



Library Advisory Board

AGENDA

**Community Room
Potomac Library
2201 Opitz Boulevard
Woodbridge, VA 22191**

April 25, 2024

Pledge of Allegiance	6:30 p.m.
Roll Call	6:30 p.m.
Disposition of Minutes	6:32 p.m.
Approval of Agenda	6:33 p.m.
Citizen's Time	
Vice Chairman's Time	6:35 p.m.
Introduction of Tammy Schofield, Branch Manager, Independent Hill Library Introduction of Teresa Sulik, Branch Manager, Nokesville Library	
Unfinished Business	
New Business	6:50 p.m.
N-1 Approval of Library Advisory Board FY25 Meeting Schedule	
Acting Director's Time	7:00 p.m.
2024 – 2028 Strategic Plan Update	
Trustees' Time	7:15 p.m.
Adjourn Meeting	7:30 p.m.

**The next meeting of the Library Board is
Thursday, May 23, 2024 at the Administrative Support Center**



Library Advisory Board Brief

Trustee Conference Room
Administrative Support Center
13083 Chinn Park Drive
Woodbridge, VA 22192

March 28, 2024

Pledge of Allegiance

6:30 p.m.

Voice Roll Call

Trustee/District Present: Beattie-Neabsco, Montgomery-Woodbridge, Jackson-Sewell-At-Large, Mueller-Manassas City, Howarth-Brentsville, Shorter-Occoquan

Absent: Doerr-Potomac, Baker-Gainesville, Dodge-Coles

Library/County Staff: R. Lowe-Acting Director, K. Gates-Administrative Coordinator

Disposition of Minutes

RES 24/3-1 Approved the minutes of the February 22, 2024 meeting of the Board.

Approval of Agenda

RES 24/3-2 Agenda approved as presented.

Trustee Mueller – in the absence of Vice Chair Doerr, Trustee Mueller chaired the meeting. Trustee Mueller introduced Mary Jo Howarth, appointed to represent the Brentsville District. Trustee Howarth advises she was a general and special education teacher supporting eight schools in the Forest Park cluster. She is now retired. Her husband is retired Navy, they have six children, three grandchildren. Trustee Mueller introduced Brenda Jackson-Sewell, appointed as the At-Large Trustee. Trustee Jackson-Sewell advises she retired from the Air Force as an Officer, after serving over 20 years. She then retired from the Department of Defense, after 23 years, working for the Army. She is married with two children. Trustee Jackson-Sewell is excited to serve on the board.

Policy Review – Code of Conduct

Acting Director Lowe advises the Code of Conduct Policy references the Unattended Children and Vulnerable Adults Policy. The Code of Conduct Policy was thoroughly reviewed with the County Attorney's Office. The Policy will be posted in each library branch and is posted on the Library's Policies page.

Acting Director's Time – Acting Director Lowe reports she attended the Spring Virginia Public Library Director Association (VPLDA) where she met and networked with many Commonwealth of Virginia Library Directors. The guest speaker was Kelvin Watson. Gearing up for Summer Reading. We hope to have the Library's Annual Report available soon, anticipating going to print the week of April 1 and hope to have it available at the next Board meeting in April. Acting Director

Lowe presented to the Aging Commission regarding all that PWPL has to offer, including outreach services.

Trustees' Time

Trustee Beattie – welcomed Trustee Jackson-Sewell and Trustee Howarth. Congratulations on the good work Acting Director Lowe is doing in her current position. The Board will be visiting the mobile library van after tonight’s meeting. Encouraged everyone to check the Library’s calendar of events for dates and times for the mobile library’s schedule. Trustee Beattie is the Liaison to the Library Foundation Board which meets every other month. The Foundation’s responsibility is to support fundraising opportunities and securing grants.

Trustee Montgomery – welcomed Trustee Jackson-Sewell and Trustee Howarth who will find that PWPL is an integral part of the community and the Trustees role is key. Trustee Montgomery is impressed by the scope of activities the library has to offer. Encouraged everyone to take advantage of our libraries and to come in and participate in the many activities in our libraries.

Trustee Jackson-Sewell – is excited to be serving on the Advisory Board, looking forward to being actively involved and is thankful to be here.

Trustee Mueller – the Friends of Manassas City Library held a two-day book sale, earning \$1000! Working with Central Library staff was wonderful and thank them for their support. Again, welcomed Trustee Jackson-Sewell and Trustee Howarth and is looking forward to working with them. Thanked Acting Director Lowe for all of her hard work.

Trustee Howarth – very pleased to have been appointed by Supervisor Gordy and received such a warm welcome from everyone. Looking forward to sharing ideas with the Brentsville District to let everyone know what is available at the Libraries, especially children.

Trustee Shorter – welcomed Trustee Jackson-Sewell and Trustee Howarth. Looking forward to serving with both. Very happy that the Mobile Library is here. Happy to see statistics are up, circulation, physical holds, computer usage, programming and more.

With no further business before the board, Trustee Mueller declared the meeting adjourned.

Adjourn Meeting

6:50 p.m.

Rebecca Lowe
Acting Director

Keith Mueller, Trustee
Manassas City

L I B R A R Y B O A R D
F Y 2 0 2 5 M E E T I N G S C H E D U L E

The following are the meeting dates for the Library Advisory Board during FY25. Meetings are held in the Library's Administrative Support Center, Trustees' Room and begin at 6:30 p.m.

July 25, 2024¹

August 22, 2024

September 26, 2024

October 24, 2024²

December 5, 2024

January 23, 2025

February 27, 2025

March 27, 2025

April 24, 2025³

May 22, 2025

June 26, 2025

Traditionally, the Library Board combines the November and December meetings and holds a combined meeting on the first Thursday of December.

¹ July meeting will be held at Haymarket Gainesville Library

² October meeting will be held at Montclair Library

³ April meeting will be held at Bull Run Library

MARCH: AT A GLANCE

Prince William Public Libraries
Statistics

2024 2023

Circulation

Physical	170,476	●	180,298
Digital	51,372	●	53,623
TOTAL	221,848	●	233,921

Library Visits

Door Count	75,758	●	74,371
Total Page Views	79,490	●	141,723
TOTAL	155,248	●	216,094

Programs

Number of Events	436	●	327
Attendance	14,527	●	11,155

Computer Use

Users Logged	4,808	●	3,854
User Sessions	8,219	●	8,826

Holds Requests

Physical	24,047	●	25,954
Digital	19,566	●	19,045

Library Visits - Door Count (Source: Branch Monthly Statistics Report Automatic Door Counter)	C U M U L A T I V E												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
Bull Run	12,223	10,963	9,288	9,727	8,477	7,012	8,197	9,733	10,705					86,325	50,588	70.6%
Central	3,461	3,418	2,743	3,172	2,950	2,500	3,373	3,562	3,523					28,702	29,524	-2.8%
Chinn Park	19,322	14,141	14,496	19,297	14,975	12,749	14,553	15,638	17,706					142,877	143,495	-0.4%
Haymarket Gainesville	12,971	12,245	11,302	10,841	9,475	8,276	9,653	10,600	11,899					97,262	95,086	2.3%
Manassas City	4,199	3,774	3,463	3,440	3,076	2,620	3,137	3,519	3,515					30,743	30,716	0.1%
Montclair	12,482	11,452	10,779	11,863	9,969	8,414	9,905	10,991	10,950					96,805	84,873	14.1%
Potomac	8,682	8,457	7,114	7,288	6,250	5,686	6,676	7,522	7,906					65,581	66,401	-1.2%
Dale City	2,301	2,272	1,611	1,760	1,519	1,408	1,656	1,537	1,497					15,561	13,896	12.0%
Dumfries	2,249	2,540	1,984	1,876	1,720	1,547	1,579	1,700	1,886					17,081	20,549	-16.9%
Independent Hill	1,777	1,401	1,380	1,413	1,220	961	1,100	1,168	1,341					11,761	12,186	-3.5%
Lake Ridge	3,983	3,855	3,136	3,578	1,808	0*	2,873	2,809	3,474					25,516	26,227	-2.7%
Nokesville	1,556	1,734	1,351	1,247	1,114	1,070	1,249	1,196	1,356					11,873	16,885	-29.7%
Total	85,206	76,252	68,647	75,502	62,553	52,243	63,951	69,975	75,758	0	0	0	630,087	590,426	6.7%	

Patron PAC Logins (Source: Polaris)	C U M U L A T I V E												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
Total	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
Total	34,954	37,444	33,613	33,617	31,072	29,540	35,105	30,489	30,694					296,528	361,089	-17.9%

Web Transactions (Source: OCM Monthly Stat Report)	C U M U L A T I V E												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
OverDrive Unique Users	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
OverDrive Unique Users	11,491	11,221	11,442	10,102	7,550	7,810	8,369	8,362	8,486					84,833	179,129	-52.6%
Facebook Unique Users (Engaged Users)	3,108	1,908	7,821	2,443	1,892	1,995	2,383	2,557	1,976					26,083	61,674	-57.7%
Pinterest Average monthly engaged users	87	80	98	98	89	123	72	52	50					749	2,590	-71.1%
Instagram Engagement	2,492	673	1,036	2,089	3,158	3,336	1,185	598	987					15,554	8,360	86.1%
Total	17,178	13,882	20,397	14,732	12,689	13,264	12,009	11,569	11,499	0	0	0	127,219	251,753	-49.5%	

Electronic Resources Visits (Sessions) (Source: Vendor Supplied)	C U M U L A T I V E												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
Total	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
Total	17,820	13,468	22,936	37,255	26,264	17,854	22,215	30,876	25,693					214,381	151,549	41.5%

Library System Total	155,158	141,046	145,593	161,106	132,578	112,901	133,280	142,909	143,644	0	0	0	1,268,215	1,354,817	-6.4%
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* Lake Ridge Library - closed for renovations December 2023
 ** Web Transactions - Effective July 1, 2023, Google Analytics 4 no longer provides Unique Page Views of the PWPL website.

Circulation												CUMULATIVE			
												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Difference	
(Source: Polaris Statistical Summary Report)															
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24			
Bull Run	28,959	25,994	25,049	23,572	23,035	20,969	23,952	23,184	25,856				220,570	136,022	62.2%
Central	11,748	10,501	9,739	9,358	9,138	8,680	9,811	9,321	9,757				88,053	98,442	-10.6%
Chinn Park	40,166	36,761	33,331	33,615	32,329	31,667	34,314	32,223	34,985				309,391	300,969	2.8%
Haymarket Gainesville	44,411	39,965	35,482	35,091	33,916	31,225	35,135	34,038	36,989				326,252	333,012	-2.0%
Manassas City	10,192	10,336	9,882	10,011	9,524	8,782	9,509	10,278	10,754				89,268	84,599	5.5%
Montclair	22,443	21,732	19,111	19,140	18,206	16,407	18,552	18,093	18,962				172,646	165,093	4.6%
Potomac	15,674	14,422	12,054	11,793	12,188	11,661	12,698	13,308	13,257				117,055	115,181	1.6%
Dale City	4,813	5,674	4,712	4,235	4,355	4,228	4,550	4,212	3,849				40,628	37,137	9.4%
Dumfries	4,722	4,739	4,087	4,999	4,567	3,911	4,429	4,037	4,528				40,019	32,270	24.0%
Independent Hill	6,485	6,540	5,475	5,852	5,152	5,336	5,156	4,763	5,312				50,071	51,051	-1.9%
Lake Ridge	5,721	5,479	5,234	5,101	4,308	1,597	4,184	4,272	4,535				40,431	43,297	-6.6%
Nokesville	5,798	5,340	5,300	5,072	4,941	4,523	5,770	4,918	1,004				42,666	48,434	-11.9%
Total Circulation	201,132	187,483	169,456	167,839	161,659	148,986	168,060	162,647	169,788	0	0	0	1,537,050	1,445,507	6.3%

Circulation - Holds												C U M U L A T I V E			
												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
Reserve Requests (Holds) (Source: Polaris Monthly Statistics Report & OverDrive)															
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24			
Holds Placed	27,822	26,515	25,420	24,744	23,711	19,183	26,587	24,028	24,047				222,057	219,348	1.2%
Holds Filled (Satisfied)	25,378	25,344	23,111	24,236	22,139	18,092	24,666	22,692	21,890				207,548	208,588	-0.5%
Requests placed in OverDrive eBook (Standard + Mobile)	15,880	15,626	11,392	8,523	8,202	9,532	11,738	10,117	10,592				101,602	103,251	-1.6%
Requests placed in OverDrive Audiobk (Standard + Mobile)	12,521	13,955	9,486	7,251	6,973	7,261	9,674	8,581	8,974				84,676	68,134	24.3%
Total OverDrive requests placed	28,401	29,581	20,878	15,774	15,175	16,793	21,412	18,698	19,566	0	0	0	186,278	171,385	8.7%

Self Check-Outs													CUMULATIVE		
Included in Circulation totals.													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Difference
All Libraries and Administrative Support Center (Source: Polaris)													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Difference
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Difference
ASC	0	9	0	0	0	1	0	3	2				15	38	-60.5%
Bull Run	7,081	6,826	6,086	5,706	6,111	5,066	6,171	5,798	6,863				55,708	37,073	50.3%
Central	2,419	2,346	2,043	1,946	1,948	1,757	1,855	1,921	1,997				18,232	24,257	-24.8%
Chinn Park	11,488	9,344	9,036	8,906	8,280	7,793	9,044	8,600	9,539				82,030	81,460	0.7%
Haymarket Gainesville	16,282	14,466	11,142	10,908	10,651	9,378	11,385	11,365	12,488				108,065	113,380	-4.7%
Manassas City	2,619	2,311	1,881	2,047	1,883	1,624	1,935	1,988	2,289				18,577	18,614	-0.2%
Montclair	7,833	7,789	6,494	5,984	5,504	4,908	5,973	6,056	6,744				57,285	54,526	5.1%
Potomac	4,476	3,915	3,077	3,095	3,206	2,848	3,263	3,542	3,389				30,811	31,653	-2.7%
Dale City	458	413	402	234	332	258	305	331	308				3,041	3,392	-10.3%
Dumfries	881	780	757	1,158	884	610	737	720	814				7,341	5,746	27.8%
Independent Hill	169	151	134	36	62	29	54	42	89				766	1,119	-31.5%
Lake Ridge	202	164	63	45	10	0	59	232	304				1,079	1,860	-42.0%
Nokesville	364	363	442	461	374	377	735	588	490				4,194	2,937	42.8%
Total	54,272	48,877	41,557	40,526	39,245	34,649	41,516	41,186	45,316	0	0	0	387,144	376,055	2.9%

Circulation/Digital Checkouts (Source: Vendor Reports)													C U M U L A T I V E			Perf Measure Target
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Difference	FY24
Magzter																
Magazine Checkouts	1,380	1,180	1,610	1,530	1,820	1,410	2,000	1,570	1,850				14,350	11,019	30.2%	
Freading																
Digital Checkouts	418	375	292	316	303	312	331	324	355				3,026	3,180	-4.8%	
hoopla																
Digital Checkouts	22,094	22,620	19,461	18,997	19,185	18,710	20,704	16,404	16,947				175,122	178,645	-2.0%	
OverDrive																
eBook (Standard + Mobile)	22,101	21,785	17,385	15,598	15,643	16,690	18,534	16,961	17,518				162,215	155,429	4.4%	
Audiobook (Standard + Mobile)	16,732	17,268	13,595	11,994	12,191	12,450	14,462	13,645	14,702				127,039	103,427	22.8%	
OverDrive Total (eBook + Audiobook)	38,833	39,053	30,980	27,592	27,834	29,140	32,996	30,606	32,220	0	0	0	289,254	258,856	11.7%	
Total Library Materials Circ: Digital (E-books, OverDrive eBook + OverDrive Audiobook)																
	62,725	63,228	52,343	48,435	49,142	49,572	56,031	48,904	51,372	0	0	0	481,752	451,700	6.7%	95,000
% of performance measure target													507.11%			

*Magazine statistics now provided by Magzter (Library of Virginia) October 2022.

*EBSCO services terminated by Library of Virginia effective June 1, 2021.

*RBDigital acquired by Overdrive fall of 2020. Transition from RBDigital to OverDrive completed February 2021.

													CUMULATIVE			Perf Measure Target FY24
													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Difference	
Circulation Totals																
ASC (Source: Polaris Statistical Summary Report)																
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
Total	336	380	391	406	367	355	382	409	440				3,466	3,168	9.4%	
Curbside Pickups (Source: Monthly Branch Report)																
Bull Run	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	5	-100.0%	
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	2	-100.0%	
Chinn Park	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	18	-100.0%	
Haymarket Gainesville	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				3	54	-94.4%	
Manassas City	0	0	0	0	1	3	5	2	10				21	21	0.0%	
Montclair	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	10	-100.0%	
Potomac	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				1	0		
Dale City	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1				3	12	-75.0%	
Dumfries	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1				2	0		
Independent Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	2	-100.0%	
Lake Ridge	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2				7	9	-22.2%	
Nokesville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	4	-100.0%	
Total	6	2	0	1	2	3	6	3	14	0	0	0	37	137	-73.0%	
Read & Returns (Source: Monthly Branch Report)																
Bull Run	19	19	21	8	37	1	14	2	11				132	153	-13.7%	
Central	1	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0				7	303	-97.7%	
Chinn Park	55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				55	374	-85.3%	
Haymarket Gainesville													0	0	0	
Manassas City													0	0	0	
Montclair	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				2	45	-95.6%	
Potomac	48	89	92	53	0	77	61	70	25				515	637	-19.2%	
Dale City	22	22	40	25	8	18	21	8	10				174	147	18.4%	
Dumfries	5	4	9	12	18	19	0	0	0				67	119	-43.7%	
Independent Hill			0										0	0	0	
Lake Ridge	2	9	7	1	0	0	0	0	0				19	65	-70.8%	
Nokesville													0	0	0	
Total	154	145	171	101	63	115	96	80	46	0	0	0	971	1,843	-47.3%	
ILL Total Items Borrowed and Loaned (Source: ILL Work Unit)																
Items Borrowed	87	114	105	111	96	85	136	73	130				937	987	-5.1%	
Items Loaned	59	79	87	54	50	43	79	55	58				564	404	39.6%	
Total	146	193	192	165	146	128	215	128	188	0	0	0	1,501	1,391	7.9%	
Total Library Materials Circulation: Print																
Total Circulation (FS,NLs,ASC,Cubside Pickups,Read & Returns & ILL)	201,774	188,203	170,210	168,512	162,237	149,587	168,759	163,267	170,476	0	0	0	1,543,025	1,452,046	6.3%	
Total Circulation (Full Service, NLs, ASC, Read & Returns, Digital & ILL): Print + Digital																
FY24 Circulation System Total	264,499	251,431	222,553	216,947	211,379	199,159	224,790	212,171	221,848	0	0	0	2,024,777	1,903,746	6.4%	2,800,000
% of Performance Measures Circ Target	9.4%	8.98%	7.95%	7.75%	7.55%	7.11%	8.03%	7.58%	7.92%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	72.3%			

Registered Patrons

												CURRENT			Perf Meas Target FY24
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	
(Source: Polaris Statical Summary Report + Find Tool)												Note: # of patrons = latest monthly figures available. This is not cumulative.			
New Patrons	1,979	1,723	1,821	1,866	1,157	1,085	1,481	1,518	1,664				14,294	11,243	27.1%
Deleted Patrons	41	62	55	47	37	25	34	55	31				387	399	-3.0%
Systemwide Total	348,897	353,097	356,011	358,968	361,015	363,009	371,569	374,977	378,502				378,502	336,016	12.6%

Manassas Patrons	17,430	17,493	17,566	17,658	17,706	17,747	17,793	17,881	18,002				18,002	17,180	4.8%
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Residents with Library Cards (population as of 6-30-23: PWC: 492,576)

76.84%

Web Patrons

OverDrive

New Patrons	2,165	2,225	989	439	422	437	580	523	507				8,287	2,792	196.8%
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Facebook

New "Daily Likes"	88	18	71	21	10	45	75	41	90				459	346	32.7%
Lifetime Total Likes	13,802	13,820	13,891	13,912	13,922	13,967	14,042	14,083	14,173				14,173	13,552	4.6%
Active Users (Includes Fans (Likes) & Non-Fans)	108,130	87,196	127,998	81,015	72,869	87,699	95,998	87,908	92,935				92,935	56,529	64.4%
Daily Total Reach															

Twitter

New Followers	-35	-16	-6	-2	-6	0	15	12	7				-31	21	-247.6%
Lifetime total followers	4,558	4,542	4,536	4,534	4,528	4,528	4,543	4,555	4,562				4,562	4,628	-1.4%

Pinterest

New Followers	-1	7	-5	-3	2	-3	0	0	-2				-5	4	-225.0%
Lifetime total followers	1,895	1,902	1,897	1,894	1,896	1,893	1,893	1,893	1,891				1,891	1,897	-0.3%

Instagram

New Followers	24	16	29	35	4	20	21	14	27				190	177	7.3%
Lifetime total followers	2,616	2,631	2,660	2,695	2,699	2,719	2,740	2,754	2,781				2,781	2,511	10.8%

Wowbrary

E-Mail Total Active Users	2,219	2,241	2,241	2,237	2,235	2,232	2,231	2,234	2,233				2,233	2,136	4.5%
RSS Feeds Active Users	23	25	22	22	23	21	22	21	21				21	26	-19.2%

Freeding

Total Unique Users	118	119	105	108	93	99	99	110	121				121	112	8.0%
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hoopla

New Users	514	458	332	384	250	279	367	387	377				3,348	3,044	10.0%
Total Users	30,948	31,439	31,579	31,863	32,062	32,300	32,633	32,995	33,339				33,339	29,358	13.6%

*RBDigital acquired by OverDrive fall of 2020. Transition from RBDigital to OverDrive completed February 2021.

													C U M U L A T I V E			Performance Measure Target
Information Requests (Source: Branch Monthly Statistics Report)													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	FY24
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
Bull Run	8,091	7,037	6,101	6,353	4,931	4,562	5,796	7,151	7,293				57,315	48,424	18.4%	
Central	3,216	3,403	2,627	2,640	2,106	2,080	2,449	2,880	3,433				24,834	32,953	-24.6%	
Chinn Park	13,644	10,849	12,668	11,172	10,532	10,396	11,361	12,270	13,921				106,813	105,690	1.1%	
Haymarket Gainesville	6,980	6,802	6,137	6,457	5,796	4,947	5,863	6,709	6,703				56,394	58,618	-3.8%	
Manassas City	3,507	3,036	2,557	2,594	2,525	2,356	2,897	2,893	3,035				25,400	24,526	3.6%	
Montclair	6,726	5,233	4,153	4,756	4,509	4,756	5,091	5,773	4,539				45,536	45,444	0.2%	
Potomac	5,881	5,646	4,904	5,288	4,716	4,935	5,346	5,681	6,779				49,176	48,019	2.4%	
Dale City	507	676	474	571	650	576	713	565	536				5,268	7,567	-30.38%	
Dumfries	2,128	2,603	2,020	1,876	1,432	1,668	1,146	2,190	255				15,318	16,244	-5.70%	
Independent Hill	1,323	982	1,092	896	922	536	836	858	1,006				8,451	10,243	-17.49%	
Lake Ridge	2,443	3,035	2,558	2,461	1,234	62	1,514	2,019	2,339				17,665	20,472	-13.71%	
Nokesville	1,406	1,099	1,319	1,656	1,039	1,093	1,206	1,099	1,066				10,983	8,962	22.55%	
Total	55,852	50,401	46,610	46,720	40,392	37,967	44,218	50,088	50,905	0	0	0	423,153	427,162	-0.94%	
Electronic Resources Sessions (Source: Vendor Supplied)																
Total	17,793	13,468	22,936	37,255	26,264	17,854	22,215	30,876	25,693				214,354	151,749	41.3%	
AWE Stations																
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
Bull Run	1,064	960	697	0*	0	0	0	0	0				2,721	4,112	-33.8%	
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0		
Chinn Park	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	1,746	-100.0%	
Haymarket Gainesville	632	531	478	480	483	459	423	400	0				3,886	5,407	-28.1%	
Manassas City	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0		
Montclair	0	183	368	354	311	333	302	223	190				2,264	1,553	45.8%	
Potomac	305	276	228	246	248	174	170	244	237				2,128	2,147	-0.9%	
Dumfries	293	293	180	175	227	159	137	201	255				1,920	1,372	39.9%	
Total	2,294	2,243	1,951	1,255	1,269	1,125	1,032	1,068	682	0	0	0	12,919	16,337	-20.9%	
Web Transactions (Source: OCE)																
OverDrive Page Views	63,279	59,348	55,632	50,964	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	229,223	1,004,815	-77.2%	
Library website page views			83,819			63,101			79,490				226,410	366,645	-38.2%	
Facebook daily total impressions	125,196	91,555	93,429	87,178	76,949	91,531	101,144	113,613	125,363				905,958	929,797	-2.6%	
Twitter daily total impressions	36,193	50,306	42,490	38,074	36,455	29,644	35,339	32,915	22,722				324,138	470,899	-31.2%	
Pinterest average monthly views	2,483	2,907	3,030	3,962	2,677	3,308	2,807	2,727	3,244				27,145	49,531	-45.2%	
Instagram impressions	14,555	10,932	13,008	15,422	12,286	11,191	12,105	9,227	8,460				107,186	95,899	11.8%	
Total	241,706	215,048	291,408	195,600	128,367	198,775	151,395	158,482	239,279	0	0	0	1,820,060	2,917,586	-37.6%	

													C U M U L A T I V E			Performance Measure Target
Information Requests cont'd (Source: Branch Monthly Statistics Report)													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	FY24
Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24					
Wowbrary (Source: Wowbrary)																
Clicks thru to Catalog	9,581	7,203	2,954	3,103	2,918	2,442	3,501	2,809	3,171				37,682	69,232	-45.6%	
Electronic Information requests handled																
Total	271,374	237,962	319,249	237,213	158,818	220,196	178,143	193,235	268,825	0	0	0	2,085,015	3,154,904	-33.9%	
Total Information Requests (Total Staff Assisted Requests & Total Patron Electronic Information Transactions)																
System Total	327,226	288,363	365,859	283,933	199,210	258,163	222,361	243,323	319,730	0	0	0	2,508,168	3,154,904	-20.5%	
% of Performance Measures Target (Electronic)													41.80%			
Electronic Resources SEARCHES for Lib of VA (Bibliostat) - Do <u>Not</u> Include Count with ER Stats Above (Source: Vendor Supplied)																
Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	FY24 To Date	FY23 To Date	% of Difference		
Total	29,103	27,921	30,667	52,928	46,854	46,928	36,159	52,788	37,616			360,964	321,416	12.3%		

* HG AWE machine broken for the month of October 2023.

Passport Services													C U M U L A T I V E		
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference
Central: Appointments	79	105	55	41	50	48	99	109	125				711	0	
Central: Photos Issued	0	0	9	13	24	13	42	33	58				192	0	
Haymarket: Appointments	76	92	85	74	75	69	109	95	121				796	0	
Haymarket: Photos Issued	0	0	10	22	25	12	36	39	38				182	0	
Potomac: Appointments	78	58	52	88	73	33	102	97	115				696	0	
Potomac: Photos Issued	0	0	10	29	25	17	44	44	50				219	0	
Total	154	150	157	213	198	131	291	275	324	0	0	0	1,893	0	

Makerspaces													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24			
Bull Run: Appointments	25	38	23	28	23	35	55	22	24				273	0	
Bull Run: Attendance	25	38	69	28	23	35	55	22	24				319	0	
Central: Appointments	6	15	26	11	17	36	18	19	23				171	0	
Central: Attendance	92	23	113	98	161	107	99	132	187				1,012	0	

MAGIC - Chinn Park Library													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24			
Appointments: County	80	103	120	152	233	228	214	237	180				1547	0	
Appointments: Non-County	22	20	16	21	4	11	39	28	48				209	0	

RELIC - Central Library													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24			
Appointments: County	110	139	126	172	114	119	155	236	170				1341	0	
Appointments: Non-County	24	12	2	2	2	2	14	33	75				166	0	

Library Events and Activities (Source: Branch Monthly Statistics Report) Full Service Branches	C U M U L A T I V E												Perf Measure Target FY24		
	Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Diff												
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24			
Preschool (B-5)	17	10	12	18	15	4	12	11	12				111	89	24.7%
Children (5-11)	19	9	8	11	11	8	4	12	10				92	53	73.6%
YA (12-18)	7	7	4	5	3	1	2	0	1				30	53	-43.4%
Adult	19	19	24	11	30	32	31	45	47				258	164	57.3%
Bull Run total	62	45	48	45	59	45	49	68	70	0	0	0	491	359	36.8%
Preschool (B-5)	9	7	8	10	8	4	7	11	8				72	57	26.3%
Children (5-11)	7	5	3	4	6	3	4	7	4				43	35	22.9%
YA (12-18)	2	1	2	3	3	3	3	4	5				26	13	100.0%
Adult	14	13	18	27	25	14	21	22	18				172	122	41.0%
Central total	32	26	31	44	42	24	35	44	35	0	0	0	313	227	37.9%
Preschool (B-5)	8	8	18	21	16	8	12	21	20				132	166	-20.5%
Children (5-11)	6	3	5	9	7	7	5	9	9				60	80	-25.0%
YA (12-18)	13	10	19	19	10	16	15	14	20				136	60	126.7%
Adult	34	19	19	35	33	26	31	41	45				283	334	-15.3%
Chinn Park total	61	40	61	84	66	57	63	85	94	0	0	0	611	640	-4.5%
Preschool (B-5)	15	8	12	18	18	9	10	16	9				115	135	-14.8%
Children (5-11)	8	13	7	9	10	10	7	8	15				87	91	-4.4%
YA (12-18)	10	0	4	5	5	8	4	6	1				43	35	22.9%
Adult	13	28	15	23	18	21	12	18	21				169	178	-5.1%
Haymarket Gainesville total	46	49	38	55	51	48	33	48	46	0	0	0	414	439	-5.7%
Preschool (B-5)	4	3	4	5	5	2	6	6	6				41	67	-38.8%
Children (5-11)	10	4	6	7	4	4	2	2	5				44	57	-22.8%
YA (12-18)	4	3	7	5	6	3	10	6	7				51	61	-16.4%
Adult	8	11	9	12	10	7	6	13	4				80	97	-17.5%
Manassas City total	26	21	26	29	25	16	24	27	22	0	0	0	216	282	-23.4%
Preschool (B-5)	3	3	10	9	9	4	9	14	8				69	57	21.1%
Children (5-11)	10	3	4	5	4	7	6	4	6				49	43	14.0%
YA (12-18)	5	2	2	5	4	4	5	5	5				37	40	-7.5%
Adult	15	14	10	15	10	9	12	13	13				111	122	-9.0%
Montclair total	33	22	26	34	27	24	32	36	32	0	0	0	266	262	1.5%
Preschool (B-5)	10	6	8	15	12	5	10	16	11				93	100	-7.0%
Children (5-11)	7	8	5	11	5	7	5	5	6				59	54	9.3%
YA (12-18)	4	5	3	3	3	2	3	3	5				31	43	-27.9%
Adult	14	21	25	31	27	21	36	31	36				242	206	17.5%
Potomac total	35	40	41	60	47	35	54	55	58	0	0	0	425	403	5.5%
Full Service Total	295	243	271	351	317	249	290	363	357	0	0	0	2,736	2,612	4.7%

Library Events and Activities (Source: Branch Monthly Statistics Report)	C U M U L A T I V E												Perf Measure Target FY24			
	Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Diff													
Neighborhood Branches	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
Preschool (B-5)	11	13	6	7	9	6	11	8	8					79	38	107.9%
Children (5-11)	6	5	3	6	2	4	5	4	5					40	32	25.0%
YA (12-18)	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	0					6	10	-40.0%
Adult	3	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1					8	6	33.3%
Dale City total	21	20	10	14	12	11	18	13	14	0	0	0	133	86	54.7%	
Preschool (B-5)	3	4	6	3	2	2	5	4	5					34	32	6.3%
Children (5-11)	3	6	3	5	4	4	3	3	7					38	22	72.7%
YA (12-18)	1	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	1					6	7	-14.3%
Adult	3	6	3	7	5	2	3	4	4					37	27	37.0%
Dumfries total	10	16	13	17	12	8	11	11	17	0	0	0	115	88	30.7%	
Preschool (B-5)	2	1	5	6	4	4	5	5	4					36	25	44.0%
Children (5-11)	9	2	5	2	4	2	2	2	1					29	5	480.0%
YA (12-18)	3	2	4	4	2	2	4	4	5					30	1	2900.0%
Adult	3	3	6	3	4	7	4	4	5					39	2	1850.0%
Independent Hill total	17	8	20	15	14	15	15	15	15	0	0	0	134	33	306.1%	
Preschool (B-5)	6	6	5	8	2	0	3	7	7					44	41	7.3%
Children (5-11)	3	3	3	5	0	0	3	4	7					28	24	17.1%
YA (12-18)	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1					5	6	-16.7%
Adult	2	2	2	5	1	0	2	4	4					22	24	-8.3%
Lake Ridge total	12	12	10	19	3	0	8	16	19	0	0	0	99	95	4.3%	
Preschool (B-5)	0	0	2	2	2	2	2	2	2					14	8	75.0%
Children (5-11)	7	6	7	7	6	6	5	5	6					55	23	139.1%
YA (12-18)	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1					6	2	200.0%
Adult	2	1	3	5	2	4	4	4	5					30	12	150.0%
Nokesville total	9	7	12	15	11	13	12	12	14	0	0	0	105	45	133.3%	
Neighborhood Total	69	63	65	80	52	47	64	67	79	0	0	0	586	FALSE		
Library Events and Activities Totals	364	306	336	431	369	296	354	430	436	0	0	0	3,322	2,612	27.2%	5,000
% of Performance Measures Target	7.28%	6.12%	6.72%	8.62%	7.38%	5.92%	7.08%	8.60%	8.72%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	66.44%			

Attendees to Library Events (Source: Branch Monthly Statistics Report)	C U M U L A T I V E												Perf Measure Target FY24			
	Full Service Libraries	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24		Jun-24	Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date
Preschool (B-5)	577	266	359	566	471	130	449	483						3,301	3,441	-4.1%
Children (5-11)	1,741	1,075	97	344	253	246	64	213						4,033	2,982	35.2%
YA (12-18)	127	148	69	52	17	2	31	0						446	242	84.3%
Adult	342	269	264	151	482	226	243	1,310						3,287	3,006	9.3%
Bull Run Total	2,787	1,758	789	1,113	1,223	604	787	2,006	0	0	0	0	11,067	9,671	14.4%	
Preschool (B-5)	432	279	222	237	182	100	123	279						1,854	1,828	1.4%
Children (5-11)	373	129	34	38	171	126	106	202						1,179	1,024	15.1%
YA (12-18)	25	7	6	13	30	31	11	24						147	310	-52.6%
Adult	94	197	207	165	175	147	143	196						1,324	2,610	-49.3%
Central Total	924	612	469	453	558	404	383	701	0	0	0	0	4,504	5,772	-22.0%	
Preschool (B-5)	750	514	922	1,235	694	617	496	1,063						6,291	6,867	-8.4%
Children (5-11)	483	280	380	1,523	179	1,040	521	346						4,752	6,758	-29.7%
YA (12-18)	605	197	670	524	210	175	246	241						2,868	1,785	60.7%
Adult	389	295	558	707	1,023	242	410	812						4,436	18,738	-76.3%
Chinn Park Total	2,227	1,286	2,530	3,989	2,106	2,074	1,673	2,462	0	0	0	0	18,347	34,148	-46.3%	
Preschool (B-5)	774	401	509	742	662	336	430	798						4,652	7,615	-38.9%
Children (5-11)	803	604	173	210	201	713	280	209						3,193	11,578	-72.4%
YA (12-18)	103	0	27	53	23	162	42	94						504	380	32.6%
Adult	452	1,230	376	3,232	471	823	299	389						7,272	6,819	6.6%
Haymarket/Gainesville Total	2,132	2,235	1,085	4,237	1,357	2,034	1,051	1,490	0	0	0	0	15,621	26,392	-40.8%	
Preschool (B-5)	149	116	117	168	121	53	149	167						1,040	2,253	-53.8%
Children (5-11)	570	82	127	226	155	155	34	25						1,374	2,934	-53.2%
YA (12-18)	18	56	86	39	54	58	176	137						624	542	15.1%
Adult	209	182	190	1,027	113	25	68	275						2,089	4,024	-48.1%
Manassas City	946	436	520	1,460	443	291	427	604	0	0	0	0	5,127	9,753	-47.4%	
Preschool (B-5)	180	223	332	607	363	172	351	725						2,953	2,999	-1.5%
Children (5-11)	788	253	342	294	330	1,145	1,132	935						5,219	2,550	104.7%
YA (12-18)	82	15	8	30	27	32	41	35						270	599	-54.9%
Adult	417	721	801	1,133	348	344	753	882						5,399	4,932	9.5%
Montclair Total	1,467	1,212	1,483	2,064	1,068	1,693	2,277	2,577	0	0	0	0	13,841	11,080	24.9%	
Preschool (B-5)	705	317	385	572	593	205	525	484						3,786	3,733	1.4%
Children (5-11)	297	579	73	304	30	234	102	127						1,746	2,140	-18.4%
YA (12-18)	166	249	122	101	109	57	126	98						1,028	1,368	-24.9%
Adult	164	219	316	615	397	340	318	485						2,854	5,697	-49.9%
Potomac Total	1,332	1,364	896	1,592	1,129	836	1,071	1,194	0	0	0	0	9,414	12,938	-27.2%	
FS Total	11,815	8,903	7,772	14,908	7,884	7,936	7,669	11,034	0	0	0	0	77,921	109,754	-29.0%	

Attendees to Library Events (Source: Branch Monthly Statistics Report)													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	Target
Neighborhood Libraries																FY24
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
Preschool (B-5)	424	571	69	343	330	295	181	244					2,457	1,131	117.2%	
Children (5-11)	266	162	402	279	60	249	314	172					1,904	1,638	16.2%	
YA (12-18)	7	1	31	0	74	0	11	0					124	60	106.7%	
Adult	182	5	0	0	0	68	24	85					364	156	133.3%	
Dale City Total	879	739	502	622	464	612	530	501	0	0	0	0	4,849	2,985	62.4%	
Preschool (B-5)	81	63	119	56	50	27	97	60					553	653	-15.3%	
Children (5-11)	166	238	105	115	288	115	95	141					1,263	438	188.4%	
YA (12-18)	9	0	11	5	20	0	0	0					45	84	-46.4%	
Adult	11	77	6	103	6	10	13	11					237	381	-37.8%	
Dumfries Total	267	378	241	279	364	152	205	212	0	0	0	0	2,098	1,556	34.8%	
Preschool (B-5)	35	36	95	110	58	93	79	77					583	337	73.0%	
Children (5-11)	498	33	109	25	61	14	8	9					757	100	657.0%	
YA (12-18)	15	10	140	20	8	10	20	33					256	12	2033.3%	
Adult	25	87	355	24	30	176	32	27					756	181	317.7%	
Independent Hill Total	573	166	699	179	157	293	139	146	0	0	0	0	2,352	630	273.3%	
Preschool (B-5)	575	235	82	172	35	0	63	99					1,261	1,272	-0.9%	
Children (5-11)	53	139	199	116	0	0	214	97					818	740	10.5%	
YA (12-18)	67	75	0	6	0	0	0	9					157	57	175.4%	
Adult	97	252	73	339	93	0	88	259					1,201	761	57.8%	
Lake Ridge Total	792	701	354	633	128	0	365	464	0	0	0	0	3,437	2,830	21.4%	
Preschool (B-5)	0	0	28	23	34	64	32	21					202	143	41.3%	
Children (5-11)	128	339	132	118	91	68	38	68					982	818	20.0%	
YA (12-18)	0	0	0	3	4	0	0	3					10	19	-47.4%	
Adult	93	6	118	51	14	37	30	22					371	67	453.7%	
Nokesville Total	221	345	278	195	143	169	100	114	0	0	0	0	1,565	1,047	49.5%	
NL Totals	2,732	2,329	2,074	1,908	1,256	1,226	1,339	1,437	0	0	0	0	14,301	9,048	58.1%	
Attendees to Library Events Totals	14,547	11,232	9,846	16,816	9,140	9,162	9,008	12,471	0	0	0	0	92,222	118,802	-22.4%	175,000
% of performance measure target	8%	6%	6%	10%	5%	5%	5%	7%	0%	0%	0%	0%	52.70%			

													C U M U L A T I V E		
Library Events and Activities - Outreach and Group Visits													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Diff
events that occur at a location other than a library facility; events are included in appropriate age level totals above; do not count these in library events totals															
Outreach Events	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24			
Bull Run	7	6	8	10	1	3	1	1					37	21	76.2%
Central	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	3					8	12	-33.3%
Chinn Park	5	11	15	10	10	11	9	17					88	95	-7.4%
Haymarket Gainesville	6	9	2	8	7	7	3	4					46	46	0.0%
Manassas City	3	7	8	4	2	2	2	2					30	86	-65.1%
Montclair	1	1	1	3	2	1	0	2					11	16	-31.3%
Potomac	3	0	5	4	4	2	0	1					19	29	-34.5%
Dale City	0	1	4	1	1	0	0	0					7	7	-100.0%
Dumfries	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0					5	9	-100.0%
Independent Hill	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					2	0	
Lake Ridge	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0					1	3	-100.0%
Nokesville	0	1	3	0	1	0	0	1					6	2	-50.0%
Total:	28	38	49	43	28	26	17	31	0	0	0	0	260	326	-90.5%

													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Diff
Group Visits	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24			
Bull Run	6	1	0	2	4	0	4	4					21	4	425.0%
Central	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	1					4	3	33.3%
Chinn Park	2	0	2	3	5	2	2	2					18	15	20.0%
Haymarket Gainesville	1	0	1	1	1	1	2	1					8	7	14.3%
Manassas City	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2					4	10	-60.0%
Montclair	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0					2	3	-33.3%
Potomac	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0					1	8	-87.5%
Dale City	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	0	
Dumfries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	0	
Independent Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	0	
Lake Ridge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	0	
Nokesville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1					1	6	-83.3%
Total:	9	1	3	7	12	6	10	11	0	0	0	0	59	56	-80.4%
Outreach and Group Visits Total	37	39	52	50	40	32	27	42	0	0	0	0	319	382	-89.0%

Attendees to Outreach and Group Visits												C U M U L A T I V E			
Outreach Attendees												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
Bull Run	848	400	924	1,426	12	192	147	14					3,963	1,770	123.9%
Central	5	313	56	0	0	0	112	148					634	356	78.1%
Chinn Park	143	519	685	116	584	279	272	549					3,147	3,041	3.5%
Haymarket Gainesville	286	705	204	763	309	378	176	215					3,036	2,323	30.7%
Manassas City	543	1,022	987	249	37	33	133	36					3,040	4,806	-36.7%
Montclair	51	9	83	181	55	174	0	60					613	1,000	-38.7%
Potomac	53	0	185	151	172	27	0	25					613	1,978	-69.0%
Dale City	0	239	265	35	25	0	0	0					564	454	24.2%
Dumfries	0	60	73	45	0	0	0	0					178	143	24.5%
Independent Hill	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					48	0	
Lake Ridge	0	0	0	165	0	0	0	0					165	403	-59.1%
Nokesville	0	65	194	0	290	0	0	22					571	178	220.8%
Totals:	1,977	3,332	3,656	3,131	1,484	1,083	840	1,069	0	0	0	0	16,572	16,452	0.7%

Group Visit Attendees												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19	Apr-19	May-19	Jun-19				
Bull Run	138	13	0	41	69	0	73	71					405	30	1250.0%
Central	0	0	0	24	0	18	22	10					74	31	138.7%
Chinn Park	26	0	31	63	91	30	34	40					315	358	-12.0%
Haymarket Gainesville	8	0	55	70	19	17	42	8					219	96	128.1%
Manassas City	0	0	0	0	10	13	0	47					70	91	-23.1%
Montclair	0	0	0	0	15	0	36	0					51	76	-32.9%
Potomac	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	0					24	89	-73.0%
Dale City	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	0	
Dumfries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	0	
Independent Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	0	
Lake Ridge	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0					0	0	
Nokesville	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11					11	74	-85.1%
Totals:	172	13	86	198	204	102	207	187	0	0	0	0	1,169	845	38.3%
Outreach and Group Attendees Total	2,149	3,345	3,742	3,329	1,688	1,185	1,047	1,256	0	0	0	0	17,741	17,297	-92.7%

Community + Study Room Use: Non-Library (Library-sponsored meetings + events are not counted)													C U M U L A T I V E		
Number of Non-Library Uses:	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference
Bull Run: County	3	3	1	1	0	3	0	2	3				16	1	1500.0%
Bull Run: Non-County	83	104	89	110	88	80	83	100	93				830	306	171.2%
Bull Run: Total	86	107	90	111	88	83	83	102	96	0	0	0	846	307	175.6%
Central: County	1	0	4	3	2	3	2	2	8				25	16	56.3%
Central: Non-County	52	56	78	72	48	63	47	64	65				545	493	10.5%
Central: Total	53	56	82	75	50	66	49	66	73	0	0	0	570	509	12.0%
Chinn Park: County	0	2	3	1	1	1	1	2	0				11	8	37.5%
Chinn Park: Non-County	116	98	93	131	4	76	95	108	135				856	1,158	-26.1%
Chinn Park: Total	116	100	96	132	5	77	96	110	135	0	0	0	867	1,166	-25.6%
Haymarket Gainesville: County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	383	-100.0%
Haymarket Gainesville: Non-County	154	185	177	64	167	174	207	46	237				1411	1,013	39.3%
HG: Total	154	185	177	64	167	174	207	46	237	0	0	0	1411	1,396	1.1%
Manassas City: County	8	15	20	32	14	16	18	17	10				150	227	-33.9%
Manassas City: Non-County	39	51	43	55	48	37	34	41	32				380	337	12.8%
Manassas City: Total	47	66	63	87	62	53	52	58	42	0	0	0	530	564	-6.0%
Montclair: County	2	0	0	2	0	1	3	8	2				18	1	1700.0%
Montclair: Non-County	364	364	322	358	353	309	320	404	372				3166	2,952	7.2%
Montclair: Total	366	364	322	360	353	310	323	412	374	0	0	0	3184	2,953	7.8%
Potomac: County	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	1	2				7	2	250.0%
Potomac: Non-County	7	6	1	3	6	4	6	3	5				41	36	13.9%
Potomac: Total	7	7	1	4	8	4	6	4	7	0	0	0	48	38	26.3%
ASC: County	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	3				7	3	133.3%
ASC: Non-County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	
ASC: Total	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	3	0	0	0	7	3	133.3%
Dumfries: County	9	8	4	4	4	5	7	2	4				47	64	-26.6%
Dumfries: Non-County	56	56	50	62	43	48	49	90	82				536	399	34.3%
Dumfries: Total	65	64	54	66	47	53	56	92	86	0	0	0	583	463	25.9%
Total County Uses:	23	29	32	45	23	29	31	37	32	0	0	0	281	705	-60.1%
Total Non-County Uses:	871	920	853	855	757	791	841	856	1021	0	0	0	7,765	6,694	16.0%
Total County + Non-County Use:	894	949	885	900	780	820	872	893	1053	0	0	0	8,046	7,399	8.7%

Community + Study Room Use: Non-Library (Library-sponsored meetings + events are not counted)													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference
Number of Attendees for Non-Library Uses:															
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24			
Bull Run: County	18	36	10	3	0	52	0	5	64				188	8	2250.0%
Bull Run: Non-County	322	521	468	329	312	228	335	285	278				3,078	1,159	165.6%
Bull Run: Total	340	557	478	332	312	280	335	290	342	0	0	0	3,266	1,167	179.9%
Central: County	5	0	40	35	9	16	58	31	66				260	76	242.1%
Central: Non-County	125	179	223	237	183	192	184	236	226				1,785	1,720	3.8%
Central: Total	130	179	263	272	192	208	242	267	292	0	0	0	2,045	1,796	13.9%
Chinn Park: County	0	49	47	25	25	90	40	160	0				436	244	78.7%
Chinn Park: Non-County	158	394	212	306	100	118	156	219	435				2,098	2,237	-6.2%
Chinn Park: Total	158	443	259	331	125	208	196	379	435	0	0	0	2,534	2,481	2.1%
Haymarket Gainesville: County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	874	-100.0%
Haymarket Gainesville: Non-County	504	442	416	101	328	503	525	89	594				3,502	8,589	-59.2%
HG: Total	504	442	416	101	328	503	525	89	594	0	0	0	3,502	9,463	-63.0%
Manassas City: County	43	36	48	68	28	30	30	50	19				352	659	-46.6%
Manassas City: Non-County	85	144	90	110	89	61	56	88	65				788	775	1.7%
Manassas City: Total	128	180	138	178	117	91	86	138	84	0	0	0	1,140	1,434	-20.5%
Montclair: County	50	0	0	114	0	6	75	135	47				427	20	2035.0%
Montclair: Non-County	868	865	795	943	944	892	822	1095	986				8,210	6,707	22.4%
Montclair: Total	918	865	795	1,057	944	898	897	1,230	1,033	0	0	0	8,637	6,727	28.4%
Potomac: County	0	8	0	5	815	0	0	16	274				1,118	1,054	6.1%
Potomac: Non-County	113	98	24	83	67	76	142	23	65				691	751	-8.0%
Potomac: Total	113	106	24	88	882	76	142	39	339	0	0	0	1,809	1,805	0.2%
ASC: County	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	75	75				153	60	155.0%
ASC: Non-County	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0	0	
ASC: Total	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	75	75	0	0	0	153	60	155.0%
Dumfries: County	12	14	6	7	8	8	13	6	8				82	94	-12.8%
Dumfries: Non-County	77	77	77	89	75	81	76	105	112				769	512	50.2%
Dumfries: Total	89	91	83	96	83	89	89	111	120	0	0	0	851	606	40.4%
Total County Attendees:	128	143	151	260	885	202	216	478	553	0	0	0	3,016	3,089	-2.4%
Total Non-County Attendees:	2,252	2,720	2,305	2,198	2,098	2,151	2,296	2,140	2,761	0	0	0	20,921	22,450	-6.8%
Total County + Non-County Use:	2,380	2,863	2,456	2,458	2,983	2,353	2,512	2,618	3,314	0	0	0	23,937	25,539	-6.3%

Computer Use													C U M U L A T I V E			Performance Measure Target
# Users Logged On (SAM Statistics)													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
Bull Run	683	660	549	605	628	554	658	718	767				5,822	3,024	92.5%	
Central	401	419	353	442	339	305	343	423	446				3,471	3,568	-2.7%	
Chinn Park	776	754	816	805	676	678	647	809	855				6,816	5,760	18.3%	
Haymarket Gainesville	437	391	306	330	332	269	354	386	476				3,281	3,136	4.6%	
Manassas City	212	190	170	190	191	151	169	212	201				1,686	1,729	-2.5%	
Montclair	486	456	326	432	380	387	438	492	520				3,917	3,089	26.8%	
Potomac	739	908	714	893	679	699	742	793	887				7,054	6,270	12.5%	
Dale City	204	235	154	237	216	210	230	255	202				1,943	1,391	39.7%	
Dumfries	237	285	231	288	234	230	231	245	241				2,222	2,223	0.0%	
Independent Hill	21	18	18	24	17	18	17	20	23				176	169	4.1%	
Lake Ridge	97	120	108	138	55	2	96	109	143				868	803	8.1%	
Nokesville	35	50	44	44	38	34	37	37	47				366	390	-6.2%	
Total	4,328	4,486	3,789	4,428	3,785	3,537	3,962	4,499	4,808	0	0	0	37,622	31,552	19.2%	

# User Sessions (SAM Statistics)													C U M U L A T I V E			Performance Measure Target
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
Bull Run	1,555	1,543	1,330	1,390	1,058	920	1,070	1,177	1,278				11,321	6,916	63.7%	
Central	953	1,005	871	835	572	515	623	755	762				6,891	8,559	-19.5%	
Chinn Park	1,986	1,898	1,649	1,638	1,252	1,256	1,250	1,586	1,626				14,141	14,353	-1.5%	
Haymarket Gainesville	863	705	583	585	540	413	535	667	759				5,650	5,846	-3.4%	
Manassas City	401	365	328	342	362	296	273	354	375				3,096	3,539	-12.5%	
Montclair	976	911	576	712	645	579	688	807	831				6,725	6,648	1.2%	
Potomac	1,896	2,155	1,812	1,740	1,363	1,339	1,411	1,510	1,573				14,799	15,535	-4.7%	
Dale City	395	505	315	524	350	349	368	381	351				3,538	2,904	21.8%	
Dumfries	438	531	397	441	322	332	333	363	368				3,525	4,117	-14.4%	
Independent Hill	38	45	33	41	20	25	26	25	32				285	333	-14.4%	
Lake Ridge	226	257	249	215	67	3	151	185	186				1,539	1,862	-17.3%	
Nokesville	99	104	67	61	61	59	51	54	78				634	665	-4.7%	
Total	9,826	10,024	8,210	8,524	6,612	6,086	6,779	7,864	8,219	0	0	0	72,144	71,277	1.2%	

WiFi Use													C U M U L A T I V E		
Users: (Source: DoIT)													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Difference
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24			
Bull Run	928	1,049	893	1,017	911	787	901	938	1,047				8471	7,351	15%
Central	442	436	448	552	421	511	583	554	604				4551	5,989	-24%
Chinn Park	850	911	934	1,060	947	747	889	1,044	1,008				8390	14,511	-42%
Haymarket Gainesville	623	825	912	1,061	847	839	926	1,037	1,106				8176	7,208	13%
Manassas City	331	355	348	366	298	316	252	240	275				2781	2,080	34%
Montclair	787	942	1,111	1,265	1,079	941	1,187	1,307	1,116				9735	10,650	-9%
Potomac	558	655	571	709	559	514	561	559	630				5316	6,241	-15%
Dale City	209	336	294	307	279	269	350	337	334				2715	2,964	-8%
Dumfries	78	93	74	95	104	92	100	123	137				896	1,335	-33%
Independent Hill	39	27	42	42	25	21	32	87	157				472	723	-35%
Lake Ridge	52	74	81	83	80	38	65	83	65				621	877	-29%
Nokesville	45	53	52	50	40	39	52	89	131				551	523	5%
Total WiFi Users:	4,942	5,756	5,760	6,607	5,590	5,114	5,898	6,398	6,610	0	0	0	52,675	60,452	-13%

Dwell Time (Average in Minutes): (Source: DoIT)													C U M U L A T I V E		
													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Difference
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24			
Bull Run	19.00	17.00	18.00	18.00	19.00	21.00	17.00	17.00	19.00				165.00	20.67	698%
Central	21.00	19.00	17.00	18.00	17.00	17.00	12.00	14.00	15.00				150.00	26.22	472%
Chinn Park	19.00	21.00	19.00	18.00	20.00	19.00	16.00	20.00	19.00				171.00	33.78	406%
Haymarket Gainesville	30.00	27.00	30.00	29.00	29.00	32.00	28.00	29.00	32.00				266.00	45.22	488%
Manassas City	44.00	23.00	32.00	34.00	31.00	35.00	32.00	38.00	38.00				307.00	55.78	450%
Montclair	19.00	20.00	18.00	17.00	19.00	19.00	19.00	18.00	18.00				167.00	58.56	185%
Potomac	22.00	23.00	19.00	18.00	19.00	23.00	17.00	17.00	17.00				175.00	33.33	425%
Dale City	10.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	9.00	8.00	9.00	8.00	9.00				80.00	12.00	567%
Dumfries	18.00	13.00	14.00	12.00	14.00	17.00	16.00	14.00	17.00				135.00	20.00	575%
Independent Hill	10.00	15.00	14.00	14.00	12.00	18.00	9.00	60.00	73.00				225.00	10.00	2150%
Lake Ridge	14.00	10.00	12.00	11.00	9.00	11.00	10.00	8.00	9.00				94.00	21.00	348%
Nokesville	32.00	20.00	26.00	28.00	30.00	22.00	27.00	66.00	82.00				333.00	20.00	1565%
Average Dwell Time:	258.00	217.00	228.00	226.00	228.00	242.00	212.00	309.00	348.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	189.00	29.71	536%

													C U M U L A T I V E			
													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Diff	
Training Office (Source: HR Training Manager)																
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24				
Total number of Training Events	99	114	124	125	31	92	79	84	70					818	916	-11%
Total number of Staff	263	263	263	263	263	263	263	263	263	263	263	263	263			
Total number of Staff Attended	82	102	114	136	58	70	71	84	71					788	1157	-32%
% of Staff Attending Training Events	31%	39%	43%	52%	22%	27%	27%	32%	27%	0%	0%	0%				

Financial Services (Source: FS Administrator)	C U M U L A T I V E												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Diff	Perf Measure Target FY24	
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24					
Financial Status Updates	989	1,130	945	1,168	1,175	1,110	1,088	1,240	1,318					10,163	12,044	-15.6%	14,000
% of performance measure target													72.59%				

Library Facilities Maintenance (Source: Library Facilities Manager)	C U M U L A T I V E												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Diff	Perf Meas Target FY24	
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24					
Work Orders forwarded to B&G	13	34	25	45	25	15	28	16	36					237	349	-32%	
In-House Work Orders Completed	18	33	22	24	32	28	45	48	47					297	344	-14%	
Total	31	67	47	69	57	43	73	64	83	0	0	0	534	693	-23%	646	
% of performance measure target													82.66%				

Office of Communications and Marketing (Source: OCM Manager)	C U M U L A T I V E												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Diff	Perf Meas Target FY24	
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24					
Web requests + print pieces produced	707	1,355	1,165	1,195	1,601	1,141	1,582	1,955	1,684					12,385	7,252	70.8%	7,500
% of performance measure target													165.13%				

Office of Programming and Events (Source: OPE Manager)	C U M U L A T I V E												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Diff	Perf Meas Target FY24	
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24					
System-Wide Program Events Coordinated	41	28	31	36	31	28	30	28	18					271	207	30.9%	
Attendees at System-Wide Program Events	3,690	1,820	16,042	3,493	1,100	2,557	962	1,352	1,396					32,412	9,250	250.4%	
Reading Program Participants	2,777	486	127	8,067	26	1,122	657	117	292					13,671	0		

Community Outreach Services (Source: COS Manager)	C U M U L A T I V E												Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	% of Diff	Perf Meas Target FY24	
	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24					
Outreach Events and Bookmobile Stops Coordinated	22	17	19	24	22	16	20	19	19					178	74	140.5%	
People Reached at Outreach Events and Bookmobile Stops	496	860	936	1,484	775	337	702	584	632					6,806	1,632	317.0%	
People Who Signed Up for a Library Card at an Outreach Event or Bookmobile Stop	63	117	148	156	147	49	66	64	85					895	0		
Requests for Supplemental Outreach Materials	0	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0					5	18	-72.2%	

Mail Room Transactions (Source: Monthly report from Mailroom)													C U M U L A T I V E			Perf Measure Target FY24
													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24					
Boxes/Bins, etc. of Materials Delivered	5,514	6,185	3,565	4,120	5,605	4,634	5,257	5,249	5,198				45,327	38,959	16.3%	55,000
% of performance measure target													82.41%			

Materials Services Transactions (Source: Polaris Monthly Statistics Report)													C U M U L A T I V E			Perf Measure Target FY24
													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24					
Items Added	13,851	11,981	10,543	8,621	8,772	6,436	11,641	9,720	9,402				90,967	63,374	43.5%	
Items Deleted	5,796	5,902	4,549	6,177	6,812	6,285	7,593	6,646	7,096				56,856	53,700	5.9%	
Bibs Added	3,883	4,035	4,033	3,650	9,583	2,563	3,723	4,268	3,795				39,533	35,551	11.2%	
Bibs Deleted	3,916	4,935	2,070	4,069	11,487	4,141	5,712	5,282	5,326				46,938	47,280	-0.7%	
Total Transactions	27,446	26,853	21,195	22,517	36,654	19,425	28,669	25,916	25,619	0	0	0	234,294	199,905	17.2%	95,000
% of performance measure target													95.75%			

Technology Services (Source: Monthly report from Technology Services)													C U M U L A T I V E			Perf Measure Target FY24
													Total FY24 To Date	Total FY23 To Date	Percent of Difference	
Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24					
Total Support Requests assigned to LNSS	3,097	5,270	3,721	3,261	2,829	3,961	2,456	6,876	7,440				38,911	40,159	-3.1%	42,000
% of performance measure target													92.65%			

Library Collection Size Annual Totals (Source: Polaris Fiscal Year Turnover Rate Report as of June 30, 2023)

Systemwide Totals by Collection		Cumulative		
	June 2023	Total June 2023	Total June 2022	Percent of Difference
Physical Books	418,821	418,821	449,903	-6.9%
E-Books-Electronic Products	1,728,134	1,728,134	1,499,260	15.3%
Physical Serials	22,909	22,909	24,079	-4.9%
Physical Audio-Visual Materials	39,446	39,446	37,536	5.1%
Other	2,887	2,887	2,304	25.3%
Microforms	73	73	73	0.0%
Grand Total / All Library Materials	2,212,270			

Library Branch Totals - All Formats (Number of Items in Polaris)		Cumulative		
	June 2023	Total June 2023	Total June 2022	Percent of Difference
Bull Run	84,477	84,477	78,435	7.7%
Central	62,557	62,557	65,693	-4.8%
Chinn Park	75,100	75,100	77,433	-3.0%
Haymarket Gainesville	69,782	69,782	68,837	1.4%
Manassas City	22,997	22,997	22,049	4.3%
Montclair	44,234	44,234	46,340	-4.5%
Potomac	61,677	61,677	65,591	-6.0%
Total	420,824	420,824	424,378	-0.8%
Dale City	14,500	14,500	14,938	-2.9%
Dumfries	13,890	13,890	13,285	4.6%
Independent Hill	9,985	9,985	11,450	-12.8%
Lake Ridge	12,605	12,605	13,381	-5.8%
Nokesville	11,009	11,009	11,249	-2.1%
Total	61,989	61,989	64,303	-3.6%
Community Outreach Services	379	379	0	0.0%
Non-branch Collections: ASC	1,828	1,828	2,205	-17.1%
Web	275,216	275,216	244,572	12.5%
Total	277,423	277,423	246,777	12.4%
Grand Total	760,236	760,236	735,458	3.4%
Grand Total	14,269	14,269	13,285	7.4%

FY2024 Report Notes for Individual Sheets in Prince William Public Libraries Monthly Report

Circulation Central Library closes at 2:00 p.m. due to a power outage - July 6, 2022

Haymarket Gainesville Library will close at 2pm every day July 19 through July 23 due to ongoing air conditioning issues.

Manassas City Library closed at 4pm due to inclement weather - Monday, August 7, 2023

Nokesville Library closed at 4pm due to inclement weather - Monday, August 7, 2023

Central, Chinn Park, Dale City, Dumfries, Independent Hill, Lake Ridge and Potomac Libraries all closing at 5pm due to inclement weather - Monday, August 7, 2023

Haymarket Gainesville Library closed due to power outage - Saturday, September 9, 2023

Montclair Library closed at 12pm due to construction blocking the building entrance - September 15, 2023

All library branches closed at 5:00pm due to inclement weather - January 16, 2024

Due to inclement weather, these branches were closed: Central, Haymarket Gainesville, Independent Hill, Lake Ridge, Manassas City, Nokesville, Potomac - January 19, 2024

**Information Requests
(Full Service Libraries)**

- _Directional/Servicing Technology and Informational/Point of Use Instruction statistics combined into one report:

**Computer Use Statistics
Library Events and Activities**

- December 2009: SAM Flextime implemented (extension of patron's time no longer counts as a separate session).
- February 1, 2011: \$2.00 Internet visitor card charge in effect for users without library cards.

Financial Services

- New financial + budget system, Mobius Financials replaces Ascend: July 1, 2021

OCM

New web site launched: May 2021

December 2016: Pinterest site changed + boards dropped which resulted in a negative number of patrons.

Beginning in January 2018, Library Web Site Page Views + Session are only reported by the County to OCE on a Quarterly basis.

OCE (Office of Community Engagement) renamed OCM (Office of Communications and Marketing) - January 1, 2022

OPE

Office of Programming and Outreach renamed OPE (Office of Programming and Events) - July 1, 2022

COS

Community Outreach Services division established July 1, 2022

Magisterial Districts

- Brentsville: Nokesville
- Coles: Central, Independent Hill
- Gainesville: Bull Run, Haymarket Gainesville
- Neabsco: Dale City
- Occoquan: Chinn Park, Lake Ridge
- Potomac: Dumfries, Montclair
- Woodbridge: Potomac
- City of Manassas: Manassas City

To: Rebecca Lowe, Acting Library Director
From: Sara Holloway, Information Services Manager
Subject: March 2024 Branch highlights

Youth Services

It was another month flying solo for YS librarian Maddy. With help from other departments (special shout-out to Mary, Arti, Delwyn, and Maria for assistance with programs!), she provided another full roster of youth programming. 748 participants attended a total of 24 programs.

Storytimes

Our usual toddler, preschool, and baby storytimes were well attended with themes including bears, birds, and interactive books. A woman was coming out of Ms. Roxana's Spanish Storytime and had some very kind comments. She said "Ms. Roxana is amazing. She is doing so much to heal this community. So many of us grew up without anything like this. I want to bring my mom and show her what the library can do."

Our monthly outreach visit to the NFVS Early Head Start classroom was met with an enthusiastic response. Arti oversaw a sweet storytime visit from Crumbl cookies. The Edible Books program shared Dr. Seuss stories and decorated cupcakes with a whopping 96 attendees!



It was standing room only for the shared program Edible Books Storytime



Everyone was happy when the promised cupcakes finally arrived!

Elementary Age Programs

Our Lego Club creations have found a new home in a more easily viewable and accessible location on top of the graphic novel shelving. 19 participants created bird feeders out of popsicle sticks at our Crafternoon event. Everyone also got to take home a bag of bird seed and a bird-spotting checklist.



Future birders

Even though the leader of our Chess Club was unable to attend, Maddy set up a room for free play and 10 future masters joined to learn the basics of the game.

Young Adult Programs

Since we are still lacking a dedicated YA librarian, Delwyn kindly stepped in to host the shared Bubble Tea Party which had 15 attendees. Cups, stickers, and instant boba was sent to us from OPE and Delwyn made sure everyone went home with a decorated tumbler and a tasty treat.

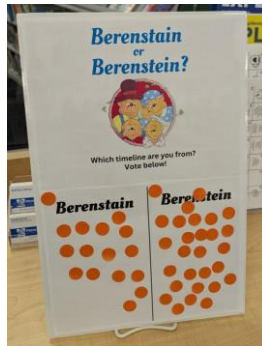
Passive Programs & Displays

Maddy put up her annual Women's History Month display which featured many biographies of famous females. Tying into the display was the She Persisted Scavenger Hunt. Participants could search for images and bios of influential women hiding around the kids' section and receive a pair of eclipse glasses for completing the challenge.

There were two take and make crafts to celebrate the season- paper bag cherry blossom trees and Easter egg tulips. Both were hits with all supplies being snapped up for a total of 52 kits.

Laarni Martin kept the pyramid display stocked with books about St. Patrick's Day, Easter, and Spring.

Maddy put up an informal poll to answer the age-old question: Is it Berenstain or Berenstein?



The tragic effects of misinformation

Though the Berenstein faction has strength in numbers, Maddy would like to let them know they are sadly wrong- it is and always has been *Berenstain*.

Miscellaneous

Some long overdue rearranging was done in the children's section this month. Since the AWE station doesn't look like it's going to be replaced, the catalog computer has been moved to the desk it previously occupied. To prevent further damage to the rear wall, the rocket ship was relocated to the space under the tree and the nursing chair was moved to the rear corner to provide a bit more privacy.

In a small, personal victory (which is neither small nor personal actually) Maddy finally secured free period products for the public restrooms. The fact that we have pad and tampon dispensers in the restroom that are no longer stocked was something that bothered her from the time she started here. Through a partnership with Info Librarian Lena Gonzalez Berrios at the Montclair branch and her work with e3Kids, Maddy was able to get a huge box of hygiene products shipped to Bull Run. She has put together discrete paper bags that can be handed out to anyone who asks. Hooray!

Adult Programming

Book Clubs – Five book groups met in March with 41 total in attendance.

English Conversation group (Tuesday) had a total of 53 attending for the month (4 sessions).

Spanish Conversation (Tuesday) had 16 attending for the month (4 sessions).

AARP Tax Aide did yeoman's work in March, completing 589 tax returns.

Michelle Baker displayed lobby art in March (no pictures, sorry!)

A passive program – Predict the Oscar Winners – ran in March with 9 people participating. Two people guessed the same number of winners, so two grand prizes were awarded.

Sunny Kim met virtually with 19 adult education students with PWCS on March 12 to talk about digital library resources and what PWPL does to help ELL adults.

March 2024 Monthly Report

The Hive 8051 @ Bull Run Library Makerspace

Snapshot of March makerspace usage: 24 appointments; 36 walk-in makers; 38 tours; 9 programs with 96 people attending; 1 outreach event with 30 people engaging with makerspace staff.

Walk-in Creativity:



Moxie Magic:



Programs:



Glowforge Day: 5 participants learned the scanning and tracing capabilities of Glowforge. 2 on the waiting list were offered to

appointments late in the week so that no one missed out on the learning opportunity.



Cricut 2.0:

Our volunteer tutor taught everyone how to work with card cutting in Design Space this month. In this monthly program we

have been slowly working through different ways to use the very versatile Cricut machine.



Paint Night: We had a lot of fun with calligraphy this month. Hand writing is BACK!



3D Design Den (New Program): Our 3D printing volunteer tutor led makers through a bootcamp using the 3D design software TinkerCad.





Recording in Progress (New Program): The makerspace is all about opening it's door to Adult Services Programming staff. Here we are hosting an audio editing software program in the makerspace. It's the perfect way to utilize space when then makerspace is usually closed for business.



Group/Individual Visits to the makerspace: This month we enjoyed visits from the Outreach Department, a graduate student from ODU, and many staff from branches throughout the system.



**Public Services Management
Central Library**

To: Rebecca Lowe, Acting Library Director
From: Natalie Hutchinson, Branch Manager
Subject: March 2024 Highlights

COMMUNITY LEADS THE WAY

Submitted by **Natalie Hutchinson**

March was an unbelievably collaborative month for the staff of Central Library. Youth Services Supervisor, Amanda Thompson, shared a creative brainstorm with presenter **Sing Books with Emily**, that flourished into a new children's program after months of planning and painting, called "The Mad Hatter Tea Party."



Jennifer Hendrix, Makerspace Librarian, partnered with **Risk and Wellness** to introduce this free, creative space to county employees and lead them through customizing spring-themed ceramic tiles. Tahniah Thamm, Library Assistant, worked with the **ICNA Sisters VA** to bring a beautiful Ramadan display to our Teen space. Tammy Schofield, Adult Programming Librarian, started planning a craft swap last year and along the way, found a partner in Manassas City Library's Lisa Alamin, encouraging patrons from all around Manassas to donate yarn, paints, flowers, beads, fabrics and other creative notions, in the weeks leading up to the event.

And finally, we hosted the **Friends of Manassas City Library** Big Book Sale in our community room, where they raised money for more library programming in 2025!

STUDIO 8601 MAKERSPACE

Submitted by **Jennifer Hendrix**

March 2024 was Studio 8601's **BEST MONTH EVER!** We hosted 7 programs and group appointments for 64 patrons, 23 appointments for 26 patrons (sewing, embroidery, Glowforge, Whisper Room and more!), and had 85 walk-ins including 24 tours!

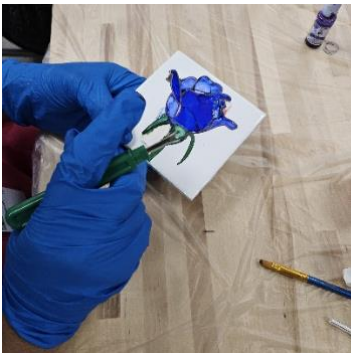


Drop-in programs during our open Saturday hours continue to be popular so we started the month with personalized iron-on vinyl book bags to celebrate **Read Across America Day!**



Luci Ferraro taught a full class to make **miniature cross-stitch buttons** that were a huge hit!

The makerspace hosted a group of Prince William County employees as part of a special **Risk & Wellness** program.



Participants received a tour of the space, a demonstration of the Glowforge and an introduction to creating with ceramic tiles and alcohol ink paints.

The Psychosocial Rehab Group from the **Community Services Board** program made their quarterly visit to the makerspace where they made iron-on vinyl book bags with the makerspace librarian and collaged bookmarks with staffer Melinda Gurney!

Several members of the group are also using the Whisper Room!



The makerspace also hosted the TAG Makers (see Youth Services) and helped with the First Annual Craft Swap hosted by Central and Manassas City (see Adult Services). The Stone House Quilters Guild finished up their last of 6 monthly classes on quilt borders and bindings.



With some makerspace Cricut training, two local teens submitted original T-shirt designs for a local contest.

Makerspace staff jumped in with Glowforge training to help PWPL staffer Joanna Ward create a spectacular Ramadan Take-n-Make at Lake Ridge Library.





Our 3D printing service continued to serve the county's partnership with the Virginia Tech Co-op Extension by printing 12 herb cultivation tools.

Finally, check out these great patron projects below from the month of March!



Coming up next month: a 4-part program in partnership with MAGIC, **Teen Entrepreneurs** participating in a Shark Tank competition; multiple makerspace LIT CON events and personalized Glowforge garden stakes during Central's 2nd Annual **Spring Fest on the Central Green!**

YOUTH SERVICES

Submitted by **Amanda Thompson**

March started big with a **Mad Tea Party** featuring **Sing Books with Emily**. Amanda collaborated with Emily to create a new program to great success!





We had a **Read Across America** event, "Edible Books." Young patrons enjoyed a story time with Tara from OPE, and had a great time putting the Cat in the Hat's hat on their cupcakes.

Local author, Josh Rachford provided a special story time featuring his book, *Cat and the Mail Truck*.



We had another special story time, "Bear's Shadow: A Bilingual Story Time" from a grant received by **Manassas City Library** from **NASA**.

Wendy created a fantastic for **Lit Con** and Tahnia worked with the volunteers from the **ICNA Sisters VA** to set up a lovely and informative Ramadan in the Teen section.



Teens and tweens learn to sew in Studio 8601. Our tween events are gaining in popularity each month!



Story time, as well as Music and Motion, continue to bring energetic families.

ADULT SERVICES

Submitted by **Tammy Schofield**

In celebration of National Craft Month, Central Library and Manassas City Library partnered to present a successful **Craft Supply Swap** program planned by Lisa Alamin, Jennifer Hendrix, and Tammy Schofield. Community members were generous in providing new or gently used craft supplies. More than one hundred community members participated in the event, with many suggesting that we repeat the program again next year.



English Conversation met for three sessions with a growing number of attendees. Following a break, the program will begin Spring Session on April 8th.



Busy Hands Social Club continued to attract those who enjoy socializing while crafting. Dorothy Lopez led nine members of **Central Reads** in a discussion of “The Weight of a Piano” by Chris Cander. Fifteen members **The Science Fiction Book Discussion Group** met to discuss “The Water Knife” by Paolo Bacigalupi.

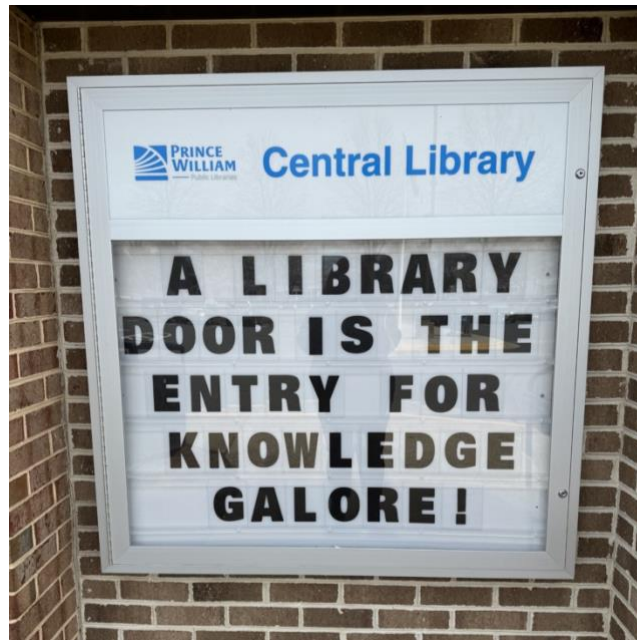


Next month, the Sci-Fi group will celebrate its twenty-third anniversary.

Jennifer Hendrix hosted a small, but mighty group of regulars at Tucked Away Brewing Co. for the monthly **BOOKS ON TAP** book club. They discussed *Fates and Furies* by Lauren Groff.

CIRCULATION SERVICES

Submitted by Natalie Hutchinson



Jessica McFarland, Library Assistant, has taken over the outside display signage for Central. This month's messages have brought a smile to our patrons 😊

RELIC

Submitted by Darlene Hunter

March 16, 2024 – The Genealogy Cafe Club from Remington United Methodist Church, Fauquier County

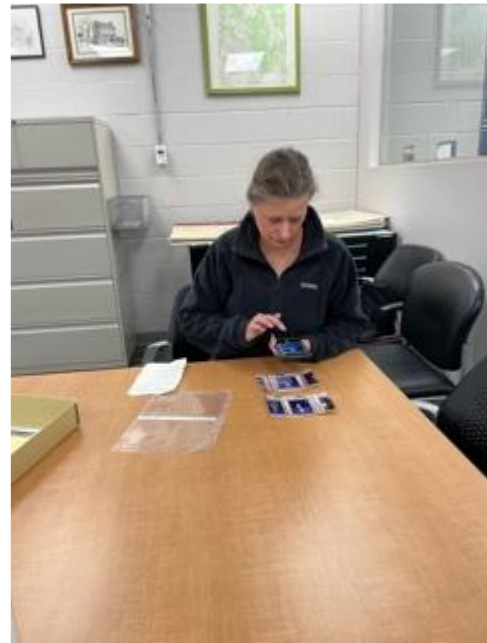
visited RELIC for a tour. They are avid genealogists and enjoyed hearing about the Prince William historical and family genealogy material that RELIC

has here at Central. They were also most interested in the material that they could access from home—Early Prince William deeds and wills and court cases.



Janet Lynch found listing photographs of portraits of John Gibson and his wife in RELIC's photo index. John Gibson was buried in Orange County, Virginia, on property that the Lynchs own. Janet had been researching the Gibsons for a while. The Gibsons were from Fleetwood in Prince William County RELIC had an Historic Site file on Fleetwood and a family file on the Gibsons.

March 23, 2024 – Prince William County Virginia Office of Historic Preservation held its 9th annual Symposium at the newly renovated Manassas Museum. As usual it was most interesting and



informative. Topics included Batestown, Hurricane Agnes and Occoquan, Cemeteries of Prince William, Stonewall Jackson and the Prince William County Resolves. Both Mary and Darlene attended. The 6th issue of the *Journal of Prince William History* was on sale.



Public Services Management Chinn Park Library

To: Rebecca Lowe, Library Director
From: Zach Roberts, Branch Manger
Subject: March 2024 Highlights

BRANCH UPDATES



In March, our library welcomed the arrival of spring with open arms, embracing the season of renewal and growth. As the flowers bloomed and the days grew longer, we also kicked off the Start of LitCon, our annual celebration of literature, comic books, and community engagement. LitCon brought together book lovers of all ages for a series of exciting events, including author talks, writing workshops, and book signings.

Additionally, March marked the continuation of our partnership with AARP to provide tax assistance services to our patrons and community. Our dedicated volunteers worked tirelessly to help community members navigate the complexities of tax season, ensuring

that everyone had access to the resources they needed to file their taxes accurately and on time.

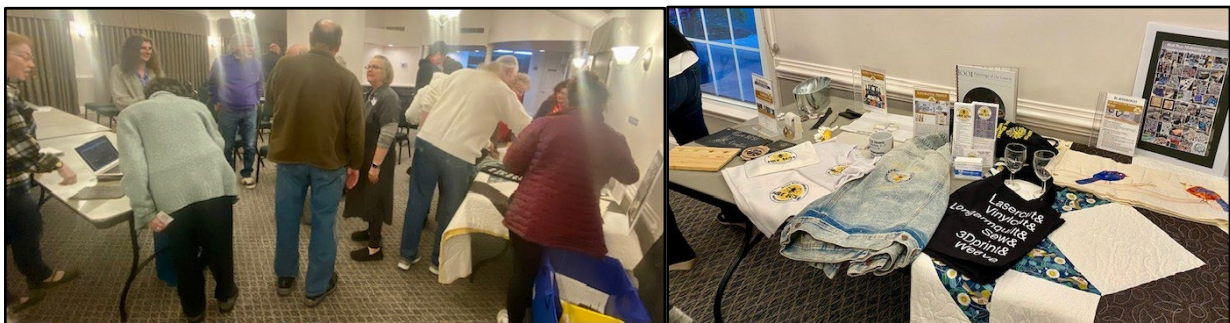
Despite the hustle and bustle of tax season and LitCon preparations, Chinn Park remained a beacon of knowledge and connection for our community. From children eagerly checking out the latest picture books to adults attending informative workshops and lectures, our library continued to serve as a vital hub for learning, exploration, and cultural enrichment throughout the month of March.

ADULT SERVICES

SUBMITTED BY: BRITNI

Special Programming

This month, Chinn Park and Bull Run Library collaborated to bring more information about the libraries' makerspaces at Prince William Art Society's meeting. The committee was able to learn about the many services and equipment the library offers and gained insight into what they can produce using their own artwork. Maker Librarian, Delwyn Elizabeth, answered many questions about the popular Glow Forge machine which is a laser cutter that can cut through thin wood and acrylics. Librarian, Thymie Truong, answered many questions about providing workshops/ classes at Chinn Park and what the library space offers. With the upcoming makerspace at Chinn Park, many artists showed enthusiasm and interest in using Bull Run and Central Library's makerspace until Chinn Park's is available.



Regular Programming

At this month's Bad Art Night, we welcomed a new patron who brought his own canvas to prepare for an annual Easter painting at his church! Chinn Park provided the necessary paints and materials for various skilled artists to prepare for their projects. Paint-By-Number was first introduced, and many patrons enjoyed this as it was easy and relaxing. One of the monthly prompts was to illustrate "a gorgeous red-haired vixen at the club" which one of our talented patrons had shared.



Special Services

YOUTH SERVICES

SUBMITTED BY: LAURA BOSLEY

Bookmark Competition:

Our annual bookmark competition concluded on March 12. This year's theme was "Feed Your Mind" based on the book *Pa, Me, and our Sidewalk Pantry* by Toni Buzzeo. We had 441 children in grades K through 5 compete this year, and the artwork was amazing! The winners for each grade will be announced at our Talking to the Author event on Saturday, April 13, when we hear from the illustrator of the book, Zara Gonzalez Hoang.

Regular Programs:

In March, we hosted three weekly story times, one for babies, one for toddlers, and one for preschoolers. Other preschool programs included an Adapted Story Time, Saturday Story Time, Music & Motion, Yoga, and Spanish Circle Time. In addition, there were two Reading to Dogs sessions and LEGO club for the school-aged children.



Special Programs:

The Quin Winds, a quintet from the Prince William Community Band, performed some familiar songs and taught the children about woodwind instruments. The Lake Ridge Garden Club hosted a story time and rock painting to add rocks to our community garden. Children had a blast at our Bluey Party and Superhero Training Camp. During spring break, we offered a variety of programs for children including Rails & Tales, Linda and the Mysterious Footprints, and a Dinosaur Scavenger Hunt. Eclipsed – a library adventure began on March 25 and will run until the solar eclipse on April 8. We are also handing out solar eclipse viewing glasses.

Teen Programs:

For the teens, we hosted a Homeschool Hangout, Teen Advisory Group, and weekly Game On sessions. Teens and adults made mugs with the Cricut and mug press. During spring break, teens could pick up Trinket Tray Take and Make kit at the library, and we also hosted an after-hours event where teens could play hide and seek in the library.



Outreach:

In March we visited Springwoods Elementary to read *Pa, Me, and our Sidewalk Pantry* and talk about our bookmark contest. John attended career days at Rockledge and Antietam Elementary Schools. A Daisy Troop came for a tour and scavenger hunt, and Everbrook Academy came for a special story time and tour. John and Dane lead story times for the two preschool classes from the Chinn Aquatic Center.



MAGIC

SUBMITTED BY: KATHY LAVALLEE

In March MAGIC staff attended the Women's Empowerment Conference with support from the Economic Development Office. We also attended the PWC Green Business conference and John Hicks of Fillagreen won an award. Fillagreen has used MAGIC on several occasions during the growth of his business.



Kathy LaVallee gave a presentation to the Career Online High School (COHS) participants. Showing them our grant resources, testing databases, and business resources in the digital library.

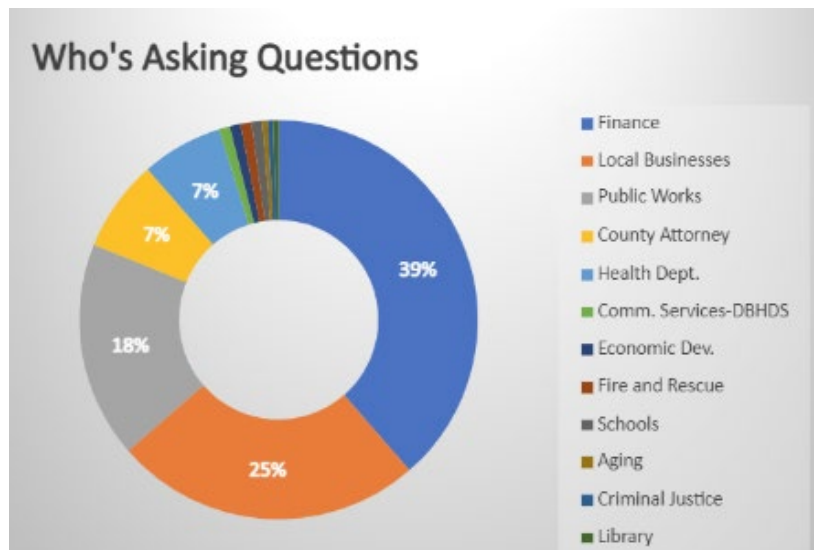


MAGIC has continued to be busy in March with research, and our heaviest users this month are Finance, Local Businesses, and Public Works.



We had inquiries from 11 different County agencies resulting in 228 questions. Staff worked on several in-depth questions this month: Map of Veterans Park from 1999, Historical property information, Diesel engine

exhaust articles, LEED building list. We also had 11 grant questions and provided training on the grant database.



Programs and Outreach



MAGIC had 5 grant trainings this month.



We had 7 outreach events this month. This included Myra Miles attending the 2 New Employee Orientation's where she talked about the services MAGIC has to offer staff and assisted with library card registrations.



Eva Gunia attended a total of 3 One Million Cups (1MC) business networking events where she is promoting MAGIC and PWPL to the business community.

At Gem Day 3/6/2024 MAGIC received shout outs from Rhetta Young, Gino, and George Siragusa. Valerie mentioned National Small Business Week.



Thank you received this month:

Jacquelyn Washington from Finance, Regulatory Specialist

David Cox from PWC Schools, Investigator

Shannon Sepulveda from Public Works, Code Enforcement Inspector

Jim Dimodica from APT Impact Inc.



**Prince William Public Libraries
Public Services Management
Haymarket Gainesville Library**

To: Rebecca Lowe, Acting Library Director
From: Beth Walker, Branch Manager
Subject: March 2024 Highlights

BRANCH MANAGER HIGHLIGHTS

Progress marches on in March! The pathway around the library was repaired from damage due to the temporary air conditioning units we used during the HVAC renovations. Now that the path is fixed, B&G has been working diligently to beautify the library grounds, and we are moving forward with our plans to install a story trail. We are delighted to offer some additional outdoor spaces for the community that includes nature, movement, and literacy!

We are also getting ready for the 2024 Haymarket Farmers Market, which will begin in April and run until November. It's a great opportunity to be out in the community and connect with our patrons.



Our Youth Services and Adult program coordinators, Jeanine and Matt, worked together to secure an author visit for the summer reading program, Summer Scares. It's an exciting event, and more details will be announced!

ADULT SERVICES

SUBMITTED BY NANCY SCHLEH

Spring is off to a creative and instructive start at HG Library! In addition to our recurring book club, gaming, and conversation club programs, we offered several opportunities for adults to scratch their crafting itch in March. Participants brought

their own unfinished projects to Crafty Corner for a fun time sharing, socializing, and learning something new. In other programs, crafters wove beautiful muffin baskets for their breakfast tables, and plant lovers exchanged cuttings and crafted items to enhance their houseplant collections at Groovy Gardening.



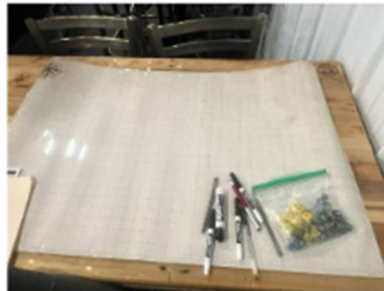
Groovy Garden Crafts and Houseplant Swap



Display Case - Russian Nesting Dolls



Black History Month



Taverns and TTRPGs



Happy St. Patrick's Day



Women's History Month

March 2024 Haymarket Gainesville Library



Learn About Butterflies Day

We also launched a new initiative where patrons can book appointments for Tech Help through the Events calendar. We're also working with VCE to start a seed library, similar to the ones at Montclair and Potomac. This will tie in nicely to our native pollinator garden and promote sustainability in our library.

YOUTH SERVICES

SUBMITTED BY AAREN CRAVARITIS

The Youth Services staff was busy in March! Kat attended the Virginia Library Leadership Academy (VALLA) from 3/10 – 3/13, and Jeanine helped at Independent Hill from 3/18 - 3/22. All YS Staff attended Share Day, March 6, at Chinn Park to see presentations from Diane Stinson, Supervisor of Library Media Programs and Research for PWCS, get information about the upcoming PWPL LitCon, learn Story Time Strategies, and get voice projection lessons from Stephen Carter-Hicks. Meanwhile, we did a lot of school outreach visits including Jeanine's visit to Tiny City Academy and a tour here at the library by Tracy.

On March 18, Aaren gave a tour and library scavenger hunt to Mountain View fourth graders. It was a large group, so half of them did a scavenger hunt to discover what is in the children's area while the other group read and did coloring sheets in the community room.

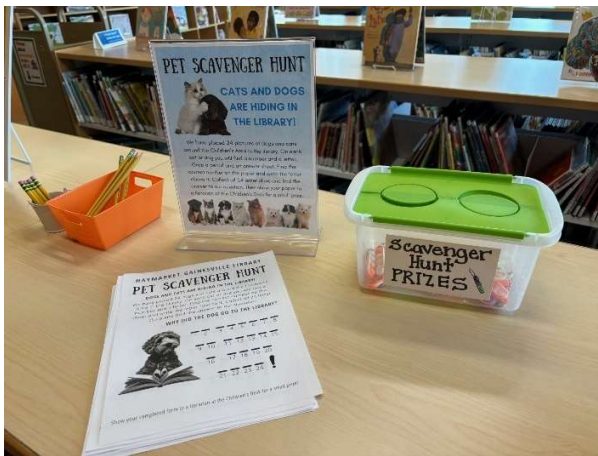


We had a big turnout at the Edible Books Program on March 25th. Kristen Burnham and Tara Samimy came to the branch to read to the children, sing the alphabet song, and decorate cupcakes.

Tara also made a photo prop featuring the Cat in the Hat. The children and their families had a wonderful time!



We had two ongoing passive programs for the children. Aaren set up another Exploration Station, this time featuring the concept of magnification. Children were challenged to identify objects that were magnified up to 1000x and looked at I Spy images with a magnifying glass.



Tracy set up a Pet Scavenger Hunt which has been a tremendous success. Kids can be seen constantly wandering with their sheets to find all the pets hiding throughout the children's area. The kids got completion prizes and loved solving the riddle.

Tracy has been added to the Story Time rotation and received with much love by our families. Tracy's first solo Preschool Story Time had a record 95 attendees. We are appreciative of her talents and love for what she does. Patrons have told us many times what a natural she is with children.

PWPL
Public Services Management

TO: Rebecca Lowe, Acting Library Director
FROM: Mirna Turcios, Branch Manager
SUBJECT: Manassas City Library, March 2024 Highlights

March was a great time at Manassas City Library with many themed events and displays. Our displays helped circulate nearly 200 items this month. We attended five outreach events, mostly in our schools and local daycares, where we reached over 200 people. Staff facilitated 22 events, reaching over 560 people.

Outreach & Group Visits

Staff presented an Eric Carle themed story time upon the teacher's request at the Light Bright Academy, marking our first visit to this new daycare. At Goddard PreK, we supported their animal-themed unit with a special storytime session. Meanwhile, at Haydon Elementary, we engaged five Kindergarten classes in a vibrant bilingual storytime, reaching 115 students with captivating books like "¡No tengo sueño!" and "No, David!" Through interactive rhymes and songs, we introduced the children to library resources, closing each session with.

Additionally, during the second session of Osbourn High School's Book Club, students participated in a lively discussion about "She's Gone" by David Bell. The students actively participated in a prediction activity, offering compelling theories about the identity of the killer based on evidence from the book. Staff conducted a poll to gauge book access preferences prompting for future club selections to be available on hoopla as well.



Family Friendly Program Highlights

Among the Family Friendly Events this month, "Linda and the Mysterious Footprint" captivated preschoolers and elementary students with engaging discussions about the story and the scientific method, complemented by her award-winning research on mealworms.



Eclipse Explorer: Bear's Shadow provided a bilingual storytime experience, made possible by materials from NASA, where participants learned about shadows and eclipses through interactive activities. Manassas City Library was one of five branches to host this event.



Additionally, the Craft Swap event, a collaboration between Manassas City Library and Central Library, delighted patrons with a free yard sale-style exchange of craft supplies, prompting requests for it to become an annual tradition after its successful debut.



Adult Program Highlights

For adults this month, puzzle enthusiasts gathered to challenge their minds with the Sunday New York Times crossword puzzle, readily available in our adult non-fiction area. Meanwhile, Books on Tap @ Sinistral Brewing Co. brought readers together to discuss "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt. Additionally, Seals on Wheels offered convenient mobile notary and circuit court services, bringing essential assistance directly to the community.

Young Children's (Birth-Age5) Program Highlights

For children aged birth to five, our programs this month offered engaging experiences tailored to their developmental stages. La Hora del Cuento en Español featured the story "Grande o Pequeño en la Granja", supplemented by activities focusing on words starting with the letter "P" to enrich vocabulary and comprehension skills.

Additionally, in collaboration with the Manassas Museum, our "Things That Go!" themed storytime delighted children with



tales and songs about transportation, followed by a hands-on train sticker craft. Meanwhile, our Toddler Story Time provided interactive storytelling sessions tailored specifically for our youngest audience members to foster a love for reading from an early age.



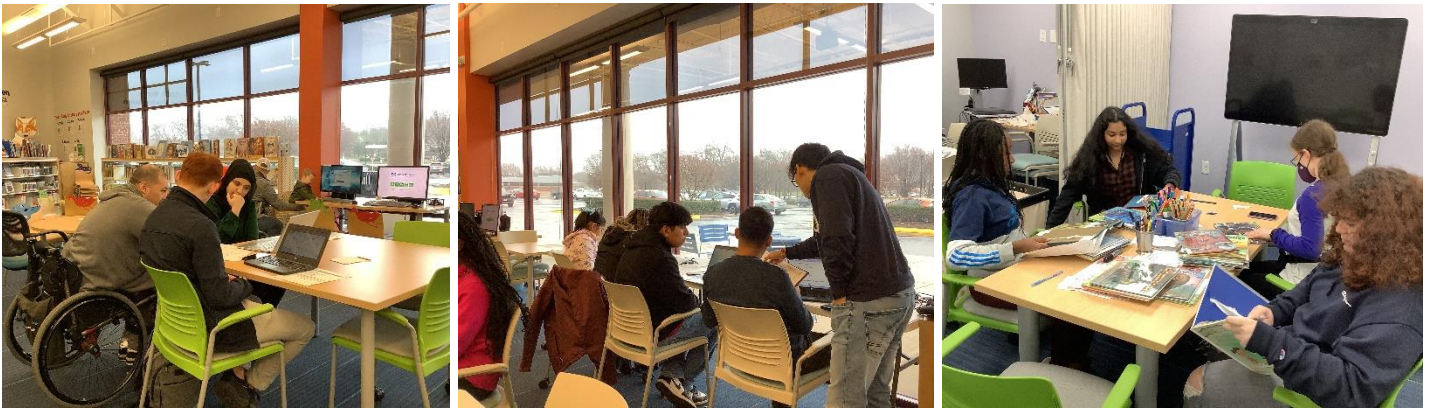
School-Aged Children’s Program Highlights

For children aged 6 to 11, our programs this month offered exciting and educational activities to spark creativity and engagement. During Kids' Crafternoon, participants learned to craft pop tab bracelets, encouraging their artistic skills while repurposing materials. Additionally, LEGO Club provided a platform for young builders to unleash their imaginations and construct innovative creations. Our Reading to Dogs program continued to promote literacy in a fun and comforting environment, allowing children to enhance their reading skills while bonding with furry companions.



Young Adult Program Highlights

In the Young Adult section, our March offerings catered to the wide range of interests and needs of teenagers. The Teen Monthly Challenge spurred creativity as teens were tasked with drawing four different types of dragons, resulting in the submission of 16 drawings. Additionally, this month’s Teen Crafternoon celebrated the beloved cryptid MothMan with easy-to-sew MothMan keychains. This kit was such a hit that a group of teens gathered in our Teen Area to collaborate on crafting them together!



Teens received vital FAFSA assistance from NOVA’s Financial Aid Officers, especially helpful given this year’s challenging application changes. They appreciated the convenience of expert help right in their neighborhood. Our Teen Advisory Group (TAG) played a pivotal role in various library initiatives, from curating displays and writing book reviews to volunteering for crafting events and assisting with program preparations.

Displays helped circulate nearly 200 items

Staff coordinated seven displays that helped circulate nearly 200 items. Our Teen Advisory Group members curated two displays in March. They wrote brief reviews and chose the format and colors (Winter themed in blue). Each review was accompanied by a bookmark for readers to keep, along with a brief blurb taped to the endcaps explaining why the book was recommended by avid teen readers. TAG also coordinated a display in honor of National Girl Scout Day on March 12. They selected cookie and baking themed books, and one member generously donated Girl Scout cookies as a gesture of appreciation to the staff, which were also featured on the display. The TAG members dressed up penguin figures, using uniforms from their leader’s childhood collection, creating a captivating photo opportunity for patrons. An Oscars themed display celebrating the award ceremony was also well-received.



MONTCLAIR LIBRARY

March 2024 Branch Highlights



BRANCH UPDATES | *submitted by Michelle Ross*

Montclair Library is thrilled to announce that the Gaming Lounge has leveled up with an 85-inch QLED TV, a PS5, and new games for PlayStation and Switch! Info Services Librarians Shannon Ball and Courtney Wyant researched and coordinated the upgrades. The response has been overwhelmingly positive. With our large number of teen patrons, these enhancements are a wonderful tool to meet the Strategic Goal of Community Responsive Enrichment. Shout out to Technical Services and Facilities for their assistance in completing the project! Mounting the behemoth television was no small feat!



Do you wanna play a game? Gaming Lounge upgrades attract teens and players of all ages to Montclair Library.



Pull up a chair and stay a while in our inviting new foyer seating area.

After another successful Community Room Book Sale and Bag Sale, the Friends of Montclair Community Library reconfigured the layout of their hallway specials. The new layout welcomes a seating area addition for patrons, helping meet the Strategic Goal of Inviting Spaces. The seating space is already being heavily utilized, especially by hungry teens after school. The layout also attracted more shoppers - FMCL's nostalgia special was wiped out in a week!

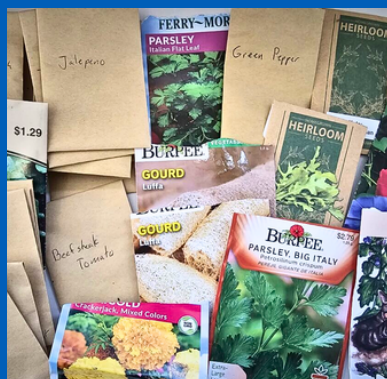
ADULT SERVICES UPDATES | *submitted by Shannon Ball*

Adult programming at Montclair hosted a total of 13 programs this month. Spring was in full bloom as 19 patrons decorated their own candle holders using pressed flowers and mod podge in Pressed Flower Tea Lights. Another popular spring craft was the paper butterflies passive program. Using cherry blossom themed origami paper, 100 patrons transformed 6x6 inch origami paper into a butterfly. Art programs also drew interest, 25 people showed up to meet artist Mayra Torres Juarez and 15 aspiring artists honed their skills at Watercolor Collaborative.

Tis' the season for gardening! 5 wonderful folks assisted Info Services Senior Librarian Lena Gonzalez Berrios with refreshing the Montclair Library Pollinator Garden. Our generous patrons also contributed seeds to grow the Seed Library.

In partnership with the Historical Society of Dumfries, Inc., Montclair hosted a lecture on the town of Dumfries from it's early founding in the 1700s to present day. 15 local history buffs stopped by to learn more from Historical Society of Dumfries' Abigail Alm. Montclair partnered with Sheila Murphy of FlexProfessionals to offer resume reviews for patrons looking to transition back into the workforce or enter it for the first time. The American Red Cross returned to Montclair for the Spring Blood Drive with many returning and first-time donors

Montclair's ongoing adult programs continue to go strong with 11 members of Once Upon a Crime gathering to discuss Firekeeper's Daughter by Angeline Boulley. Writers' Room outgrew their regular meeting room and now convenes in the Community Room to accommodate their members.



Top: The only thing pressed at Montclair is our flowers.

Top: Art aficionados admiring the work of Mayra Torres Juarez.

Top: They've got the write stuff - Montclair's growing Writers Group.

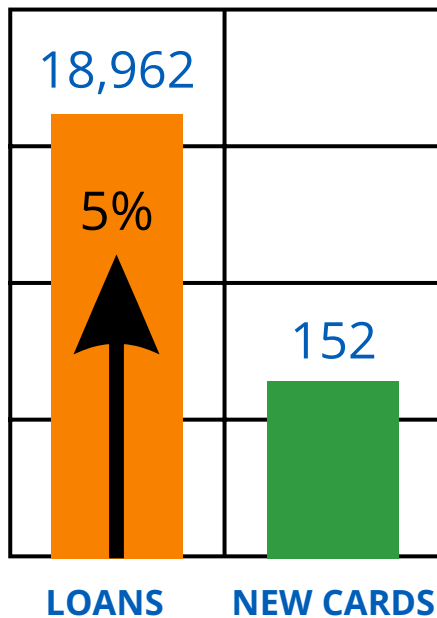
Bottom: Patrons riveted by the history of Dumfries.

Bottom: Seed-tastic donations!

Bottom: Strokes of genius - Watercolor Collaborative participants learn a new technique.

CIRCULATION UPDATES | *submitted by Nancy Sampson*

CIRC STATISTICS



Mobile Hotspots continue to conquer circulation at Montclair, but a hot new format entered the chat in March - *Prevention Magazine*. Will Mobile Hotspots' top spot remain safe? Tune in this April to find out.

Circulation staff contributed to book displays, outreach, passive programs, and regular monthly programs.

Library Page Michele McCarthy helped patrons find books in celebration of St. Patrick's Day with her "All About Ireland" display.



Irish you would check out these books.



Circulation Assistant Kelley Clemente and Information Services Librarian Courtney Wyant expounded the glory of PWPL to 50 people at the Pattie Elementary Book Fair.

YOUTH SERVICES UPDATES | *submitted by Heather Wallace*

Montclair Community Library Youth Services Department offered 21 programs in March with 1,249 patrons in attendance. Youth Services Librarian Shelley Levinson led Building Buddies, an impromptu Transportation Storytime, and two Good Morning Storytimes. OPE led Edible Books Story Time with 37 in attendance and scheduled the Little Rangers program with 69 in attendance. Youth Services Supervisor Heather Wallace had 16 eager readers attend PAWS to Read in March with therapy dogs Cooper and Madi.

Youth Services Librarian Shelley Levinson created an engaging scavenger hunt for Women's History Month with 300 completions in the children's department and led two Make and Take pop-up programs with 33 crafting a desk organizer and chenille stem creatures. Prince William Park Rangers and Library Technician Sherri Parchment had 24 in attendance for their Spring Splendors program.

Library Technician Mark Roberts had seven dedicated teens in attendance at both of his Dungeons and Dragons programs. Librarian Shelley Levinson had 9 teens at Teen Advisory group and 5 at Teen DIY. Teen Hangout debuted with 21 teens.



Top: Cute creature crafters.

Bottom: Early bird babies enjoying Good Morning Storytime.

Who read the dogs out?! Cooper and Madi were tucked out after a jam-packed PAWS to Read.

PWC Parks and Recreation use taxidermy and stories to inspire a new generation of Park Rangers at Little Rangers and Spring Splendor. The recruitment process starts early.

PWPLS
Public Services Management
Potomac Library

To: Rebecca Lowe, Acting Library Director
From: Robin Sofge, Branch Manager
Subject: March 2024 Highlights

Potomac Library continues to be very heavily used for public computers, technology help and other assistance. In March we were also the site of a Presidential Primary Election.



The public copiers are popular



Librarian Sarah Moore led a Tornado Drill. Potomac Library has been actively working on providing person in charge leadership opportunities



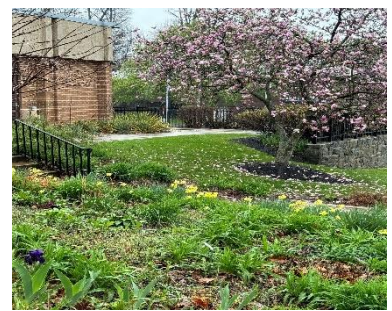
Potomac Library was the site of a Presidential Primary Election



At our March All Staff Meeting we enjoyed a Chipotle Lunch funded by our Social Committee



Sydney Washington came with her family to take some graduation pictures in the library



Beautiful spring flowers and trees



Digital Navigator Debbie and a customer

Information Services

Prepared by Maggie Dobrev



Career Development – Maggie



Ramadan Mubarak Display – Carole



Crochet a Rug with T-Shirt Yarn – Mary – 3/11



Risk and Wellness Cooking Club
Teambuilder - Carole - 3/20



Patron who brought in plants for the
houseplant/cuttings swap program -
Carole 3/23-3/30



Getting ready for Bubble Tea Party - Maggie 3/23



LinkedIn Program - Joseph 3/27

Youth Services Department
Prepared by Matthew Burke



Woodbridge MS NJHS Afternoon of Service



Paint, Paint, Paint!!!



Edible Books Storytime



Baby Storytime



Baby Playtime



Babies at PO



Toddler Storytime



Edible Books Storytime

Circulation Monthly Report

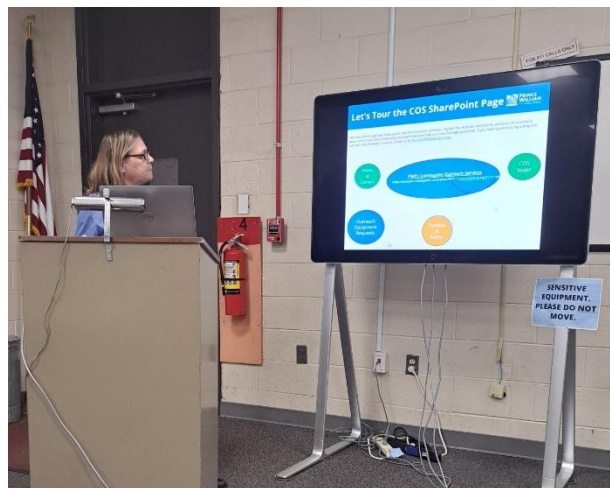
Prepared by Stephanie D'Souza



Displays created by the Page Team



Dorothy Kohilligan Circulation Backdrop



Amy Miller presentation for PWPL Community Outreach Services

Dale City Neighborhood Library

To: Rebecca Lowe, Acting Library Director
From: Ginger Galaini, Library Manager
Subject: March 2024 Highlights

Dale City enjoyed hosting several guest readers for special story times this month. Rosie Clark from Risk and Wellness Services helped us run our bilingual *Bear's Shadow – La Sombra de Oso* story time. We read a silly story together in Spanish and English, and sang some songs. We finished up with a STEM activity where we experimented with shadows before the eclipse.

Young local author Linda Pistun and her turtle Darwin also visited and shared her book *Linda and the Mysterious Footprints* with us. She taught participants about what a carbon footprint is, and how to reduce theirs.

Adult librarygoers were treated to a program where they made succulent gardens to take home. Participants seemed to enjoy a little time to relax, play in the dirt, and create together.

The ICNA Sisters of Virginia reached out to Dale City asking to do a display about Ramadan and Eid al Adha. We were happy to offer them some shelf space during the month to help our community learn more about these observances.

Dale City staff created a multi-site program for the Eclipse on April 8, working with Montclair, Chinn Park, and Potomac libraries. The *Eclipsed: A Library Adventure* passive program included traveling to all four branches and collecting a special lanyard and pins, as well as educational materials and goodies. It was a huge hit, with most branches running out of supplies by the end of the 3rd day!





Dumfries Library

To: Rebecca Lowe, Acting Library Director
From: John Hood, Branch Manager
Subject: March 2024 Highlights

Spring rang in the changes at the Dumfries Library, as we hosted several new guest programs, brought Reading to Dogs to the branch for the first time, and even rearranged the library's collection! First up was Little Rangers, a storytime hosted by park rangers from Leesylvania State Park, who provided information about nature and wildlife in a fun and exciting way. It was great to collaborate with a very local state park while offering local families the opportunity to provide different lessons from our regular storytimes. Next up was Edible Books, hosted by Tara Samimy from OPE, a Dr. Seuss themed storytime that involved decorating cupcakes to look like The Cat in the Hat! Our families really enjoyed this program, and are still talking about it weeks later, and the cupcakes were very popular! The following week we hosted "Linda and the Mysterious Footprints", a STEM themed storytime program for all ages, hosted by local 11 year old prodigy Linda Pistun and her pet turtle Darwin. Finally, we offered Reading to Dogs for the first time in the branch, which is planned to occur monthly moving forward. This first event in the branch was very successful, with 15 attendees, who were enthusiastic about meeting our volunteer dog Cooper.

We also offered a new adult program this month, a Financial Wellness event in collaboration with the VA Cooperative Extension, where Financial Education staff provided one on one appointments with members of the community. For teens, we offered a passive Blackout Poetry program, where teens were provided with selected newspaper clippings and sharpies to create makeshift poems from the articles.

Most exciting of all was completing the shift of the library's collection, a project that had been planned for several months. Library staff shifted books to reverse the order of the nonfiction collection, so that all sections of the library flow from the front of the library down to the back in order, providing a more seamless browsing experience for our patrons. We also added a shelf to the nonfiction area to allow it grow more, and increased shelf space for our World Language collection, allowing us to offer books in more languages than before, and moved the collection to the end of the nonfiction area in order to make the section more visible and appealing to our patrons. This project improved the library's use of space and expanded our collection so we are able to offer a wider variety of titles to our patrons. To accomplish the shift Branch Manager John Hood and Karen Brown came in two hours before opening two days in mid-March, along with Lori Scott and Marta Berrios from the Material Services Division and Sarhan Sarhan from Financial Services. The project was originally planned for 3 days, but thanks to everyone's hard work we got the shifting all done in record time! We really appreciate the system-wide collaboration that made this shift happen and are thankful for the wonderful support that all the Library Support Services divisions provide us with on a regular basis. Many thanks to Branddon Pollizzi and his B&G staff for bringing out extra carts to make this shift possible as well!

Displays featured this month were "Which Genre Do You Want to Read?", an interactive display along the lines of Choose Your Own Adventure, "Financial Wellness, and a "Dr. Seuss" display to celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday.



Independent Hill Neighborhood Library

To: Rebecca Lowe, Acting Library Director
From: Heather Miller, Library Technician
Subject: March 2024 Highlights

Independent Hill's gardens are just beginning to yawn after their winter nap.



As a welcome to spring, Boo cultivated a spiderette Take-and-Care display!



We kicked off the start of our Creative Spring series with Paulette's *Memory Lane to Memoir* workshop right after our Knitting and Crochet learning circle! Our first American Sign Language Learning Circle was also a success. It brought in both those who are simply curious and those who are experiencing alterations in their hearing that want to have alternative communication methods.

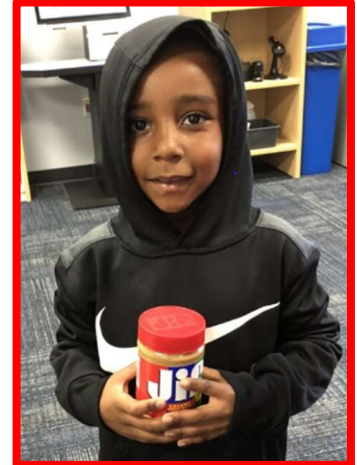
We also appreciate all the hard work from the rotation of individuals who have been coming to help at Independent Hill while we've been short staffed. We send our thanks out to Amy Miller, Amara Bulter, Jeanine Hines, Jean Duray, Janna Hull, and Cherie Godwin!

Lake Ridge Neighborhood Library

To: Rebecca Lowe, Acting Director, PWPL
From: Greer Helms
Subject: March 2024 Highlights

Lake Ridge kicked off the month with Peanut Butter Palooza, a 3-day event celebrating “National Peanut Butter Lovers Day” on March 1st. Patrons were invited to answer trivia questions, vote in the “creamy vs. crunchy” contest, take home a peanut butter themed memory game, or select recipes highlighted from cookbooks in our collection. Two lucky patrons walked away with jars of their favorite peanut butter.

**Peanut Butter Palooza
Creamy PB Winner**



Staff visited Rockledge Elementary for Kindergarten Career Day, offering a story time and explaining what makes working in a library so special. Three displays, two take and makes, and a scavenger hunt also kept patrons visiting the branch all month long. Families were also excited to welcome a variety of special guests for themed story times focusing on park rangers, railways, Dr. Seuss, and more!

Edible Books Story Time



Rails & Tales Story Time



Ranger Story Time



Towards the end of the month, Lake Ridge employees were thrilled to host a special renovation celebration event entitled, "Spring into Lake Ridge!" Each hour offered something new for the community, including programs geared towards families (Reading to Dogs, Story Time) as well as others that targeted an older crowd (Trivia and a Self Defense Class). Local businesses donated delicious pizza and bundtini cupcakes, much to the delight of the nearly 300 visitors who stopped by that day. The library's new mascot was revealed (an otter!), so everyone was invited to suggest names and enter to win an otter of their own. Finally, staff were thrilled that the new mobile shelving enabled them to create a private room of sorts for the self-defense class, ensuring participants a degree of privacy while sparking plenty of questions from curious bystanders around the branch.



Meet our Mascot



Trivia Time



Reading to Dogs



Treats for everyone



Self Defense 101 "Room"



Mobile Shelving put to good use!

Nokesville Neighborhood Library

To: Library Director
From: Rebecca Kerns, For Library Manager
Subject: March 2024 Highlights

The month of March at the Nokesville Library was busy!



32 kids visited the library from Rainbow Preschool and had a fun story time.



Adults got to decorate a plate to make tea fancy. And teens got to make a tumbler and make bubble tea!



We had several tea parties for different ages.

The March Hare Tea Party made fairy houses to attract magical creatures.

Our adult programs continue to grow.

- 26 parents and kids attended the Vita Nova Outreach Book and Craft.

- 17 people attended Books on Tap

- Crochet and Coffee is stitching up the fun on Thursday mornings.



And our garden is blossoming again, including this tree that always has odd fruits in the spring.



We had nice attendance for Toddler Sensory Play. And the author visit by Linda was very popular.



LEGO Club was well attended and fun for all!



Community Outreach Services

MONTHLY REPORT: MARCH 2024

On March 1st we had our very first Mobile Library stop at Marywood Apartments. We had a small but excited group check out DVD's and books. We hope word will get around to residents at Marywood and our audience for the Mobile Library will grow each month.

"All of you and the Mobile Library are awesome!"- Miss Kim, resident at Marywood.



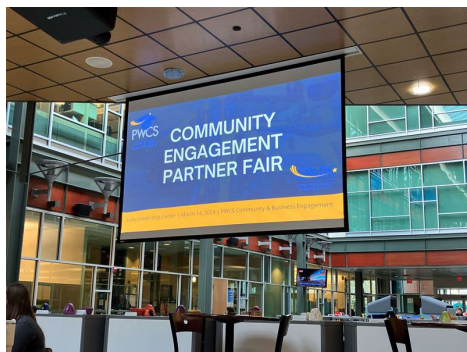
Festivals/Events

As Spring approaches, we are back to our busy festival season.



On March 14th we attended the Prince William County Green Conference. We had 17 visitors and made 3 library cards.

On March 14th we also attended a Community Engagement Fair partnering with Prince William Public Schools. We were invited to attend this event because we attended several of the Chamber of Commerce meetings (a great way to meet local businesses and schools).



The PWCS Annual Transition Fair took place on March 16th. This was a very busy event. We ran out explores and interacted with over 100 teachers and families.

Senior Centers



We had very successful visits at the county senior centers this month. Area Agency on Aging was very patient and helpful in figuring out parking and scheduling while dealing with their own staffing shortages.



Visitors on the Mobile Library checked out books, took tax forms and program information. They also asked about our digital resources

In addition to the Mobile Library, we offered Chair Yoga to Marywood Apartments, and a Virtual Travel program featuring a trip to the United Kingdom utilizing free library and internet resources. Both were led by Catherine, who is a certified yoga teacher. In total we had 71 adult connections and created 10 library cards with program offerings and Mobile Library.



Boys and Girls Club Visits

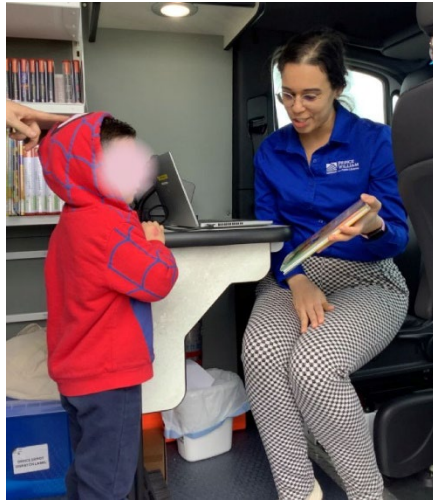
Whirligigs were the theme for this month's activity at both Boys and Girls Clubs we visited. In addition, students at the Dale City center were able to come on to the Mobile Library and borrow books that will stay at the center until our next visit. Both clubs will be able to check out in April. We received a very nice thank you email from the director of Dale City Boys and Girls Club. They loved the Mobile Library and can't wait to see us again!



Story Times

This month we had 261 patrons in story time programs and using the Mobile Library at the Prince William Ice Rink and several day care centers. Everyone had a great time reading books, singing, and dancing to stories about animals and colors. Those that came out to the Mobile Library had a wonderful time checking out books for themselves and their classrooms. See below what it looks like to check out materials on the Mobile Library!





PWPL
Materials Services Division

To: Rebecca Lowe, Acting Library Director
From: Kirk Johnson, Division Chief, Materials Services
Subject: March 2024 Highlights

In previous reports, I've highlighted the work of the Acquisitions, Physical Processing/Interlibrary Loan, and Cataloging units in Materials Services. For March, I want to acknowledge the staffers who make sure that all the stuff we acquire, catalog, and process in MSD gets to where it's needed—the hardworking members of the Courier unit.

The Couriers run the trucks which deliver materials and other supplies between MS and the twelve branches, and they do more as well. They are responsible for all incoming and outgoing mail, as well as County courier deliveries and pickups, which means a daily visit to the County complex and the Post office.

Besides running two routes during the day and attending to the delivery and pickup of County documents, the Couriers also deliver supplies and furniture needed for programming, maintain multiple book drops around the County, and work with multiple delivery services including UPS, FedEx, Office Depot, Amazon Prime, and others.

The full time Couriers are Courier Unit Supervisor Todd Henry, and Jon Jones. The two of them work together during the day to maintain the truck routes, receive shipments, manage the mail, and other related tasks. Todd Henry manages the mailroom budget, and schedules cooperation with other Divisions when the need for a driver outside normal business hours arises.

We also have two part-time evening couriers—Brian Edwards, and Aaron Byrd. Between the two of them, the Courier Unit runs a full route after Library hours Sunday through Thursday evenings, which ensures the prompt delivery of Rush items and patron holds placed during the day. Although regular staff almost never see Brian or Aaron, their after-hours work plays a big role in maintaining a high level of patron service.

The Couriers spend a lot of time on the road and the public almost never sees them even when they are in the buildings, but every patron of PWPL benefits from their hard work.

Office of Communications and Marketing

MARCH 2024 REPORT

PREPARING FOR AND PROMOTING LIT CON

As Prince William Public Libraries branch staff continued planning for its first-ever Lit Con, the Office of Communications and Marketing worked with a small team of branch staff for months leading up to the April 1 kick-off date.

While still a month out, promotion of the program began March 1 with the event featured on the cover of the Spring Explore Magazine, including an article in the print version. More than 7,500 magazines were distributed to the libraries and to community partners and the online version has 3,983 impressions.

The March 19 episode of PWPL's podcast, "Important Library Stuff," focused on Lit Con and has been downloaded more than 30 times on the hosting site.

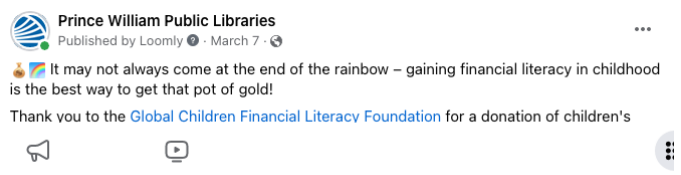
In addition, social media promotion in March 2024 has resulted in more than 37,000 impressions on Facebook and X, Formerly Twitter and a reach to 790 followers on Instagram.



SECURING DONATIONS TO ENHANCE OUTREACH, PROGRAMMING

OCM's Public Relations and Media Specialist secures donations, sponsorships, and grants for community outreach and programming support. In March 2024, the following were secured:

- Sponsors for Lake Ridge Library's Spring Festival
- Sponsors for Potomac Library's International Festival
- Summer Reading Sponsors
- Book donation from Bookworm Central for Community Outreach Services visits to homeless shelters.
- Book donation from the Global Children Financial Literacy Foundation.

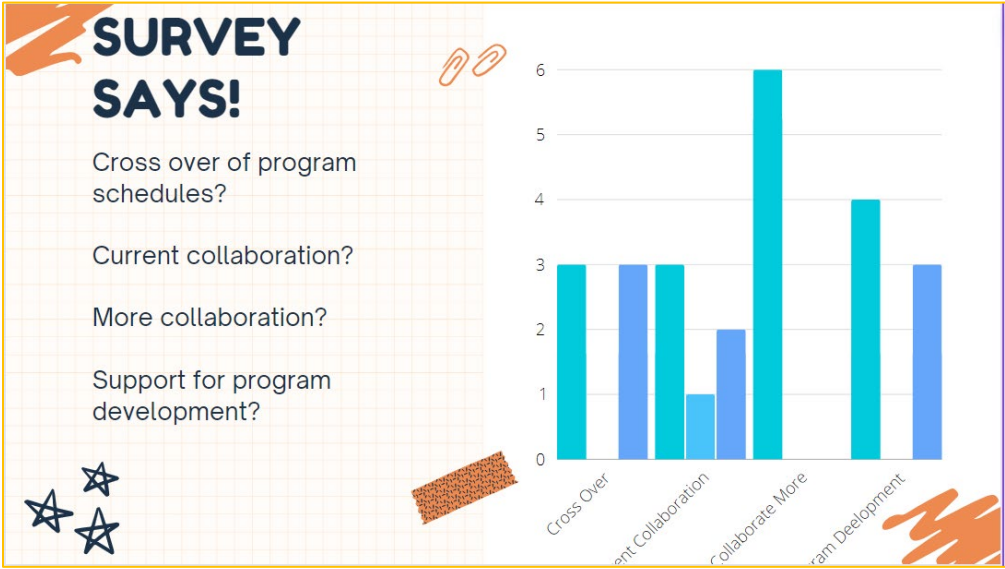


Office of Programming and Events

MONTHLY REPORT: MARCH 2024

DEPARTMENT NEWS

March has been filled with meetings with vendors, county agency partners, and training sessions. While Gabi and Tara managed an ever-increasing number of supplemental programming supply requests, Kristen continued to provide coaching to her two mentees through the VLA Mentorship program as well as internal staff support. At the Youth Services Supervisor meeting, she led a training session on collaboration and how our branches can coordinate their schedules. An initial survey was conducted and based on the results, staff are eager to foster this collaboration:



Staff compared their fall calendars and identified key events at locations to be mindful of when making their own plans to not have a conflict.

The next training session for Youth Services Supervisors will be in May and focus on work and personal life balance. Just in time for Summer Reading!

PROGRAMMING NEWS

In celebration of Read Across America Day, Tara led seven story times featuring our favorite feline author: Dr. Seuss.



The program, titled Edible Books, ended on a sweet note: participants decorated cupcakes to enjoy. Attendance at Bull Run was particularly high—96 people!

Besides our Edible Books story time, OPE provided supplies for a Bubble Tea Party: stickers, drink tumblers, and a packet of bubble tea mix for each person. The other program is DIY Fairy Garden, led by one of our wonderful substitutes.

Behind the scenes, OPE spent the month printing for a system-wide take and make. Both our printers were working almost around the clock to supply branches with spaceships. That's right: spaceships. Each bag includes pieces to make your own spaceship plus instructions on how to construct. We are also anticipating a last-minute delivery of solar eclipse viewing glasses from SEAL to boost our stockpile, in anticipation of the April 8 solar eclipse. We are all braced!

Next month will include many retellings of the branches' experiences with the solar eclipse and OPE will not be an exception. Happy viewing!



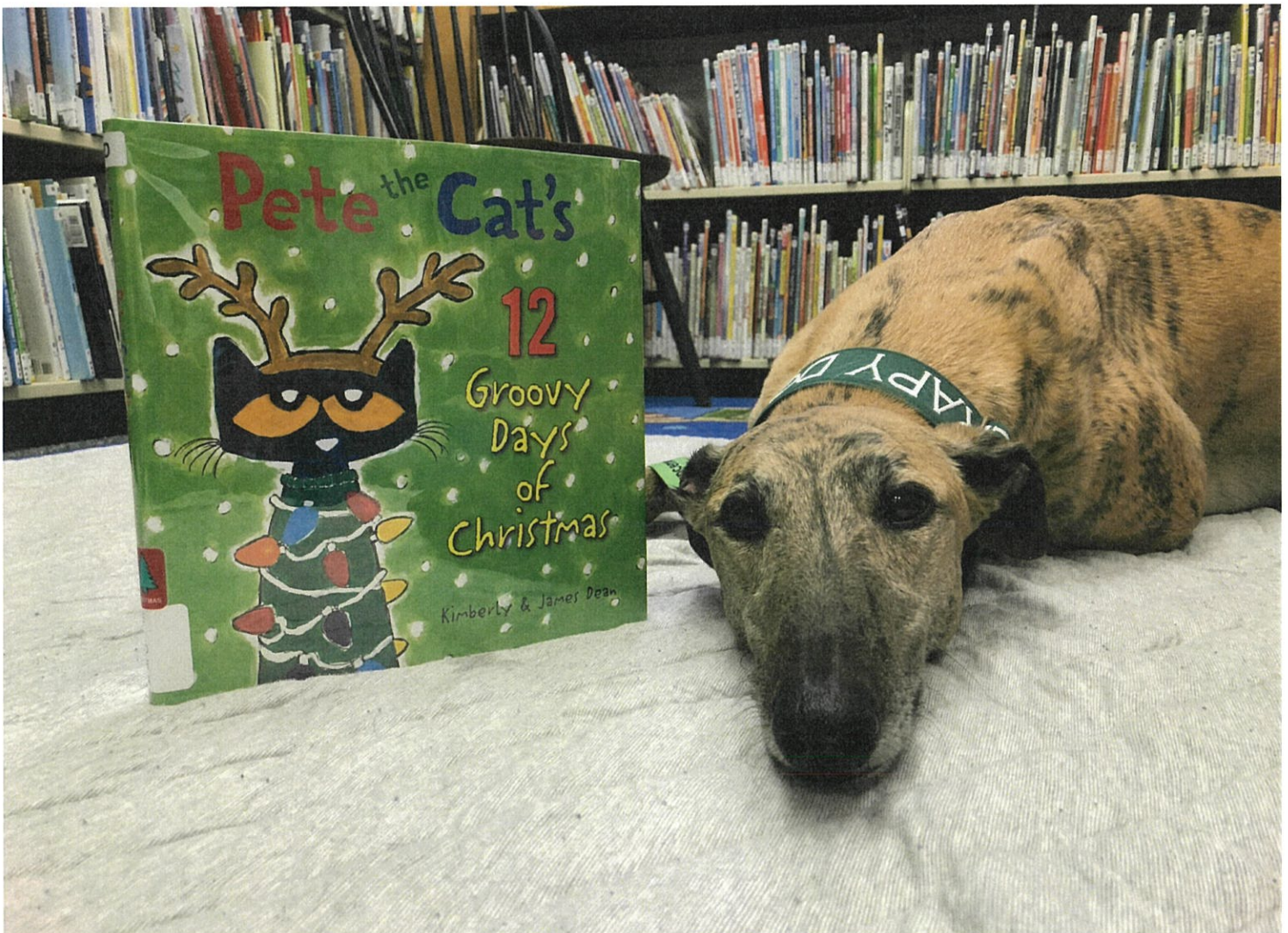
i Join us for Lit Con, a celebration of fandom, comics, manga, and more, fr...



Unleashing Literacy: The Joy of Reading to Dogs

Tuesday, 20 Feb 2024

Prince William Public Libraries



In a recent episode of "Important Library Stuff," our host Emily is joined by a special four-legged cohost, Chewie, his person and volunteer, Becky, and Central Library's Youth Services Librarian Amanda, to talk about its popular "Reading to Dogs" program, where children can read aloud to therapy dogs in a relaxed and non-judgmental environment. This unique program promotes literacy skills, provides therapeutic benefits, and fosters a love for animals.



At Prince William Public Libraries, "Reading to Dogs" remains one of the most popular programs, thanks to dedicated volunteers like Becky and her canine companion Chewie, a charming 11-year-old greyhound. Chewie, described as tall, skinny, and perpetually laid-back, embodies the ideal therapy dog, offering a comforting presence for children as they share stories.

"Reading to Dogs" has proven to be a simple, effective way to help children get more comfortable reading in front of others. The program is offered at most of our libraries, where children can sit with a therapy dog and read aloud to them. The absence of judgment from the canine listeners creates a stress-free environment where children can practice their reading skills without fear of criticism.

Amanda, who oversees the program at Central Library, emphasizes the inclusive nature of the initiative, which targets children from kindergarten to fifth grade but welcomes participants of all ages. The presence of therapy dogs not only encourages reluctant readers but also provides comfort and companionship to individuals of all ages, including teens and adults.

The program's impact extends beyond literacy skills, as dogs have a special way of creating heartwarming moments of connection and growth. From witnessing a shy child gain confidence to observing unexpected friendships blossom between children and therapy dogs, the program nurtures a sense of community and empathy.

Becky, reflecting on Chewie's role as a therapy dog, notes the importance of temperament and training. Therapy dogs undergo assessments to ensure they can navigate various environments and interact positively with people of all ages.

For Chewie and his fellow therapy dogs, donning their therapy vests signals a shift into "work mode," where they offer unwavering support and companionship to those in need. However, once the vests come off, they go back to their playful selves, enjoying well-deserved naps and (NOT) sneaking cookies from the table.

As libraries continue to evolve into community hubs, programs like "Reading to Dogs" embodies their commitment to fostering literacy, empathy, and well-being among patrons of all ages. Through the simple act of reading to a furry friend, children embark on a journey of learning and companionship, enriching their minds and hearts.

[Click here to see future "Reading to Dogs" programs at Prince William Public Libraries.](#)

ALL NEWS

LATEST PRESS RELEASES

April 10, 2024

REMINDER: Prescription Drug Take-Back Day is April 27 →



prince william *living*

March 2024

The premier lifestyle magazine of Prince William and Greater Manassas

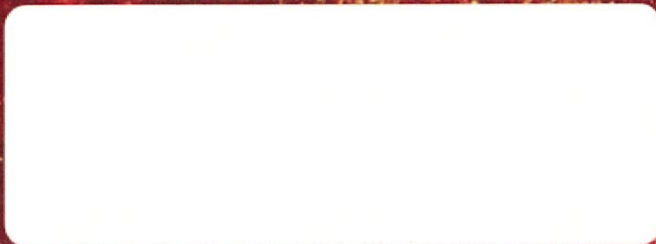


Women of Influence

PAGE 4

CFH Offers Hope to
Those Seeking Housing
PAGE 12

Spring Break Travel
Made Easy
PAGE 16



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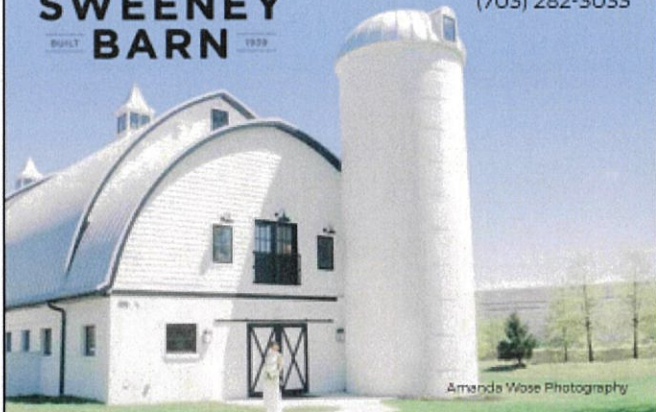
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Micropoems by Katherine Mercurio Gotthardt



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Our Team takes great pride in providing our guests with exceptional service and expertise. Whether you need a momentary escape from the stresses of work, recovery from an intense workout regimen, simply to treat yourself to a relaxing Spa Day, or purchase a spa gift card, it's our privilege to provide you with a personalized and restorative experience.


Our Signature Services

WH Signature Calming Retreat: Experience peace and harmony with a taste of seven specialized treatments. This ritual, head-to-toe ritual begins with full-body exfoliation followed by a therapeutic steam massage, neck, a neck and shoulder massage releases upper body tension. This is followed by relaxing and restorative acupuncture and massage of the scalp, hands, and arms. Enhanced with the restorative ancient art of reflexology.


WH Signature Hydrafacial Deluxe: Our most technologically advanced facial. This non-invasive treatment pairs our proprietary combination of exfoliating products, antioxidants and more with our anti-inflammatory LED therapy. This service also includes dermaplaning.

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Nourishing Wrap: Give yourself over to a calming, full body mask, rich in sea minerals and a hydrating gel that leaves skin smooth and moisturized.




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Infants-Preschoolers



PRINCE WILLIAM
Public Libraries

This program is generously funded by the Prince William Library Foundation.

designed for moms with kiddos in tow brought to you by Fit4mom. Get in a total body conditioning workout comprised of strength training, cardio and core restoration, all while entertaining the little ones with songs, activities and fun! Then will stick around and enjoy a story, craft and treats.

Manassas Chorale: "Raise Your Voices High!"

Sat. March 16 | 7:30 p.m.
 Hylton Performing Arts Center
 10960 George Mason Circle, Manassas
 The Chorale joins forces with the Voices United Workshop Choir, guest clinician and St. Olaf Choir Director Anton Armstrong, and a lively orchestra to "raise the roof" in this annual concert. Enjoy toe-tapping spirituals, beautiful melodies, and exciting arrangements, along with a final piece combining all performers for a feature boasting 150 musicians! Tickets: hyltoncenter.org.

Virginia 529

Mon. March 18 | 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.
 Potomac Library
 2201 Opitz Blvd., Woodbridge
 This information session will describe ways to achieve your higher education savings goals and how Virginia529 can help. In just one hour, you'll learn how to save for tuition and other college costs, such as housing, textbooks and more, save for private or religious K-12 education, take advantage of tax-free earnings and the Virginia state tax deduction, and meet your savings goals.

Annual Prince William/Manassas History Symposium

Sat. March 23 | 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 Manassas Museum
 9101 Prince William Street, Manassas
 The 9th Annual Prince William/Manassas Symposium, this year at a new location: the Manassas Museum. Each year local historians and experts explore the many facets of county history with a wide variety of lecture topics. Tickets are \$10 for an all-day program. The symposium also marks the release of the sixth issue of the Journal of Prince William History, which will be on sale. Tickets: parksandrec.pwcgov.org

Occoquan Peep Show
Tues. March 26 to Sat. March 30

Historic Occoquan
 Stroll through historic Occoquan and vote for your favorite PEEPS® dioramas, made by and displayed at Occoquan businesses! Or build your very own PEEPS® diorama and enter to win a \$50 prize to spend at an Occoquan business!

Prince William Historic Preservation Lecture Series: Small but Important Riots: The Cavalry Battles of Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville
by Robert F. O'Neill.

Thurs. March 28 | 7 to 8:30 p.m.
 Old Manassas Courthouse
 9248 Lee Avenue, Manassas
 Small but Important Riots focuses on the fighting from June 17 to 22, 1863, at Aldie, Middleburg, and Upperville, placed within the strategic context of the Gettysburg campaign. It is based on Robert O'Neill's 30 years of research and access to previously unpublished documents, which reveal startling new information.

Exoticon Manassas

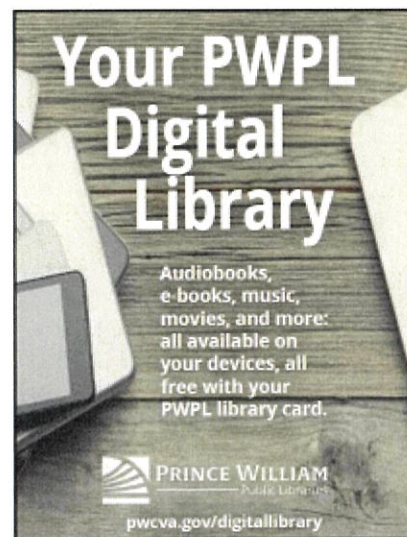
Sat. March 30 | 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
 Prince William County Fairgrounds
 10624 Dumfries Road, Manassas
 Bringing you a wide variety of reptiles, amphibians, arachnids, mammals,

including sugar gliders, ferrets, hamsters, birds, and more. Perfect outing to come with friends and family to see animals that aren't sold at your typical pet store. Come on out and spend the day seeing these not so typical pets up close.

Scrambled Egg Hunts at Brentsville Courthouse

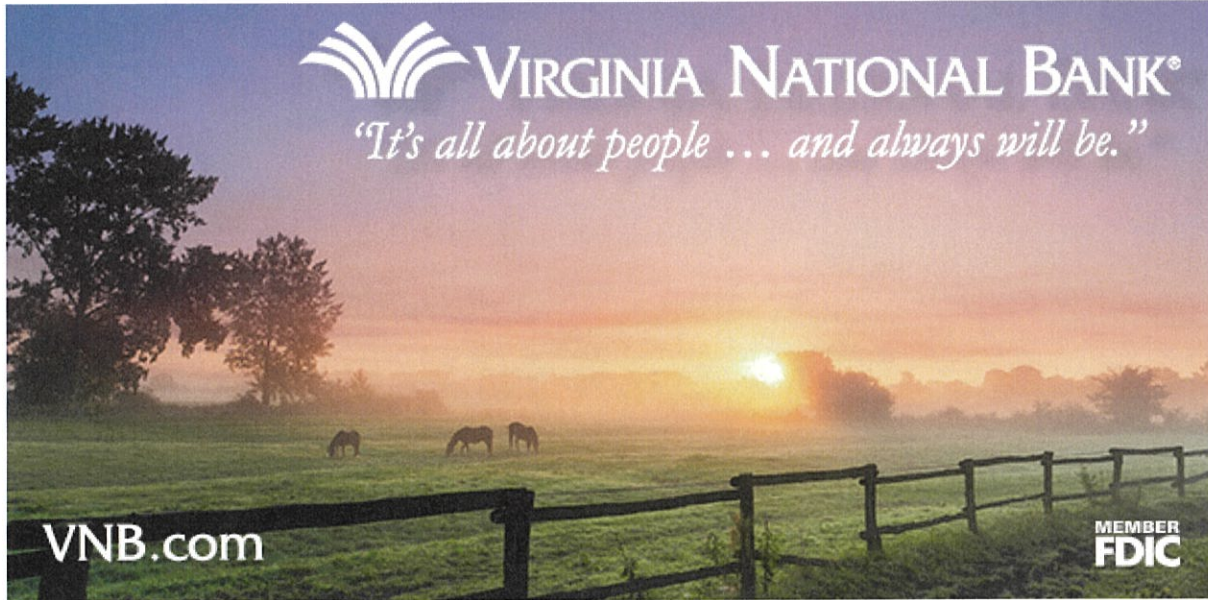
Sat. March 30 | Timed hunts between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
 Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre
 12229 Bristow Road, Bristow
 Peter Rabbit has been making trouble again at Brentsville. He's taken all the candy and toys in our eggs, replacing them with tasks and riddles. He won't give back the goods unless you solve the puzzles! Due to his mischievous nature, Peter made challenges tailored for each family who dares to try and solve them. He would like to include everyone and make it a fair, fun challenge for all! Can you find all the eggs he hid, piece together the clues, and solve his puzzle? Tickets: parksandrec.pwcgov.org.

All events listed on Prince William Living's online and print calendars are subject to change. Check with the venue to verify dates, times and locations.



Have an event? Visit princewilliamliving.com/events to submit details for our online calendar.

Are You a Local?



NEWS

Prince William Public Libraries celebrates new mobile library

Amelia Breeden March 2, 2024 at 9:54am



County leadership, library staff, and community members gathered on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, to celebrate the new Mobile Library at a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

More in a press release from Prince William County Public Libraries:

A state-of-the-art Mobile Library has been added as the “13th branch” to allow library staff to bring the library to the community. Presenters shared remarks, and then invited attendees to tour the Mobile Library.

“The new Mobile Library will promote literacy and education across the county and the City of Manassas,” said Prince William Board of County Supervisors Chair At-Large Deshundra Jefferson. “It will provide access to books, resources, and programs to residents who may have difficulty visiting our 12 library branches.”

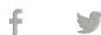
Last year, PWPL created a new division, Community Outreach Services, to visit organizations, community events, and neighborhoods to promote library services and provide library materials. Community Outreach Services also identifies opportunities to partner with community organizations to take library services beyond its brick-and-mortar buildings.

Prince William Library Advisory Board Vice Chair Corinne Doerr. “There are many other unique features of the Mobile Library, including free mobile Wi-Fi so residents can connect to reliable internet at any stop.”

The Mobile Library will make it possible for PWPL to deliver books and other physical materials to local senior centers, youth centers, and residents who cannot visit its libraries. It will also bring programs and access to technology to underserved communities.

Watch the BUZZ video of the ribbon cutting [here](#).

The Mobile Library will begin outreach service in spring 2024. Visit the [Online Events Calendar](#) and select Location: Mobile Library to see where it will visit next.



Self-service kiosks for Prince William Circuit Court will be installed at some county libraries

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Jacqueline Smith, the elected Clerk of the Prince William Circuit Court that serves Prince William County, Manassas and Manassas Park, has partnered with Prince William County Libraries to provide the public with additional self-service kiosks.

Residents visiting the Bull Run library can now use a self-service kiosk to obtain Circuit Court Clerk services, including marriage licenses, deed copies and case information as well as to make payments.

"Libraries offer a space where our residents can gather information and spend time. Having kiosks available in easily accessible spaces throughout the jurisdiction makes it easy for our residents to receive court and government services at a time convenient for them," said Clerk Smith.

The kiosks also give residents access to a variety of county agency services, such as general district court information, voter registration, tickets and tax payments. These services are possible due to partnerships between the Clerk of the Circuit Court and Prince William County agencies.

"Because of the success of our partnership with the Clerk's Seals on Wheels, the self-service kiosks give the community another opportunity to get some of those services," said Rebecca Lowe, Acting Director for Prince William County Libraries.

Self-service kiosks, such as the Clerk's *Seals on Wheels* program, offer service convenience during evening and weekends, for example, beyond the court's normal



Jacqueline Smith, Clerk of the Prince William Circuit Court, with one of the new Circuit Court kiosks being installed at some county libraries. Courtesy Photo

business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The new self-service kiosk library locations complement those already installed at Prince William County Government administrative sites, the James J. McCoart and A.J. Ferlazzo buildings.

Currently, in its pilot phase at the Bull Run library in Manassas, additional kiosks are scheduled for

installation at more library sites throughout Prince William County in June, Smith said.

The kiosk program is 100 percent funded by Virginia Technology grants, the Prince William Clerk added.

For information about Circuit Court Clerk services, go to www.pwcgov.org/department/circuit-court.

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"Because of the success of our partnership with the Clerk's Seals

offer service convenience during evening and weekends, for example, beyond the court's normal business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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For information about Circuit Court Clerk services, go to www.pwcgov.org/departments/circuit-court.



Jacqueline Smith, Clerk of the Prince William Circuit Court, with one of the new Circuit Court kiosks being installed at some county libraries. Courtesy Photo



i Download our new app: search "Prince William Public Library" in the App ...



Prince William Public Libraries' Lit Con: A Diverse Celebration of Fandom

Tuesday, 19 Mar 2024 Prince William Public Libraries



Prince William Public Libraries is gearing up for its inaugural Lit Con, a five-week celebration of fandom, comics, manga, and more. In the [latest episode](#) of the "Important Library Stuff" podcast, host Emily Bickers is joined by Sharon Moores from Dumfries Library and Kat Seastead from Haymarket Gainesville Library to discuss the exciting events planned from April 1 – May 4, 2024.



Lit Con aims to promote and celebrate comics, manga, and anime collections. With nearly 50 events spread across all 12 branches, there's something for everyone, from avid comic readers to casual fans. Lit Con kicks off on April 1 with a special event at [Central Library](#) on Saturday, April 6, from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. featuring light saber battles, adventures with the 501st Legion of Storm Troopers, and an Artist Alley.

One of the standout features of Lit Con is its inclusivity and accessibility. Unlike traditional conventions that can be overwhelming, Lit Con offers a more relaxed and time-friendly experience with passive programs and events catering to different interests and age groups.

For those interested in creating their own comics, there are DIY comic programs, character creation workshops, and even portfolio reviews by industry professionals. The [Fantasy Artists Roundtable](#) will be offered virtually on Saturday, April 27, providing an opportunity for aspiring artists to learn from seasoned professionals from the comfort of home.

Even if you're just stepping into the world of fandom, Lit Con has something for you. From Japanese bookbinding workshops to Pokémon clubs and cosplay events, explore various aspects of fandom and creativity in a welcoming environment.

Lit Con's emphasis on community engagement and creativity reflects Prince William Public Libraries' mission where everyone, regardless of their interests, is encouraged to participate and express themselves. Whether you're a diehard comic lover or a newcomer, visit pwcva.gov/library to plan your personalized Lit Con experience.

Thank you to our sponsors, Blick Art Materials and Summit Community Bank – Manassas Office, and our Friends of the Library groups and the Prince William Library Foundation.

ALL NEWS

LATEST PRESS RELEASES

April 10, 2024

REMINDER: Prescription Drug Take-Back Day is April 27 →

April 10, 2024

Cloverdale Park Gets Several Improvements →

April 08, 2024

BOCS Public Notice - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on 04/19 →

April 08, 2024

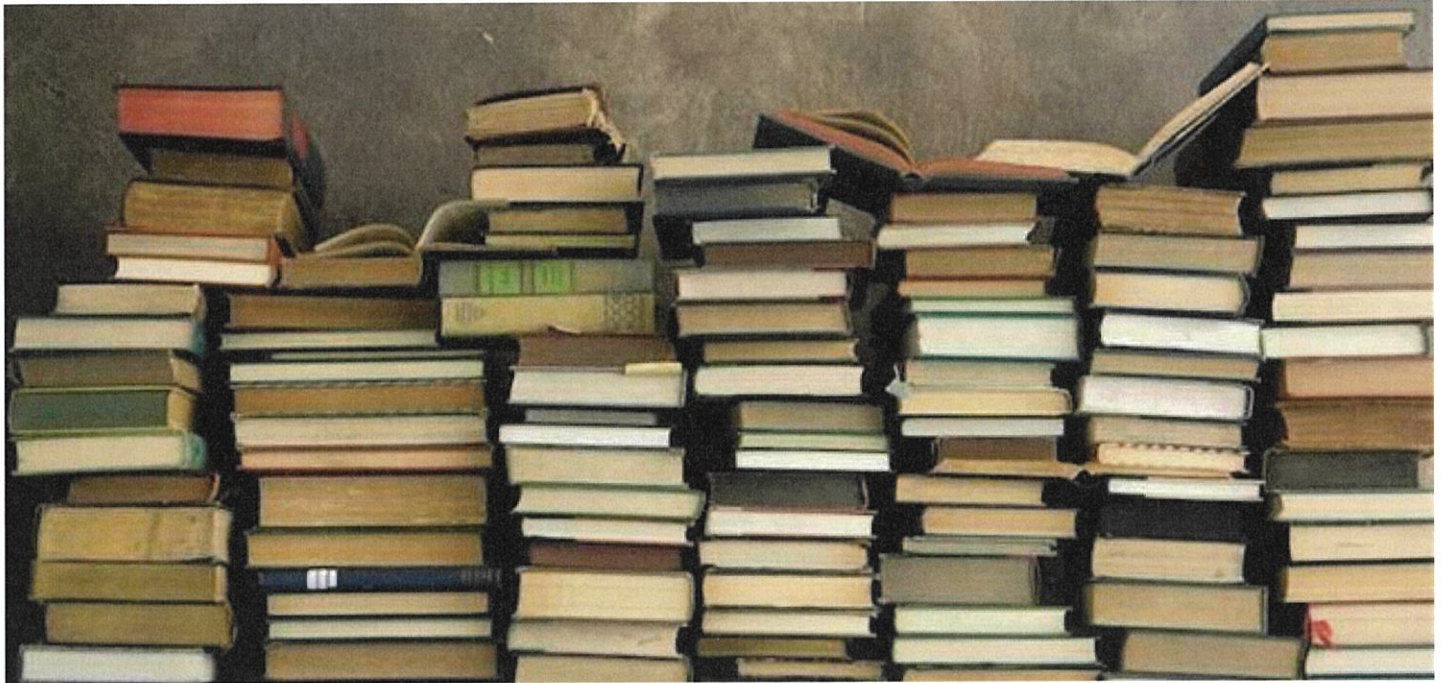
BOCS Public Notice - Basic Recruit Graduation on 04/17 →

April 08, 2024



What's hot at Prince William Libraries: March 2024

By Kirk Johnson Contributing Writer
Mar 22, 2024



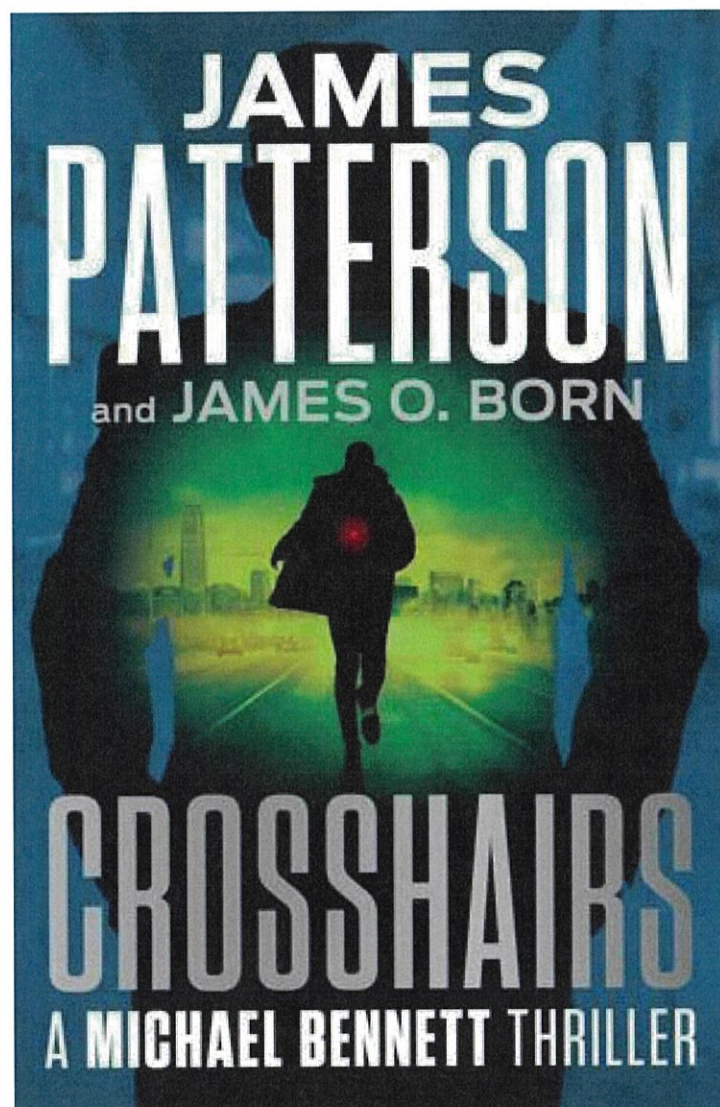
Have you been perusing the bestseller lists and hoping to find some of those titles at your local library? There's a good chance you're in luck — Prince William Public Libraries staff work hard to keep up with what readers are eagerly anticipating. Here are a few new titles from bestselling authors coming to your local branch soon.

If you routinely check bestseller lists, the name **James Patterson** is very familiar to you, even if you've never read any of his many books. Patterson is a one-man publishing phenomenon who frequently creates entire series and then deputizes a trusted writing collaborator to flesh out his outlines into full novels.

For the series featuring New York detective Michael Bennett, Patterson's "designated hitter" is James O. Born. The latest book in the series is the psychological thriller "**Crosshairs**," which finds Bennett forced to investigate a fellow officer who may or may not be the serial sniper-killer terrorizing the city. This is trademark, edge-of-your-seat Patterson action.

Gregg Hurwitz is another big name in mainstream thrillers. Most of his recent work has been in the "**Orphan X**" series about a dropout trained assassin from a very peculiar black ops program named Evan Smoak. In "**Lone Wolf**," Smoak takes on what seems to be the simplest of jobs — helping a young girl find her missing dog — which quickly turns into a confrontation with his most dangerous foe yet.

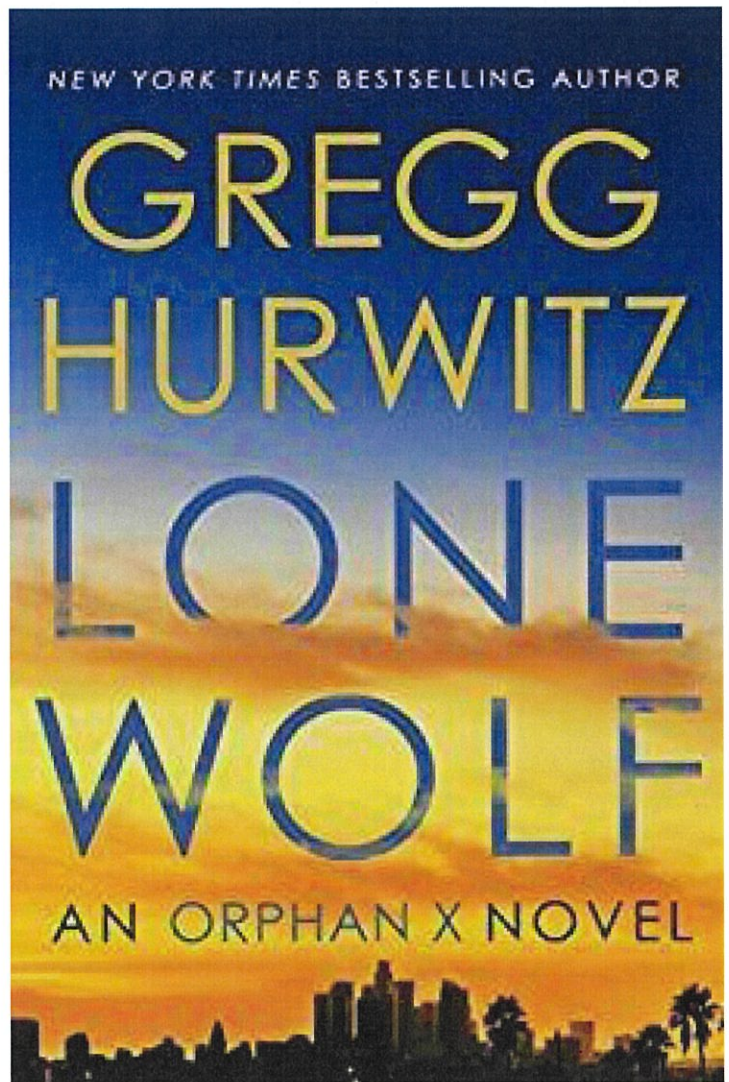
"A.J. Landau" is a pseudonym for two flesh-and-blood forces in the thriller genre: bestselling author **Jon Land** and former librarian and longtime book reviewer **Jeff Ayers**. Fans will hope that this first collaboration will lead to more in "**Leave No Trace: A National Parks Thriller**," the collective authors combine well-plotted suspense and fast-paced action with plenty of facts and research on the National Park system. This is entertainment that also educates, and hopefully, "A.J. Landau" will write more National Parks thrillers.



Frequent bestselling author **C.J. Box** is no stranger to the great outdoors. His long-running series featuring Wyoming game warden Joe Pickett has always made the most of the sweeping, majestic landscape the hero is sworn to manage and protect. In the latest title of the series, "**Three-Inch Teeth**," Pickett must contend with a grizzly bear on a killing spree and a released convict looking for revenge against Pickett. C.J. Box fans won't want to miss this one.

These are just a few of the sure-to-be-popular thriller titles coming to your local library. Visit pwcva.gov/library and search our Online Catalog to place a hold on any of the titles mentioned.

Kirk Johnson is a manager in the Prince William Public Libraries Material Services Division.





"AN ACTION-PACKED, COAST-TO-COAST
THRILL RIDE. *LEAVE NO TRACE* WILL
LEAVE YOU BREATHLESS."
—BRAD MELTZER

LEAVE NO TRACE

A MYSTERY

A. J. LANDAU

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

C. J. BOX

"Joe Pickett is the one man you'd want by your side in a crisis."

—JOHN SANDFORD



THREE-INCH TEETH

—
JOE PICKETT
NOVEL

prince william *living*

April 2024

The premier lifestyle magazine of Prince William and Greater Manassas

Gardening for 2024

PAGE 4

Gardening
With Kids
PAGE 16

Virginia
National Ballet
PAGE 20



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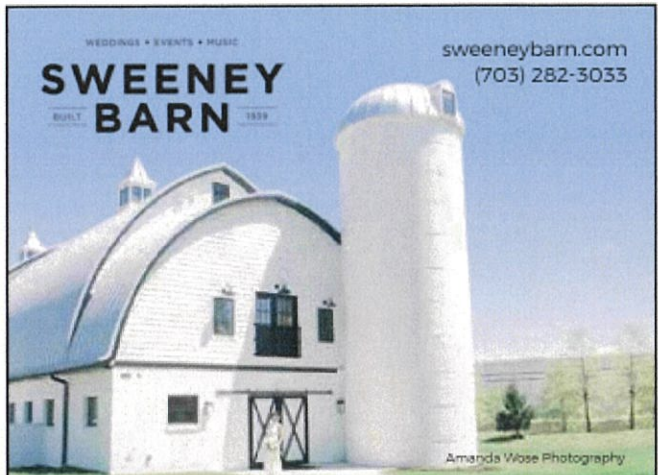
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PRINCE WILLIAM
Public Libraries

This program is generously funded by the Prince William Library Foundation.

15601 Turtle Point Drive, Gainesville
A fun afternoon of tea, food, music, and games. All proceeds go to benefit charitable outreach projects. Tickets: dominionwomansclub.org.

Woodbridge Parkinson's Friends Group

Wed. April 17 | 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Potomac Place
2133 Montgomery Avenue, Woodbridge
This group is for individuals and families living with Parkinson's to connect with others on the same journey. It is a safe place to share experiences and ask questions. RSVP: Sonia.gow@inova.org.

Spring Vendor Pop-Up Event

Sat. April 20 | 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
EpiQ Food Hall
14067 Noblewood Plaza, Dale City
Step into the vibrant world of spring with vendors, artisans, unique creations, and EpiQ Food Hall delights at this vendor event.

Behind the Scenes Tour of Rippon Lodge

Sat. April 20 | 11 a.m.
Rippon Lodge Historic Site
15520 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge
This historical hardhat tour takes visitors into spaces not available during the standard tour of Rippon Lodge Historic Site. Learn a little more history from behind the scenes. Space limited: no one under 18. Advance ticket purchase required: parksandrec.pwcgov.org.

5K Beer Run x Sinistral Brewing | 2024 VA Brewery Runnin' Series

Sat. April 20 | 11 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Sinistral Brewing Company
9419 Main Street, Manassas
Lace up your running shoes and meet at Sinistral Brewing Company for this 5K, untimed fun run that starts and ends at Sinistral. Complete the course and get a local craft brew at the finish line. Registered underage participants will receive a token for a free non-alcoholic beverage. Dogs and strollers are welcome on the course with care and caution. The event is held rain or shine.

2nd Annual Anything's Pawsible Festival & 5K Fun Run

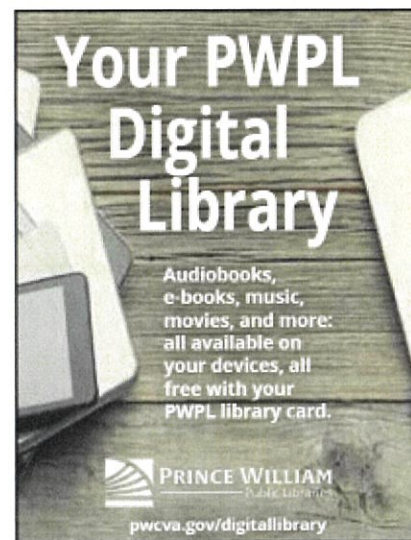
Sat. April 20 | 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Manassas Museum Lawn
9101 Prince William Street, Manassas
Spend a Saturday afternoon centered around inclusion, wellness, and community fun! This festival helps raise funding for children with disabilities to gain access to service dogs. Please refer to the schedule for sign-in times and group stretch at anythingspawsibleva.com.

Science in the Park Presents Earth Day at the Boardwalk

Sun. April 21 | 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Neabsco Creek Boardwalk
15125 Blackburn Road, Woodbridge
Enjoy a stroll down the Neabsco Creek Boardwalk with hands-on "Discovery Stations" set up along the way. Learn about the wetlands' most beautiful animals and the habitat they call home. Park Naturalists will discuss the mammals, birds, pollinators and plants that make the Boardwalk such an unforgettable experience and a perfect way to celebrate Earth Day!

Prince William Historic Preservation Lecture Series: Virginia POW Camps in World War II

Thurs. April 25 | 7 to 8:30 p.m.
Old Manassas Courthouse
9250 Lee Avenue, Manassas



During World War II, Virginians watched as German and Italian prisoners invaded the Old Dominion. At least 17,000 Germans and countless Italians lived in over twenty camps across the state and worked on five military installations. Historian Kathryn Coker tells a different story of the Old Dominion at war.

GFWC Woman's Club of Manassas Yard & Bake Sale

Sat. April 27 | 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.
10214 South Grant Avenue, Manassas
The GFWC Woman's Club of Manassas is holding a Yard and Bake Sale. No early birds, please. Proceeds from the sale support local charities within Manassas and Prince William County. A wide variety of items available, including housewares, clothing, books and pictures.

10th Annual Kite Festival

Sat. April 27 | 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Signal Hill Park
9300 Signal View Drive, Manassas Park
"Let's go fly a kite, up to the highest height!" April is National Kite Month, so unwind your string and fly high. Feel free to bring your own kite or purchase a \$5 diamond kite, while supplies last.

All events listed on Prince William Living's online and print calendars are subject to change. Check with the venue to verify dates, times and locations.



Have an event? Visit princewilliamliving.com/events to submit details for our online calendar.



i Download our new app: search "Prince William Public Library" in the App ...



The Perks of Being a Teen Summer Reading Volunteer

Tuesday, 02 Apr 2024

Prince William Public Libraries



Gaining volunteer hours, refining interpersonal communications, and sitting in A/C in 90-degree heat? It might seem a little early, but the latest episode of "Important Library Stuff" talks about the upcoming Teen Summer Reading Volunteer Program. Summer Reading kicks off June 10 – August 11, and Prince William Public Libraries will begin accepting applications at pwcva.gov/library on April 22.



Host Emily Bickers brings together Savannah, a returning Summer Reading teen volunteer, and Hamere, a year-round volunteer who hopes to volunteer alongside Savannah at Central Library this summer. Librarians Rosanne North-Jack from Manassas City Library and Kat Seastead from Bull Run Library then join Emily to share the benefits and value teen volunteers bring to the Summer Reading program.

Hamere, a returning guest on "Important Library Stuff," mentioned a new favorite book she'd recommend, "#MurderTrending," while Savannah prefers classics like "The Giver" and "Animal Farm." Hamere and Savannah shared why they volunteer for Prince William Public Libraries and how their experiences have helped them, including improving communication skills and giving back to the community.

They stressed how volunteering has not only helped them become more comfortable talking to adults, a skill that will help them as they enter the job force, but also given them a sense of accomplishment. Both volunteers encourage other teens to apply, emphasizing the opportunity to explore interests and gain valuable experience. When asked what she thinks about other teens who may be nervous to apply, Savannah advised, "Don't be scared and go for it."

Emily shifts gears and reintroduces Rosanne and Kat to the podcast. The three discuss the responsibilities of teen volunteers during Summer Reading, emphasizing how important they are to the Summer Reading program.

"They are absolutely essential to keep our programs running smoothly and efficiently," said Rosanne. "I haven't ever done summer reading without volunteers, nor would I want to."

They outline the expectations for volunteers, including professionalism, communication skills, and reliability. Volunteering also offers benefits to teens beyond gaining required service hours for school. Teen volunteers can expect to learn more about skill development, networking opportunities, and community engagement. Rosanne and Kat stress the supportive environment provided by libraries and encourage teens to consider applying.

Beginning April 22, area residents ages 12 and up can apply for the Summer Reading program at pwcva.gov/library. If accepted, they'll be required to attend training before the program launches on June 11, and will be expected to participate through August 11.

Emily closed out the episode noting that April is Volunteer Appreciation Month, and expressed her gratitude on behalf of all Prince William Public Libraries staff to the volunteers.

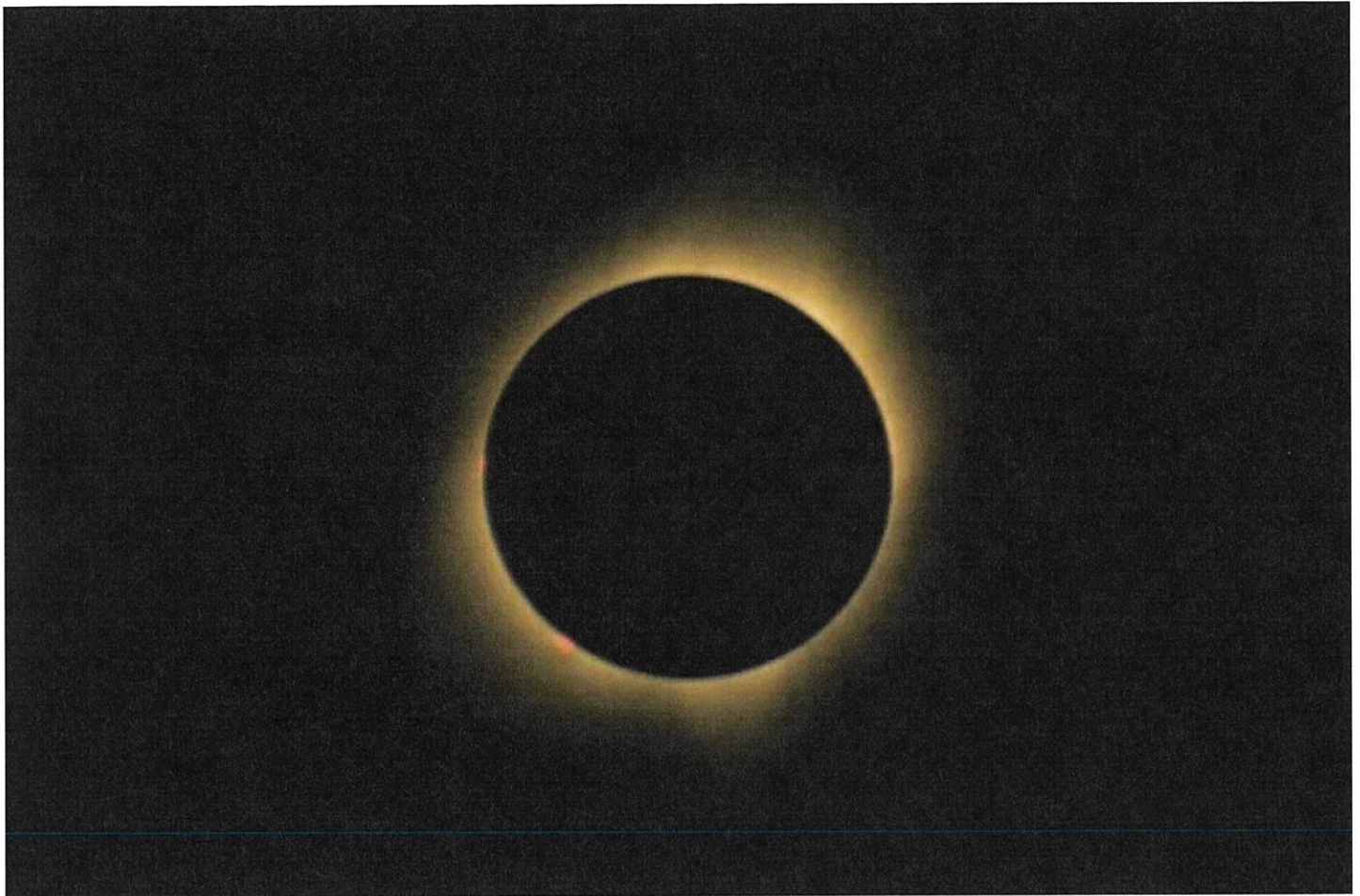
"We want to give a huge thank you to all of our volunteers who truly make a difference at our libraries – teens and adults," Emily shared. "We could not do this without you."



https://www.fauquier.com/news/how-to-watch-the-solar-eclipse-in-fauquier-prince-william-counties/article_81e0d78e-f2b3-11ee-ad62-e7346aca19f6.html

TODAY IS THE DAY: How to watch the solar eclipse in Fauquier, Prince William counties

By Hunter Savery Staff Writer
Apr 8, 2024



Drew Rae Photography

On Monday, April 8 the last solar eclipse will grace the skies of the continental United States until 2044.

While Fauquier County may not be in the “**path of totality**,” we can still get in on the action and expect to see a partial eclipse.

Here's what you need to know to get the most out of the eclipse.

Next week's total solar eclipse will cut a path across large swaths of the United States from Texas to Maine.

Thousands of people are expected to travel to areas in the path of the totality to watch the eclipse, but right here in Northern Virginia 87% to 89% of sunlight will be blocked out when the eclipse reaches its peak around 3:19 p.m. Monday afternoon.

The solar eclipse this year will be spectacular too.

The eclipse will last nearly twice as long as 2017's, and the moon's shadow will be bigger and darker because the Earth is passing closer to the moon.

Viewers might even get a glimpse of huge jets of plasma erupting from the surface of the sun because the star is at the peak of its solar maximum, or the most vibrant point in an 11-year cycle of solar activity.

Where you can view, celebrate the eclipse

There are lots of fun eclipse events across the region from viewing parties with telescopes and experts to festivals and educational activities.

Northern Virginians will likely begin to see the historic eclipse around 2 p.m. and it will last until just after 4:30 p.m. You can find the exact time for your location using **NASA's Eclipse Explorer**.

Some schools, like those in Fauquier, are delaying dismissal for some students so as not to coincide with the eclipse's peak, but Prince William schools don't have plans to adjust their bell schedules. **Find out more about what schools are doing here.**

Here are some events likely to attract the crowds:

Solar Eclipse Festival on the National Mall

The Smithsonian institute is hosting a Solar Eclipse Festival from noon to 4 p.m. along the National Mall between 4th and 12th streets. Find out more details **here.**

The **Air and Space Museum** will even provide a limited number of eclipse glasses on a first-come first-served basis.

Sky Meadows State Park

You can watch the eclipse through telescopes equipped with solar filters alongside the Northern Virginia Astronomy Club and representatives from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory at Sky Meadows on Monday. The event runs from 1 to 4:30 p.m. and there isn't a \$10 parking fee.

The Smithsonian's Udvar-Hazy Center

The center in Chantilly, aka Air and Space Museum II, is hosting a viewing party from 2 to 4 p.m. The museum will provide safe solar telescopes and projection viewers to help you watch the cosmic spectacle. The museum is encouraging attendees to bring their own eclipse glasses, however.

Virginia State Parks

In addition to Sky Meadows' event, every state park in Virginia will have an eclipse viewing party. Find more information online at www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/solar-eclipse.

Solar Eclipse Family Day at Manassas National Battlefield

Join park staff starting at noon to experience the solar eclipse at the national battlefield park. All activities take place in or near the Henry Hill Visitor Center. Kids can complete their "Junior Ranger Book" to receive a pair of eclipse glasses and a wooden badge. The park notes that glasses are in short supply though, so bring your own!

Prince William Public Libraries

If you're in Prince William County, visit your local library branch! Libraries are giving out one free pair of eclipse glasses per person through Monday, but library staff say they're going fast, so call ahead to make sure they are still in stock. Some branches are also having watch parties.

Fauquier County Public Libraries doesn't have information about eclipse-related events on its website, but check with your local branch!

Stay safe!

Of course, when you're headed outside to watch the eclipse, remember safety is important.

There are lots of ways to safely view an eclipse, the one thing not to do is to stare at the sun. That may seem like common sense but it's worth repeating. Viewing the eclipse without protective eyewear can cause permanent vision damage.

Special glasses for viewing the solar eclipse are available in Warrenton at Harris Teeter, at Walmart in Manassas, and Lowes in Manassas and Culpeper for about \$2 a pair — a heck of a lot cheaper than the eye surgery needed after staring at the sun! Don't wait, eclipse glasses have already sold out at Walmart in Warrenton and Haymarket.

For a fun DIY project, eclipse viewers can be made from cereal boxes and aluminum foil. No cereal box? No problem, **NASA has tips** for how to make a pinhole camera with just some paper and foil.

Stay safe and send us your eclipse photos!

Reach Hunter Savery at hsavery@fauquier.com.

*Want to stay up to date on the best stories about Life in the Piedmont? Sign up for the Fauquier Times' newly revamped daily newsletter. **Subscribe here.***

Hunter Savery

https://www.insidenova.com/lifestyles/ignite-your-creativity-at-dabble-creative-reuse-center/article_c68f4456-f768-11ee-8374-5f579ed19e32.html

Ignite Your Creativity at Dabble Creative Reuse Center

By Sue Baldani Photos courtesy Dabble Creative Reuse Center
Apr 10, 2024

1 of 3



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Whether crafting for a casual hobby, passion or profession, supplies can be very expensive and often limit what a creative mind can do. Kelly Auldridge, an artist, wife and mom from Manassas, wants to make sure every artist, young and old, has the ability to turn their ideas into reality.

“My husband Greg [Auldridge] and I really want to be able to provide opportunity and inspiration by making the supplies accessible,” she said. “We’re trying to open up the creative world for as many people as we can.”

With Dabble Creative Reuse Center, located in Old Town, they are doing just that. The store is filled with all kinds of crafting supplies from buttons and bows to fabrics and yarn. Everything is donated, which allows merchandise to be sold at very affordable prices.

The idea of recycling craft supplies came to Kelly when she was teaching a class at Fillagreen, a zero-waste and refill shop also in Manassas. “Over the summer they had sustainable artists come in, and another artist who was there was affiliated with a creative reuse center out in Arlington. This was the first time I’d ever heard of this concept and I absolutely loved the idea.”

Crafters, she said, always have extra supplies laying around, and the thought of having a place dedicated to getting those usable items to the right people was incredible. “I learned more about it and visited a few of the places,” said Kelly. “There are actually eight creative reuse centers in the state now. And, while everybody does it a little differently, they all have the same mission - to make arts and crafting more accessible by providing things at a low cost, and making it more sustainable by keeping things out of landfills.”



Neither Kelly, who has a 20 year career in government compliance, nor Greg, knew anything about starting this type of business, so it was a little daunting. “The folks at Fillagreen were just about to celebrate their one-year anniversary, and since they had gone through a lot of the process, they helped us.”

After that, things moved fast. They had only started talking about starting this venture in August of last year, and by November, the doors of Dabble opened.

“It's been really exciting to see the need,” she said. “People are so ready for this. We have everybody from preschoolers to very well established artists shopping with us. We knew people would be excited to shop for low cost art and craft supplies, but what we didn't expect is how supportive people would be with donating. We've gotten such a great response and people have told us what a blessing it is to have us here and be able to donate their things to us.”

One of the most surprising donations she received was a beautiful loom, which she said usually costs \$600 or more. One day a lady came in looking for one, and when she saw it she was overjoyed.



“We had it for less than half the retail price,” said Kelly. “She was in here with a group of friends and they were all pulling out their wallets to offer to help her pay for it. It was wonderful.”

A lot of Dabble’s pricing is bag based. “You can fill a bag for a set price and so it's fun to come in with the kids because they can just grab an assortment of things to play with.”

Kelly also loves when people visit and share ideas with her or each other. They often then send photos of finished products, which she posts on Facebook and other social media sites.

In order to facilitate the sharing of ideas even more, Kelly holds classes and events in the shop. “We have different events focused on upcycle projects based on things that we might have in the store to let people try different things. The cool thing at Dabble is we can start with an idea and since we have access to everything in the store, it's very cool for people to be able to personalize it.”



She welcomes volunteers to teach classes as well, and wants to explore having high school art students come in and teach classes to give them some experience in teaching and sharing their art. Kelly and Greg also believe in supporting teachers, who often have to buy their own supplies. "We want to be a resource for them and have made donations," she said.

Dabble Creative Reuse Center also held a spring break camp for kids at the end of March. And, on April 16th, the store is having its official ribbon cutting. "It's going to be from 1:00 to 2:00 and we're just going to celebrate being part of the community. We'll have some prizes and other fun stuff going on that day and probably that week."

In addition to supplies, financial donations are also appreciated at Dabble. "We're not a 501(c)(3), so donations are not tax deductible, but we try to put all the money we receive from sales and other things back into the shop and back into the community to make things as accessible as we can."

Another resource for crafters she likes to promote is the Prince William Public Library system. "They have a couple of makerspaces and they're amazing. They have Cricutmachines, quilting machines, and 3D printers. They have tons of tools available for the public to use for free. So, people can come to Dabble and get their supplies for a really low cost and then go use the library equipment for free. That really opens up a lot of doors for people to make and try new things."

Added Kelly, "This has been a really joyful experience for me. Being a part of the community and feeling like we're meeting a need is really such a beautiful feeling. It's been amazing so far and we're just so excited to see where it goes."

Dabble Creative Reuse Center

Official Ribbon Cutting Celebration: **Tuesday, April 16, 1-2p.m.**, 9100 Church Street #101, Manassas. DabbleCRC.com. Hours of Operation: Thursday 4-7 pm; Saturday 11 am-5 pm; Sunday 11 am-5 pm

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This feature appears in the April 2024 issue of Haymarket-Gainesville Lifestyle Magazine. You can read the entire [issue here](#), find previous issues [here](#), and pick up copies at these locations: Haymarket Gainesville Community Library, 14870 Lightner Road, Haymarket; Haymarket Town Hall, 15000 Washington St, Haymarket;

Haymarket Commuter Lot, I-66 and Route 15, (off Heathcote Blvd) Haymarket; Broad Run VRE, 10637 Piper Lane, Bristow. Behind Manassas Airport; Manassas VRE Station in Old Town Manassas.9451 West St., Manassas

