



WASHINGTON COUNTY
FREE LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

 301.739.3250

 washcolibrary.org

 Washington County, Maryland

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

For twenty-four years it has been my distinct honor and privilege to be the Executive Director of the Washington County Free Library. During my tenure, I have been blessed to work with an entrepreneurial, visionary and supportive Board of Trustees. This has allowed me to enjoy an amazing and fulfilling career in service to the citizens of Washington County who use and depend on their library. It has also allowed me the additional opportunity to work at a state level to expand public library facilities and resources across the state of Maryland.

It is especially to the staff of this wonderful system, both in the branches and at the Fletcher, I owe my heartfelt gratitude and respect. Whether it is teaching a child the love of reading, supplying valuable information to citizens having to make hard life choices, providing material that is enlightening as well as entertaining, getting the material processed and finally, making sure that the lights light and our facilities are clean, warm and inviting, they are the heart of this amazing democratic public asset. They are smart, creative and kind public servants who daily help make people's lives better.

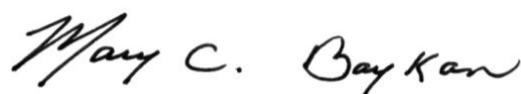
During these remarkable twenty-four years, together we have seen so many changes not only to our library system but to the Washington County community. We have seen the advance of technology, the changing role of public libraries, the building of branches and a new central library. We have lived through economic ups and downs, political upheavals and 9/11. We have said heart breaking goodbyes to long time well respected friends and colleagues and, in turn, welcomed a new generation of enthusiastic and innovative library workers.

When I became Director, the Internet had barely arrived in Washington County. If you wanted email, you had to arrange it through a provider in Frederick County. Flash forward twenty-four years to Broadband, Twitter, Facebook, Podcasts, Instagram and it goes on and on.

I shall be retiring as Executive Director of the Washington County Library System at the end of October. My successor will be blessed, as I have been, in being part of such an outstanding library system serving this great and historic community.

Finally, know this, the many and varied educational services your library provides our community are important to the quality of life and economic health of Washington County. Our library, like every public library across this nation, stands for the greater good of the communities they serve. It is important that you, who are reading this, speak out in support of your public library. Make no mistake, public libraries are at the very heart of our democracy. Truth matters, correct verifiable information matters and above all, kindness and help to all without thought of race, ethnicity or economic status matters!

Respectfully and God Bless,



Mary Baykan, Executive Director

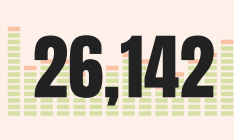
BY THE NUMBERS

511,063



BOOKS

26,142



AUDIOBOOKS

210,671



MOVIES

2,994



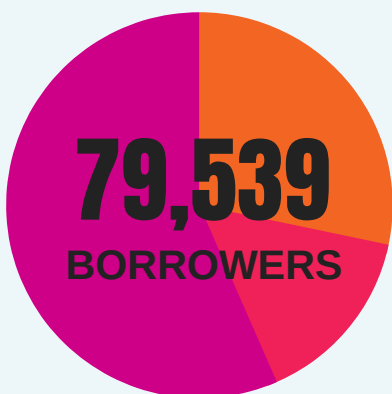
GAMES

6,426



CDs

CONTRIBUTE TO **1,035,507** BORROWED ITEMS

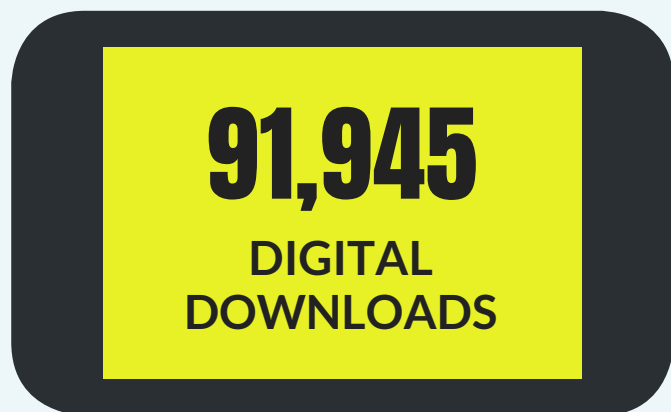


Juvenile
28.3%

Young Adult
15.2%

79,539
BORROWERS

Adult
56.6%



7,410

NEW REGISTERED BORROWERS

37,676

PEOPLE ATTENDED PROGRAMS

2,375

PROGRAMS HOSTED

401,921

CITIZEN HOURS ON PUBLIC
COMPUTERS

5,530,921

LIBRARY WEBSITE VIEWS

137,644

DATABASE SEARCHES

23,415

INTERLIBRARY ITEMS LENT

235,281

QUESTIONS ANSWERED BY
LIBRARY STAFF

That's **636** questions
per day!



Education

Washington County Free Library continues its commitment to education for all. From our youngest patrons to lifelong learners, the library offers everyone in the community a broad range of educational opportunities.

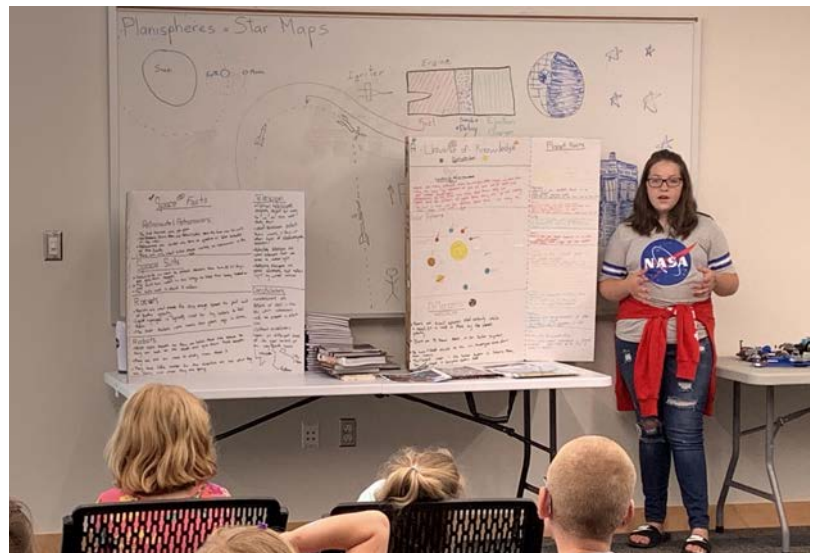


The Bookmobile drops off a themed Big Red Box for a local daycare center's use.

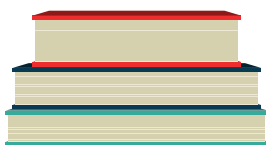
An engaged child learns and plays in the Fletcher Branch Library's Early Learning Literacy Center.



Learning the physics of propulsion with rockets during Summer Reading Club 2019!



A homeschool student in Hancock presents her research.



"Great selection of books, awesome free children's services, huge reading and studying areas... I ♥ our library!" -Erika T.

Every Washington County Public School student has a RAIL card. With this card, students can check out books, use public computers, access databases, and get homework help! Homeschool, non-traditional, and GED students can also benefit from these library resources.



Teens learn life skills in the Fletcher YA Department like making healthy snacks.

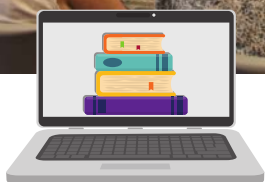


Families attended a cultural program for Native American Heritage Month featuring storytelling and songs.



Continuing education and literacy benefit all ages by offering opportunities to increase skill levels for work, participate in seminars and workshops, and explore new horizons.

State retirees packed the Fletcher Branch Library to learn more about changes to Medicare Part D coverage.



Planting herb gardens at the Keedysville Branch Library.

"Recently I needed a repair manual for my car thought I'd stop in. I'm amazed at the amount of materials that are available, and a welcoming, professional and warm environment." -Kenneth C.

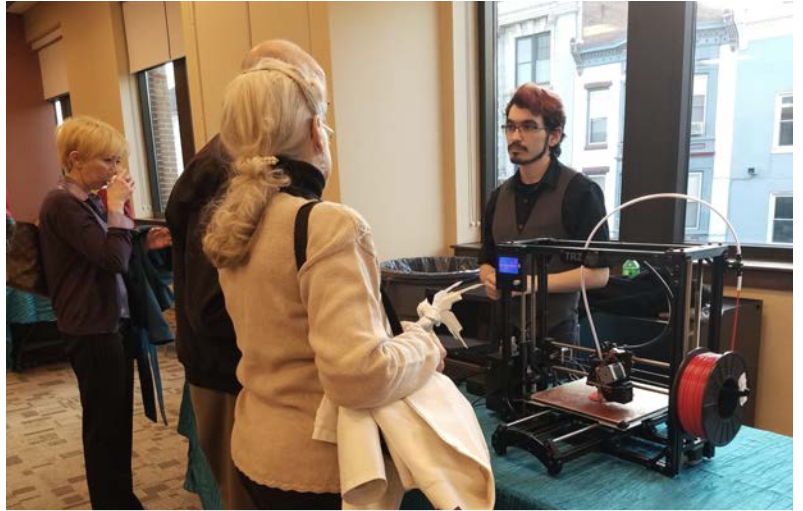
Employment & Entrepreneurship



Library services like resume workshops, programs like Grow with Google, and resources like Internet access provide job seekers of all ages the opportunity to increase their skills. These resources also provide support for small business owners.



Working together for an Eagle Scout's project to beautify the Williamsport Memorial Library.



A Chamber of Commerce event at the library showcased how local businesses can utilize library technology.

"A much-needed resource for our community." -Wendy K.



A local farmer teaches children about livestock during a storytime in Williamsport.



Local companies, like Procter & Gamble, host job fairs and training at the Fletcher Branch Library.

"I love being here to study and read and catch up on the news, plus look for a job and chit chat quietly with friends" - Michael G.

Empowerment

Access to information about government services, health, finances, community engagement empowers the community. With this access (and help from librarians), community members can find important information, apply for services, and pursue their interests.



Books for Babies presented its 30,000th book to a new parent this year!



"I recommend this as one of the best libraries in Maryland." - Mary R.



A young library patron reaches for the stars during a program in Hancock!



At the Smithsburg Branch Library, adults learn how to make beautiful flower arrangements.



Long Table community conversations throughout the county offered a chance to meet neighbors and discuss the future.



Engagement

Public spaces and programs provide everyone a chance to learn about community needs and connect with others. Coffee with a Cop, Ask a Doctor, Lawyer in the Library, and special events like the library's annual Comic Con or the Longest Table are great opportunities to get active in the community!



A citizen poses for a photo after meeting Hagerstown Chief of Police Kifer and other HPD officers.



An excited audience during a magic show at the Williamsport Memorial Library.



Attendees sign in for a workshop about the opioid epidemic organized by Representative Trone featuring Lt. Governor Rutherford and local officials.

Learning about the Smithsburg EMS for "Storytime in Our Town."



"The library is well-run with super friendly librarians, lots of clubs and events for all ages and for different things (reading, writing, poetry, movies, shows, learning taxes, comic con, etc.)...You can also get passports done here and a million other things. This library is really amazing and underrated." - Shania L.

Everyone Benefits

Washington County Free Library offers residents of Washington County the opportunity to reach new horizons. Your library is more than books on a shelf; it is a place of learning, a place of community, a place of possibilities.

Author Mara Rockliff visits Salem Avenue and Bester Elementary Schools for Reading Day.



A young patron presents an original production in the new Hancock Memorial Library play area.



Making crafts and friends at the Keedysville Branch Library.



Excited to pick out a new book at the Williamsport Memorial Library.



Elvis was in the building for a Noteworthy Sunday concert series with over 100 attendees.

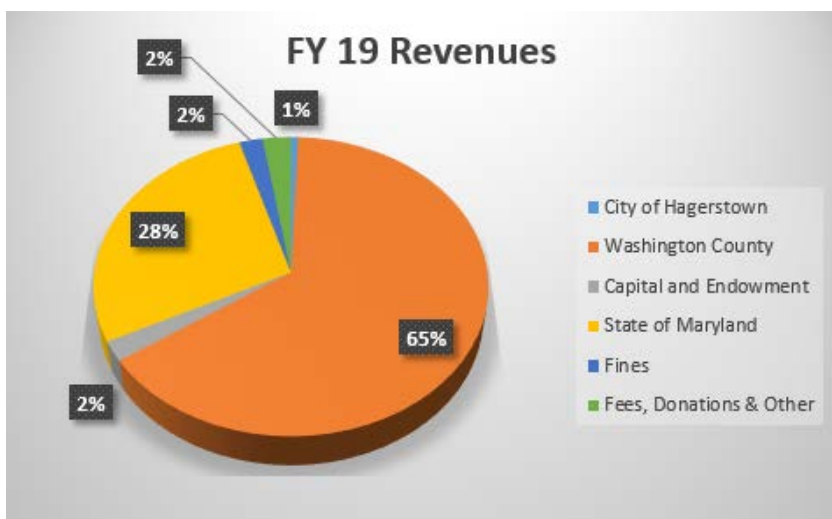
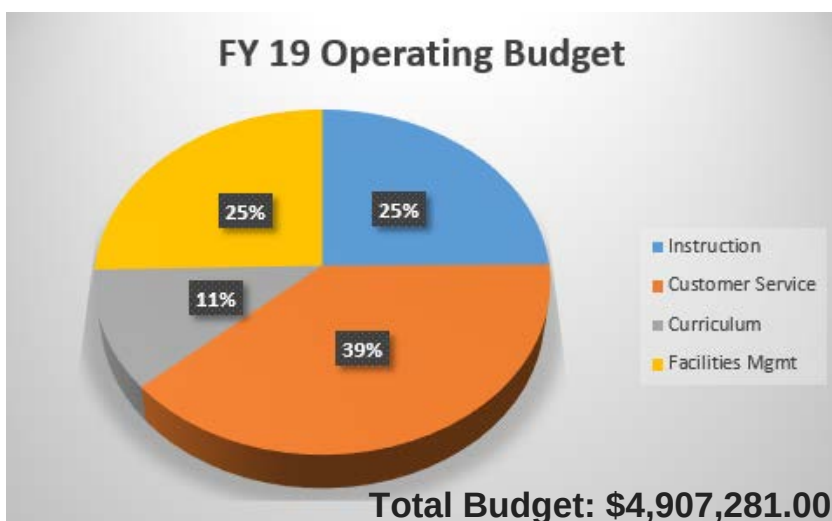
"I love this place so much that I willingly pay \$18/yr for the privilege of being an out of state borrower." -Susan E.

Resource Management

Estimated Value of Services

Quantity	Service	Retail Value	Value
23,415	Interlibrary Loan	\$25.00	\$585,375.00
1,035,507	Materials Borrowed	\$22.00	\$22,781,154.00
235,281	Customer Queries Answered	\$7.00	\$1,646,967.00
942	Public & Staff Training Sessions	\$100.00	\$94,200.00
37,676	Classes & Cultural Program Attendance	\$15.00	\$565,140.00
137,644	Database Searches	\$6.83	\$940,108.52
401,921	Internet Service Hours (includes Wi-Fi)	\$5.00	\$2,009,605.00
2,080	Study Room Usage	\$50.00	\$104,000.00
1,403	Hosting Community Meetings	\$220.00	\$308,660.00

Total: \$28,931,209.52



"Truly love our small town library." - Meredith P.

THANK YOU!

The Library wishes to thank the many community organizations that provide support for our classes, workshops, special programs and activities throughout the year:

AC&T | American Association for the Advancement of Science | American Library Association
Apples for Children | Authentic Community Theatre | BB&T | Baltimore Orioles | Baltimore Ravens
Barbara Ingram School for the Arts | Bester Community of Hope
Bodyworks Massage Center and Gift & Wellness Shop | Bonnie's at the Red Byrd Restaurant
Boys & Girls Club of Washington County | Chick-Fil-A Hagerstown | Citizens for Maryland Libraries
City of Hagerstown | City of Hagerstown Fire Department | City of Hagerstown Public Works
Community Action Council | Community Foundation of Washington County | Dairy Queen
Desert Rose Café & Sweet Shoppe | Discovery Station | Downey Foundation | Family Recreation Park
Flying Camel Literary Café and Piano Bar | Food Lion | Frederick Keys | Fresh Academicz
Friends of the Library | FutureMakers | GameStop Prestige | Grease Monkey
The Greene Turtle Sports Bar & Grille | Hadley Farms Bakery | Hagerstown Chapter of the Embroiderers'
Guild | Hagerstown Community College | Hagerstown Premium Outlets
Hagerstown Suns | Hagerstown/Washington County Chamber of Commerce
Hagerstown/Washington County Convention & Visitors Bureau | Herald-Mail Media
Hispanic Association of Hagerstown | Hospice of Washington County | Howard County Library System
Institute of Museum and Library Services | Interfaith Service Coalition | Jerry's Subs, Pizza, and Sports Bar
| Judy Center of Washington County | Keller Stonebraker Insurance
Law Enforcement/Mental Health Task Force | Live 96.7 | Marshall Street School | Martin's Foods
Maryland 529 | Maryland Humanities Council | Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Maryland Division of Library Development and Services | Maryland Public Television
Maryland Science Center | Maryland State Department of Education | Maryland State Library
Maryland Symphony Orchestra | The Maryland Theatre | Meritus Health | Meritus Medical Center
Misty Meadows Farm Creamery | NASA | Neighborhood 1st Medal of Honor Group | Neverland Games
The Nora Roberts Foundation | Park-N-Dine | Pizza Hut | The Poole Law Group | PBS | Primanti Bros.
Pizza Hut | Potomac Valley Audubon Society | Salisbury University | Seven Ten Bowling | Sheetz, Inc.
Shive's Pizza and Sub Shop | Sky Zone Trampoline Park | Smith Elliot Kearns & Company, LLC
Smithsburg EMS | Smithsburg Library Advisory Board | Smithsburg Market | Sprint | Star Theatre
Sunnycrest Farm and Home Center | Town of Boonsboro | Town of Hancock | Town of Smithsburg
Town of Williamsport | Turner Dual Lanes | Turner's Skate Palace | TriState Astronomers
United Way of Washington County | U.S. Census Bureau | The Vine Garden | Video Biz
Volvo Group Trucks | Waffle House | Washington County Commission on Aging, Inc.
Washington County Health Department | Washington County Homeless Coalition
Washington County Master Gardeners | Washington County Museum of Fine Arts
Washington County Public Schools | Washington County Parks and Recreation Department | WDVM
Western Maryland Consortium | Western Maryland Regional Library | William Brish Planetarium
Williamsport Library Advisory Board | Weis Markets | WJEJ 1240 AM | Younger Toyota



The Washington County Free Library is committed to building a strong, interconnected, diverse community by bringing people, information and ideas together.



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