

450,759
Library visitors



WCPLtn
by the
numbers



931,344
items circulated

Williamson County Public Library

2015 Annual Report





2015 Annual Report From the Director's Desk



As you can see, the library had another outstanding year of programs and technology advancement. I am proud of our accomplishments and grateful to be a part of bringing great programs to the people of Williamson County. The library staff here is the best and brightest; therefore, it makes working here a once in a lifetime opportunity.

This year, we began checking out mobile Wi-Fi hot spots. This exciting service allows library patrons to have data access 24/7 at no cost. Library customers love this access and it is extremely popular.

The WCPLtn staff is excited about our new Playaway Launchpad learning tablets for kids. These sturdy devices are pre-loaded with ten ad-free, high-quality learning apps that are fun and educational for kids ages 3-10+. The app packs are grouped by subject area, grade level, theme, and age. Each tablet is a new adventure. The avatar builder lets students design their own personal explorer. Discovery Points reward game play and can be used to purchase virtual accessories. One-touch reset makes it easy to pass from one explorer to the next. And the informational console gives educators analytics about time spent on tablet. These tablets are 100% secure.

A new database this year, called Total Boox, provides library users access to thousands of ebooks in a wide range of fiction and nonfiction categories. Titles may be downloaded to Android, Kindle, and iOS tablets 24/7. The Quick start guide, an illustrated iPad install, and user instructions are available through our website wcpltn.org.

In conclusion, the Library provided services and programs with the help of the Williamson County Commissioners, the Foundation, and the Friends. I am humbled and amazed at the support and appreciation folks here in Williamson County have for the Library. Thank you and I look forward to another great year.

Board of Trustees

The Library's Board of Trustees again held their monthly meetings at Franklin and some of the branches. They assisted the library director in maintaining our strategic plan and budget. The branch and main library managers reported to the board the incredible work that their staff are doing to move the library forward. Also, the board heard reports from the library's friends groups on their fundraising efforts. It was an exciting year of hard work and rewards on behalf of the library.

Friends of the WCPL

For the first time, our group was named Tennessee Friends of the Year by the state organization Friends of TN Libraries. During the fiscal year, the Friends donated \$12,000 to the Library, purchased eBooks for the system valued at \$9,000, and provided staff with tuition assistance to attend workshops, college classes and graduate studies. The Friends also raised funds to support the publishing of the Library's first book under its new imprint, Academy Park Press.

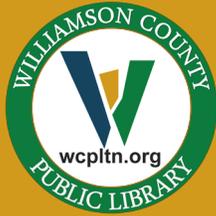
Members were presented with the Friends of the Year Award at the Trustees and Friends Luncheon at the Tennessee Library Association conference in Memphis in April. We are very proud and appreciate all that the Friends do to assist the Library.



WCPL Foundation

Thanks to community support and the help of the Williamson County Library Foundation, we had another terrific summer reading program. The theme this year, given to us by the Tennessee State Library, was heroes. The amazing staff did outstanding work establishing programs for children, teens, and adults. The generosity of the Foundation makes it possible for WCPLtn to do these annual programs. Much gratitude and appreciation goes to them for their hard work.

To encourage the work of our local authors, the Foundation sponsored a one day author's workshop featuring Sara J. Henry. Sara conducted an outstanding workshop which focusing on grabbing the reader with the first sentence. The Library is expanding this workshop next year, but more on that later! Also, if you're part of the literary community here in Williamson County, check out our self-e page on wcpltn.org. It is a new way for independent writers to get published on the web.



2015 Annual Report Facts & Figures

Library Budget \$1,957,259

County Budget \$440,939,983



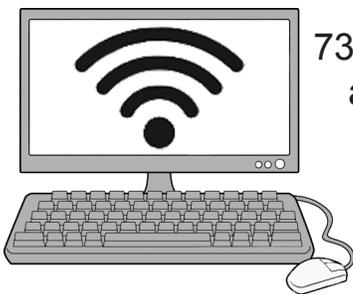
Main open **65.5** hours/week,
Bethesda open **36** hours/week,
College Grove open **37.5** hours/week,
Fairview open **45** hours/week,
Lepier's Fork open **38** hours/week,
Nolensville open **42** hours/week,
52 weeks a year, a total of **13,728** hours of service



450,759
documented
visits



931,334 items
checked out
(including 140,263
digital items)



73,511 computer
and wireless
sessions



124,527 reference
questions answered
564 reference one-on-one
training sessions

64 employees:
35 full-time, 29 part-time,
16 with graduate degrees in
Library & Information Science



There were
a total of
1,522 library
programs
attended by
36,604 people.



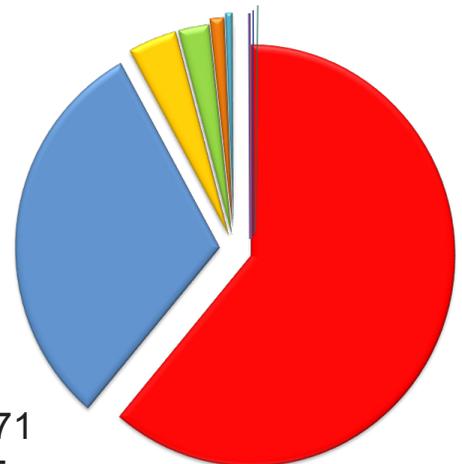
3.8 items in
collection per
capita

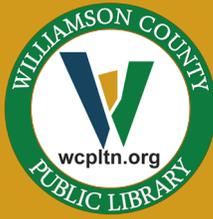
53,719
Library Cards
active in the
WCPLtn system



Items Available

- Print 240,877
- Video 15,223
- READS Collection 121,287
- Audio 9,562
- Mircoforms 2,246
- Serials 166
- Databases 86
- eReaders 17
- Digital Content 4,371
- Total = 393,835





2015 Annual Report

Main



Circulation

The Library means many things to many people. The Circulation Department is the main public service point. Books are no longer the only service we provide. Items such as Cds, Mp3s and Dvds are hot commodities, but our patrons also seek out on a regular basis our eReader devices and the new T-Mobile Hot Spots.

Our goal is to continue to build upon the established relationship we have with our patrons which allows us to keep a pulse on their needs. This compels us to remember that the library is an ever evolving place of learning, a place of recreation and a place of community.

Children's Department

The addition of a full-time Children's Librarian in May has been greatly appreciated by staff and patrons alike. By patron request, the Children's Department started a Junior Chess Club for ages 12 and under. In 4 months, the group has grown from four to twenty-two attending.

Summer Reading Program 2015 has been extremely successful, with just 40 signups short of our record breaking 11% increase in signups in 2014.



Teens

The Teen Department has had a complete overhaul this year with a plethora of programs targeting a variety of teens in Williamson County. The Imagination Station has grown to include an Xbox One and Lego Mindstorm robots, thus meeting popular teen demand. Programming focuses on everything from high tech with brushbots and Mindstorm robots, to low tech, with our Chess & Strategy Club continuing to be a crowd pleaser. There were 20 teens participating in our first Teen Lock In on a Saturday night in the fall. Movie nights, game afternoons, and special guest interviews and panels are a big hit and draw teens from all over the county. Teens read for prizes, logging over 150 books and graphic novels throughout the Teen Summer Reading program.

Reference

Reference staff help community members in a variety of ways. These include individual appointments, classes, phone and email queries, plus programming for adults. Staff helped 564 people one on one with technical and research issues that ranged from how to borrow a library ebook to finding a five year old restaurant recipe. 457 people attended computer classes at the library to learn about Microsoft Office and online services such as Facebook and Twitter. Interesting programs for adults included a variety of speakers on a range of topics from Tennessee's Body Farm, Ebola, a career success series, gardening, and beekeeping.



COMING & GOING
Migrations of Williamson County African Americans
Feb. 2-28, 2015 - Special Collections Department
Williamson County Public Library



Special Collections

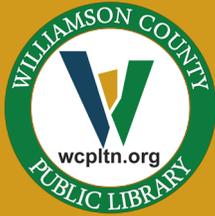
Over 1750 patrons visited the Special Collections Department, making use of 3623 non-circulating items. Special Collections librarians assisted patrons with over 665 hours of genealogical research, local history research, preservation issues, and more. In addition, Williamson County residents benefited from the Department's monthly Introduction to Genealogy classes and the yearly Black History month photo exhibit. The Special Collections librarian was invited to give presentations or talks for numerous local groups, including the Philanthropic Educational Organization, AARP, and the National Association of Retired Federal Employees. Staff were able to attend numerous professional development

conferences and events, including the TSLA and Ancestry.com conference in Nashville and the National Genealogical Society conference in St. Louis. The department was also able to offer extended hours for patrons this year.

Technical Services

Technical Services added 18,707 books and other items to the library's collection within the past fiscal year. In addition they added 14 brand new hotspots to the collection for patrons to checkout, which has been a success with 144 checkouts in the 4 months that the hotspots have been active. Technical Services staff played a large part in the Adult Summer Reading Program: Escape the Ordinary. Staff graciously assisted in the Make-a-thon event and numerous special programs.





2015 Annual Report Branches



Bethesda

Bethesda continues to be strong in children's programming, with Bethesda Elementary as a community partner. Our weekly preschool and toddler programs are well attended, as well as our Summer Reading Program.

For adults, our monthly book group is growing in numbers. Our internet connection is the only high speed option available for many in our community, so computer use is high.

Our Friends group is a small but active one, exploring some innovative fundraisers this year, such as a fashion show and a 5K run. Their support is invaluable to our branch.

College Grove

We now have Wi-Fi. With the extra router placed in the gym by the Parks and Recreation Department, most of the building is covered. Several new subdivisions are bringing new families to the area; this is reflected by increases in circulation(+15%), program attendance(+11%), and visitors (+8%). The Tuesday Morning Book Club, a joint venture of FiftyForward College Grove and the Library, is in its eighth year. Other existing programs, the Homeschool group, preschool story time and the Summer Reading Program, are doing well. The Friends are concentrating on increasing awareness of the Library through programs, media and by representing the library at community events.



Fairview

We are in the middle of a construction project that will quadruple the available space for public meetings and events. Upon completion of our new meeting room, we will be able to offer the public two settings for meetings and conferences; a new and larger facility that will feature an internet-connected overhead projector, wi-fi, and other new technologies, and a smaller community room better suited for tutoring and smaller groups.

In an effort to increase community participation we offer a variety of programs that range from information on health issues, dental check-ups sponsored by the County Health Department, and book clubs, to adult and student tutoring and our Summer Reading Program. We also offer parents with preschoolers a Toddler Time (18 months to 3 years) and Story Time (3 years to five years) every week.

In the past year the Fairview Public Library has increased its social media presence in an effort to attract and contact a wider public. This includes our Facebook page, Twitter account, website and e-newsletter.

Leiper's Fork

The Leipers Fork branch continues to meet our community's needs by providing programming for both children and adults. 1230 children attended the Preschool Story Time and Toddler Time programs. Attendance for our Leiper's Lego Club has increased by 105% this year. With help from the Friends of the Leipers Fork library our branch is able to provide more programming in the summer and though out the rest of the year.



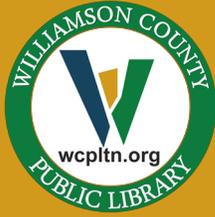
Nolensville

Nolensville replaced an old A/V-only drop with a new multi-format book drop, making two book drops available at the front entrance. After freeing up floor space in the children's area last year to accommodate growing programming crowds, we turned our attention to creating a space for teens.

We now have a separate Young Adult room with reading and listening material and a table and four chairs. The room shares space with our server and towers as well as shelving for donations and book sale sorting and temporary storage. The room is occasionally used, in addition to the meeting room, for tutors, testing, volunteer work space, and teen library programming.

Friends of the Nolensville Branch Library purchased a shed for the storage of book sale materials, which was assembled by the Boy Scouts. We ordered new chairs for staff at the circulation desk.

After 18 years of service, Karen Tucker, who conducted story times, retired in May. Richard Groves, Branch Manager, also left in May and is now Director of the Catoosa County Library in Georgia.



2015 Annual Report Community Partnerships



Changing Our Community
One Animal at a Time



Williamson County Community Advisory Group



Columbia State
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



SISTER CITIES
of Franklin and Williamson County
TENNESSEE

