

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES –August 2026

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT – Carey C.

Ongoing Projects

- Morgan, Kelsey, and Michal Ann have been selling books back to different book redistributors.
- After the weeding of audiobooks, we were able to shift the Christian collection, giving it more space.

	Ancestry	EBSCO Sessions	EBSCO Searches	Chilton
Jul-25	480	27	110	9
Aug-25	675	23	97	14
Sep-25	539	30	154	5
Oct-25	448	25	85	10
Nov-25	656	45	198	12
Dec-25	530	38	115	11
Jan-26	452	72	128	9
Feb-26	454	9	63	24
Mar-26	127	15	87	10
Apr-26	316	18	28	21
May-26	513	7	48	10
Jun-26	819	10	87	12
Aug-26	528	11	64	12
Total	6537	330	1264	159

ADULT PROGRAMMING – Jeanne M, August 2026

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- Adult Board Games after hours.
- Puzzles for passive programming. It seems as if we have thousands now. Board and Video Games are still popular as well.
- Tuesday, August 18th, 3:00 p.m.- Watercolor Lighthouse – 9 attended
- Thursday, August 20th, 6:00 p.m. -An Evening With Appalachian String Initiative- 40 attended
- Thursday, August 22nd, 1:00 p.m.- True Crime Book Club- 4 attended
- Thursday, August 27th, 5:00 –p.m. Groovy Vinyl Record Craft -12 attended
- Displays: Everyone Has a Story to Tell– Read: Make new friends, Guess the Theme, Gardening, Staff Picks

August has afforded us all an opportunity to stop and smell the roses. Adult services was the only group offering programming in August, but things will pick up quickly when September rolls around and school kicks in.

YOUNG READER'S ROOM – Charley J.

Completed Projects

- We finished out our Summer Library Club with 1,250 kids in the club and gave away just under 5,000 books! We are so grateful for an amazing summer and are already looking forward to next year!

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- Summer Library Club finished on August 14th with our End-of-Summer Party! Unfortunately, we got rained out at the pool, but ended up having a blast at a laser bowling party at Pike Street Lanes! We heard so many positive comments about the party and are considering doing something similar next summer.
- Throughout the month of August, we had a “craft buffet” available for kids to enjoy. Any leftover summer crafts get put out during this event. This allows us to use our extra supplies, while also giving kids a chance to do an activity they might have missed throughout the summer.
- The second half of August was focused on cleaning up the children’s library and preparing for the school year. Becky and I have been prepping story time crafts, scavenger hunts, and seasonal events that will be taking place throughout the school year.
- At the end of the month, Brian and I attended the quarterly Wood County Reads meeting. This group meets to collaborate on literacy efforts in the county. We appreciate the connections we’ve made through this group and the support given through the Spartan Foundation.

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. 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. Our displays were focused on back-to-school and fall.
- Creating graphics for social media to highlight our upcoming events.
- Relabeling and organizing the children’s chapter book collection. Kira has completed all the chapter book series and is now labeling individual titles that are not in series.

Young Adult- Abigail H.

Completed Projects

- This year the total attendance for Teen Summer Programs totaled 406, with much gratitude to the friends of the library for their support in making this happen, Pike Street Lanes, and the Henry Logan Foundation.
- Many new and familiar faces joined us during the summer, and we are thrilled that the library can continue to be a safe, inclusive and fun place for teens to come during the summer months. We are already excited to plan next year's Teen Summer Library Club!
- During the month of August, the Teen team take a much needed break and focus on planning the programming for the upcoming school year. Some programs that were well received will make a comeback and might become annual programming including the Fright before Christmas, themed Karaoke, fandom Programs, and Board Games & Brownies. New programs

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are in the works including Medieval day, Cryptid Match making, and a Fandom Cafe just to name a few.

- For every program teens come to during the school year, they will earn 1 ticket to spend on our End-of-year Fandom Cafe where we will have treats, coffee, boba tea, prizes, plus take & make fandom crafts and merch. We will also keep track of their tickets. Our regular group helped come up with this idea, and we decided to implement it.

Ongoing Projects

- “Book-Dash” book display continues thanks to Emily and Colleen, Patrons can pick up a “Meal” from restaurants based on book themes with matching books to be checked out, complete with sticker and baggy, and order description. A fun take on Doordash, but with food for thought.
- “Chill Reads” books on display thanks to Emily, featuring books with more “relaxing” plots.
- “Back to school” featuring all kinds of schools (magic and otherwise) on display thanks to Emily.
- We are creating monthly calendars to advertise our events for teens ages 12 to 19.
- Graphics for programs are made to be put on Facebook, the Library website, other social media platforms, as well as the screens that display upcoming events.
- Researching, budgeting, and planning all programs for the next school year are underway!
- We are working on brainstorming more sensory-friendly areas, specialized programs, and tailored support to be inclusive of our neurodivergent youth.
- The Discord server continues to be popular. We use it to spread the word on upcoming events and programs. This is a safe space where we foster respect, safety, and friendship for teens of all types of backgrounds. Mods are all members of our Youth Services staff.
- The Library Discord server has seen an increase of usage, and we have been able to gauge interests, customize programs, and take advantage of polls.

TECHNICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT – Teresa W.

New books cataloged	679
New audiobooks cataloged	0
New music cataloged	2
New DVDs cataloged	52
New Blu-rays cataloged	0
New video games cataloged	7
New board games/puzzles	0
Total items cataloged	740

MAINTENANCE & JANITORIAL DEPARTMENT – Roy W.

- Prune trees in Arboretum.
- Mow alley behind Arboretum.
- Sand and stain Arboretum benches.
- Shampoo carpet in YRR, front desk, work room, elevator, and spot treatments.
- Replace ballasts in 3 lights on lower level of Emerson.

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- Clean parking lot drains and debris at Emerson after three storms.
- Repaint a few doors at Emerson.
- Help Lisa install story walk signs in Williamstown.
- Rebuild toilet at Emerson upstairs.
- Replace hinges on stalls at Emerson.
- Fix meeting room door latch at South.
- Fix Little Free Library and repaint at Quincy Street Park.

GENEALOGY – Jim M. and Kate M.

Number of Walk-ins	62		
Number of Emails	7	Individual Lookups	12
Number of Microfilm Reader Users	15		
Number of Genealogy Computer Users	4		
Phone Contacts	60		
Total for Aug 2026	148		

Completed Projects

- Completed various obituary requests; and
- Assisted various walk-in family researchers.

Ongoing Projects

- Ongoing sorting of recent books, magazines, newspaper clippings, and scrapbook donations.
- Shelf-reading in the history and genealogy collection is ongoing
- Worked in circulation and workroom as assigned.
- Once Again, Thank You Kate for learning how to do some things in Genealogy, she's a great addition to the department.
- Continuing work on completing a Genealogist Master Professional Course from them.

New Incoming Projects

- Genealogy continues to participate in continuing education through online seminars offered by various genealogical institution
- I am currently working on 2 projects for patrons. Kate is working on 1 project

TALKING BOOKS DEPARTMENT – Michal Ann L.

- Local Recovery Center/Jail Book Donation Delivery/Local Schools – 6
- Patron Emails: 3 sent: 5
- Calls Received: 10 Calls Made: 5
- Packets mailed out to prospective patrons: 0
- Walk-In Patron Contacts: 3
- Active Patrons: 170
- Patrons Added: 0
- Patrons Suspended: 0

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- Talking Books Reference Questions: 10
- Processed Patron Materials: 3 Items returned: 18
- Volunteer: 1 Hours: 12
- Scheduling Events calls: 0
- Current Patron Outreach: 1 Birthday cards: 11 Sympathy Cards: 0
- Other Applications Approved: 0
- Total Events for the Month: Book Club – blind patron now lives in Parkland Place and is coming in person!
 - Continued Projects: Refining Janet’s handwritten notes into a TB’s Procedure’s Manual
 - Created a tentative Summer Reading Program/Winter Reading Program for Talking Books patrons.
 - 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.
 - Currently working on Winter 2028 Newsletter.
 - Working on a church mass mailing about Talking Books/NLS. **578 mailers sent out over April to August!**
 - Working on mass mailing to each State Representative.

BRANCHES - South Parkersburg – Olivia J.

Statistics Narrative

After the business of Summer Reading Program, Dawn took a well-deserved vacation. August is a good month to reset for the school year.

Ongoing Projects

- Dawn joined Charley at the End of Summer Reading Party that took place at the Bowling Alley as a substitute for the pool party due to the storms.
- The August Author of the Month was Barbara Kingsolver.
- Kristy continued to meet with her book club.
- For the main book display, we had a display of books that could exemplify “The Great American Novel.” In each book was put a bookmark explaining what that phrase entailed and asking patrons which books they may consider a Great American Novel.
- For the non-fiction end cap displays there were Pirates! And also some test prep books, like the SAT’s and ACT’s.
- In fiction Kristy had a display for “Happiness” month. Each title featured the word “happiness” or “happy.”
- In the YA section end cap was a book display for books set in college.
- School comes back in August, so in the children’s section there were displays for school picture books. In the display facing the patio, there were displays for books about shapes and numbers and also for Mac Barnett books.
- The Juvenile section had a display for Rick Riordan Presents Books and off of Juvenile non-fiction was a display for Honeybees.
- Ashley had only one Teen Program this month. It was a craft program to make a Fairy Garden Book Nook for bookshelf decor.

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Completed Projects

The Treasure Island Escape Room was not as well attended as previous Escape Rooms, possibly because it took place during the weekend after the first days back to school. Regardless, the patrons who did attend all had a very fun time.

Maintenance

BRANCHES – Williamstown – Lisa H.

August was a busy month at our library as we brought another successful Summer Library Club to a close. Children made a final push to complete their reading goals, and we celebrated their accomplishments with our annual pool party. Although the original date was rained out, the rescheduled party was a wonderful success and a great way to end the summer program. The library then transitioned back into its regular school-year routine, with mostly adults and seniors visiting during the day and children returning after school.

Completed projects:

- Hosted two classes of our bee program entitled, “The Buzz About Bees” where our state apiarist brought a live demonstration hive and taught the children about honeybees. The kids extracted their own honey, and each took a jar home. We also had three craft stations and a bee snack. Each child received a beautiful t-shirt from Bee City of Williamstown.
- Organized and hosted our end of summer pool party for the children who achieved their reading goals for the Summer Library Club.
- Oversaw the end of the Wood County School’s Golden Ticket Program.
- Took down Summer Library Club decorations and put up a back-to-school display.
- Our staff oversaw counting visits, the vending machine, handing out backpacks, and giving away free books each day for the Summer Library Club up through August 14, which ended the program.
- We continued our monthly estimation contest. In August, we estimated how many pieces of saltwater taffy 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.
- Hosted our monthly book club meeting.
- Hosted our monthly meeting of “Coffee, Cards, and Conversation.”
- Morgan helped us weed the JNF which cleared room to fit new books onto our new shelf.
- Put up a new Story Walk in Fenton Park entitled, “The Pigeon Has to Go to School.”
- We set up the butterfly habitat and started with two caterpillars so far.
- We held a shelf reading party with our Friends of the Library Committee to get our shelves back in order after the hectic summer.
- Attended the Page Turner meeting at Pickering to review final plans for the new library.

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.

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- 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.
- Watered flowers in both outside flower beds and pulled weeds.

Maintenance

- Helped move tables for programs and crafts.

BOOKMOBILE – Lisa H.

Statistics Narrative

The Bookmobile served 836 patrons in August. August has many large public outreach events including a back-to-school bash at St. Joe's Landing, WVU Health's Health and Wellness at the Grand Central Mall, and Kids Fest at Parkersburg Homecoming.

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.