



2021 Annual Report

William B. Ogden Free Library



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A LETTER FROM THE LIBRARY



Dear Walton Community,

In January, I saw a quote that said, “The fact that the year 2022 is already here is proof that time also flies when you’re not having fun!”

Two years of navigating life during a pandemic has certainly had its challenges. I think it’s good to acknowledge that it has been hard.

We have all experienced loss in a number of ways. This has taken its toll, physically, mentally, and relationally. These things have not been fun.

Yet, despite all that the pandemic has brought us, I can honestly say that we have had “fun” at the library! At times we have had to adapt how we serve our patrons, but we have remained a constant resource in this community.

As I reflect on the year 2021, I am proud of the quality programs that we have been able to offer. This report highlights a small sampling. I am thankful to be able to lead an exceptional staff who are committed to excellence, who work well as a team, and bring out the best in each other for the benefit of the Walton community. I appreciate our board of trustees, members who volunteer countless hours of their time to the care and stewardship of this beautiful historic building. I am grateful for each member of the community who support and encourage us with your participation, donations, your likes and shares of our social media posts, and by stopping in to say hello or discuss your latest favorite read.

It truly is a joy and privilege to serve this community. I look forward to meeting and getting to know more of you in the year ahead.

Heather Johnson, Director

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

As President of the Board of Trustees of the William B. Ogden Library I would like to commend the staff for their efforts during this past two years of COVID. They have worked diligently to maintain service to our patrons, and they have worked to keep everyone safe. Best of all they have continued to find ways to safely hold programs. The Board is pleased to see the teen patron population growing with exciting programs. The young children’s programs are popular and there have been many new and different programs for adults as well as children. Walton’s William B. Ogden Library is a happening place!

Robbie-Jean Rice

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Robbie-Jean Rice
President

Matthew Chambers
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Thomas Austin
Finance Officer

Kathleen Harby
Secretary

Jessica Backus -Foster
Mary Doig
Sandra Gregory
James Haggerty
Rachel James
Danielle Maguire
One Vacant Seat

BY THE NUMBERS



6,647

VISITORS TO THE
LIBRARY



1,393

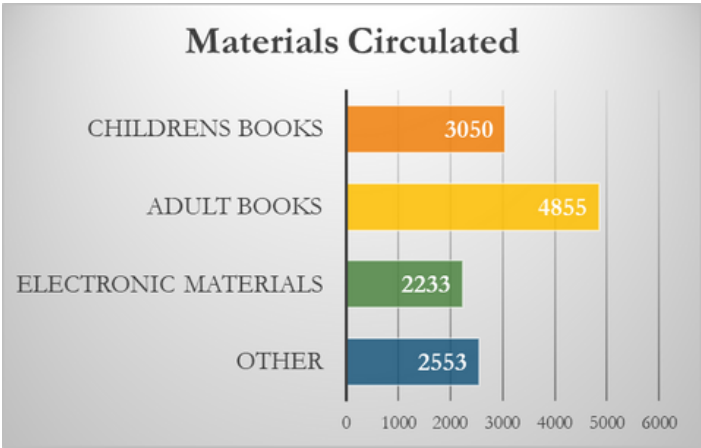
REGISTERED
BORROWERS

MATERIALS CIRCULATED

12,691

Our circulation of materials was up 43% over last year and 8% over 2019.

- "Other" material include audio books, dvd, magazines, and physical items like ukuleles and cake pans.



INTERLIBRARY LOAN

5,040

Materials Borrowed

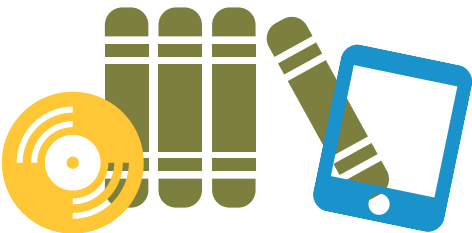
1,526

Materials Loaned

As a member of the Four County Library System, we have access to the materials from the other 41 libraries in the system. We in turn, share our materials with each of them. Materials are exchanged at our library three days a week through the 4CLS delivery service. This enables us to make the best use of our space while at the same time providing our patrons with the materials they are looking for.

LIBRARY COLLECTION

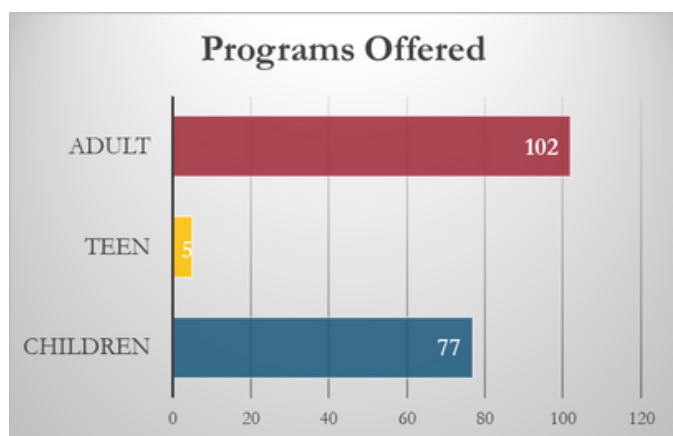
22,940



NEW ADDITIONS TO
COLLECTION

2,390

PROGRAMS & PARTNERSHIPS



184

Total
Programs

2,034

Program
Attendance

ADULT SERVICES



Crafterwork has been one of our most popular programs this year. Participants have enjoyed a variety of crafting opportunities during these monthly events. The Library also offered monthly book clubs and weekly knitters and mahjong groups. We were grateful for volunteer instructors and authors who shared their skills and talents, allowing us to benefit from a wide variety of high-interest workshops and learning opportunities.

CHILDREN & TEEN SERVICES

This year the Library offered a weekly story time for preschool children. School age children enjoyed a monthly LEGO Club and Animal Crossing Island Hop gathering.

Some of the events the Library offered include a six week summer reading incentive program, a cemetery scavenger hunt, and our annual Sit with Santa event. Teens have enjoyed monthly meetings with fun activities such as candy sushi, terrariums, and cookie decorating. Free pizza is provided at every teen event.



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

During 2021, the Library sought to expand the resources and services it was able to offer by working with community partners. We wish to thank the following organizations for helping us to make this happen.

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Through efforts with CCE, we were able to offer two virtual cooking series that got families cooking nutritious meals together.

Music On the Delaware

Through this partnership the Library was able to enjoy four music workshops/concerts by top-notch artists. MOD also co-sponsors in our Grant Roger's Project.

The Uplands Center

Grant funding provided the resources for a reflective art program for members in our community in recovery from substance use disorder on the grounds of the beautiful Uplands Center.

Walton Village Police Dept.

Community members brought their bikes to the library to be registered by the police department. Basic bicycle tune ups were provided and helmets were given out.

W.I.D.E.

Women for Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity conducted a series of multicultural workshops for families. We celebrated Juneteenth, Rosh Hashanah, and International Humans Rights Day. At each event, families took home a brand-new book featuring these topics.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY NEWS



DEDICATIONS

In October, the Library held an open house event. There was live music, a tour of all three floors, and two public dedications. The library's local history room was dedicated in memory of Anna Sulger in recognition of her 49 years of employment at the library and her efforts in curating the library's local history collection. A plaque in the entrance to the library was hung to acknowledge the late Margaret Van Breeman and her monetary contribution that aided in the most recent library renovations.

RELOCATION OF MATERIALS



This past year, we were finally able to realize our goal of relocating our children's collection. Patrons can now browse materials in a space that is open and bright. There is plenty of room for families to read together on our window seat or on a cheerful carpet. Adult materials are now housed together on the opposite side of the library. Space between the stacks has been increased to allow for greater accessibility. Our lower level offers a reading nook with sofa and easy chairs as well as a designated play area for children. We hope you will stop in. We would love to show you around!

DID YOU KNOW?

The library is more than books! Look at all these other great services that are available.

Hoopla

This streaming service, available for free with your library card, allows five check-outs per month. Enjoy movies, TV shows, audio books, music and more.

Historic Newspapers

This digital archive covers publications in the Walton, NY area for the years 1856-2011. Access at <https://ogden.advantage-preservation.com/>

Have you found the library's Geocache?

Like a good treasure hunt? Try to find the library's geocache. Twelve people have recorded visiting so far.

Libby App

Access our digital library 24/7 to download ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines at home to your iPod, smartphone, or computer with your library card.

Little Free Libraries

Need a book when the library isn't open? Visit one of our four Little Free Libraries around town. Find them at The Walton Big M, Dollar General, The Gardiner Plaza Laundromat, and The Delaware Street Village Laundromat

Public Computers & Wi-Fi

We have four public computers, and WIFI access with your own device. Printing and faxing is available for a small fee.

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