



December 2017 Newsletter

Our Community Library

We love it when people refer to the Traveling Library as our new bookmobile! The bookmobile really does belong to all of us. The community helped to purchase the vehicle and donations from community members cover most of the new book purchases every year. We love to go out into the communities we serve, including Benton, Millville, Catawissa, Numidia, Mifflinville, Lime Ridge, and Montour Township. Here is a rundown of some of the things we did with our partners this year which made a difference for thousands of people in Columbia County!

- Mifflinville Memorial Day Carnival
- Benton Winterfest
- Millville Fourth of July Parade
- Catawissa Halloween Parade
- Bloomsburg Lights Up the Night Parade
- Rohrbach's Farm Market Strawberry Festival
- Columbia County 4-H Day Camps
- Northern Columbia Community & Cultural Center – N4Cs Kids Camp
- Children's Museum Touch-A-Truck Event
- Columbia County Conservation District Water Education Day
- AGAPE Palooza
- Bloomsburg Renaissance Jamboree
- Columbia County Family Center Storytime in the Park
- Drug Prevention Storytimes with Police Officers
- Visits with local Boy Scouts & Girl Scouts troops, and much more!



New Bookmobile Fundraising

We have received more than \$200,000 in contributions and pledges for the new bookmobile campaign! We have four years to raise the remaining \$80,000 needed. Investments by local governments, businesses, community groups, foundation grants, and individuals have helped us get this far. This photo includes employees of **First Columbia Bank & Trust**. The bank is a \$5000 sponsor of the new bookmobile, and employees donated even more on their dress-down day.



We are so grateful to the organizations and individuals who have given generously – you have allowed us to reach another generation of library users! Our challenge for 2018 is to ask every library user to give a donation (of any amount) toward our wonderful new bookmobile so we can tell funders how much you care.

From the Director

There are two things I enjoy most about my job – people and books. In that order. I absolutely love the community of readers we get to see every two weeks on our bookmobile routes. **Kara Walsh, Bonnie Crawford,** and I thoughtfully select books for the library collection based on these valued relationships with Traveling Library readers. We also purchased several hundred books that were special requests by patrons this year. We don't just buy books; we curate a special collection just for you!



We look carefully at book reviews, library journals, and online resources like goodreads.com and bookriot.com so we can get all the major bestsellers and award-winning adult books each year as well as the best books for babies, children, and young adults. We have a budget of \$15,000 to \$20,000 for new books each year, depending on the contributions we receive, and we are great at finding the best deals and big sales to stretch these dollars even further. Donations of like-new used books help us fill in gaps in our collection and add second copies of top bestsellers. We have made our order lists public at www.cctlibrary.org – to request a book from the order list, just send an email to info@cctlibrary.org!

Since the new bookmobile arrived in June, we have had a 29% increase in the number of books borrowed, and we have had about 300 new patrons start using the library. Our walk-in library now has 2-3 times the number of visitors each day. As we expand our services to meet the needs of the county, being able to have more books is even more important, and we can only do it based on the support you provide. Thank you! **-Ammon Young**

Library Board

Judy Lease and Carol Schock are retiring from the Columbia County Traveling Library Authority Board after many years of dedicated service. Judy started just before we got our last bookmobile 20 years ago, and Carol started about 10 years ago. They both made a point of staying on until the new bookmobile arrived. Judy has served as Secretary for 18 years, and Carol served as Treasurer this past year. In this photo, they are pictured in front along with retired board chair, **Jim Patterson**. All three were presented with framed art of the new bookmobile by board chair **Linda Resseguie** (right). We owe so much to our amazing volunteer board leaders!



Friends of the Library

Judy Lynn has retired as Treasurer of the Friends of the Columbia County Traveling Library, a separate non-profit which supports the library. She continues as a Friends board member and supporter of the library. Judy's steadfast leadership was essential to the continuation of the Friends for many years, and we are very grateful for her. **Kate Polhill** (pictured here) has been elected as the new Treasurer of the Friends. She is responsible for financial transactions, manages donation records using an online database, and produces financial reports for quarterly board meetings. Thanks to both Judy and Kate for helping in this important way!



Save the dates for our big book sales in 2018: April 19-22 and October 25-28!

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