



JEFFERSON-MADISON REGIONAL LIBRARY

Annual Report

Meeting Frequency: The Regional Library Board of Trustees meets monthly, usually on the fourth Monday.

Board Members: The nine-member Regional Library Board of Trustees is appointed by the respective governing bodies of the five participating localities (Albemarle, Charlottesville, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson) pursuant to the Code of Virginia (42.1-39). Current Albemarle County Trustees are Library Board President Brian LaFontaine, Gary Grant, and Jane B. Kulow.

Summary: Due in large part to improved service hours and the new Crozet and Northside libraries, the public is using its Regional Library more than ever before:



- **Books:** In FY2015 over 1 million residents visited local libraries and checked out over 1.6 million books, the most in JMRL's history
- **EBooks:** Many local residents use the library from home, work, or school. In 2015 the library "checked out" 71,357 electronic books for use with Kindles, Nooks, iPads, and other electronic devices. In 2016 it is estimated use of electronic books will exceed 90,000. Though still only about 5% of the Regional Library's total checkouts, use of ebooks is JMRL's fastest growing service
- **Community Centers:** Since FY2010 attendance at library-sponsored programs increased over 50%---last year 65,609 local residents attended library-sponsored early literacy classes, lectures, films, and other educational programs. Library meeting rooms are in constant use by community groups
- **Computers:** Over 9,500 people per month use the library's Internet computers; in addition, almost 9,000 people per month use the library's WiFi service
- **Databases and Catalog:** The library offers many valuable online databases available 24/7 from home, work, or school. The library's databases, not available through Google, include Chilton's auto repair, Morningstar Investments, HeritageQuest (genealogy), and ProQuest (full-text newspapers). In FY2015 the library's online catalog had 1,861,285 "visits," up 21% from the year before

Future Goals:

- Increase service hours at the new Northside Library to a minimum of 60 hours per week. Currently Northside Library has the fewest open hours (51) of any library in Albemarle and Charlottesville
- Renovate the Central Library. The building, jointly owned by Albemarle and Charlottesville, opened in 1906 and, except for some interior upgrades in 1981, has remained essentially the same since 1937. Renovation would provide more space for children and teens, updated technology, and additional public meeting spaces
- Southside Library (southern urban area). A citizen group has formed to encourage establishment of a southside library somewhere in the vicinity of Monticello High School. Population and commercial growth in the southern urban area was anticipated and is part of the County's long-range CIP