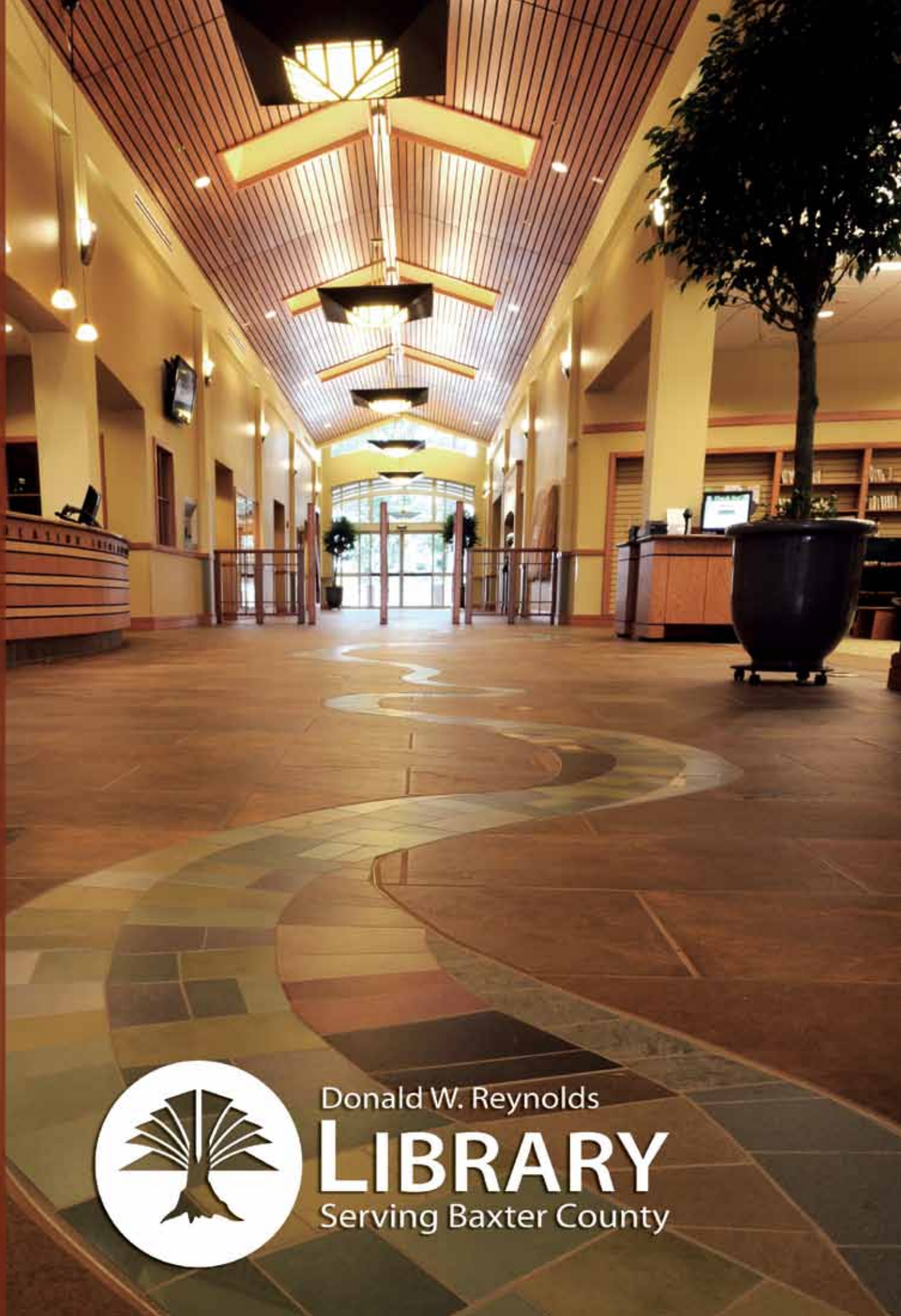


2010 Annual Report



Donald W. Reynolds

LIBRARY

Serving Baxter County



After opening in September 2010, the new Library building quickly became a family destination.

Your New Library

The Donald W. Reynolds Library opened its doors to the public for the first time on September 20, 2010. On October 9, a dedication ceremony commemorated the building's completion. As part of the ceremony, the flag that flew at the old Library building was raised by the Knights of Columbus at the new to symbolize the transition from the old to the new. Library Director Gwen Khayat, Library Board President Deborah Knox, Library Foundation President Carol Landrum, Donald W. Reynolds Foundation Executive Vice President Lynn Mosier, and Arkansas Governor Mike Beebe, among others, spoke to a crowd of over 400 people at the Ceremony. The Donald W. Reynolds Foundation was recognized as well as Library Foundation Trustees. The ceremony was preceded by a brunch honoring Library donors and was followed by an artists' show featuring local and regional artists whose work is part of the Library's permanent collection.



Community Outreach Coordinator Kim Crow Sheaner leads a Sneak Preview tour of kindergarten students through the building during construction as part of the Lincolns for the Library program.

The Baxter County Library Foundation

The Baxter County Library Foundation was pleased to announce at the dedication of the Donald W. Reynolds Library that they had reached their required commitments goal of \$2 million. A substantial donation in the fall of 2010 from the Keeter-Dryer family helped to reach the goal. The Keeter-Dryer Children’s Library is named in their honor. All donors who contributed \$5,000 or more are recognized on the Wall of Honor in the new building’s entryway.

The Foundation continued with its fundraising efforts in early 2010, holding the annual Ante Up for the Library Texas Hold ‘em Tournament and the Lob for the Library Tennis Tournament. In addition, Mountain Home school children collected over \$6,000 in coins as part of the Foundation’s Lincolns for the Library Program. The program not only raised funds for the Restricted Fund, it promoted a sense of ownership among the students. The Paver Stone program was another fundraising effort with big results. Purchases of engraved paver stones brought in \$50,321 for the Capital Campaign. The Paver Stone program will be ongoing.

2010	Gifts and Comitments
\$ 17,892	Foundation Fundraising Events
\$ 4,983	Memorials/Honorariums
	Restricted Fund for Programs as of 12/31/2010
\$ 400,601	Commitments (balance due)
\$1,671,790	Commitments and Gifts Received
\$2,072,391	TOTAL COMMITMENTS AND GIFTS RECEIVED

Library Operations

Early 2010 programming was reduced and Summer Reading Programs were suspended to free up staff to prepare for the move. A team of staff and volunteers equipped all Library materials with RFID tags for use with the automated systems in the new building. The Take it to the Limit program allowed Library patrons to help with the move by checking out the maximum number of items, then returning them to the new building. Staff and movers transported the remaining collection and other items to the new Library. All in all, approximately 75,000 items from the Library's collection were tagged and transported over the summer.

On July 31, marking the last day the Library was open in the old building, Baxter County Librarian Gwen Khayat checked out the last books to Tara Edmonds. The Library was closed at both the old and new locations for six weeks as staff moved in and trained on new systems. Prior to opening, over 40 community groups toured the new Library and were introduced to the self-check-out system and automatic book return. A soft opening period leading up to the dedication provided an additional opportunity for Library patrons to become familiar with the Library and its new technology. During that time, volunteers proved themselves invaluable serving as greeters, tour guides, and shelvees.

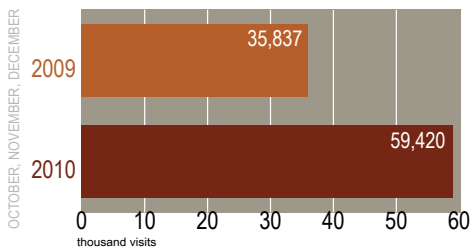


Many volunteers including Barbara and Howard Duvall shown with Vicki and Peter Kauth helped equip over 75,000 items with radio frequency identification (RFID) tags before the move.

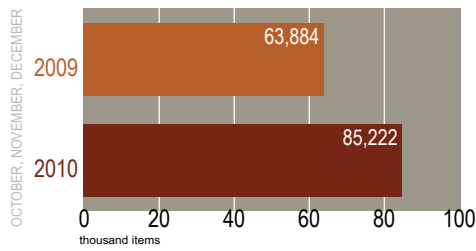
The \$9.8 million grant received from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation built, equipped, and furnished the new building, but the main revenue source that funds Library operations, a one mil ad valorem property tax that has remained unchanged since the early 1950s, remains the same in the new building. The operating budget provides for staff salaries, library materials, utilities, and general operating expenses.

As anticipated, the opening of the new Library building brought with it a significant increase in Library visits, public computer use, and meeting room use. The charts below compare activity for the months of October, November, and December 2010 with the same months in 2009. During those months, Library visits increased by 66%. Meeting room use tripled, and attendance at both Adult and Children's programs more than doubled. Attendance at Teen programs held steady despite the absence of a Teen Librarian during those months.

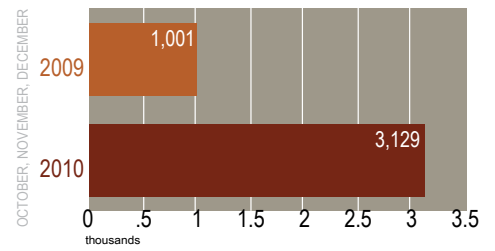
Library Visits



Circulation

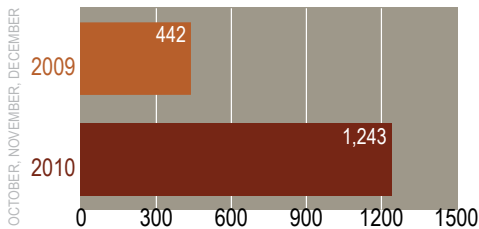


Meeting Room Use

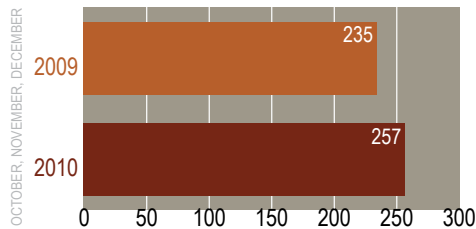


Children's Program Attendance

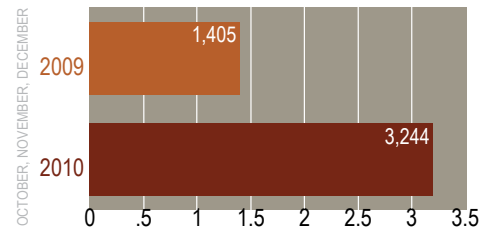
Children and Accompanying Adults



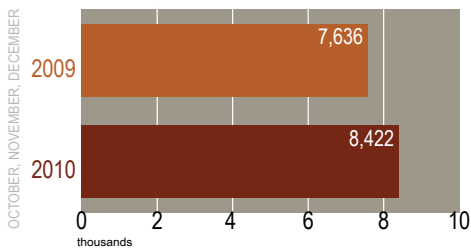
Teen Program Attendance



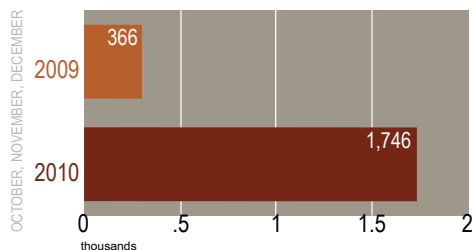
Adult Program Attendance



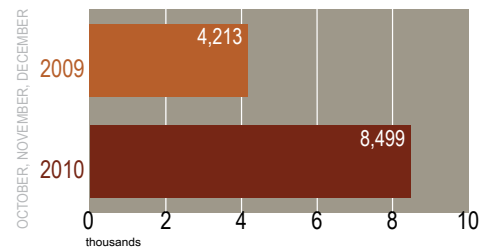
Public Computer Use



New Library Cards Issued



Library Cards Updated/Replaced





In March, the Friends of the Library announced the gift of an additional \$15,000 towards the Capital Campaign, which brought their total commitment to \$100,000 and moved them into the Nell Powell Wright Founder’s Circle of Giving. From left: Audrey Burns, Alice Feicht, Judy Moen, Judy Purvis, Marie Betzold, JoBelle Zimmerman, Mary Nida-Smith, Maureen Rozelle, Mary Lou Duseberg, Jackie Becker, and Barbara Lamb. Not pictured are: Margie Kelly and Janet Wheeler.

Friends of the Library

The Friends of the Baxter County Library kept up their usual hard work in 2010 with their used book sales in February, May, and August at the old building and their first sale in the Donald W. Reynolds Library in November. Sale proceeds at the August sale hit a record total, as people came out in large numbers for the very last sale in the old building. Proceeds from the Friends Book Sales help fund Library programming and staff development.

2010	Support Provided by Friends of the Library
\$ 578	Special Programs/Exhibits
\$ 11,018	Materials
\$ 1,773	Equipment
\$ 1,945	Staff Development Workshops
\$ 15,314	TOTAL



The annual Teddy Beddy Bear event drew over 100 children and parents to the children's and teen's Multi-Purpose Room at the Donald W. Reynolds Library in November 2010. Children's Librarian, Deborah Edmonds, welcomes Corduroy the Bear.

Library Programs

Although early 2010 programming was reduced, Library staff made room for a special author visit from former U.S. Senator David Pryor. Once in the new building, programs began to ramp up with The Poetry Thing, the Artmobile, the Young Arkansas Artists exhibit, and Duane Hada's "The River White – An Artist's View" Exhibit. In addition to the return of Story Time, children's programs included Father-Son Pumpkin Carving, Teddy Beddy Bear, and a performance of "Alice in Wonderland" by Arkansas Art Center's Tell-a-Tale Troupe. Participation in children's programs has nearly tripled. The Teen Library Council got busy hosting their monthly Teen Tuesday events and their annual Read-a-Thon.



The new, Donald W. Reynolds Library at sunset.

Looking Forward

Regular Library programming will resume in 2011 as we settle into our new building. Audio and e-book downloads will soon be available from our website. Children and their parents can look forward to the Children's Author and Illustrator Event, the Mommy May I Tea with Miss Arkansas, a resumption of summer programs, the Father-Son Pumpkin Carving, Teddy Beddy Bear, and the children's traveling theatre at Christmas. We have a new Teen Librarian and teens can anticipate the implementation of gaming in their area. The Library will also welcome The Genealogy Road Show in the fall of 2011. We will continue partnering with Arkansas Workforce to facilitate Career Readiness Certification.

Now that the commitments for our \$2 million Restricted Fund are in place, our focus will be on collecting the pledges and establishing the Restricted Fund for Programs. Recruiting and training additional volunteers will be a top priority as well. With increased Library use and no increase in operating funds, a strong, well-trained volunteer pool will be a must.

The dedication of the Donald W. Reynolds Library on October 9, 2010, completed the Strategic Plan adopted by the Library in 2006. In 2011 that cycle will begin again as we plan to maximize the resources at our disposal to better serve the education, information, and recreational needs of Baxter County.



300 Library Hill, Mountain Home, AR 72653 870-580-0987

The Baxter County Library is a bridge to expanded horizons, opened minds, and enriched lives. The Baxter County Library provides lifelong resources that educate, inspire, and entertain in a welcoming environment.