NEW CHAPTER TO A PROUD LEGACY

I’ve heard it said many times that there wouldn’t be a county-wide library in Campbell County without Betty Lee Daniels and it’s true. She passed away Jan. 1, 2018 at age 93. She didn’t quite live to see the opening of Campbell County Public Library’s Alexandria Branch. Through her commitment and tenacity, though, Mrs. Daniels inspired our long-expressed desire to serve the southern part of the county. We’re proud that after 40 years, library service is truly county-wide.

Since the Campbell County Public Library system was established in 1978, our doors have swung open more than 10 million times for visitors. Just since 1990, our patrons borrowed more than 18 million items.

I spoke to Mrs. Daniels a couple of months before she passed away. She was very excited to know Alexandria would be getting library service. I’m sorry that she couldn’t attend the grand opening, but we’re proud of the success at our Alexandria location since it opened.

Hitting the Ground Running

The Library signed a lease for the 3,000-square-foot space at 8333 Alexandria Pike in August 2017. We fill the entire first floor. It’s on the west side of US 27 South, about six miles south of the Cold Spring Branch, and completely ADA-compliant. Barry Jolly, owner of the building, generously did much of the remodeling work himself, one of many ways we minimized costs to open and operate the branch in a fiscally responsible manner.

The little-branch-that-could is doing remarkably well. With a very small onsite collection of 7,000 items supplemented by the collections at the other locations, about 40,000 items have circulated in just seven months. The staff there have enjoyed about 15,000 visits.

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While the services are limited, we've got the most popular ones available: laptops for onsite use, wifi, printing, faxing, scanning, and, of course, nice tables and chairs to use while enjoying the library. The free meeting room spaces have been used 80 times by various groups and individuals.

We have also had 180 programs in those rooms with a total attendance of more than 2,300. We've offered programs for every age group and will be expanding those offerings in the coming year.

With only a fraction of the building space, collection, staffing and services as compared to our other branches, the Alexandria Branch is filling needs in southern Campbell that will grow as the community itself grows.

Community Involvement

Fulfilling Mrs. Daniels’ dream for a library that serves the entire community extends far beyond the four brick-and-mortar branches. Some examples:

• One of the Library’s new traditions, our fall Drop Your Drawers campaign, had yet another record year. Thanks to our donors, the third annual campaign collected 7,784 pair of children’s underwear in November in December of 2017. The underwear packages were distributed to 11 public elementary schools in Campbell County. Keeping kids in clean underwear that fits during the school day is a basic need that I think we all can understand.

• Through our ongoing 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten campaign, with help from their parents and caregivers, 62 children met this awesome milestone. Since the start of the program, 925 reading logs have been turned in for a total of 92,500 books read and logged. Our smartphone app now has more than 14,000 users. The use of the app to search for materials in the collection is replacing the use of the Library’s online catalog while also making other tasks like checking events at the Library easier. You can download it to your phone from any app store.

• If you just haven’t made it to one of branches but you’d like to check out e-books or e-audiobooks, you can get a “digital only” card through our website. We’re part of a consortium of 100 Kentucky libraries who share a large collection of materials (over twice the size of any of the physical collections at our branches!) that you can enjoy without ever coming inside a building. Our website is www.cc-pl.org.

Continuing a Legacy

The legacy of Betty Daniels is a library that we all can be proud to have in all parts of the county. If you ever have suggestions or comments, just stop by or call. We’ll be happy to help you. Mrs. Daniels wouldn’t have it any other way.

2017-18 ACTUAL

INCOME EXPENDITURES
Donations $30,702 Capital $229,247
Fees & Services $43,351 Collection $773,106
Grants & State Aid $188,783 Operating $1,168,822
Miscellaneous $34,333 Personnel $3,042,972
Transfer from capital campaign $131,815
Tax Income $4,715,514
Total $5,144,498 Total $5,214,147

2018-19 BUDGET

INCOME EXPENDITURES
Donations $31,000 Capital $91,000
Fees & Services $49,000 Collection $720,000
Grants & State Aid $184,000 Operating $1,141,935
Miscellaneous $31,135 Personnel $3,244,200
Transfer from reserves $90,000
Tax Income $4,812,000
Total $5,197,135 Total $5,197,135