



# Shooting for the Stars

ANNUAL REPORT  
2021/2022

# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

2022 is the year Lonesome Pine Regional Library “Reached for the Stars” as we celebrated opening up and reaching out to our communities after Covid-19 adversities. As we began a new trek, it became crystal clear that our libraries continue to be all about “community.” We had missed you, your smiles, and your engaging spirits. So, gathering together again was the joy of our 2021-2022 year.

Highlights of the year included a fantastic array of programs and events. We started with Summer Reading 2021, “Tails and Tales” featuring programs for all ages, from our youngest patrons to our adult readers. In October, all of our branches hosted a spectacular celebration of literature as we journeyed into the realm of fantasy with the NEA Big Read’s selected book, *A Wizard of Earthsea*. Throughout the celebration, 110 events were held region-wide with 6,372 in attendance. Winter found us once again hosting Community Christmas gatherings and special literary sessions. In the Spring, our libraries shared National Library Week and Read Across America, a month long “Seussical” celebration featuring in-house and outreach programming. Afterwards, our libraries propelled forward to the 2022 Summer Reading season, “Oceans of Possibilities” as we completed a circular year of reading fun!

And, there was much more to celebrate as we brought our communities together to share the writings of regional authors, many of whom are featured within this report. We hope you enjoy catching a glimpse of these writers, our very own literary “stars” who shine brightly through their stories of the local area and people. We are pleased to recognize the significance of their impact to our success and appreciate all the time they spent with us, either virtually or in-person.

Lastly, it is my pleasure to share an outline of the many contributors who helped us shine brightly through grants and major donations. We thank each and everyone one for the unprecedented support that moved us forward. Our libraries shine brightly because of the deep commitment of our stakeholders, and we are forever grateful for everyone who joined us on our trek to the stars.

In closing, this is the year we celebrate “you,” our readers; patrons; supporters; families; and friends. And, remember Lonesome Pine Regional Library will always be the place for you to “Start here ... go anywhere!”

*Julie Short*

Director, Lonesome Pine Regional Library





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

03	About Us
04	Board of Trustees & Personnel
06	Patron Experience
08	Community Engagement
10	Discovery & Learning
12	Innovation
14	Facilities
16	Financial Stability
18	Appendix
26	Finances

# ABOUT US

## **MISSION**

Lonesome Pine Regional Library will be the cornerstone of the region where children and adults can experience personal enrichment and connection with one another as we:

- Promote the love of reading.
- Excel at providing resources to customers of all ages.
- Create welcoming spaces for our community.

## **VISION**

Lonesome Pine Regional Library is the best place to discover, to learn to imagine, to smile.

## **MOTTO**

Start Here -- Go Anywhere

## **VALUES**

We value the highest standards of excellence in everything we do:

Provide superior customer service.

Offer and advocate access for all.

Act with initiative, creativity, and flexibility.

Work together, with enthusiasm and optimism, to reach goals.

Create learning opportunities for professional and personal development.

Celebrate diverse opinions and ideas.



## ***BOARD OF TRUSTEES***

Lu Ellsworth- Chair

Jennifer Meade- Vice Chair/Secretary

Roberta Smallwood- Treasurer

Chris Allgyer

Ethel Daniels

Martha Jett

Earlene Lester

Carolea Newsome

Sheila Phipps

Rebecca Scott

Tammy Scott

Wise County

Scott County

Lee County

Wise County

City of Norton

Wise County

Wise County

Dickenson County

Dickenson County

Scott County

Lee County

## ***DIRECTOR & MANAGERS***

Regional Director

Wise & Big Stone Gap Branch Manager

Coeburn & St. Paul Branch Manager

Clintwood & Haysi Branch Manager

Pennington Gap & Rose Hill Branch Manager

Gate City Branch Manager

Regional Technical Services Manager

Julie Short

Jean Stanley

Hazel Jessee

Kimberley Rose

Audrey Evans

Stephanie Griffin

Nancy Sowards

# STAR AUTHOR



## ADRIANA TRIGIANI

"A library is a home filled with our stories. On every shelf, we see ourselves, experience our collective conscious, describe our dreams and our great longing for times that have passed, the sterling moment of the present and the glorious future known only in our imaginations."

Adriana Trigiani is *The New York Times* bestselling author of fiction and nonfiction books and hails from Big Stone Gap, Virginia. *The New York Times* calls her "a comedy writer with a heart of gold." She wrote notable fictions *The Shoemaker's Wife*, the *Big Stone Gap* series, the *Valentine* trilogy and *Lucia, Lucia*. Trigiani is also an award-winning playwright, television writer and producer, and filmmaker. She wrote and directed the film adaptation of her debut novel *Big Stone Gap*, shot on location in her Virginia hometown with an all-star cast.

Sourced via [www.adrianatrigiani.com](http://www.adrianatrigiani.com)

# PATRON EXPERIENCE

*Lonesome Pine Regional Library ventured into new roles to provide an outstanding library experience for each patron.*

Exemplary Service with a Smile



Innovative Programs



Personalized Readers' Advisory

Covid Test Kit Site

Mobile Vaccine Center



# STAR AUTHOR



RITA SIMS  
QUILLEN

"As someone who devoured books from the time I could read, I knew I wanted to be one of the people who wrote them for others to enjoy. But it took me a long time to figure out what I wanted to write about- I thought writers had to write about something exciting and exotic! I didn't know until I was in college that I should instead write about the 'miraculous in the ordinary' and write about my life here in beautiful southwest Virginia."

Rita Sims Quillen is author of *Wayland*, *Hiding Ezra*, and *The Mad Farmer's Wife*, in addition to poetry and some academic books. Her collection *Her Secret Dream*, new and selected poems, is from Wind Press in Kentucky and was named the Outstanding Poetry Book of the Year by the Appalachian Writers Association in 2008.

Sourced via [www.ritasimsquillen.com](http://www.ritasimsquillen.com)



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

*Lonesome Pine Regional Library launched new initiatives, both in-person and online, to further our efforts in bringing people together to share ideas and collaborate.*

Book Clubs

Author Visits

Crafting Sessions

Writing Clubs

Movie Nights

Lego Clubs



# STAR AUTHOR



## TOM FUGATE

" [Tom] became an avid reader soon after learning to read. While reading espionage (James Bond and others), science fiction and anything else he could get his hands on, his imagination led him to daydream about the characters and situations he read in those books. He began to write his first espionage novel while in high school in Gate City, Virginia."

Tom completed his first manuscript in the mid 1980's on a typewriter. This novel is called *Spy Dreams*. He also wrote *Sand Trap*, *Cigarettes for Two*, *Port in a Desert Storm*, and *unFriendly Persuasion*. He has worked in radio, television, and digital publishing. He is a member of the Appalachian Author's Guild and the Lost State Writers.

Sourced via <https://tomfugate.wixsite.com/spydreams/bio>

# DISCOVERY & LEARNING

*Lonesome Pine Regional Library launched new initiatives expanding patron knowledge and experiences to build better tomorrows for Southwest Virginia.*

Adobe Photoshop  
Courses

Adobe Community  
Training

Microsoft Office Mini-  
Sessions

Resume Building  
Workshops

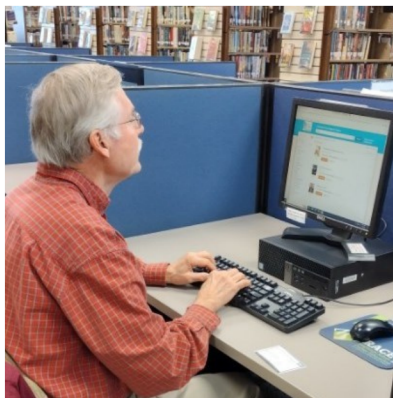
Healthy Kids, Healthy  
Future

STEM Programs

School & College  
Outreach

Homework Help

Library H3lp Reference  
Chats



# STAR AUTHOR



KAREN  
PETERS

"There is nothing more gratifying than helping children learn to love books than by reading to them from an early age. The library offers a wealth of worlds through books that parents and families can explore. Today's library is more than just information and books—with a variety of programs for every age, it can become a new gathering place for learning new skills and making new friends."

Karen Peters is a retired high school english teacher who also taught creative writing. She wrote *Fairy Diddle* in response to a challenge by her students to prove that their assignment to write an original fairy tale was not an impossible assignment. When they listened to her story, they quit grumbling and wrote some very interesting tales.

*Sourced via: Fairy Diddle*

# INNOVATION

2022 is the year Lonesome Pine Regional Library embraced new technologies that empowered our communities.

## Privacy Booths

*Soundproof pods for telehealth, virtual job interviews, online counseling, virtual depositions, etc.*



## Enhanced Wifi

## Upgraded Circulation System

## ZoomPro Video Conferencing

## Expanded Databases

- *Entrepreneurial Learning Initiative*
- *Magzter*
- *Novelist*
- *Transparent Language*
- *Universal Class*

## Dial-a-Story Partnership with the Library of Virginia



# STAR AUTHOR



STUART R.  
MULLINS

“This library, right here in Clintwood, where we are sitting right now; I was here every Saturday growing up. It was just a great place to get lost in imagination.”

*Via interview conducted by Kara Dotten on February 5th, 2022.*

Stuart Mullins considers himself an educator as he is a former teacher. He is a football official in the Atlantic Coast Conference, but dabbles in writing, working out, gardening, listening to all types of music, and occasionally still fooling around with a guitar. He is a proud product of Dickenson County Schools and also graduated from Clinch Valley College with a degree in psychology and sociology, and a minor in history. He lives in Clintwood, VA. Stuart R. Mullins is the author of *The Secret of Rockhouse* and *Hiding in Plain Sight*.

Sourced via <https://www.amazon.com/Secret-Rockhouse-Stuart-R-Mullins/dp/1543170803>

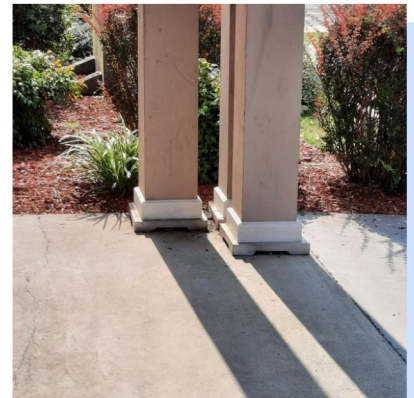
# FACILITIES

*2022 is the year Lonesome Pine Regional Library's facilities soared with state of the art upgrades and creative displays.*

Wise County Public  
Library Teen Reading  
Nook



Lee County Public  
Library Landscaping



Clintwood Column  
Enhancement



Outdoor seating area  
at Gate City Public  
Library



Lee County Public  
Library Meeting Room  
Enhancement



# STAR AUTHOR



NINA STACY  
THOMAS

“It’s definitely complicated and scary to write about your own life. I find myself remembering things that I might not want to remember, or even admit, but I’ve been forced to either face those things or forget the whole project. So I have made an effort to dig through a foggy memory and reveal as much truth as possible.”

Source: *Appalachian Roots Revisited*, page xiii

*Appalachian Roots Revisited* tells about Thomas's love of family, friends and hometown, Pennington Gap, Virginia and the Appalachia region. She includes some of life's challenges encountered and how she overcame them. There is also a chapter devoted to recipes of her beloved Grandmother, Mama King. Thomas has also shown paintings in juried shows.

She resides in Dactur, Georgia.

source via <https://www.scribblersweb.com/norcrosstucker/nina-stacy-thomas>



# FINANCIAL STABILITY

Meet the demands of today while securing the future of our communities.

**IMLS CARES Act Grant: \$120,585**

**IMLS CARES Act Training Grant: \$208,912**

**Secured ARPA grant: \$116,559**

**NEA Big Read: \$13,700**

**RAPHA Foundation Healthy Kids, Healthy Future: \$20,000**  
*(Wise & Dickenson Counties)*

**Gibbs Foundation: \$3,000**  
*(Big Stone Gap Pop-up Library)*

**Phipps Foundation: \$2,000**  
*(Clintwood & Haysi)*

**Lee County Community Foundation: \$14,371.20**  
*(Pennington Gap Meeting Room, Exterior Lights & Adult Programs)*

**Ezra Jack Keats Mini-Grant: \$475**  
*(Clintwood Programs)*

**Teddie's Treasures: \$1,300**  
*(Big Stone Children's Programs)*

# FINANCIAL STABILITY

Lonesome Pine Regional Library provided many resources thanks to our generous donors and grant funding.



RAPHA Foundation Healthy Kids, Healthy Future



ARPA Grant



NEA Big Read Fantasy Grant



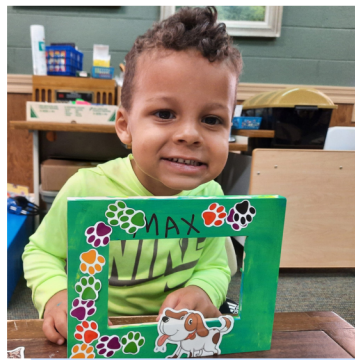
Teddie's Treasures



ARPA Grant



Lee County Community Foundation



Ezra Jack Keat Mini-Grant



Gibbs Foundation Pop-Up Library





# Appendix

# COLLECTION HOLDINGS

<b>FORMAT</b>	<b>WISE</b>	<b>DICKENSON</b>	<b>LEE</b>	<b>SCOTT</b>	<b>MAILBOX</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>ADULT BOOKS</b>	154,235	46,745	31,594	36,707	0	269,281
<b>JUVENILE BOOKS</b>	57,568	18,533	18,822	16,003	0	110,926
<b>PAPERBACK BOOKS</b>	32,714	11,708	3,677	8,254	20,736	77,089
<b>TOTAL BOOKS</b>	244,517	76,986	54,093	60,964	20,736	457,296
<b>TOTAL AUDIO BOOKS</b>	4,232	2,013	1,219	1,785	2,766	12,015
<b>TOTAL MUSIC</b>	4,207	1,226	702	1,032	3,570	10,737
<b>TOTAL VIDEO</b>	10,739	5,106	2,087	2,866	0	20,798
<b>TOTAL OTHER</b>	372	123	43	127	0	665
<b>TOTAL HOLDINGS</b>	264,067	85,454	58,144	66,774	27,072	501,511
<b>VOLUMES ADDED</b>	6,232	3,520	1,323	2,111	229	13,415

# LIBRARY MATERIALS CHECKED OUT

	ADULT	JUVENILE	AUDIOVISUAL	MAILBOX	TOTAL
WISE	26,911	17,799	9,702		54,412
BIG STONE GAP	12,046	11,200	3,724		26,970
COEBURN	6,919	11,531	6,362		24,812
ST. PAUL	6,571	5,242	3,343		15,156
MAILBOX				788	788
<b>TOTAL WISE COUNTY</b>	52,447	45,772	23,131	788	122,138
CLINTWOOD	10,291	5,785	7,163		23,239
HAYSI	5,929	3,079	3,786		12,794
MAILBOX				23	23
<b>TOTAL DICKENSON COUNTY</b>	16,220	8,864	10,949	23	36,056
PENNINGTON GAP	12,037	4,360	4,209		20,606
ROSE HILL	2,711	525	2,443		5,679
MAILBOX				367	367
<b>TOTAL LEE COUNTY</b>	14,748	4,885	6,652	367	26,652
GATE CITY	14,122	9,797	4,600		28,519
MAILBOX				101	101
<b>TOTAL SCOTT COUNTY</b>	14,122	9,797	4,600	101	28,620
<b>COUNTY TOTALS</b>	97,537	69,318	45,332	1,279	213,466
<b>MAILBOX- CULPEPPER EMATERIALS</b>				268	268
<b>TOTAL</b>				1,547	227,972

# WISE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Public Service hours per week	49.5
Square Footage	25,274
Visitors	27,971
Public Computer Workstations	14
Public Computer Sessions	9,145
Number of Children's/Teens Programs	300
Number of Adult Programs	124
Program Attendance	8,049
Items Checked Out	54,412
Items Added	2,555



# C. BASCOM SLEMP MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Public Service hours per week	46.5
Square Footage	10,081
Visitors	18,770
Public Computer Workstations	12
Public Computer Sessions	8,247
Number of Children's/Teens Programs	215
Number of Adult Programs	51
Program Attendance	3,785
Items Checked Out	26,970
Items Added	1,429



# COEBURN COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Public Service hours per week	38
Square Footage	8,760
Visitors	15,723
Public Computer Workstations	7
Public Computer Sessions	5,216
Number of Children's/Teens Programs	211
Number of Adult Programs	36
Program Attendance	3,444
Items Checked Out	24,812
Items Added	1,115



# J. FRED MATTHEWS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Public Service hours per week	34
Square Footage	5,212
Visitors	10,599
Public Computer Workstations	7
Public Computer Sessions	3,082
Number of Children's/Teens Programs	180
Number of Adult Programs	25
Program Attendance	2,440
Items Checked Out	15,156
Items Added	1,133



# JONNIE B. DEEL MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Public Service hours per week	46.5
Square Footage	11,039
Visitors	19,864
Public Computer Workstations	11
Public Computer Sessions	2,526
Number of Children's/Teens Programs	213
Number of Adult Programs	82
Program Attendance	4,699
Items Checked Out	23,239
Items Added	2,088



# HAYSI COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Public Service hours per week	46.5
Square Footage	3,200
Visitors	10,423
Public Computer Workstations	6
Public Computer Sessions	1,016
Number of Children's/Teens Programs	171
Number of Adult Programs	51
Program Attendance	2,363
Items Checked Out	12,794
Items Added	1,432





# LEE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Public Service hours per week	49.5
Square Footage	9,981
Visitors	20,653
Public Computer Workstations	10
Public Computer Sessions	5,571
Number of Children's/Teens Programs	203
Number of Adult Programs	19
Program Attendance	3,024
Items Checked Out	20,606
Items Added	1,160



# ROSE HILL COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Public Service hours per week	12
Square Footage	1,700
Visitors	1,012
Public Computer Workstations	9
Public Computer Sessions	1,719
Items Checked Out	5,679
Items Added	163



# SCOTT COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Public Service hours per week	49.5
Square Footage	7,502
Visitors	20,782
Public Computer Workstations	9
Public Computer Sessions	3,134
Number of Children's/Teens Programs	256
Number of Adult Programs	37
Program Attendance	2,713
Items Checked Out	28,519
Items Added	2,111



# MAILBOX LIBRARY

Public Service hours per week	20
Total Items	26,494
Items Added	229
Items Checked Out	1,547
Interlibrary Loans Loaned	249
Interlibrary Loans Borrowed	79

The background is white and filled with various gold stars. There are large, textured gold stars, smaller solid gold stars, and tiny gold stars scattered throughout. A large, light blue circle is positioned in the lower right quadrant, containing the word "Finances" in a dark blue, serif font. The word "Finances" is centered within the blue circle.

# Finances

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Local Government Funds	\$1,617,047
Contributed Services	\$54,419
Library Branch Income	\$54,013
State Aid Funds	\$496,167
Interest	\$4,091
Gifts & Donations	\$3,090
E-Rate Reimbursement	\$51,192
Miscellaneous	\$11,642
Grants	\$211,950
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$2,503,611</b>

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT

<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Salaries	\$1,218,110
Employee Benefits	\$361,347
Building Maintenance & Utilities	\$195,929
Library Materials	\$141,955
Internet Connectivity	\$66,751
Shelving, Furniture, & Equipment	\$20,270
Equipment Maintenance	\$110,053
Postage & Supplies	\$43,426
Auto & Travel Expense	\$6,326
Grant Expense	\$168,104
Programming	\$24,527
Miscellaneous	\$7,046
Insurance & Contracted Service	\$67,766
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$2,431,610</b>

# RESTRICTED FUNDS & ENDOWMENTS

Luther F. & Lou Emma Addington Fund Wise County Public Library	\$80,979
Wise County Public Library Improvement Fund	\$11,966
Howard & Hattie Cummings Endowment Fund C. Bascom Slemple Memorial Library	\$13,612
Nelle T. Phillips Estate Fund C. Bascom Slemple Memorial Library	\$1,134,664
C. Bascom Slemple Memorial Library Improvement Fund	\$555
Coeburn Community Library Improvement Fund	\$1,524
J. Fred Matthews Memorial Library Improvement Fund	\$19,363
Lee County Public Library Improvement Fund	\$336
Haysi Community Library Improvement Fund	\$34
Regional Compensated Absence Fund	\$25,828
Regional Van Replacement Fund	\$33,812

*We thank you for your continued support  
of our libraries & our efforts to  
"Go anywhere."*



## Contact

**Lonesome Pine Regional Library**

124 Library Road SW

Wise, Virginia 24293

276-328-8325

[www.lprlibrary.org](http://www.lprlibrary.org)