



Hawkins County Libraries

A special publication of

THE ROGERSVILLE REVIEW

April 20, 2002

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Quick Facts

There are more public libraries — total of 16,090, including branches — than McDonald's restaurants in the U.S.

More than 6 of 10 adults (66%) use a public library at least once a year.

In fiscal year 2000-2001, 71,740 visits were made to Hawkins County libraries.

Americans go to school, public and academic libraries more than twice as often as they go to the movies.

Reference librarians in the nation's public and academic libraries answer more than seven million questions weekly. Standing single file, the line of questioners would stretch from Boston to San Francisco. Hawkins County libraries answered a total of 12,617 reference questions in fiscal year 2000-2001.

H. B. Stamps Memorial, Church Hill, St. Clair, and Surgoinsville Public Libraries offer more than 49,591 books, audio books, videos, and magazines to Hawkins County citizens. 102,592 items were checked out of these libraries in fiscal year 2000-2001.

A 1990 poll conducted by Gallup for the American Library Association found that nearly all respondents expect libraries to be needed in the future, despite the increased availability of information via computer.

Our libraries offer 6,734 hours of service to the public each year at a per capita tax rate of \$1.80.

1,531 adults & children attended library programs last fiscal year.

The world awaits you @ your library

I am often asked if libraries will become obsolete in today's technology-oriented world. Absolutely not! In fact, if we didn't already have libraries, we'd have to invent them. The Internet is a wonderful resource and a great convenience, but it's far from perfect. It is said to be like a huge library where all the books are strewn on the floor with no rhyme or reason. In order to find what you need, you have to dig through the pile randomly. One estimate reports that 70% of the medical information available on the web is inaccurate. Real information power is having the right information at the right time.

Coping with a bewildering amount of information requires a new form of literacy, one that goes beyond the ability to read something educators refer to as information literacy. It means knowing how to find, evaluate and use the best information from an ever-increasing array of sources. In fact, information literacy is a critical life skill in today's information jungle. It means being information smart. It means knowing when a book may be more helpful than a computer. Information Literacy means knowing how to find, evaluate, and use information in all forms. It is more than print literacy, computer literacy or media literacy. It means knowing when you need information, where to find it and how to evaluate and use it in your everyday life. More information isn't necessarily better. Anyone who's done a search on the Internet and gotten 999 Web citations knows that!

Technology is changing how we



Jeannie Davis

Coordinator Hawkins
County Library
System

live, learn, work and govern. Good decisions depend on good information. To succeed in the 21st century, our businesses must have employees who can find, analyze and use information. Information literacy is critical to a competitive workforce and employee success in today's job market. In fact, the U.S. Department of Labor's report from the Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills (SCANS) lists information literacy as one of the five essential competencies necessary for solid job performance.

Our community must address the new challenge of information literacy. While we enjoy and appreciate our slower-paced lives in Hawkins County, Americans of all ages must develop information literacy skills if they are to prosper in the new global information economy. The demand for information literacy is a reality in our community now. It will become increasingly more critical to our children. Libraries and librarians are critical to this effort. If we fail to recognize the fundamental role public libraries play in today's knowledge economy, we will fail our citizens now and in coming generations. Information smart communities use the latest and best information to develop sound policies. They know the

importance of having citizens who are information literate. And they invest in their school, public, and academic libraries as centers of information, culture and lifelong learning. In fact, libraries are the core of our nation's information infrastructure. Information smart people support libraries.

Why libraries?

Libraries are unique. They are one-stop shops. Where else can you have access to nearly anything on the Web or in print as well as personal service and assistance in finding it?

Libraries are part of the American dream. They are a place for education and self-help. They offer opportunity to all.

Libraries are changing and dynamic places, at the forefront of the information age.

Libraries level the playing field in the information age. They make information affordable, available, and accessible to all people.

If you know how to use a library, you know how to learn for a lifetime.

Every parent can afford to give his child the key to success - a library card.

There is no such thing as good education without good libraries.

I urge every citizen of Hawkins County to get a library card for yourself and for every member of your family.

The world awaits you @ your library.

I would like to extend a special "Thank You" to Wal-Mart for their generous donation to the library, and also to the advertisers in this section who made it possible for publication.

"The comfort that his library time afforded him was unexpected, welcome. As the weeks passed, he became aware of how much the place, the press, the steady flow of people, the scent of glue and binding, the scent of books pleased him. At first he could not articulate what he felt about it, and then one day he realized that he felt invited into meaning there, that the world seemed large when viewed through the library's broad windows."

— Kathleen Cambor. In Sunlight, in a Beautiful Garden.
Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2001.

Hawkins County Libraries

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**HAWKINS COUNTY
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H.B. Stamps library "not just a place to check out books"

H.B. Stamps Memorial Library is one of four facilities which make up the Hawkins County Library system.

In July 1941, the first library in Rogersville was organized in the Community Center. Since then, the library has occupied various premises including a small upstairs room opposite a photographer's studio, the Rogersville Theatre, an office building on Church Street, the H.B. Stamps house and its present location on the Kenner property.

The earliest Hawkins County Library was a book station containing mostly mysteries, westerns and romances. Library service took a giant step forward in 1956 when Pauline Glass Stamps willed her home to the Town of Rogersville to be used as public library. The H.B. Stamps Memorial Library opened on January 6, 1957, and Anne Summers claimed that she operated the first full-service library in Hawkins County. The library grew until every inch of space was used, including the attic, kitchen and bathtub.

In 1975, the H.B. Stamps Library Board and the Hawkins County Library Board merged and decided to purchase land for a new library.

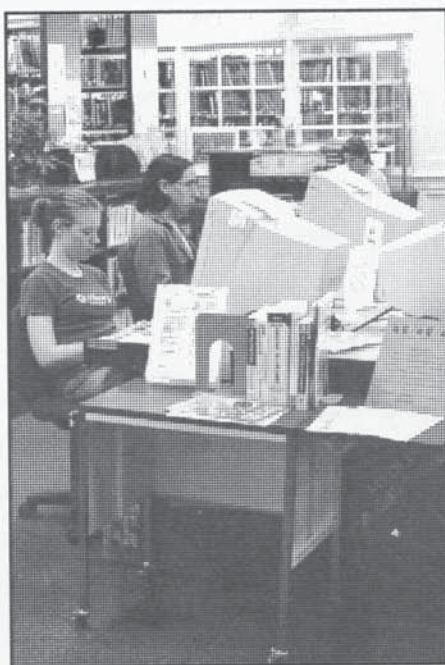
The Kenner property was purchased by the board in August 1975.

A grant of \$354,000 was received in September 1976 to build a neighborhood Community Center which would house a large library. There was a period of turmoil concerning the razing of the Kenner House, but a compromise was reached. The new H.B. Stamps Memorial Library was officially opened on November 9, 1980.

In its present location, the library has once again grown until every inch of space is used. The library currently houses more than 23,500 items in the collection including books, audio books, videos, microfilms and magazines. Circulation for the period 7-01-2000 to 6-30-2001 was 53,579.

The genealogy collection is not included in this count.

The Hawkins County Genealogical & Historical Society, based at H.B. Stamps Memorial



Six public computers, with Internet access, average 40 users a day.

Library, brings together a collection of historical records, family histories, cemetery records, and more — all available to those searching for a piece of their family history.

The collection, housed at the library, has become one of the most widely-known and used in the country. From January 2001 to October 2001, 960 people had signed in to research the collection. Nearly 250 of those were from 34 other states.

In addition to the above, the library offers seven public access computers, six of which include Internet access.

"People don't realize the array of things the library offers," says Jeannie Davis, Director.

"The library is a whole different place than it used to be. It's not just a place to come and check out books anymore. There are videos, children's books, books on tape and CD, magazines, newspapers and more," she adds.

The library also offers fax, copy and notary services.

Obtaining a library card is as simple as showing proof of your current address, Davis said.

Joan Davis has worked in the library for 20 years. "I love the people. I can't imagine anybody not



Ready to assist you: Jeannie E. Davis, director; Rose Lapp, Carolyn Gardner, and Joan Davis, assistants.

reading a book. I wish everybody in town would realize the importance of the library," she said.

Carolyn Gardner has been with the library for 16 years. "What got me interested was the genealogy collection," she said. That was in 1986 and she has worked for the library ever since.

The staff and volunteers at H.B. Stamps also includes Bill Testerman, Caroline Germany, Sally Dingfelder, Rose Lapp, Sharine Heck, Rachel Brooks and Marti Vickers.

Every Friday at 10 a.m., H.B. Stamps Library offers Story Time for preschool children. The hour consist of reading, story telling, games and a craft built around a theme.

A summer reading program is also in place, set this year for Tuesday mornings, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Thursday evenings, 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on June 25 and 27 and throughout July. Families and friends are invited to read and participate in activities around the theme of "Fantastic, Fun and at time, Frustrating Families and Friends." Participants will keep a reading log for prizes and families may make a family tree or a scrapbook among other related activities and crafts.

Refreshments will be served. Register by June 10 to help with planning. Special library cards for preschool children are available.

Other programs in the planning stages include a series of take-home reading packets with book lists and activities built around a specific theme. The first of these will be made available at the library beginning in September.

Also being planned is a packet for parents with information on choosing books for their children, resources, web sites and tips from various sources.

The library's entire catalogue is currently being put online at www.hbslib.d2g.com, along with Church Hill Library's catalogue.

Bruce Campbell is now working to revitalize and mobilize the Friends of the H. B. Stamps Library. Anyone interested can contact Bruce at 272-9682

H.B. Stamps Memorial Library, located at 407 East Main in the Rogersville Historic District, is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. H.B. Stamps Library welcomes calls at 272-8710.



210 West Main St. • Rogersville
(423) 272-2300

410 Park Blvd. • Rogersville
(423) 272-4893

290 Bellamy Ave. • Surgoinsville
(423) 345-2381

St. Clair Library's doors have been open since 1956

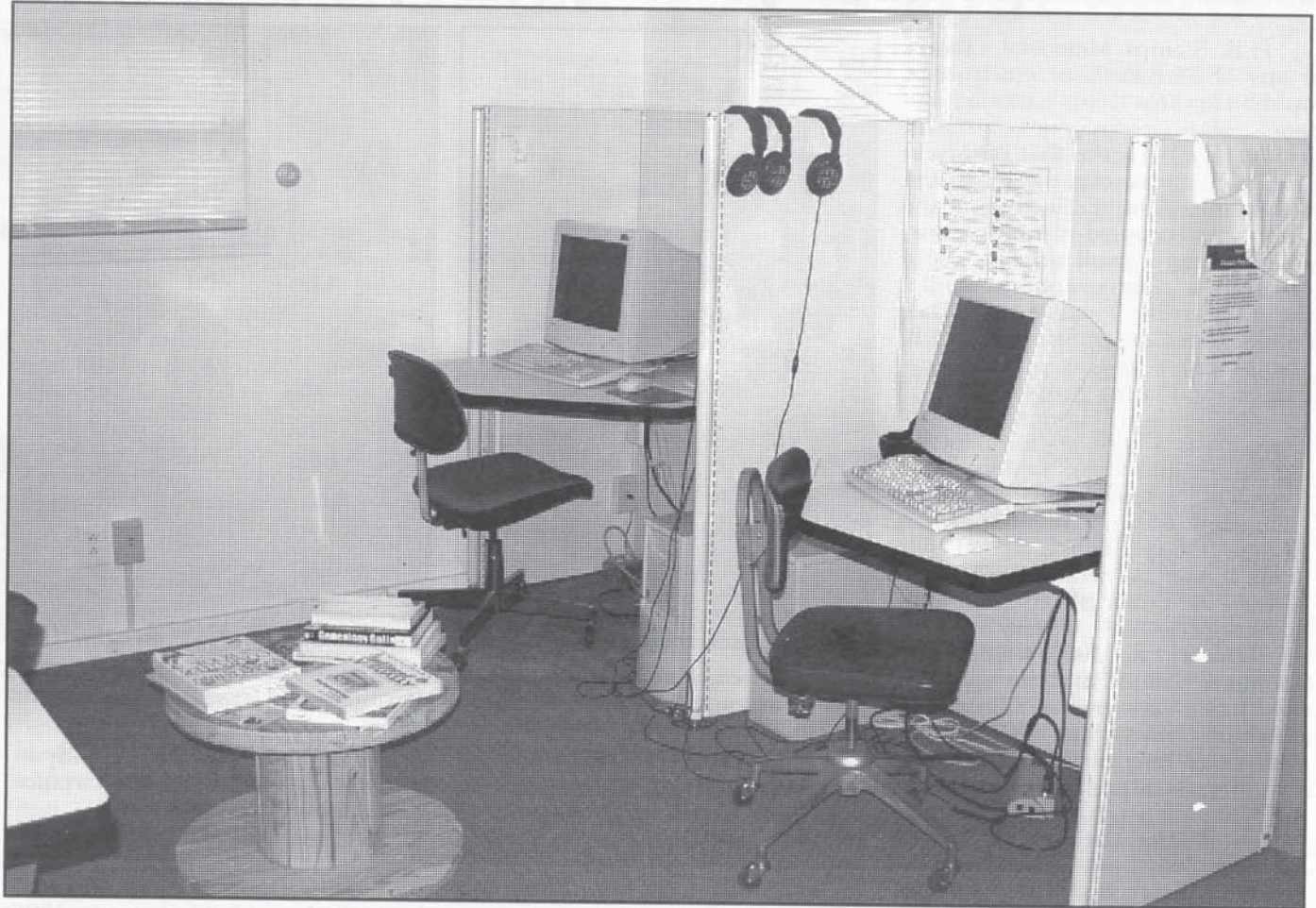
Sheryl Chesnutt is the fifth librarian to oversee the St. Clair Library since it opened its doors in 1956 and if there is a book, audio recording or movie that is not numbered among her collection that a patron would like to check out, getting it quickly should be no trouble.

Chesnutt explained that she frequently gets requests for material that she may not have on the shelf, but can easily check with the regional library and inquire as to whether or not the St. Clair Library can get it on loan. She gets 50 to 70 new arrivals each month.

The St. Clair Library has four of the Bill Gates computers that were donated to the Hawkins County system a couple of years ago that are all wired for internet access and Chesnutt, who began as librarian in November of 1989, added that a fifth one will be up and running soon. The computer is already in the office and awaiting set up.

Presently the library, which also serves Bulls Gap, has only four children signed up for its year-long reading program, but Chesnutt said she averages around 15 and has had as many as 35.

The library's hours are Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.



Pictured above are two of the the four Internet capable computers available for use at the St. Clair Library. Below are just a few of the books available for check out. Librarian Sheryl Chesnutt is shown in the background.



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Church Hill's Public Library attracts all ages

People with schedules, projects and deadlines enjoy the quiet service provided by Church Hill's Public Library.

Maureen McDaniel has been the director at Church Hill's Public Library for two years.

McDaniel said, "Our building is owned by the city. The town is very supportive of this facility."

Dana Parker holds a children's story hour on Thursdays at 11 a.m.

Stories are told in an area that used to be the library's office. Approximately 18 children are accommodated and regularly attend while other family members fill tables and chairs in the library.

"If a train comes by, story hour ceases long enough for the children to go to the window and look out," said McDaniel.

There are five public access computers with free internet and cable for students needing to research information to write a paper or just for enjoyment.

Videos are available for rental in addition to books.

"We are in the process of becoming automated so we can use bar codes," stated the director. "It will be easier to track overdue books and speed up checking books in and out."

The director decided to make National Library Week, which began April 15, fine free week. McDaniel stated visitors can guess the number of jelly beans in a jar and win new books during the week.

In the summer "Take A Ride on the Reading Railroad" will be provided for two age groups. Lisa Mauk will be leading this summer activity on Thursday. Sign up for this reading session begins in May.

A display case located inside the library can be used to display homemade items for sale or items people want to showcase along with their name and telephone number. Librarians do not sell what people bring in.

Employees are Joyce Thacker, Brenda Christian, Dana Parker, Shirley Housewright, Director Maureen McDaniel and Assistant Librarian Rachel Franklin.



Director shows new books
Maureen McDaniel shows off new books purchased through a donation.

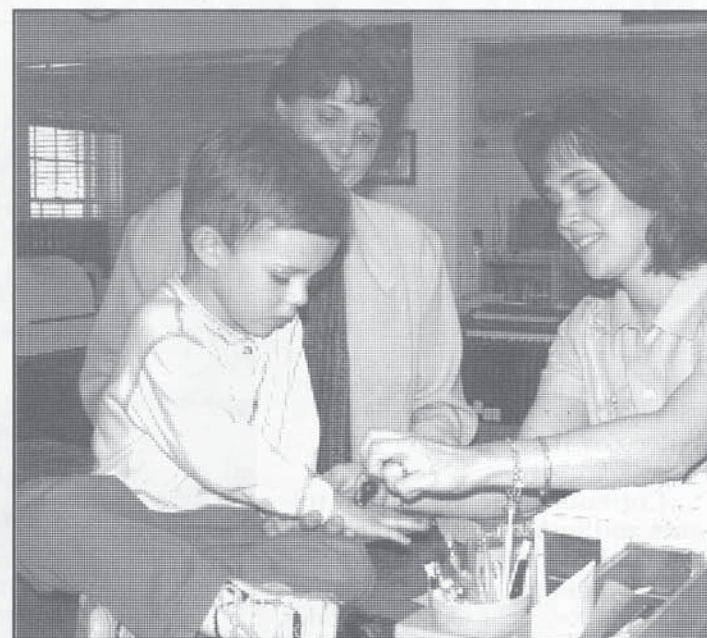


Photo by Nancy Pratt

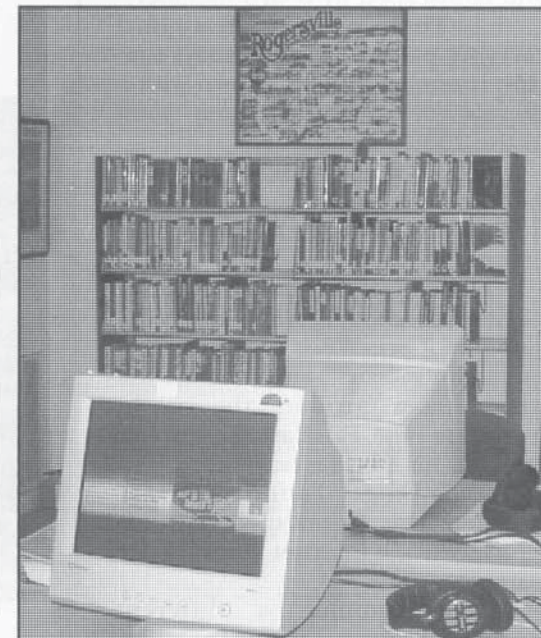
Bryce likes getting stamped

Assistant Librarian Rachel Franklin stamps Bryce Barrett's hand prior to his leaving the Church Hill Library. Director Maureen McDaniel is standing behind Bryce.



Story hour is a popular event

Dana Parker pictured on the right tells children stories and directs activities for 18 to 20 children. Parents and other escorts report enjoying spending time reading and using the computers while the children are busy.



Computer ready

Students needing to work on a paper or individuals just wanting to surf the net have access to computers with headsets.

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Surgoinsville boasts county's newest library

Surgoinsville Public Library, established in 1993, located at 120 Old Stage Road is the newest Hawkins County branch library. It began as a branch of H. B. Stamps Library in Rogersville.

Alma Williams, Director of the Surgoinsville Public Library retired as librarian in Bristol and moved "back home." She was asked to become Surgoinsville's Library Director for two days a week. Need has grown and the library is now open Monday 10-6, Tuesday 2-6, Wednesday 1-5, Thursday 2-6 and Friday 1-5.

Currently there are 10,000 volumes and include a Children's section with a large menagerie of stuffed animals, many donated; Local and Regional section includes a copy of "Miss Nan: Beloved Rebel" and the sequel "A Family Treat" and several books on the "Melungeons".

Magazines range from "The Atlantic" to "Skin Diver."

The library is sponsored and was built by the Surgoinsville Medical Board. It was designed and landscaped by board members.

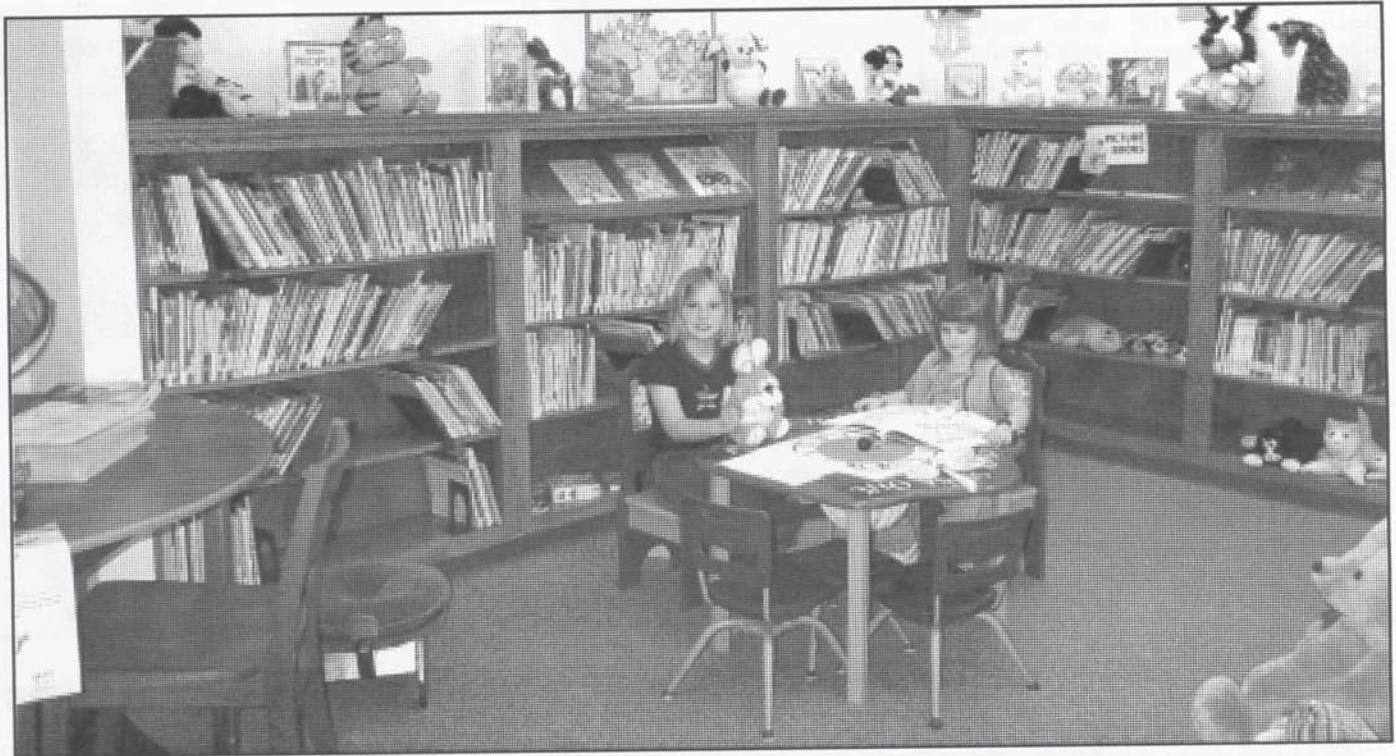
There are 1484 library card carrying patrons. Williams says that this is remarkable for a town with a population of approximately 1500 in the 2000 census.

The library bookshelves and wooden tables and chairs were donated individually by local families and clubs.

There is an extensive exhibit on display donated to the library by Captain Levi Williams, a retired merchant marine. He has collected items from around the world including the Far East, Egypt and India in his lifetime travels.

The Gates Foundation has donated five Gateway computers which provide internet access to the patrons.

Each summer a different Reading Program theme provides the children with reading and learning fun. The children dress up and Mrs. Leuck, assistant librarian and a former caterer, provides cakes relating to the theme. This year the



Young readers enjoy the children's book area at Surgoinsville Public Library (above) The new building is located on Old Stage Road (below).



theme will be Trains.

Last week Williams had a request for books in Spanish but she has none available at this time.

She would like to see a Hawkins County Library card that could be

used at all Hawkins County libraries by the patrons. She would also welcome any volunteers who can help an hour or two per week. She is in the process of barcoding all books which is time-consuming but, when

finished, will make her job much easier and make the card catalog obsolete. As part of National Library Week a used book sale was held at the library. Call 345-4805 for more information.



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Access Tennessee Electronic Library at home

The Tennessee Electronic Library (TEL), an expanded research tool, is available online, offering a rich resource for those seeking information on most any subject.

TEL access is available at all county libraries and can be accessed on your home computer. The URL for remote access is http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/tel_p_stamps

To search a subject:

•Click on the database you want to use;

•If asked for a password, use elvis;

•Click on the text entry box and type the words of your search;

•Click on the search button

TEL allows free access to all eligible libraries to the following databases:

•InfoTrac OneFile: From 1980 to present, OneFile combines resources from the next five databases so that users can find general-interest magazine, scholarly journal and newspaper articles on all subjects with one search.

•Expanded Academic ASAP: Scholarly or technical articles on all subjects from thousands of periodicals, 50 percent full text.

•Business & Company Database: Research all business and management topics from 1,335 business journals, 60 percent full text. Also includes directory listings for more than 150,000 companies.

•General References Gold: Database on all subjects, with more than 1,100 periodicals, 64 percent full text, plus selected reference books and full-text access to 40,000 newspaper articles.

•National Newspaper Index (indexes to Christian Science Monitor, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post and Los Angeles Times).

•Health Reference Center Academic: Find articles on health, fitness and medical subjects from 227 health and medical periodicals, 180 full text, plus health related articles from more than 1,500 general interest periodicals.


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TENNESSEE ELECTRONIC LIBRARY (TEL)


Important Notice to Freelancers Regarding the Tasini Decision

Please select a collection to search

 **Business and Company ASAP** 1980 - Apr 2002
Providing researchers with information on companies, markets and industries. From market mergers and acquisitions to current management theory and company overviews. Access to trade journals, newspapers and company directory profiles with full text and images.
[Start searching this collection.](#)

 **National Newspaper Index** 1977 - Apr 2002
National Newspaper Index provides quick access to the indexing of America's top five newspapers: The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Christian Science Monitor, Los Angeles Times and The Washington Post.
[Start searching this collection.](#)

 **Informe** 1999 - Apr. 2002
Una colección de revistas hispánicas con textos completos. Abarca negocios, salud, tecnología, temas de actualidad y otras materias.
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Use this database to find articles on: Fitness, Pregnancy, Medicine, Nutrition, Diseases, Public Health, Occupational Health and Safety, Alcohol and Drug abuse, HMOs, Prescription Drugs, etc. The

•Contemporary Literary Criticism: a rich resource for the study of literature, including an extensive collection of literary essays on contemporary authors. Each entry contains a biographical / critical introduction, listing of principal works and sources for further study.

•Informe! (Most popular magazines in Spanish, 69 percent full text)

•InfoTrac Kids (K-6) Edition (35 periodicals, all full text, plus selected reference books and maps)

•InfoTrac Junior Edition: Designed for high school students.

•DISCovering Most-Studied Authors (biographical and critical

information on 1260 of the most-studied authors in North American curricula).

•What Do I Read Next? Use this database to find out about thousands of books, including contemporary mainstream fiction, classic fiction and popular non-fiction. get recommendations based on favorites topics.

•And more: including a Total Access interface that allows users to simultaneously search across Gale Group databases and specifically identified web sites.

Funds for TEL are made available under the federal Library

Services and Technology Act (LSTA) administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and funds from the State of Tennessee.

The TEL is a useful tool, but cannot replace the library.

Call the library when:

•you can't find what you need;
•the article you need is not in full text;

•you think there might be another source that would help.

Visit or call H.B. Stamps Memorial Library, 272-8710, for additional information or for assistance.

Hawkins finance



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KEITH A. HOLCOMB
MANAGER

The Public Library — An American Freedom

By Donald B. Reynolds, Jr.
Director of the
Nolichucky Regional Library

Have you heard these questions? "Why should our community pay for a public library?" "We didn't have a library when I was a kid — what do we need one now for?" "With all these computers and the Internet, we don't need books anymore!"

Beginning with the early settlers arriving in America during the 1600s, communities began establishing public libraries as a government service for the people. Benjamin Franklin founded the first lending library in Philadelphia in 1731. In 1809 Thomas Jefferson, (whose personal book collection was the foundation for today's Library of Congress) wrote, "I have often thought that nothing would do more extensive good as small expense than the establishment of a small circulating library in every county, to consist of a few well-chosen books, to be lent to the people of the county, under such regulations as would secure their safe return in due time."

The United States is the first country in the history of the world where citizens established and maintained a system of free public libraries, open to all, a basic freedom as a result of the First Amendment to the Constitution — to explore the world of ideas and information. Public libraries are an American value, born of the idea that free people should have free access to all kinds of information. In practice that means that libraries gave citizens access to a full spectrum of ideas that allow us to learn what we want, explore many points of view and make informed decisions. This even includes some types of materials and ideas we might not necessarily agree with or choose for our children or ourselves.

In 1953, President Eisenhower wrote, "The libraries of America are and must ever remain the home of the free, inquiring minds. To them, our citizens must be able to turn with clear confidence that there they can freely seek the whole truth."

As we race headlong into a technological age that is sure to surprise us in ways we can't even imagine, it's important to remember Eisenhower's words. Public libraries will remain the solid foundation from which information will flow. But only if we, the citizens who use and benefit from libraries, support them as the keepers of our freedom to read, learn and connect.

Today's libraries are more vital than ever. Most of us could never afford to buy the books, magazines, videos, CDs, software and computers the library offers our families. And contrary to popular belief, the vast majority of Americans do not have online connections at home. For those without Internet access at home, work, or school, research shows that libraries are the number one place for access.

So, what is a public library?

1. The library is more than a building; it is a staff ready to help customers of all ages search for knowledge, information and entertainment. In addition, the staff will provide assistance in the use of the materials and equipment in the library.

2. The library has lots of resources to help parents teach their preschoolers to learn to read. By using the library early and often for both learning and pleasure, children will develop the critical thinking skills they need to succeed in school and throughout their lives.

3. The library has lots of resources to help elementary, secondary and college students do their homework and school projects, especially at times when the school libraries are closed or don't have what's needed.

4. The library is a place for self-education and life-long learning,

exploration and examination. Customers can investigate any topic of particular interest to them, for

delight or to increase their personal skills such as adults finding help to learn to read.

5. The library is, with its computers, an access point to the Internet and

its wide range of resources. Someone has written that the Internet is the best library in the world, but all its books are strewn all over the floor. A real problem with the Internet is that information found there may be incomplete, out-of-date, factually wrong, biased, or just plain pranks. Since no one evaluates or edits the material on the Internet, anybody can publish anything. What the Internet needs is a good librarian, and one can be found at the public library.

6. The library supports local economic development, finding information needed by local businesses and government officials, including entrepreneurs wanted to start new businesses.

7. The library offers an abundance of recreational reading, viewing and listening materials just for fun and pleasure. It is interesting to note in this age of computers that more books are being published and sold today than at any time in our country's history.

8. The library is evidence of the quality of a community's life and what government officials think of their residents: it provides some of the tools needed to help us live. A community without a healthy, growing public library is not a healthy, growing place.

Although libraries don't look like they've changed, they are changing and dynamic places that exist and adjust to meet the needs and interests of their community resi-

dents.

The library is a window to the world, helping to enrich our minds, defend our right to know, safeguard our freedoms and keep democracy healthy.

All you have to do to take advantage of these free services (prepaid with our tax dollars) is to walk in the door. The library staff will be glad to show you and your family around, help you find what you need — whether its a picture book, a class on how to use the Internet, searching for your family roots, finishing a school assignment, finding a good recipe for tonight's dinner, looking for tips on how to write a resume, start a business, or whatever you need.

I look forward to the day when every resident of Hawkins County has a library card and uses it to exercise their freedom to read, learn and connect to the whole world of ideas and information the library offers.

Said Barbara Bush, former First Lady of the United States, "Libraries really are one of the greatest gifts the American people have given themselves. They're a gift for all of us — no restrictions or age or gender or class or interest. But they're a gift that needs our constant care and attention — like everything else that's precious and valuable to us."

And your responsibility? Support this gift to ourselves and our community. And when in doubt, go to the library.

Donald B. Reynolds, Jr. is the Director of the Nolichucky Regional Library, which was organized on 1941 when the library boards of Grainger, Hamblen, Hawkins and Jefferson Counties were established at the urging of the TVA. Sevier County established its board and joined in 1942. Cocke County established its board in 1944 and Hancock County joined in 1987.

Since its creation, the purpose of the regional library has been to provide aid and support to the local government and their library boards and staffs for the growth and development of local library services.

**"And your responsibility?
Support this gift to ourselves
and our community.
And when in doubt, go to
the library."**

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