

The State of the Library, March 2019

By the numbers:

 In 2018, borrowing of books, e-books, audiobooks, etc. remains very strong with a total of 744,134 (up 8% over 2017) including:

•	Bowling Green	486,773
•	Walbridge	62,700
•	Bookmobile	25,042
•	WC Jail Library	18,515
•	E-books, etc.	151,104

- Since 2002, usage has increased 68% (441,573 in 2002).
- 1,605 programs and events attended by 30,592 people.
 - 297 adult programs; 5,525 attendees (up 26%).
 - 1,308 youth programs; 25,067attendees.
- 17,341 items added to the collections.
- 108,836 questions answered by the staff.
- Foot traffic averaged 3,867 visitors per week.

2018 Highlights:

- 27,721 cardholders (up 5%), even after purging 3,800 cards.
- The Foundation raised over \$155,000 at their Library Benefit at Schedel for the purchase of new books, audiobooks, e-books, etc.
- Approved a new Strategic Plan to guide activities through 2021.
- Received a gift of \$150,000 from the estate of Elfreda Rusher.

We're Your Library.

2018 Revenue:

Source:	Amount:	Percentage:
 State Public Library Fund 	\$1,485,544	49.78%
Local Levy	\$1,026,875	34.41%
• Fines, Fees, Misc.	\$95,478	3.19%
 Foundation & Friends 	\$376,486	12.62%
<u>Total</u>	\$2,984,383	

2018 Expenditures:

Category:	Amount:	Percentage:
Personnel	\$1,418,916	51.04%
Supplies	\$34,588	1.24%
 Services 	\$443,657	15.96%
New Books, Etc.	\$426,708	15.35%
FFE & Technology	\$56,211	2.02%
 Mortgage Payments 	\$385,782	13.88%
Other	\$14,122	0.15%
<u>Total</u>	\$2,779,984	

- 0.8 mill, 5-year levy passed in November 2010 with 58% approval.
- Levy RENEWED for 6 years in November 2014 with 70% approval.
- The current levy will next be on the ballot in November 2020.
- State funding for libraries is set at 1.68% 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.

