

Exit Summer, Enter Fall

What a busy summer this has been for WCDPL! Once again the library's Summer Reading Programs excelled for the ways in which young people engaged in reading and volunteering at the library. More than 1,500 young people logged 11,972 hours of reading this summer with library staff in Bowling Green and Walbridge and on the Bookmobile. 139 volunteers—most of whom were members of the library's energetic and dedicated "Volunteers"—contributed 2,428 hours.

Our vigorous Summer Reading Program is only part of the library's summertime story. This summer saw more progress being made towards the Walbridge Library building expansion project. Plans and contracts were approved and finalized. On August 16 a rainy day gave way to billowy clouds and blue skies, making for a perfect afternoon for the project's groundbreaking ceremony. Our thanks go to everyone who attended the ceremony, especially our special guest speakers for the occasion Senator Randy Gardner, Wood County Commissioners Craig LaHote, Doris Herringshaw, and Joel Kuhlman, and Village of Walbridge Mayor Edward Kolanko. Soon work will begin in earnest, and expected completion of the project, barring the unforeseen, is early 2017. You can follow the project's progress at wcdpl.org/content/walbridge-addition-project.

This fall sees a change in a long-time tradition for the library and area readers. Community Reads will move from its October slot to the Spring of 2017. Even though this means readers will have to wait a little longer to discuss our common book, we think the wait will be well worth it. I'm happy to share that Community Reads will be celebrating the work of award-winning poet, author, screenwriter, Sherman Alexie. Details are still in the planning—keep an eye on wcdpl.org/Community Reads for updates.

I look forward to seeing you in the library this fall. Come in to read a magazine or newspaper by the fireplace, to do research for homework or for DIY home improvements, to check out books and movies to enjoy at home. There's something for everyone at the library!

~Michael Penrod
Director