



To: The Greene County Legislature
From: The Greene Counties Libraries Association
Re: 2012 Annual Report

Received
APR 18 2013
Greene Co. Legislature

2012 Total Funding Received: \$32,700

2011 library usage statistics (latest year we have total county statistics available):

In 2011, Greene County libraries:

Circulated 344,816 items including books, audio and e-books, DVDs, electronic learning games, and music CDs. At an average cost of more than \$20 per item, this is a value of \$6, 896,320.

Received more than 250,357 library visits

20,460 people attended library programs including early childhood literacy, art workshops, computer training, homework help, healthy living and ESL.

Had 24,913 Library card holders on record

Assisted patrons with job search, resume development, college applications, exam proctoring and more

Gave away books and early literacy information to new parents

Provided computer and internet access; library computers were used more than 79,458 times not counting the use of WiFi.

Greene County residents (including those without a chartered library) have been able to save money by frequenting local libraries. In addition, summer residents use our libraries as do business and tourists.

From State of America's Libraries Report/American Library Association

'The more than 16,000 public libraries nationwide "offer a lifeline to people trying to adapt to challenging economic circumstances by providing technology training and online resources for employment, access to government resources, continuing education, retooling for new careers, and starting a small business," according to ALA President Maureen Sullivan. Three-fourths of public libraries offer software and other resources to help patrons to create a resume and employment materials, and library staff help patrons complete online job applications.'

Local Library Funding

County funding helps to equalize library services within the county and to provide services to those county residents who are not within a chartered area. For the Budget Year 2012, \$20,500 of the total county funding was divided among the 8 libraries to help offset the cost of serving residents of Halcott, Lexington, Prattsville, Jewett, Durham, and New Baltimore.

The remaining county funds were distributed as follows:

\$6,200 was expended for online databases including Gale Testing and Chilton's Auto Repair as well as for e-books.

\$3,800 went for technical support

\$2,200 was spent on tax form preparation, outreach, and Book Page subscription

Here are some library stories!

From Catskill Library and Palenville branch:

A patron told staff about renting *The Wizard of Oz* from the Library. She and her mom - who suffers from Alzheimers and barely recognizes her (daughter) anymore - watched the whole movie and was enthralled. Daughter said she came back to life, they talked about the music, the costumes, the story; she said it brought her mom right back to when she was a little girl when she watched the film with her own mum. Needless to say, our staff was in tears listening to this story.

A 10 year old girl wants a puppy. Palenville's Stanley helped her draft out her case to present to her parents as to why a Puppy would be a good addition to the family.

From Cairo:

A local business owner told the library director that he knew which evenings the library was open by an increase in the number of customers who came into his restaurant on those nights. Many of them were from out of town and were driving into Cairo specifically to use the library.

In the aftermath of tropical storm Irene, we received thanks for our service (as well as some donations) from patrons whose extended families and/or friends had been temporarily re-located to this area.

From Coxsackie:

"I have never been to the library when I haven't been greeted by a friendly, 'hello', or 'goodbye' and all the staff makes one feel right at home."

"I love the homework help program and missed it over school vacation"

From Greenville:

We have a father and son that like to work on old cars in their garage. They would come in and take out the Chilton's manuals to refer to. We got talking to the father one day and pointed out Chilton's online. He was thrilled. He wouldn't have to worry about getting our books dirty. He made a stand in his garage to put his laptop on so now they go to Chilton's online and look up the information they need as they work on the cars.

One of our patron's moms has been sick with cancer for the last year. Unfortunately, she let us know that she didn't have much time left. Her mom couldn't really read and enjoy books anymore so she decided she'd try something else. She wanted to make her laugh. She requested we order her DVD's of the old Carol Burnett Show. They enjoyed watching them together and forgetting the inevitable. She has since passed away, but the mother and daughter enjoyed laughing together at the end.