

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES – June 2025

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT – Carey C.

Ongoing Projects

- Rebarcoding project: We've moved on to rebarcoding the WV collection and the genealogy section.
- Correction from last month: We have not completed weeding of the fiction collection. We are currently working on weeding the Mystery section.

	Ancestry	EBSCO Sessions	EBSCO Searches	Chilton
Jul-24	358	17	133	17
Aug-24	804	9	31	7
Sep-24	433	16	275	11
Oct-24	646	30	85	14
Nov-24	424	16	63	23
Dec-24	334	2	10	7
Jan-25	707	27	546	9
Feb-25	595	15	69	7
Mar-25	416	5	22	11
Apr-25	376	13	31	18
May-25	386	35	67	7
Jun-25	697	34	111	4
Total	6176	219	1443	135

ADULT PROGRAMMING – Jeanne M. – June Completed Activities

- Adult Board Games after hours.
- Manga Club new group with Jeffrey and Kira
- Puzzles for passive programming continue to be very popular. It seems as if we have thousands now. Board and Video Games are very popular as well.
- Random Readers Book Club- Topic: with 6 in attendance
- Tuesday, June 10- An excellent program was offered with a commercially successful presenter. 6 attendees.
- Tuesday, June 17th: An Evening With Mark Twain part 2- 12 attendees
- Tuesday, June 24th: Special Comedy Hour featuring two comedians- 15 attendees
- Saturday, June 21- Queer Crafternoon drop in crafts 6 attendees
- Thursday, June 26- Leather Bookmark craft- 12 attendees
- Watering Can Art Studio Painting Event- 12 attendees
- Several of the programs in June were made available by a grant for programming, including the Comedy Hour, Comics 101, and the Watering Can Studio Painting Event.
- Displays- Guess The Theme; Pulitzer Prize Winners; What is Magical Realism; Book Inspired Vacation Destinations; 2025 Road Trips and Destinations; Random Readers
- New staff are fitting in nicely. Additional training still taking place with Kelsey and Colleen
- Congratulations to recent staff Graduates: Parker Stanley (WVUP) and Ayla Canuteson (Marietta College).

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- I am working on programming for the rest of 2025, with a Birding Event for September, and a presentation on the Harvest and its importance past and present for November. We will reprise the Old -Fashioned Tree Trimming for December. Several ideas are being explored for October.
- Circulation staff are providing assistance in the Young Reader's room and shelving all children's materials from book drops outside and in children's room, as well as over the counter returns.

YOUNG READER'S ROOM – Charley J.

Completed Projects

- Our Summer Library Club has officially kicked off with great enthusiasm and engagement from the community! By the end of June, we had 830 children registered in the library club. At this point in the summer, we are over 1,000 children with 5 more weeks left in the program! We are excited to see a positive response from the community.
- We have also given away over 2,500 books so far thanks to generous funding from the Henry Logan Foundation.
- We also received a generous donation of new Scholastic books from the organization Greater Purpose. These books will also be given away through the Summer Library Club.
- Before the library club began, I met with librarians from the branches to review our activities for the summer and show them everything we prepared for the events. This gave us a chance to ask any questions and make sure we were on the same page before the program started. I also visited Williamstown on their class days to help out at the events. I've enjoyed getting to know some of our patrons in Williamstown!
- During the first week of the Summer Library Club, kids came in throughout the week to sign up for events and do a variety of art projects. We had a table for drawing, clay creation, watercolor painting, bracelet making, card making and more. I called it our "craft buffet". It was a blast!
- The next week, we were recreating famous art using Lego bricks. This was a tough challenge, but the kids rose to the occasion and did a phenomenal job! We printed out pictures of famous art for them to use as a guide, and they recreated that art with Lego bricks. I highly recommend visiting the back of our room by the Lego wall to see pictures of our library kids and their creations!
- The last week of June brought monsters into the library. Have no fear, they were of the felt and fluff variety... Kids learned to sew a basic stitch and used that stitch to make their very own monster buddy. It has been sweet watching kids bring their monsters on various adventures. One kid even decided to take his monster with him to the beach! This program allowed us to teach kids useful skills while still having fun!
- We also hosted story times for ages birth-2 years old and ages 3-5 years old. We always look forward to story time and have enjoyed seeing some new faces throughout the summer. In story time, we sing, dance, play and read together! We try to take the activities we are doing with the older children and do something similar for the younger children.
- At the end of the month, we were given the opportunity to partner with local high school students to paint our new playhouse located in the play area. They came in on a Saturday evening and Sunday to paint the house. They did not have a chance to finish, but it is already looking amazing! They plan to come back to add more details and paint more inside the house.

Ongoing Projects

- Managing our Summer Library Club is an ongoing task that takes up much of our time in the summer. When kids check out a book, we check off their visit for the day and give them a prize.

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Each time kids check out, they get to pick a free book from our cart. They also get a token to our vending machine and get a button for their library backpack. Kids love the vending machine! This act of checking kids out and giving out prizes takes up much of our time. We typically have lines of kids waiting to check out on our busiest days!

- We are also partnering with Wood County Schools for their annual Golden Ticket Program. Wood County students come into the library to find books to read on their reading lists. We help them find books and when they finish reading them, we also give them tickets. Kids can then take those tickets to a WCS book fair where they get free books for completing their reading lists.
- Researching and ordering books for our children's collection.
- Displaying books throughout the room to keep children interested in new series/subjects.
- Creating a monthly calendar to advertise our events for children aged 12 and under.
- Creating graphics for social media to highlight our upcoming events.
- Relabeling and organizing the children's chapter book collection.

Young Adult- Abigail H.

Completed Projects

- Teen Summer Library Club *Color Our World* launched spectacularly with our Color Explosion Kickoff Party with **72** people in attendance! Everyone that attended the event was given a goodie bag, a free book thanks to the Henry Logan Foundation, and could enter to win one of the four grand prizes that we will draw for at the end of summer. They will also have a chance to win more entries throughout the summer at each program. We were able to highlight all the fun programs and activities coming up and introduce how the incentive prize program will work this year. There was a lot of interest in these programs; most sign-ups for the upcoming events were completely filled with many waiting lists by the end of the night! Thanks to the generosity and collaboration of Jimmy Avocados and Qdoba, we had refreshments available. Chips and queso, cookies and a taco bar! Colorful Crafts and activities were set up around the room, Pearler Bead keychains, Tye dye, rock and mini canvas painting, diy button and patches, and teens could customize canvas totes. The party was a huge success!
- For the month of June, we had a total of **146** teens attend programs! We hosted two events each week, each based on a different creative theme. Tuesdays were our high energy creative events; Fridays we had Hyper-fixation Club: Craft & Chill (A sensory-friendly program available every week.)
- Teens got to:
 - Pick out a free book and roll for a prize at every Tuesday program
 - Earn entries for our epic grand prizes at every program
- The Character Creation & Cosplay Workshop was a huge hit, with 20 attendees! Teens were encouraged to come in full costume! Teen librarians came as a critter, reptilian hybrid, complete with full costume, horns and furry ears! Teens learned character design from start to finish with a short presentation we created on character archetypes, color schemes, and how to bring their big ideas to life! They each got a chance to create their own unique characters through creative writing, storytelling, and illustrations. We taught the basics of closet cosplay, then crafted realistic animal ears, horns, and fantasy leather pouches in a beginner-friendly props session. There were many unique ideas and costumes, and we have many who are interested in doing this again during the school year.

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- For Hyper-Fixation Club: Craft and Chill, teens made DIY Fantasy Amulets or Talismans. They were perfect as a cosplay prop, fashion statement, or personal charm. We taught basic wire wrapping, and they designed unique pendants. 14 attendees!
- We hosted a one-shot tabletop role-playing game called *Turf War: Kobold Endeavour*. A Reimagined RPG we designed based on *Kobold Endeavour* by Grant Howitt. The RPG had a gritty, mafia inspired twist, that transformed the original one-page RPG into a high stake's underworld heist! Participants role played as scaly little kobold cronies in a world ruled by dragon crime lords, tasked with a mission to rob a rival's treasure hoard without getting caught, causing distractions and mayhem. They were armed with sketchy tools and boundless greed, to outwit traps, dodge guards, and steal big, with the help of their imaginations and a bit of luck! We had both experienced RPG players and newbies; everyone picked it up quickly. There was plenty of daring and outrageous storytelling! 15 attendees!
- For Hyper-Fixation Club: Craft and Chill, teens participated in a creative worldbuilding and cartography activity designing fantasy maps. They used a rice drop method dropping a handful of rice onto their paper to trace an outline, then added landscapes, cities, and other distinguishing features. There was also the option to use a quick game for inspiration for their maps using a D6 to determine the theme, landscape, and time periods of these worlds. The maps were filled with kingdoms, mountains, seas, and secrets! 25 attendees!
- Thanks to the Henry Logan Foundation, we have given away over 80 books to teens who attended our Tuesday events. The books are loosely organized and categorized by genre in storage.
- Michael has put together two displays for us including Summer-ween, and Magic vs. Science. They look great!
- Graphics for the second half of Summer Library club are made for our events to be put on Facebook, the Library website, other social media platforms, as well as the screens that display upcoming Programs.

Ongoing Projects

- Teen Summer Library Club *Color Our World* has had an amazing start with lots to look forward to in July in conjunction with excited participation and many new families and faces!
- We will continue having two events each week in July, with each week loosely based on a different creative theme. We will be able to host a **minimum** of 40 kids a week for these programs. Waitlists for these programs have been constant, and we have been doing our best to make do with our supplies and staff to include as many as possible who are on the waitlists. Every week there will be two main programs:
 - Tuesdays – High energy big creative events
 - Fridays - Hyper-fixation Club: Craft & Chill (A sensory-friendly program available every week.
- The passive art installation featuring cascading rainbow hearts, where patrons are invited to “build the vibe” by writing their names on a rainbow heart continues. Every name added is a reminder that everyone matters, everyone belongs, and together we make the world more vibrant. As the installation grows, so does the collective expression of celebrating creativity and community.
- We have displays throughout the teen area to keep patrons interested in new and trending series/subjects.
- Blind date with a book display continues thanks to Colleen.

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- Colleen plans to put up an International Day of Friendship display in July, she is working on making bracelets to go with the display with heishi beads.
- Jess and I have loosely planned what the programming for the upcoming school year will look like; after receiving the final budget, we will need to make necessary revisions.

TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT – Mindy M.

New Books Cataloged	488
New Audiobooks Cataloged	0
New Video Games Cataloged	1
New Music Cataloged	0
New DVD's Cataloged	90
New Blu-Rays Cataloged	3
New Board Games/Puzzles	0
Total Cataloged	582

MAINTENANCE & JANITORIAL DEPARTMENT – Brian H.

- Turn on water for Arboretum.
- Changed out damp ribs in bunker.
- Helped set-up Williamstown for end of school bash
- Replaced split rail fence
- Sprayed weed killer at Emerson
- Fixed toys from South
- Picked up and installed new drain gate outside of Foyer (Emerson).

GENEALOGY – Jim M.

Number of Walk-ins	130		
Number of Emails	5	Individual Lookups	8
Number of Microfilm Reader Users	18		
Number of Genealogy Computer Users	3		
Phone Contacts	58		
Total	214		

Completed Projects

- Completed various obituary requests; and
- Assisted various walk-in family researchers.
- Finished another GPS (Genealogical Proof Statement) for a patron, was accepted into the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) due to my work

Ongoing Projects

- Ongoing sorting of recent books, magazines, newspaper clippings, and scrapbook donations.
- Thanks goes out to Risa for her weekly scanning of materials.
- Shelf-reading in the history and genealogy collection is ongoing
- Worked in circulation and workroom as assigned.

New Incoming Projects

- Genealogy continues to participate in continuing education through online seminars offered by various genealogical institutions.
- I am currently working on 5 projects for patrons. 1 includes a GPS (Genealogical Proof Statement)
- I continue working on having an intermediate class in genealogy investigation techniques, Graphs, tables and Genealogical Proof Statements (GPS), etc. to solve problems with family relationships
- Was invited again and accepted to do a genealogy class at the Creative Camp put on by CEO's at Butcher Bend, 4H campgrounds each year.
- Still Looking at having a speaker come in and do a class on DNA Genealogy again

TALKING BOOKS DEPARTMENT – Michal Ann L.

Thank you for taking the time to read this June 2025 Update!

- Local Recovery Center/Jail Book Donation Delivery/Local Schools – Number of Boxes: 28
 - The PWCPL has successfully rehomed 57 boxes of books that have either been weeded off the shelves or donated by the general public. Also, the sizes of the boxes are no bigger than a general “Baker & Taylor” box that we receive new items in, but some are in very small boxes as well. (I had a question about the number/size from one of the Friends of the Library)
- New Applications Approved: 0
- Patron Emails: 0 sent: 7
- Calls Received: 8 Calls Made: 5
- Packets mailed out to prospective patrons: 1
- Walk-In Patron Contacts: 2
- Active Patrons: 133
- Patrons Added: 1
- Patrons Suspended: 2
- Talking Books Reference Questions: 5
- Processed Patron Materials: 88 Items returned: 29
- Volunteer: 1 Hours: 4
- Scheduling Events calls: 5
- Current Patron Outreach: 1 plus 3 Birthday cards. Also sent out 35 Talking Book Magazines to patrons for ordering items.
- Other Applications Approved: 0
- Total Events for the Month: 0 Total Attendees: 0
 - Continued Projects: Janet's handwritten notes for a Procedure Manual for Talking Books: FINISHED!
 - Current patron outreach= FINISHED
 - Mailed out AmVets, American Legion, and Wood County Military organization information packets: 10
- Working on a “Community Resource” option for patrons with disabilities of all kinds to be able to get help and find things to purchase for their individual needs.
- Cataloged, labeled, and organized the Braille books in preparation for the Summer Newsletter mailing that announces the ability for patrons to check out the braille items.

BRANCHES - South Parkersburg – Olivia J.

Statistics Narrative

June is debatably the busiest month at the library. The start of the summer reading program in conjunction with the Golden Tickets reading challenge from the schools and even the extreme heat that has moved through the area has had a lot of people coming to the library. Dawn has been busy with conducting programs and building connections with kids and families while the rest of the staff has been busy with registering people for programs, stamping Golden Ticket sheets, and letting kids pick out books and buttons as their prizes for summer reading program. In the midst of all this the library continues to be a working library for all ages so they continue to help people print and make copies, address computer queries, send faxes, stamp notaries, and schedule the meeting room for the few days it is available in the month; not to mention clean, check in, and shelf books. Also in June, a great patron of the library passed away. Kristy would personally deliver books to this patron in the nursing home and pick up her returns. In her obituary, the family asked that in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the South Parkersburg Library. Olivia is keeping a record of the donations coming in and will make an appropriate purchase when the donations have stopped.

Ongoing Projects

- Olivia took over the Author of the Month display and chose Zadie Smith.
- Ashley had a display featuring LGBTQ+ authors.
- Ashley made book displays of West Virginia books for West Virginia Day and Queer biographies for Pride Month in non-fiction and a display of Queer books in the teen section. Apryl had a “Read Something Cool” end cap display featuring books with icy and snowy covers. In Fiction there was also an end cap display with West Virginia authors.
- Dawn had displays of books for Juneteenth, Pride, Summer, and Art books.
- Apryl assumed the role of leading the Novel Book Club. She was nervous about this new responsibility, but Olivia had every confidence she would do well in it. This role involves coordinating with Jeanne to find the necessary amount of copies of a book for the club. There are many great books that have had to be passed over because there were not enough copies of them in the WVLN and other library systems from which Jeanne sources ILLs.
- Olivia began promoting and taking sign-ups for the Watering Can Painting Program taking place in July.
- Ashley hosted teens at an art program where they made collages from magazines.
- Ashley went to Pride in the Park to help promote the library.
- Ashley also hosted a party for the end of Pride month. This event was well attended, and we were grateful to Parkersburg Pride for donating pizzas and drinks for the program.
- Olivia was not able to make much progress in the Escape Room due to the business of Summer Reading Program activities.
- Dawn restarted her Wee be Jammin’ and Small Fry story times. Many of these participants are signed up for the summer reading program.

Completed Projects

Apryl finished the Sign Display for Color Your World. It's an interactive display where patrons of all ages can paint small squares inspired by the art of Alma Thomas. At the end of the summer, the squares will be compiled on some large canvasses and hung in the library as a communal art project.

Maintenance

There have been several issues with computers this month. From dropping print jobs to computers not being hooked up to the printer, to simply not being able to log in to them. This may be due in part to the migration to a server of South's own for the computers and printing server. There have been a lot of difficulties with TBS communication and execution. Angie Graham has been spearheading this project with them.

BRANCHES – Williamstown – Lisa H.

June was a whirlwind of excitement with one of our biggest events of the year, our "End of School Bash", followed the very next day by the kick-off of the Summer Library Club. We were excited to see that all of our hard work of putting up the drive-by display of events, door decorations, social media graphics, and school visits brought many new families to the library for the summer and filled up most of our class space that had just been expanded to 25 kids per class this year.

Completed projects:

- Attended Williamstown City Council meeting and spoke briefly about how the donated funds from the Williamstown Fund for Excellence would be spent. I posed for a picture for the newspaper with a check with Lynn Erb and Randy Dick.
- Hosted our annual "End of School Bash." We were so disappointed with the deluge of rain that came down during the party. Most of our outdoor games had to be canceled.
- Hosted our Mystery Book Club meeting. This was Harriet's first meeting as leader. She did a great job and is actively looking for ways to recruit new members.
- Ms. Edie held her first Story Time of the summer for ages 3-5.
- We continued our monthly estimation contest. In June, we estimated how many saltwater taffy candies were in a jar. The winner was announced on the last day of the month and received the jar and all of the candy inside.
- We hosted our monthly meeting of "Coffee, Cards, and Conversation."
- Summer Library Club decorations were put up, including the two outside doors, inside closet door, wall decor, and 8 drive-by yard signs were placed along the road advertising the program and weekly themes.
- Planned and put up five crafts for the kick-off of the Summer Library Club. The crafts were left up all month since the children enjoyed them so very much.
- June 9th week was Kick-off week for SRP where we were very crowded with sign-ups and lots of children who completed the crafts.
- Hosted Summer Library Club Event #1 "Lego Masterpiece Week" at Williamstown First UM Church.
- Hosted Summer Library Club Event #2 "Build-A-Monster Week" at Williamstown First UM Church.
- Oversaw counting visits, spinning the wheel, handing out backpacks, giving away free books each day for the Summer Library Club.

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Ongoing Projects:

- Continued to monitor the Williamstown Library Facebook page and post upcoming Story Times and programs. Pictures of programs are posted as soon as possible after each event.
- Continued to assist patrons of all ages with projects, copies, faxes, scanning, notaries, reference questions and research, checking out and shelving books and DVDs, and doing anything else that is needed.
- Paused the weeding of the Easy section until after SRP.

Maintenance

- Set up and took down tables and chairs for the “End of School Bash.”
- Brought sporting equipment from storage for the “End of School Bash.”

BOOKMOBILE – Lisa H.

Statistics Narrative

The Bookmobile served 229 patrons in June. We have brought the Summer Library Club to our Rockport and Waverly stops. We are serving the Wood County Parks and Rec’s Adventure Camp again this summer, providing story time and the weekly SLC activities for nearly 50 campers.

Ongoing Projects

- Lisa – setting up stops for events and additional locations.
- Lisa – create book displays.
- Lisa – seasonal books and decorations.
- Lisa -- weed/withdrawal books.
- Lisa – collection development.
- Diane – book deliveries to Senior Living facilities.
- Diane – repair books as needed.
- Diane – assists with decorating.
- Diane – assists with preparing crafts and giveaways for events.
- Bert – manages stop evaluation form and spreadsheet.
- Everyone – places holds.
- Everyone – replenish shelves as needed.
- Everyone – regular stops to preschools, private and public K-12 schools, afterschool centers, and senior citizens facilities.

Maintenance

- Sanitized, vacuumed, and disposed of trash daily.
- Fueled and washed the bus as needed.