

Welcome to a Busy Summertime at the Library

Warm days and balmy nights may lull us into moving more slowly during the summer months, but we are as busy as ever at the library! I'm excited to share that in 2018:

- WCDPL saw an increase in items borrowed (up 8% over 2017).
- 30,592 people attended 1,605 library programs.
- Library staff answered 108,836 questions.
- The number of library cardholders increased by 5% to 27,721.
- 17,341 items were added to library collections.

I'll share one more indicator of the library's continued active usage: carpet installed during the 2003 renovation of the BG building with a life expectancy of 25 years has worn out 10 years ahead of time. In early May we will be installing much needed new carpeting in the hall and lobby area of the library and on the steps of the grand staircase. WCDPL will remain open during this project, and we ask for your patience while the work is being done.

The carpeting project will be completed when "A Universe of Stories" Summer Reading Program blasts off on Friday, May 31. This year's theme helps commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 11 and the first manned lunar landing. Join in the exploration of reading and out of this world fun with Youth Services librarian, Maria Simon and members of the Children's Place staff. Stories on pages 4 – 7 summarize ways to participate, and calendars on pages 15 – 18 keep you in the know on details for specific programs.

There's plenty to keep adults and Walbridge Library users busy this summer, too. From book groups to soap making to a walking tour of historic downtown Bowling Green, make time for yourself and join us in one of these activities. You'll find programming details for these events on pages 19 and 20.

So much is happening at the library—come in to get out of the heat, to enjoy a program, to find your perfect vacation read, to boldly go where *you*'ve never gone before. See you at the library!

~Michael Penrod.
May 2019