

The chart of total patrons added show the relative numbers added for Adults and Juveniles.



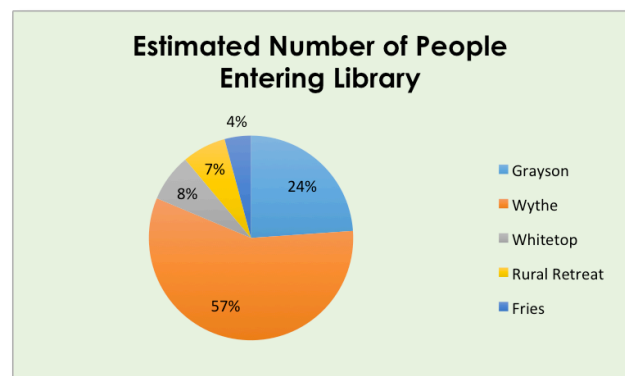
To maintain a clean database this is the first year that patrons with cards that have an expiration date of five years or greater and have no fines or fees on their record are being removed from the system. This type of cleanup will continue on a regular basis. This is an ongoing process. The report that was run in late May identified 4951 cards that met the requirements to be removed from the system.

NUMBER OF LIBRARY CARD HOLDERS.

The number of active cardholders at the end of June 2017 was 16,093. This breaks down to 13,690 Adult and 2,310 Juvenile cardholders. Wythe has the largest number of active patrons with 9,645 active library card holders, Grayson has 3,863, Rural Retreat has 1,435, Whitetop has 614 and Fries has 469 active patrons. Outreach currently has 67 active patrons.

FOOT-TRAFFIC IN THE LIBRARIES

Based on counting methods described earlier, foot-traffic is as follows: Wythe, 61,655 people; Grayson, 25,660 people; Whitetop, 8,906 people; Rural Retreat, 7,456 people and Fries, 4,481 people. Total of libraries is 107,349 people coming in. Considering the total



number of people coming into the library Wythe has the highest percentage of visits at 57% and Fries has the lowest percentage of visits at 4% of total traffic into our libraries.

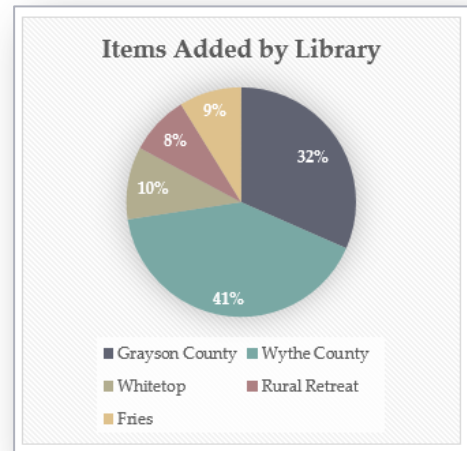
Circulating Materials

New Materials

A total of 6,635 items were added to the library collection. Of those items added 4,086 are considered part of the adult collections and 2,549 are considered part of our children's and young adult sections.

New materials reflect books, audio books, movies and music. Some changes this year: we have removed books on cassettes and are in the process of removing movies on VHS tapes.

A new addition to the collection that came in at the end of June are 13 Playaway Launchpads. These tablets are self-contained, internet access is not required. Access to all programs is through pre-loaded apps.



Financial Information

INCOME & EXPENSES

WGRL took in a total of \$746,981.15 from state, local, donations and patron generated income. Expenses totaled \$730,466.06, with an expected surplus of \$16,515.09. This surplus helps to carry into the next fiscal year to cover recurring expenses until state and local monies are received.

Major expenses for WGRL are Payroll (\$520,570.91), Overall Operational expenses (114,836.85), Collection Development (\$62,578.93), and Building Maintenance (\$20,742.35).

Bringing the library to you (outreach)

The Wythe-Grayson Regional Library Foundation, Inc. acquired WGRL's outreach van. They applied for and received a USDA grant that paid for the van. The van has two primary uses. The first is to shuttle materials in the Mountain Network Catalog, as materials are requested, to all libraries in the two regional systems. This



means going each library at least once a week and a few, WCPL, Galax Public Library and Carroll County Public Library, twice a week. The home base for Outreach Services is at GCPL. Currently there are 32 shut-ins that have book delivered to their door. There are a total of 67 library cardholders that are listed as outreach patrons.

Notable Accomplishments

Facilities

The Grayson County Public Library underwent significant improvements to its physical facilities this year. Through the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) at Grayson County the library was able to install carpet tiles throughout the public side of the library, vinyl flooring at the entrances and new paint the public and staff areas of the library. This would not have happened without the support of Grayson County (CIP funds and County Trustees), Friends of the Grayson County Library, community volunteers, and local businesses (Wythe Carpet Supply and Service, Greg Busic Painting, Sherwin Williams and Food City). We greatly appreciated all the manpower from New River Correctional Facility, without their help we would have never gotten everything moved.

In reviewing the surplus local monies it was determined to use some of that money to purchase LED light fixtures for GCPL. The county will be doing the installation of these light fixtures. The result will be better lighting for reading and working. The overall benefit will be lowering the electrical bill.

Furniture was also purchased for Wythe, Grayson and Rural Retreat public Libraries. New chairs are now in place at the public access computer stations. Each of these libraries also needed tall chairs to work comfortably at circulation stations, or to replace worn out chairs of similar size. The Friends of the Wythe County Public Library need to be thanked for purchasing comfortable chairs for seating in the public areas.

In the late Fall the fish, after taking an extended vacation, returned to the library. Thanks to the Friends of the Grayson County Library we have a new, larger, fish tank. It's good to see everyone come by to enjoy our fish.

WGRL has a new website. It went live in July 2017. The web site template is provided and hosted by the Library of Virginia. It is still a work in progress.



Technology

As part of a grant from the USDA, WGRL was able to purchase new computers. The oldest computers are being replaced first. The new computers are in the process of being set up and moved to the appropriate libraries. Wythe and Grayson libraries each have 3 laptops to use for meetings, presentations and training session for staff and public.

Inspiring the Community to Read, Learn & Explore

Throughout the year we keep track of how the library is used. Our library's function in the community goes beyond checking out materials. Each library offers similar programs. Summer reading programs for all ages, Storytime for toddlers and preschoolers, art classes, books clubs, author talks, access to FindIt VA, genealogy help, free WiFi access, community drop off free collections and basic reference services.

This year we offered 432 children's programs and had a total attendance of 7,096; 3 young adult programs with a total attendance of 35; and 267 adult programs with a total attendance of 2760.

This year saw the addition of 2 After School Edge Computers (ASE) by AWE Learning. These are designed for children between the ages of 6 and 12 and are the next logical step up from our existing Early Literacy Stations. Every library in the system has an AWE Early Learning Station. Wythe and Grayson libraries each have one ASE. In the first year 1426 sessions were registered for the ASE computers. The ESL computers had 2860 sessions logged.

This year we received a STEM kit from the Library of Virginia. This kit has a variety of activities and books. There are various themed parts that are available for check out to community groups and



organizations. Selected members of the staff participated in training, Fall of 2016). The training included making and shooting off a rocket and racing Sphero balls.

Our Partners in the Community

Being an active member of the community is extremely important for the library. WGRL needs to stay in touch with community members, businesses, organizations and government agencies.

GRAYSON AND WYTHE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

This year the Director has attended as many County Board of Supervisors meetings as possible, for both Grayson and Wythe Counties. This year it was possible to present to both Boards of Supervisors the results of the in-house survey and what the library is doing well and areas WGRL needs to focus attention on.

WYTHE BLAND COALITION AND TWIN COUNTIES COALITION

This is a coalition of local businesses, organizations and government agencies focusing on the early intervention needs of the community. The initiators of these coalitions are United Way of Southwest Virginia, Smart Beginnings and Virginia Quality.

The Manager of the Wythe County Public Library and the Youth Services Coordinator regularly attends Wythe Bland Coalition meetings. The Director regularly attends the Twin Counties Coalition (Grayson and Carroll Counties) meetings.

WCPL is working with Smart Beginnings of Southwest Virginia to develop a series of family oriented program to promote early reading at home. The target population will be families with children in the age range of birth to 3 years old.

HOPE MINISTRY

Summer Food Program at WCPL was a success for the second year in a row. WCPL partnered with Hope Ministry in Wytheville to provide snack bags for everyone attending the Summer Reading Programs in Wytheville and Rural Retreat.

The program “2017 Summer Food Program at your Library” was part of a national summer food service program promoted by the Library of Virginia, in partnership with No Kid Hungry Virginia.



Our Supporters & Cheerleaders

Several of our libraries have active Friends groups. A special thank you to our Friends of the Library (Friends of the Wythe County Public Library, Friends of the Grayson County Library, Friends of the Rural Retreat Public Library and Friends of the Whitetop Public Library) for on going support financially (programming, special events, community gardens, grounds beautification and upkeep), by providing volunteers for special events and programs, by providing food when requested, and help moving and putting furniture together.

Friends of the WCPL have been extremely helpful this year in providing money to fix specific technical issues with the computers. Through their generous financial support a stable WiFi system is in place that reaches out to the parking lot, replaced a router that was out of date and paid for technical support.

Friends of the GCPL sponsored a Community Dinner and Open House. The community dinner is an annual event to thank community members for all their support. The Open House was a time for everyone in the community to come in and enjoy the new look in the library. This year the Friends helped to offset the cost of painting supplies and paint. As mentioned above, the Friends supported the return of the fish.

Businesses and local organizations in our area deserve a special thank you for providing great give-a-ways for our summer reading programs. The generousities of local business have made this summer's prizes the best.

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| Moon Dog Pizza | Wythe County Pre-K Initiative | Aunt Bea's | Carter Bank | Bo Jangles |
| Wiffle Pops | Kiwanis Club of Wytheville | Ciro's Pizza | Skyline Nation Bank | Wendy's |
| Olykoek Shoppe | Lions Club of Wytheville | Grayson Florist | Subway | Hardee's |
| Coffee and Crumbs | Wytheville Moose Lodge | Gwynn's Furniture | Grayson County Recreation Park | Food City |
| Virginia Heights Restaurant | Wythe County Pre-K Initiative | Woody's Pharmacy | Pizza Hut | Long John Silvers |
| Hope Ministries | McDonalds | Rio Grande Restaurant | Pizza Plus | |

Our Board of Trustees

We lost a valuable member of the Board of Trustees this year. Elizabeth (Bette) McGee (1940 - 2017). She served on the Library Board of Trustees for multiple terms over the years. Her presence will be missed.

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Jackson Case | Wythe County | 1 st Term/ends 06/30/19 |
| Mike Langford | Wythe County | 1 st Term/ ends 12/31/17 |
| Rose Lester | Wythe County | 2 nd Term/ends 12/31/17 |
| Steve Willis | Wythe County (County Supervisor) | 1 st Term/ends 12/31/18 |
| Sandra Venzie | Grayson County | 1 st Term/ends 12/31/20 |
| Kate Irwin | Grayson County | Filling Term (E. McGee) ends 12/31/19 |
| John Fant | Grayson County (County Supervisor) | 1 st Term/ends 12/31/20 |