



The State of the Library February 2020

- In 2019, the number of books, e-books, audio books, large print books, etc., borrowed by our community grew by 5% to a total of 783,166 check-outs system wide, including:
 - Bowling Green 480,961
 - Walbridge 67,037
 - Bookmobile 23,396
 - WC Jail Library 16,753
 - E-books, digital content 195,019
- Since 2012, the number of items borrowed increased 29% (605,799 in 2012).
- Number of cardholders increased 7.6% (to 29,827), even after purging 2,630 inactive accounts.
- We offered 1,472 programs attended by 29,864 people:
 - 293 adult programs with 5,198 attendees.
 - 1,179 youth programs with 24,666 attendees.
- 2,113 Summer Reading registrants enjoyed a Universe of Stories.
- The library owns a collection of 197,679 physical items.
 - 15,562 physical items were added.
 - Plus, 2,464 digital items were added.
 - 12,929 physical items were withdrawn.
- Volunteer hours increased 5% (3,880 hours) thanks to our dedicated corps of Volunteers.
- The tally of questions answered by the staff grew 2% (to 111,2020).

2019 Highlights:

- The Foundation's Novel Night gala auction raised over \$154,000 for the purchase of new books, audio books, e-books, large print books, and picture books.
- The 1974 chiller plant and 1994 condenser unit were replaced to ensure effective and efficient air conditioning of the BG building.
- Author visits: Hank Phillippi Ryan headlined Crime Solvers Weekend, Beth Macy kicked off the Foundation Series, Nate Blakeslee (Foundation Series), and Amy Stewart (Community Reads).

2019 Revenue:

Source:	Amount:	Percentage:
• State Public Library Fund	\$1,585,466	54.39%
• Local Levy	\$1,050,814	36.05%
• Fees, Misc.	\$94,505	3.24%
• Foundation & Friends	\$184,376	6.32%
Total	\$2,915,161	

2019 Expenditures:

Category:	Amount:	Percentage:
• Personnel	\$1,457,656	59.66%
• Supplies	\$31,477	1.29%
• Services	\$448,071	18.34%
• New Books, Etc.	\$423,246	17.32%
• FFE & Technology	\$69,838	2.86%
• Other	\$13,178	0.54%
Total	\$2,443,466	

- 0.8 mill, 5-year levy passed in November 2010 with 58% approval.
- Levy RENEWED for 6 years in November 2014 with 70% approval.
- Levy funding accounts for 40% of the library's tax revenue support.
- The current levy will next be on the ballot in November 2020.

- State funding for libraries is set at 1.70% of General Revenue.
- As the economy improves and state revenues grow, so does support for libraries. As General Revenue decreases (or is cut), so does support for libraries.
- State funding accounts for 60% of the library's tax revenue support.

