## A REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

from the director of the Campbell County Public Library

# A year of challenges and successes

By JC Morgan Director

The Library's 2012-2013 fiscal year certainly was interesting. We faced challenges, suffered disappointments, achieved goals and celebrated successes. All in one very short — and very long — year.

Perhaps the biggest disappointment was the challenge by the Northern Kentucky tea party to prevent a library from being built in southern Campbell County. We had hoped to be a catalyst to help spur and sustain growth in that area. We faced an outpouring of opposition from the tea party, and voters rejected the proposed tax increase in the November election. Had that proposal passed, the new facility would be well under construction by now.

In January, tea party advocates filed a lawsuit against the Library for following a 1979 statute to set tax rates. By April the circuit court agreed with the plaintiffs, and the case has moved into the appeals process, where it currently stands.

In spite of these obstacles that have consumed much of our time and attention, the Library has continued 2012-2013 Annual Report

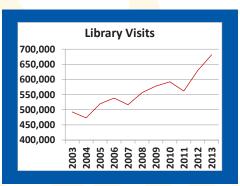
to offer programs and services that benefit the people, local cities and schools in Campbell County.

There's no doubt the Library does its job well. We saw a record number of visitors and impressive use of the Library's collection. The programs and work we do with children — capturing their imagination and helping them develop reading and comprehension skills even before they enter school — is immensely important to their lifelong success. We work with teachers, daycares and parents to help them develop children's literacy through the five keys of talking, writing, singing, playing and reading.

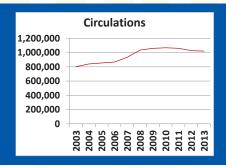
Online, more copies of e-materials than ever are available through our participation in a statewide consortium, Kentucky Libraries Unbound. Now, library cardholders can "sign in first" to see more titles available just to Campbell County patrons.

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A record number of 681,701 visits were made to the Library last year.



Since 2008, the Library has circulated more than a million items each year.

Last year, 1,020,038 items were borrowed by Library users.

#### Actual Revenue — FY 2012-2013

 Donations
 \$32,520

 Fees and Services
 \$116,058

 Grants & State Aid
 \$170,201

 Miscellaneous
 \$1,383

 Interest Income
 \$3,968

 Tax Income
 \$4,457,949

 Total
 \$4,782,079

## **Actual Expenditures FY 2012-2013**

 Capital
 \$112,671

 Collection
 \$546,998

 Operating
 \$931,836

 Personnel
 \$2,592,275

Total \$4,183,780

#### 2013 – 2014 Library Board of Trustees

- Cathy Howard, President
- Steven Trumbo, Vice President
- Paul Johnson, Treasurer
- Christie Fillhardt, Secretary
- Michael Whiteman, Trustee

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### CAMPBELL COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY — 2013 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



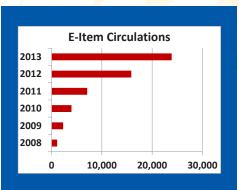
This 2012 holiday picture was taken at one of the Cold Spring Branch book clubs. The Library hosts six different book clubs each month.

We also have continued to improve our facilities. At all three branches, we've changed shelving and opened up space in the main areas so that we can provide more flexible places for events and programs. At the same time, we've also created better places for people to enjoy just being in a library with well-placed tables for using the wireless connection to the Internet, having a tutoring session or reading a magazine.

Our new "Signature Series," programs, selected to entertain and inform, have been wonderfully well received. It's extremely satisfying to see so many people attend and enjoy Library

Growth by the Numbers
FY 2013-2014

Cardholders 65,943
Website Visits 31,355
Reference Questions 133,159
WiFi Uses 18,626
Public Computer Uses 117,420



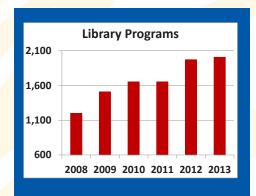


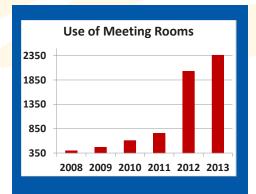
John Carter Cash sang and told stories about his famous father and mother during a February 2012 Signature Series performance attended by nearly 300 people at the Newport Branch.

events. In May, we introduced a new "Regional History Series" at Newport that drew hundreds of folks.

It's an amazing time to be a part of public libraries. We have so many opportunities to help every resident. In spite of the challenges, we stay focused on what is good for the citizens of Campbell County.

Unfortunately, this lawsuit over the Library's tax rate threatens





not only Campbell County, but at least 100 libraries throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky. It truly would be disastrous to so many communities if the services that people rely upon and enjoy are severely limited or taken away.

For now, despite the obstacles, we soldier on. Visit your library. Enjoy its many benefits. Hopefully, the Library will continue to grow and help the people of Campbell County prosper in the future.





Written by JC Morgan, who has been director of the Campbell County Public Library since 2003.

