

Library News | Fall 2019

From the Friends of the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library



FRIENDS UPDATE

Dear Friends,

Your strong financial support this year is resulting in exceptional programming at our four branch libraries.

- You have contributed over **\$2,500** so far in membership dues and donations.
- Four sponsors of the Summer Reading Program (Collison Plus, McMillion and McMillion CPA, Rainbow Riders, and the Van Tyne Family) donated **\$850**.
- Eight Garden Tour sponsors (Blacksburg Breakfast Lions Club, Bonomo's, Brown Insurance, Capone's

Jewelry, Crow's Nest Greenhouses, Shelter Alternatives, The Oaks Victorian Inn and the Van Tyne Family) donated **\$1,650**, covering the costs of ...

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Fall Calendar

September

Tuesday
17

Women's Suffrage celebration with local DAR chapters | Christiansburg

September

Saturday
23

Wilderness Trail Festival Friends book giveaways | Downtown Christiansburg 9am-4pm

September

Monday
25

FAMILY Reads Program | Blacksburg, runs through Nov. 6

October

Saturday
12

Chinese Cultural Heritage celebration | Blacksburg 2-3:30pm

October

Thursday
17

Bi-annual Craft Swap | Blacksburg

November

Saturday
2

Bi-annual Clothing Swap | Blacksburg

November

Thurs-Sun
14-17

Bag Book Sale | Blacksburg. **Members-only pre-sale: 10am**, General Public: 12pm



General News

FRIENDS UPDATE | *[cont'd from 1]*

- ... the tour, and, along with ticket sales of **\$6,400**, a net profit for library programs of **\$7,000**.
- Some of our volunteers work the book sales at the four branches. Already this year they have made over **\$11,000** in sales.

Here is how the library uses that money.

- The Summer Reading Program attracted an attendance of over 2,900 to programs specially designed for adults, families, teens and children.
- The staff organized hundreds of events throughout

the school year including author talks, symposia, book clubs, story times, and musical performances.

- Your contributions paid for the supplies, publicity, prizes & refreshments for the above programs & events.

In addition, the Friends funds pay for 4 issues of the Newsletter with a circulation of 270, and subsidize the cost of providing coffee for all patrons at the 4 libraries

Thank you all so very much!

Ellen Hall (*President, Montgomery County Friends*)

DONORS | Many Thanks to the following members for their exceptional generosity. Friends of the Library are deeply appreciative of the following members for their additional cash gifts in 2019.

\$5 - \$49

Paula Alston, Marilyn Bowman, Jo and Bud Brown, Susan Caceci, Elizabeth Calvera, Mary Carper, Gene Cielinski, Ida Comparin, Pauletta Copenheaver, Don Creamer, Dorothy Domermuth, Kim Feucht, Beverly

Fleming, Linda Greaver, Marcy Guenette, Don and Connie Heindel, Marquita Hill and John Hassler, Diane Hoover, Virginia Jedda, Lucinda Jennings, Gunin Kiran, Noreen Klein, Carrie Kroehler, Jim and Lois Lang, Lynn Lipsey Luci Merlo, Marjorie Modlin, Patricia Monroe, Elizabeth Obenshain, Irene Peterson and Molly McClintock, Patricia Polentz, Cecelia Powell, Doreen Roberts, Andrew Schenker,

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General News Cont'd

Jim Schlaudecker, Janet Selby, Natalie Siegel, Lee Talbot, Liya Thomas, Judy Watson, Herbert Williams, Mary Jane Zody

\$50 – \$99

Christiansburg Book Club, Mary Ann Cole, Jean Gallo-way, Alan and Gloria Heath, Sam and Ruthann Hicks, Janice Litschert, Phyllis Price, Rosalind Price, Jan Spahr

\$100 and over

Mary Low Brady, David and Elaine Harkinson, Cathe-

rine and Jo Merola, Ed, Missy and Hollis Oakes, P. E. Price, Don and Carolyn Rude, Ralph E. Thomas,

\$200 and over

Anonymous, Barbara and Michael Williams, Spencer Winfrey

\$500 and over

Susan Duggins, William Duggins, The Van Tyne Family
By Ellen Hall (President, Friends)



WILDERNESS TRAIL FESTIVAL | The Friends of the Library are hosting a booth at this year's Wilderness Trial Festival on Saturday September 21 from 9-4 in downtown Christiansburg. Stop by to hear a bit about upcoming Friends programs. **We're also raffling off free books of all kinds each hour**, so be sure to stop by and put your name in the pot

By Ken Vaughan (Newsletter Editor)



General News Cont'd

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK | Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library has just finished up our fiscal year—which runs from July-June—and now we know that in the past year, **we had more than 387,000 visits to the branches, and checked out more than 674,500 items.** That's a busy place, especially since Floyd and Montgomery counties combine for a total population of about 115,000 people. We hope the community is receiving great service, and we are grateful for the assistance of the Friends of the Library. Your support makes much of our programming and innovation possible.

Of course numbers like those above tell only part of the story. I thought I'd share with you some patron comments we've received over the past year to tell the really good part of the story—how the staff meets and exceeds our patrons' expectations:

"... is very patient and wonderful to work with. I wasn't able to log into my library account on my computer because it was seeing the site as secured when it is not secured. I couldn't do anything on the website. I watched him perform a complicated fix that he learned a couple years ago, and now I can once again log on. He is very skilled."

"The entire library staff is very friendly and helpful. I appreciate this so much!"

"I was greeted by a lovely young woman at the circulation desk. She greeted me with a warm smile and seemed to be genuinely happy I was there. She was friendly and welcoming. I then met ..., who also greeted me warmly and with a smile. She too was very friendly. Both ladies appeared to genuinely enjoy working at the Chris-



tiansburg Library. I just felt you should know the public notices."

"We are so pleased with the service, materials and programs that were offered at their 'new' hometown library."

"Once we attended our first Storytime with ... at the Blacksburg Library, I knew we would be doing that again. [My daughter] loved all the songs, fingerplays, and book-readings. We would leave the library having learned so much each time! [My daughter] started reading, on her own, around 3 years old and to this day, reading is her favorite thing. I can't help but think, all those early library trips played a role in that. And, we're grateful!"

Recently, Floyd Library broadened our ongoing partnership with the hunger relief group *Plenty!* by supporting their "Portable Produce" program. Now when *Plenty!* delivers food to homebound and geographically remote people in Floyd, they also deliver donated books from the library. Here's what the driver, Stormy Brieger of *Plenty!*, wanted us to know:

"The kids swarm me. The kids really love it and are excited. Even kids that don't get food deliveries come to get books. The kids are preschool to high school aged."

One lady I deliver to doesn't have a car or a smart phone or internet, so she really enjoys getting the books."

Thanks again to the Friends of the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library for making our services possible! Have a great fall.

By Karim Khan (Library Director)

Branch Updates

BLACKSBURG | Hello to our wonderful Friends!

We are gearing up for a busy and fun Fall at the Blacksburg Library! This Fall, in partnership with the Literacy Volunteers of the New River Valley, we will run the second cycle of year 2 of the Family READS program. This is a sponsored program of the American Dream Literacy Initiative, a grant offering of the American Library Association, made possible by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation. Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library is proud to be one of 16 libraries chosen for this grant, and one of two libraries that received year two funding. The program is planned for 7 weeks, from September 25-November 6, 2019

We are fortunate to host the *New Virginians: 1619-2019 and Beyond* traveling exhibit, developed by the Library of Virginia and Virginia Humanities, with support from American Evolution. This beautiful and timely exhibit “highlights the changing demographics of the commonwealth on the eve of the 2020 federal census through a series of edited interviews with first-generation immigrants and refugees who arrived in Virginia post-1976.” Please stop by and explore this exhibit which will be with us from August 12 until September 21, 2019.

In support of the *New Virginians* traveling exhibit, we

will host a Chinese Cultural Heritage celebration on October 12 from 2:00-3:30 p.m. Groups from the Blacksburg Chinese School, Chinese Senior Group, and the 15-50 dance group will perform traditional Chinese dances and talk about their historical and cultural significance.

We will host the bi-annual Friends of the Library Book Sale November 14-17. **This includes a Members-only pre-sale from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on November 14th, so don't forget to renew your Friends' membership.** Doors open to the general public at noon on November 14th. Pick up a bag of books for \$5. We will have books for all ages and interests. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library

Our bi-annual Craft Swap will take place on Thursday, October 17, so clean out your craft supplies and bring them in. Our bi-annual Clothing Swap will happen on Saturday November 2, so check your closets.

Come see us at the Farmers Market on the second Wednesdays in September, October, and November. We are excited to see new faces and old friends at the Market.

As always, thanks to all of you for your continued support. We couldn't do it without you!

In appreciation.

By Monena Hall (Branch Supervisor)



Branch Updates Cont'd

JESSIE PETERMAN | Hello friends!

We have had a busy summer with the Summer Reading Program and the picture book reorganization project. All the Summer Reading programs were well attended and the children thoroughly enjoyed them.



The monthly Family Art Day continues to be a success, enjoyed by parents and children alike.

New programs:

Expanding on our partnership with *Plenty! Farm & Food Bank*. We are combining their Portable Produce program with our first Mobile Little Library. Plenty! delivers bags of fresh produce to over 60 families and individuals who do not have access to transportation. As a trial, books are being included in three of the nine runs, providing food for the body *and* food for the mind. This appears to be a winning combination. Stormy Brieger is the Portable Produce driver who serves the

route that covers Ramsey's trailer park (where many kids are living) and other places in Copper Hill. Here are some quotes from Stormy.

"The kids swarm me." "The kids really love it and are excited." "Even kids that don't get food deliveries come to get books." "The kids are preschool to high school aged"

"One lady I deliver to doesn't have a car or a smart phone or internet, so she really enjoys getting the books."

"Yoga at the Library" is generating a lot of interest and will be offered Mondays and Thursdays from 10:30 – 11:00 a.m. And the YA BOOK CLUB will begin in September.

We are also doing outreach with Milestones Childcare, every other week, providing **storytime** for their 2 year olds and their 3-5 year olds.

Once again I wish to thank all of you for your continued support which allows us to provide a wide variety of quality programs for our community.

By Lori Kaluszcza (Branch Supervisor)

CHRISTIANSBURG | The summer was full of outstanding programming and outreach into the community! Our Summer Reading Program was very successful this year, with over 100 more children signing up at the Christiansburg Library than in 2018.

We started off the summer with Little Critters Petting Zoo at beginning of May and over 700 people attended that event. Our Music on the Lawn series has been very successful this year. We added an addition concert to the series this year, bringing our total performances up to five. Both of these are events that we could not without the generous support of the Friends. We also ended Summer with a bagged book sale to benefit the Friends. The Christiansburg Library continues to reach out to the community. We regularly see about 100 people at the

Christiansburg Farmers' Market every month and we will continue our outreach there through the end of the season. Touch-a-Truck was also very successful and many children received free book and library information.

Next up, we will be at the **Kiwanis Wilderness Trails Festival on September 21**, so come out and see us .

This Fall we will be featuring two programs on money management and home buying presented by Wells Fargo, and on September 17, we will be **co-hosting a program with the Blacksburg and Floyd Chapters of the Daughters of the American Revolution to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Women's Suffrage movement**. Don't miss these great programs.

Thank you for your continued support!

By Salena Sullivan (Branch Supervisor)

General News Cont'd

GARDEN TOUR RECAP | Once again, this year's garden tour raised substantial funds for the library's special adult and children's programs, built community spirit, and offered a day of pleasure to 405 visitors. Over 100 people contributed to this effort, which yielded more than \$6,700 profit. Hearty thanks to:

- **The gardeners** who generously shared their lovely places. The Colpitts, Kark, Moreno, Oaks, Pappas, Unitarian Universalist, and Willow Springs gardens were at peaks of perfection, supplemented by points of interest gardens at the Montgomery Museum and St. Thomas Episcopal Church.
- **The sponsors** who provided start-up funds for the occasion: Blacksburg Breakfast Lions Club, Bonomos, Brown Insurance, Capones Fine Jewelers, Crow's Nest Greenhouses, The Oaks Victorian Inn, Shelter Alternatives, the Van Tyne Family, and Vintage Cellar.
- **The volunteers** who contributed time, talent, and hard work: 22 committee members co-chaired by Mary Ann Cole and Lynn Brammer, more than 30 master gardeners, six musicians or musical groups, seven artists from the Blacksburg Regional Art Association, and more than 40 Friends of the Library staffing reception stations.

A popular innovation was the addition of 2 food trucks, and sales of notecards with garden photos were brisk.

Special thanks to Elissa and Harry Steeves, who hosted the after-party for volunteers, and to Phyllis Eschenmann and Lynn Brammer, who planned this gracious event.

SAVE THE DATE: The 2020 tour is Saturday, July 11—don't miss it!

By Frieda Bostian (Garden Tour)



Thank You

Sponsorships | Friends of the Library are deeply appreciative of the following businesses and individuals for their significant support of library programs and events in 2019. Each has contributed \$200 or more as named sponsors of the Summer Reading Program or the Garden Tour:

Blacksburg Breakfast Lions Club

With the simple motto of " We Serve "



Brown Insurance

**CAPONE'S
JEWELRY**

Collision Plus

Crow's Nest Greenhouses



Rainbow Riders
childcare center



Also the **Van Tyne Family** for their sponsorship of both the Summer Garden Tour and Summer Reading Program. And an **Anonymous** donor as well.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Friends in Montgomery County: over a hundred of our members have already renewed for 2019. Have you?
Please check your mailing label.
If your mailing label includes the line "Renewed through 2019" or if you've already done so, please disregard.

