

2018 in Review

Library Accomplishments:

- Celebrated our 216th finisher in the 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Program. To date there are currently 507 registrants and 133,410 books read!
- Participated in several community events, including Ossian Days, Street Fair, Boo-in-Bluffton, Festival of Wreaths, Wonderland of Lights and Parlor City Christmas.
- We partnered with the Creative Arts Council for a Murder Mystery, The Parks Department and Bluffton Regional for Theatre Thursday, The YMCA for summer teen programming, Purdue Extension for Adult programming, Community Harvest for Teen/Family food packs and the Historical Society for a historical homes tour and cemetery walk.
- Finally found the leak in the story hour room and repaired the mold damaged wall.
- We created a digital card for patrons including out-of-county students.
- We started the Book-a-Librarian program for scheduled one-on-one help with patrons.
- We embarked on creating a Master Plan for the renovation of the library in hopes of renewing our library bond in 2020.

Staff Accomplishments:

- Jason Habegger was awarded an ILF scholarship, toward pursuing his MLS, for a 2nd time.
- 4 staff members received or are working toward increasing their library certification/degree.
- The library had its 10th staff member graduate from the Wells County Leadership Academy and our 11th staff member going through Level 1.
- Numerous staff members are serving on community and professional boards including: LiGHT, Parlor City Christmas, Leadership Academy and Leadership Academy Mentors, Historical Society, Genealogy Society, Bluffton NOW!, Bluffton NOW! Event Committee, WRAPP, United Way, Creative Arts Council, Wells County Chamber, YMCA, Chamber Education Committee, YMCA Early Learning Committee
- Several staff attended various conferences throughout the year.

Stats:

- We had a 46% increase in Teen Program attendance!
- We saw a slight decrease in annual visits to the library but our reference questions went up by 7%.
- Our total circulation for physical items went down by 8% but our circulation of eMaterials went up by 20%.
- We had a 47% check-out increase from our reciprocal borrowers.