To: Greene County Legislature

From: Greene County Libraries' Association

Re: 2020 Annual Report

Last April when the country went on lock down, Greene County Libraries continued to provide virtual services. E-content was increased and broadened to include movie streaming.

At the same time a process was established to provide online library cards eliminating the need for physical applications. There was close to a 30% jump in the use of e-material with the new and expanded services in place.

In June, Libraries began providing curbside services. These included and continue to include materials' pick up along with copying and print services and phone/online reference. Greene Librarians answered more than 18,000 reference questions in 2020.

Libraries are moving to open their doors for limited inside browsing and/or computer use.

In person and virtual programming included the following:
- Pre-literacy programs for infants and toddlers including story walks and Read-to-a Dog
- G.E.D. and E.S.L.
- Creative Writing and Art programs (providing employment opportunities to local   artists as well as free exposure to the Arts for patrons)
- Robotics and other S.T.E.M. programming
- Museum passes including Thomas Cole
- Yoga in the park
- Art in the park
- Take-away Crafts
- Book bundles to kids participating with the school district's summer free-lunch program
- Books and puzzles to housebound seniors participating in the Meals-on-Wheels program
- Promoting the census and providing space to health care navigators
- Collaborations with other organizations include Cornell Cooperative Extension, Greene County Council on the Arts, YMCA, BOCES, local public schools, Columbia-Greene Community College, and the Greene County Department for the Aging, Mountain Top Arboretum
- Participation in the Great Give-Back including donations to food banks
- Loaning of hot spots and lap tops

The Libraries circulated 180,152 items in 2020.

At an average cost of $20 per item, the circulation alone represents a cost savings of $3,603,040 to library patrons/taxpayers.

This does not include the cost savings of participating in free programs. GCLA provided 1,060 programs with an attendance of 7,754, nor does it include a cost estimate for providing online data bases such as Ancestry or Health Reference.

County funding helps to equalize library services within the county and to provide services to those county residents who are not within a chartered area. This is listed as Resident Support. Residents of these towns: Halcott, Lexington, Prattsville, Jewett, Durham and New Baltimore have free use of the libraries but are not directly taxed for services.

GCLA Expenditures

2020:
- $20,500 of total county funding was divided among the 8 libraries for Resident Support, a slight reduction from 2019
- $3,800 went to technical support
- $3,000 went towards online databases that provide access to reliable health info, business resources, job and career resources, history and genealogy, and homework help as well as e-Magazines.
- $4,000 went for eBooks and audiobooks, an increase in spending of 25% over 2019
- $700 went for tax preparation
- $1,900 went for outreach (brochures), Book Pages subscription, and a subscription to Hudson River Valley Heritage. Hudson River Valley Heritage consists of digital collections from libraries and cultural heritage institutions that document the rich heritage of the Hudson River Valley. *Additional content (hundreds of images) were added during the lock down.*
Browse by   county at https://hrvh.org

Total Expenditure in 2020: $33,025

2019:
- $20, 500 of total county funding went to Resident Support.
- $3,800 went to technical support
- $3,000 went towards online databases that provide access to reliable health info, business resources, job and career resources, history and genealogy, and homework help.
- $3,200 went for eBooks and audiobooks
- $700 went for tax preparation,
- $1900 went towards outreach

Total Expenditure in 2019: $31,290