponder:

59,502 books & related materials were moved. Each item was handled approximately 4-5 times each!

1,811 shelves were dismantled, moved, moved again and finally moved again to reinstall. All shelving was cleaned in this process.

Many Gallons of paint Est.3003 sq. ft. of carpet and laminate. 3 lbs. coffee and lots of crock pot meals! ☺

None of this would be possible without those that helped. Many Thanks to the following:

Grayson County Maintenance: Alan Testerman, New River Valley Regional Jail, Dublin, Virginia - Gerald Dobbins and his crew. Their help for four days with moving shelving, boxes of books, and furniture out into the garage was a tremendous help for us!

Friends of the Grayson County Library, Grayson Library Board of Trustees, Grayson County Board of Supervisors and Town of Independence, Mitch Bennett and Bob Kirk.

Grayson County Public Works: - Jonathan Luper and Sue Ellis for the use of a 30 yard roll off dumpster for old carpet and cardboard dumpster that filled its capacity every day from February 22 to March 27.

Cardboard Boxes provided by -ABC's Stores, Dollar General, Food City, Food Lion, Grants, Lowes Foods and Solid Rock Food Closet.

Hand trucks and rollers provided by Guynn's Furniture.

Volunteers: Doug Bobbitt, Joan Bolduc, Diane Brock, Carol Broderson, Sherry Campbell, Nancy Carroll, Smadar Chaffee, Virginia Cox, Tina Cunningham, Lorraine Dillon, Roberta Durham, Anna Harrington, Vanessa Hollifield, James Jackson, Mary Kelley, Earl Libby, Martha Magroski, Antonina Marino, Ashlynn Miller, Alyssa Miller, Robert Miller, Hailey Peak, Susan Rash, Scott Jackson-Ricketts, Deborah & Patrick Shell, Cynthia Spears, Anita Sprulin, Kenny Sutherland, Mike Sutherland, Paul Monaco, Darlene Walker and Wilma Williams.

Grayson Library Staff: Mary Thomas – Director, Rebecca Bennett, Phyllis Bobbitt, Janet Cox, Lori Edwards, Dexter Edwards, Levi Hash, Debby Jackson-Ricketts, Gladys Lee, Amber Miller and Rene Peak,

Wythe Library Staff: Anita Libby, Belinda Stroupe, Jim Henderson and Diane Bishop

April – Surveys of Reference, Directional Questions and patron Count were done. Along with Rebecca Bennett, seven Ukrainian Egg Decorating workshops. This was our 18th year of presenting these most popular programs!

May – Scheduling of 2017 Summer Reading program – “Build A Better World” is underway. Please check out of brochure and Sign up Today!!!