



Caroline County
Public Library

ANNUAL REPORT

- 2023 -

CAROLINE COUNTY
Public Library






MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

FY2023 was a year focusing on our Central Library renovations and providing more services and programs through our Federalsburg and Greensboro facilities. Phase 1 of our Central Library renovations began January 1, 2023. We vacated the first floor, creating an innovative Mini Library on our second floor. We moved some of our Central staff along with part of our Makerspace to our Federalsburg Branch. Other Central staff moved to our North County Branch, Greensboro. We also moved our Wednesday pre-school reading readiness Storytimes to our North County Branch. A variety of additional programs were also held at these two branches. St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Denton and Union United Church in Federalsburg allowed us to hold our larger Summer Reading programs in their fellowship halls.

We received a FY2023 state library capital grant that is funding 79% of Phase 1. The Board of Library Trustees provided the local 21% match with money from their John Hargreaves fund. Phase 1 includes replacing HVAC units at the end of their useful life, improving lighting, upgrading the emergency fire alarm system, enhancing electrical capacity for increased technology, providing a family bathroom adjacent to the children's areas, increasing seating capacity, improving sight lines, creating quiet areas, and bringing the library into compliance with ADA requirements. A FY2024 state library capital grant was awarded for Phase 2 of the Central Library renovations. Included is the replacement of the slate on the pitched roof of the 1995 addition and a major upgrade to the elevator. This is 78% state grant funding with a 22% local match. The Caroline County Commissioners are providing the local match. We hope to complete both Phase 1 and Phase 2 by December 30, 2023.

I would like to thank outgoing Library Trustees Caroll Visintainer and Steve Fleegle for their years of service to the Library. They both completed their second terms June 30, 2023. Welcome to the Board Holly Trice and Tamara Kelly-Molock, who began their first term on July 1, 2023.



SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

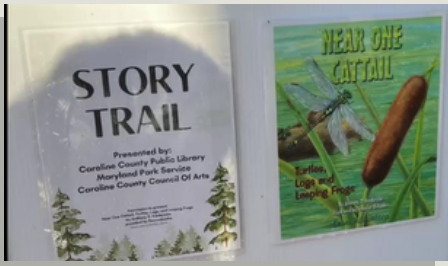


Our Take & Make kits continued to be a big hit with our youth, families and adults.

For the fifth year, staff partnered with To the Pointe Dance Studio to present Nutcracker Storytime in December, which was the last program before renovations began.



In October 15, 2022 staff launched our first Storybook Trail at Martinak State Park featuring a book about wetlands and the creatures who live there entitled *Near One Cattail: Turtles, Logs, and Leaping Frogs* by Anthony D. Fredericks. Funded by a mini-grant from Caroline County Council of Arts.



Our Storytime at the North County Branch in Greensboro averaged over 30 participants each week.



Debby, staff, and library board members Caroll Visintainer and Sarah Dahl attended the Caroline County Branch of NAACP Nov 19, 2022 Annual Freedom Fund Banquet. The Library was awarded NAACP's 2022 Community Organization Service Award.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR



Rose's Bookies - circa 2002



The Bookies - March 2023

Federalsburg Bookies celebrated their 20th anniversary at the March meeting. Two members have been coming for all 20 years!



We had a fun Summer Reading program and we are grateful to St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Denton and Union United Methodist Church, Federalsburg for allowing us to use their fellowship halls for our larger events.



SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR



In April staff partnered with the Frederick Douglass Honor Society and the Caroline County Historical Society to host a presentation from renown scholar Celeste-Marie Bernier at the Museum of Rural Life in Denton. Dr. Bernier gave a presentation about Anna Murray Douglass and the Douglass children and grandchildren. A surprise bonus to the evening was the attendance of two Murray descendents, Glenda Nichols and her daughter, Dr. Markyia Nichols.



Melodrama in Marydel, a Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre was held at the Caroline County 4-H main building in Denton, this event was held the evenings of April 21 and 22. Chesapeake Culinary Arts Center catered the event. Over 100 people attended each evening. Based on a true story, the play was written by Keith Shaffer and directed by Katherine Schoonover.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR



Meet the Author event with Pulitzer Prize winner Kathryn Shultz and Casey Cep, author of *Furious Hours: Murder, Fraud, and the Last Trial of Harper Lee*. on October 26, 2022

The two *New Yorker* staff writers discussed Schulz's new memoir, *Lost & Found* at the North Carolina High School.



Meet the Author event with Ernst Selig, author of *The Troops Need Knowledge, Training and Justice* on March 25, 2023 to discuss his new autobiography, *"Memoirs of a 16-Year-Old Immigrant: Forged in Adversity, Crowned with Honor"*.

The Fretterd Community Center was kind enough to host the event.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

Renovation



In December 2022 we packed up all of the library materials and staff workroom and offices.



January 2, 2023, we opened the doors to the "mini-library" in the large meeting room. The mini-library boasts public computers, printing, faxing & scanning services, a small browsing collection, charging stations for mobile devices, and comfortable seating.



February brought down the ceiling times and some trenching in the cement flooring for new cabling.



SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

Renovation



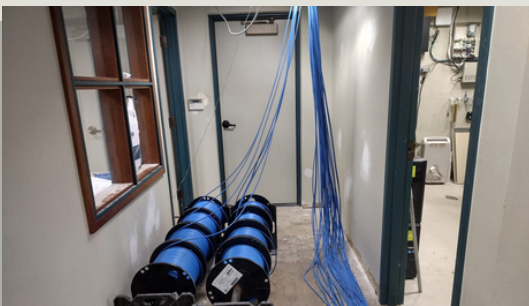
In March the walls went up for the new office in the Makerspace area as well as the new closet in the children's area and the concrete had been poured in the new family bathroom.



During April, the load bearing wall between the two children's rooms was structurally reinforced and that wall was removed.



We closed Central for most of May so the vestibule flooring could be worked on. Staff was distributed to the other branches which allowed the Makerspace to have more hours!



June brought us new cabling for the first floor of the library as well as new paint, and other cosmetic work.



CAROLINE COUNTY RESIDENTS...

Love to Read



13,739
Card Holders

103,354
Checkouts

115,463
Library Visits

61,665
Items in Collection

7,558
Items Loaned to
MD Libraries

1,200+
Books By Mail

864
ILL's Borrowed

637
New Library Cards



Love to Work



396
Job Support

Love to Learn

16,596
Reference Questions

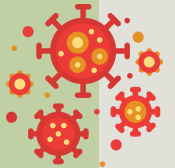
19
Staff FTE



Love to be Safe

500+
Covid Test Kits

3,000+
KN95 Face Masks



AND...

Love Technology

7,118
Public Computer Sessions

77,536
Wi-Fi Uses



25,115
E-Books & Audiobooks
Checkouts

5,535
Tech Support Sessions

411
Laptops & Hotspots
Checkouts

78,800
Web Page Visits



Love to Participate

173
Library Programs

4,188
Program Attendees

79
Book a Librarian
Appointments

316
Meeting Room Bookings



Love to Save

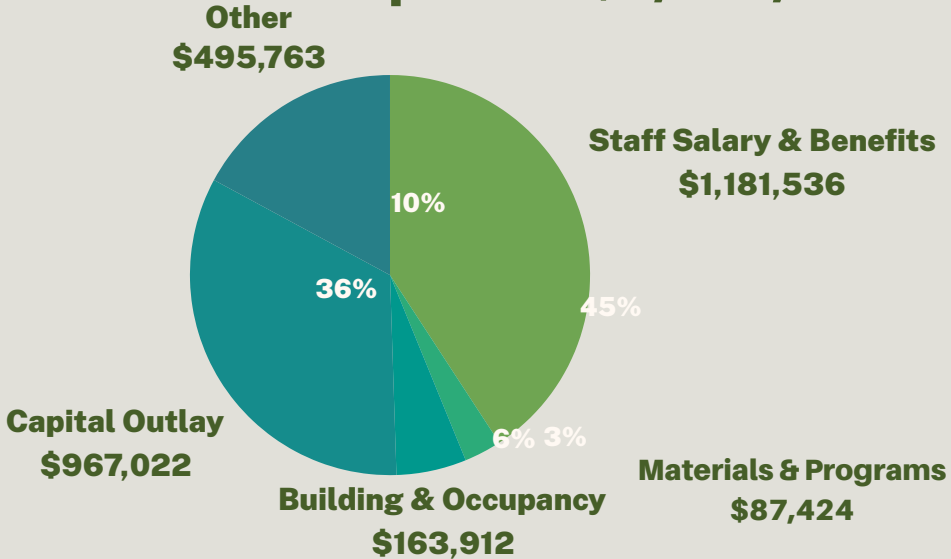
AARP completed 193 Federal & State Tax Returns
and saved Caroline Residents nearly \$30,000



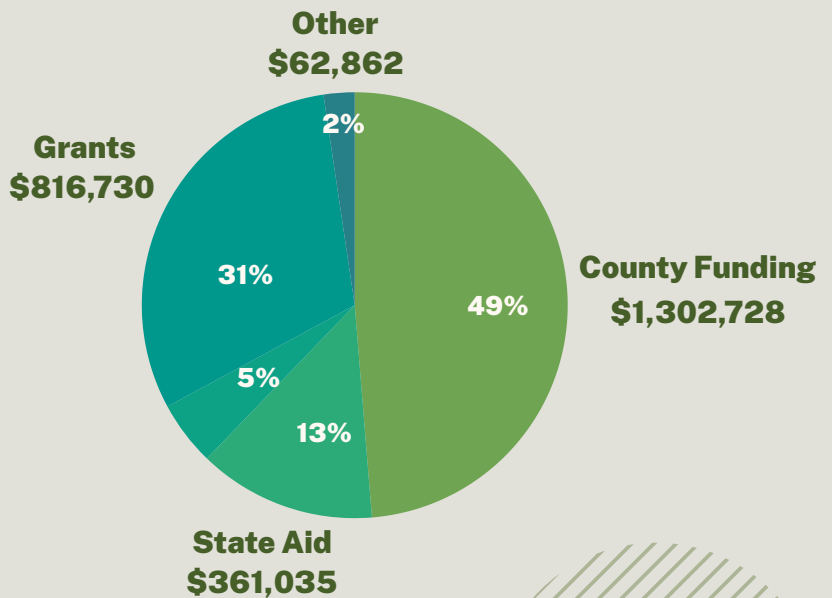
FINANCIAL INFORMATION



FY2023 Expenses \$2,657,890



FY2023 Revenues \$2,674,260



GRANTS & DONATIONS

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Eastern Shore Regional Library – programs, collection development, service enhancement, programs, printing, e-rate funds consultant | \$86,047 |
| E-Rate funds for Internet fiber connections for Greensboro & Federalsburg Branches | 13,675 |
| Friends of the Caroline County Public Library – staff sunshine committee | \$1,475 |
| Maryland State Library Agency (MSLA) LSTA grant funds for staff development & MLA conference | \$14,500 |
| Remaining FY2022 Maryland State Library Capital Grant for Central Library first floor renovation design plan - completion in FY23 | \$19,651 |
| FY2023 Maryland State Library Capital Grant for Central Library first floor renovation Phase I | \$422,820 |
| Women’s Club of Caroline County mini grant for Take-n-Make programs | \$1,540 |
| MSDE PDG-5 grant- multi-lingual materials & programs | \$1,500 |
| Caroline Co Health Dept Tobacco grant | \$2,300 |
| Other Donations | \$7,227.80 |
| Total | \$570,736 |





BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES FOR CAROLINE COUNTY

Caroll R. Visintainer, EdD, President

Melissa Leonard, Vice President

Kaleb Hignutt, Treasurer

Sarah Dahl, Secretary

Stephen C. Fleegle

James B. “Bart” Johnson

Tomas Davila

FRIENDS OF THE CAROLINE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President – Angela Visintainer

Vice President – Donna Carson

Treasurer – Lauren Muto

Secretary – Lindy Lewis

Directors – Joe McCarthy, Ann Wilson, Stacy Seward, and
Michelle Wiley

Volunteers provide a great service to the Library. Members of our Board of Library Trustees give their valuable time to attend board meetings and county budget hearings, and are in constant communication with the Library’s Executive Director. A huge thank you goes to our Friends of the Caroline County Library, who also volunteer their time meeting and planning ways to fundraise to help the library, in addition to attending budget hearings to support the Library. They have worked diligently on their Capital Campaign this year holding several fundraisers, including special appeal mailings, BBQ sales, and their annual “Stay Home and Read” fundraiser in April. They raised \$78,000 for new shelving in the Central Library’s adult and teen areas as part of the Central Library first floor renovation. If you want to volunteer to help the Library, the Friends are always looking for new members! Go to <https://www.carolib.org/friends-of-the-library/>



THANKS TO OUR FUNDERS, DONORS, AND SPONSORS, WHO HELPED US GO THE EXTRA MILE!

This year our biggest thanks go to our Friends of the Caroline County Public Library. This small but mighty group of volunteers raised \$78,000 to pay for new shelving for the Central Library as part of the Library's first floor renovation!

The Caroline County Commissioners continue to provide the most financial support of all our funding sources.

A great portion of funding for new materials, services, and programs continues to be provided through a grant from the Eastern Shore Regional Library. Additionally, ESRL staff provide IT support, our Wi-Fi at all three locations, and professional education and training.

The Maryland State Library Agency provided grant funding for staff development and Maryland Library Association Conference attendance through their Library Service and Technology Act funds and state library capital funding through a competitive process. Additionally, staff specialists provide MD public libraries training and other resources.

LSTA grant funds are made possible by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

The Caroline County Council of Arts is a major partner in providing some of our larger cultural events. A FY2022 CCCA mini grant funded our first Storybook Trail this year.

Continued support for our Caroline County Dolly Parton's Imagination Library comes from both the Caroline County Commissioners and Caroline County Public Schools teachers and staff. We currently have approximately 1,235 active participants who receive a free book each month. Since the program began in November 2015, over 2,011 children have graduated from the program and we have mailed over 105,500 books to Caroline County children, making a tremendous impact on literacy in our county.

Star Democrat/Times Record staff have been great about getting our stories in their Wednesday issue of the newspaper. Special thanks to Tom McCall, who was able to attend many of our recent events and provided wonderful newspaper stories.

We also appreciate the ongoing support from our state legislators of Districts 36 and 37B. A special thanks to former Governor Hogan for his support of all Maryland public libraries during his tenure as Governor. We look forward to working with Governor Wes Moore.

And finally, a big thanks to all the individuals and organizations who support the library through their donations to the library directly and through the Friends of the Library.



Maryland
State Library
Agency





OPEN HOURS OF SERVICE

June 1 - December 31 2022 Hours

CENTRAL LIBRARY

100 Market Street
Denton, MD 21629

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri 10:00AM - 6:00PM

Thurs 12:00PM- 8:00PM

Sat 10:00AM - 2:00PM

Telephones: 410-479-1343

FEDERALSBURG BRANCH

123 Morris Avenue

Federalsburg, MD 21632

Mon, Wed, Thurs 10:00AM - 2:00PM, 3:00 PM - 6:00PM

Tues 12:00PM - 2:00PM, 3:00 PM - 8:00PM

Telephone: 410-754-8397

Jeanne Trice & Mitchell Downs, Branch Manager

NORTH COUNTY BRANCH

Greensboro Community Center

101 Cedar Lane, PO Box 336

Greensboro, Maryland 21639

Mon - Thurs 10:00AM - 2:00 PM, 3:00 PM - 6:00PM

Telephone: 410-482-2173

Angela Faggio, Branch Manager

E-Branch

www.carolib.org

info@carolib.org

www.myfamilyneeds.info





OPEN HOURS OF SERVICE

January 1 - July 30 2023 Hours

Note changes to Thursdays at Central and additions of Friday to North County Branch and Federalsburg Branch on Jan 1, 2023 to provide as many hours as possible while the Central Library's first floor undergoes renovations.

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