

WELLS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

ABOUT OUR LIBRARY

MISSION: "Provide the community with access, knowledge, and growth."

LOCATIONS: Main Library - Bluffton (39,280 sq. ft. on two floors) and the Ossian Branch (5,360 sq ft.).

GENERAL STATISTICS: from the 2018 Annual Report

- Total collection (books, eBooks, videos, audio, magazines): 126,237
- Reference questions answered: 16,693
- Supervised visits held at the library: 280
- Notary services performed: 461
- More stats throughout this infographic.



\$5,302,509

YEARLY VALUE

When factoring the value of circulation of items, reference assistance, program attendance, meeting room and computer usage. This doesn't include additional value of wireless connection, book-a-librarian, proctoring and genealogy services that are provided or the additional positive economic impact of helping individuals write resumes and find jobs.



153,124

Total Library visits (2018)

Enough for every card holder to visit 9.4 times.

16,251

Library Card Holders

64% of those eligible for a card in the county



264,565

Items Borrowed (2018)

eBooks
& eAudio
13.1%

Videos & CDs
11.8%

CD Audio
4.4%

Misc.
1.8%

Books & Magazines
68.9%



9,007,587

Database Searches



69,296

WiFi Connections

23,377

Computer Use (In Buildings)

814

Programs/
Events (2018)



29,229

Program
Attendance
(2018)

2,185

Participated in
Summer and/or
Winter
Reading
(2018)

2,663

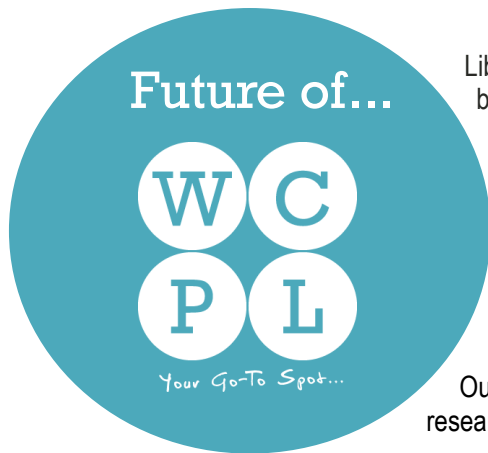
Meeting Room &
Study Room
Reservations
(≈12,000 guests)
(2018)



New Services in 2018/2019

- Book-a-Librarian Service and Digital Library Cards offered
- Lending Mobile Hotspots and more mobile-friendly website
- Expanded Tech training and workshops for all ages
- Updated Cemetery and Obituary Indexes on website
- New databases (Creativebug, Chilton Auto Repair, & more)

For more info visit: www.wellscolibrary.org

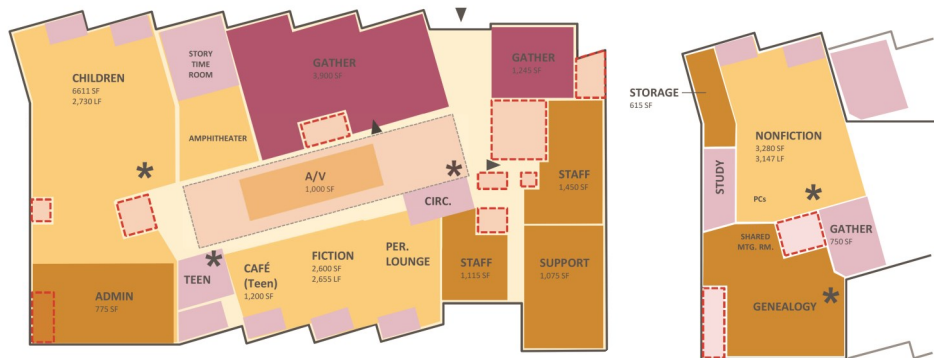


Library staff spent the last 2 years meeting with the public to understand the growing needs of our community and what those needs may be in 20 years to ensure our library building creates a functional community space for generations to come. Some key takeaways include:

- From 2017 to 2018 the library had an increase in meeting room usage by 12%.
- Programming attendance for ages birth to 18 increased by 94%.
- As of December 2018, 64% of Wells County has a library card and this percentage does not account for families that choose to have one card per household or the community members that use meeting and study rooms that do not have cards.
- In this day of having information at our fingertips, the library has seen a 12% increase in reference questions by the public from 2017 to 2018.

Our library is an important cornerstone to a healthy Wells County community. Giving people the opportunity to find jobs, explore medical research, experience new ideas, get lost in wonderful stories, while at the same time providing a sense of place for gathering.

Whether you're a family looking for a fun program, an immigrant in need of language resources, an unemployed individual searching for job help, or a community member who needs help on their taxes, you can all go to one place: our library. Our library has become a place where all members of our community can come together to learn, share, and celebrate where they live, who they are, and what we want to become.



CONSTRUCTION COSTS

WCPL worked with the financial company, BakerTilly for over a year to ensure that we are not raising the tax rate or our tax levy with this project. This project will cost 2 pennies per tax dollar for the county and the yearly payment will be around \$350,000 per year. This is what we are currently paying for our bond. Project costs will include:



Construction:

\$2,882,000



Design & Engineering:
\$216,150



Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment:
\$430,000 (optional)



Low Voltage & Technology:
\$50,000



Escalation
(if price goes up):
\$115,280
(4% of project)



Contingency
(for unknown issues):
\$144,100
(5% of project)

Total: \$3,837,530 (with a potential of \$262,470 in unknown closing costs)

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT on June 4

The Wells County Public Library currently has a proposal for a new construction bond that will be voted on by the County Council on **Tuesday, June 4 at 7 pm** in the Annex Building. We'd love support from the community at this meeting, so please consider joining us.

Also, consider writing a letter to show your support of the Wells County Public Library and all the work the library does for the community.

County Council members contact info can be found at:
www.wellscounty.org/council

