



Library System Report

EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA • PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

Regional Library and Heritage Center • Cape Charles Memorial Library • Chincoteague Island Library • Northampton Free Library

October 2024



Upcoming November Highlights @ Regional Library & Northampton Free

- **5th: LIBRARIES CLOSED**
- **7th: Make Your Own Dinosaur Fossils - NFL**
- **9th: Rodney's Raptors Live Bird Demo - ESRL**
- **11th: LIBRARIES CLOSED**
- **13th: Kids Game Day - ESRL**
- **14th: Author Talk w/ Nan Carlton - ESRL**
- **14th: Teen Creative Writing - ESRL**
- **14th Adult Craft Night - NFL**
- **20th: Memory Café - ESRL**
- **26th: Make Your Own Dinosaur Fossils - ESRL**
- **27th: Hot Apple Cider Bar - NFL**
- **28th: LIBRARIES CLOSED**
- **29th: LIBRARIES CLOSED**
- **Tech Help: Every Tuesday - NFL**
- **Teen Gaming Night: Every Tuesday - ESRL**
- **Storytime Anytime: Every Monday & Wednesday - Northampton Free**

For more information: espl.org; (757) 787-3400

Director's Update



Christopher Pote,
System Director

Each month, ESPL strives to provide as much programming and resources to the communities of the Shore as staffing will allow. This will be evident to our readers over the next several pages. From story time for tots to interactive activities with animals for children to Teen Gaming Night to historical lectures to holiday celebrations, the four libraries of the system cater to all. And that's not to mention all of our free lending services (books, ebooks, movies, video games, etc.) and database access. We have something for everyone, and that includes you!



EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA

Heritage Center

esplheritage.org

Jazmine Collins, Reference Manager & Local History

Identifying priorities and projects—that has been the theme of October. In September, the Heritage Center and the library as whole were adjusting to personnel changes, and October has been spent settling in and identifying and developing plans for changes and updates to the Heritage Center website and social media pages as well as the facility and Eastern Shore Room. Staff created a calendar for promoting the Heritage Center’s digital collections and online resources, as well as physical displays.

Dr. Miles Barnes updated the Historical Index Finding Aid, and the new version has replaced the previous version on our website. The Historical Index contains regarding popular topics and source information, mostly from our local newspapers. The previous version on our website, when selected, downloaded as an excel file. The updated version will display as a PDF document and is still searchable by keyword. Thanks to the help of our volunteer Theresa Petroni, we have updated our inventory of all the Heritage Center microfilm both in the microfilm case for public access as well as duplicate copies and uncatalogued items. Shelf arrangement in the Eastern Shore Room is being updated to better fit all items on the shelves and to utilize peripheral shelves for display.

Heritage Center staff attended the Virginia Library Association 2024 Conference in Norfolk this month. Part of the Conference included tours of the Ohef Sholom Jewish Temple Library and Archives as well as Slover Library. Staff joined the Family and Local History Forum which is comprised of library professionals from organizations that contain more specialized collections such as the Library of Virginia, The Jones Memorial Library, and the Virginia Museum of History and Culture. The forum will work collectively on goals throughout the year, such as compiling a toolkit of resources about collections development and language standards to assist special collections libraries and library staff who assist with genealogical research. Another goal is to create more conference sessions that address relevant topics in family and local history for next year’s conference and to attract more library professionals that work in special collections libraries or hybrid spaces such as the Heritage Center.

One of the conference sessions led by the Director of the Jones Memorial Library, a specialized genealogy and history research library in Lynchburg, along with a board member from Randolph College, detailed a two-year long project of transcribing a pre-Civil War business ledger from a local trader that had been in the collection for more than 20 years. In partnership with Randolph College and a student intern as well as grants from various organizations, and partnerships, the ledger was transcribed and made available through the library’s page and a digital platform. The highlight of this session was the use of a new AI software, called Claude AI, which can transcribe digital images of handwritten notes. AI and OCR software applications have proven instrumental in assisting with access to research sources but have been largely limited to transcribing or scanning documents already in some form of typeface, such as newspapers, however, the speakers raved about how quickly Claude AI was able to transcribe images of the ledger and how accurate the transcription was. Heritage Center staff hopes to further research how this software, and other AI applications, could prove useful in making our collections more accessible.

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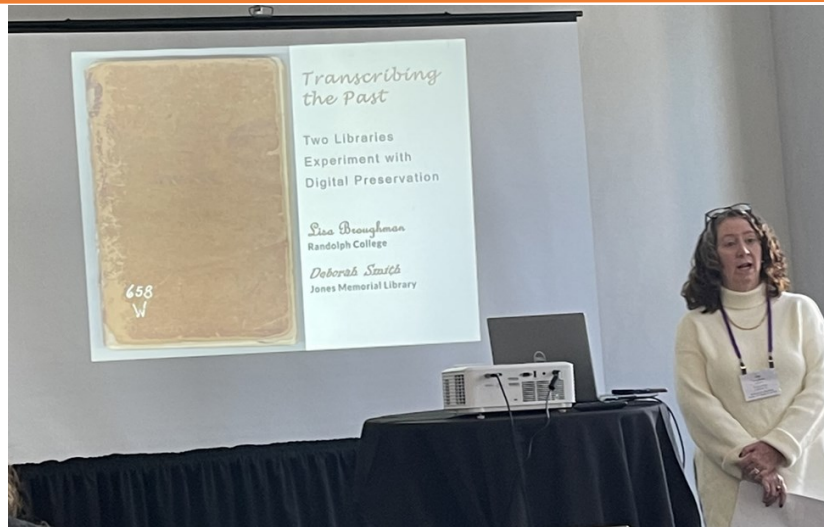


EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA

Heritage Center

esplheritage.org

Jazmine Collins, Reference Manager & Local History



On October 22, Dennis Custis, gave a lecture at the Heritage Center entitled, "Henry Wise and Friends." Nearly 40 attendees listened to Custis detail the many interactions, both personal and political, that Wise had on the stage of Virginia politics and society in the nineteenth century, which emphasized how involved and important the Eastern Shore has been in our state and nation's development. The lecture continued past the standard hour and yet Custis promised more to tell. The Heritage Center hopes to schedule Custis for part two to this lecture.



No lecture is scheduled for November, however the Heritage Center staff will be creating a display and working on a Research Guide of local Native American History Resources in our collection. The second round of interviews for the archivist position will be conducted this month and a selection should be made by December.



Finding Just the Right Book using Genre and NoveList



As the weather turns colder and the evenings grow longer, there's nothing better than settling in with a good story. But sometimes even the most avid readers can be at a loss when trying to decide what to read next. Fictional genres can be helpful when looking for your next great read. If you know which genres you enjoy most, finding books that are similar to those you've enjoyed in the past makes the search much easier.

Fiction is typically divided into five main genres: fantasy; historical fiction; contemporary fiction; mystery; and science fiction.

Taking a deeper dive into fictional sub-genres, you'll also find: romance; dystopian; action & adventure; horror; thriller & suspense; women's fiction; literary fiction; graphic novels; and short stories.

Writer's Digest, a well-respected guide for aspiring authors, lists 114 sub-genres at <https://www.writersdigest.com/writing-articles/genredefinitions>. The library's acquisitions staff is very familiar with fiction types and trends, and found some of the sub-genres on this list to be very interesting. Here are a few that they didn't realize had become a sub-genre of their own:

- Inverted (a story in which the reader knows "whodunit" but the suspense arises from watching the detective figure it out)
- Glitz/Glamour (focused on the jet-set elite and celebrity-like characters)
- Magical Realism (inspired by Latin-American authors in which extraordinary forces or creatures pop into otherwise normal, real-life settings)

The library offers an excellent tool for exploring genres – or even combining them into a super-personalized search for your next book: NoveList Plus, found on the "Read, Watch, Listen" page of the library's website, <https://espl.org/read-watch-listen/>. To reach the NoveList Plus site that is linked to our local library collection, simply enter "Eastern Shore Public Library" in the search bar.

Once you've arrived at the NoveList homepage, select the "Browse By" tab on the main menu bar and then click on Genre. On the Genre page, you'll notice that you can search by categories such as Crime & Suspense, Romance, or African American Literature. There is also an option to browse the newest fiction across genres, which is ideal if you're looking for something outside of your normal reading preferences.

The "Browse By" menu also features titles organized by Appeal, with categories such as *Thoughtful and Intricately Plotted* or *Menacing and Suspenseful*. In addition, from the "Browse By" menu, NoveList links to a page of over forty lists of Award Winners to peruse. The NoveList home page also offers excellent lists of Recommended Reads. Plus, all the search possibilities covered here can be filtered based on age: Adult, Teen, Ages 9-12, and Ages 0-8. Give NoveList a try and find out which genre, appeal, or recommended title will be a perfect fit for you!



Programs & Outreach Report

Tiffany Flores, Programs and Outreach Librarian

October's Storytime and Literacy Play had 10 good attendance. During this program patrons hear a story and are then able to participate in guided play. In addition to the Storytime success, Pre-K STEM play has also been successful. This program has grown in popularity over the past month. Then, as part of the Halloween festivities, the Regional Library hosted its Annual Candy Parade on October 24th. Library staff and the Friends of the Library passed out Halloween candy as patrons trick-or-treated throughout the building. Finally, on October 26th Meadow Noonan with the Virginia Institute of Marine Science brought a touch tank to the library! This was extremely popular with the attendees. For adult programming, the library collaborated with The Martha W. Goodson Center to bring the Memory Café to the Eastern Shore of Virginia. After about a year of work, the Inaugural Memory Café event was held on October 16th and was hugely successful. This program will be held every 3rd Wednesday of the month. Additionally, Dennis Custis's lecture 'Henry Wise and Friends' was enjoyed by all, and a second lecture is being planned.



With school back in session, there were plenty of outreach events to go to. The Regional Library attended the Party in the Park held in Sawmill Park. This had an average of 300 attendees who learned about community resources including the library. Additionally, the library attended Accawmacke Elementary School's yearly Otterfest. This year, the library was able to reach about 120 people and distribute books and goodies to kids. The Regional Library also participated in the yearly Latino Fest. While typically held in the Summer, this year it was later due to when the Guatemalan embassy could come and assist the community. This was a huge success with about 300 attendees. Like every year, this is one of the best opportunities for the library to reach into the Latino community. Additionally, Tiffany Flores attended ESCC's Career Day where 3 schools worth of 10th graders visited the college to learn about potential career opportunities. This was a fun way to talk to students about what libraries do and discuss career pathways. As part of the library's Halloween plans, the library attends one community-run Halloween event as they tend to be on the same day. This year the Regional Library attended the Boys and Girls Club's 1st Trunk-o-Treat event at the Mary N. Smith Cultural Center. The library gave out candy, toys, and books to about 100 children. Finally, the day after Trunk-o-Treat, the library returned to Mary N. Smith for the Boys and Girls Club STEAM Community Event. This event brought a variety of organizations together to celebrate STEAM education in the community. The library attended and brought Pre-K STEM toys for children to play with and promoted library STEM programming to the estimated 100 attendees.



Northampton Free Library

Connor Buyn, Branch Manager



Northampton Free Library jumped into fall with a series of seasonally themed public programs. On October 10th, the library hosted an adult craft night – staff and patrons met to build personalized autumn wreaths. A week later, younger patrons were invited in to learn how to make leaf rubbings and preserve foliage using leaf presses in the library’s monthly STEM program for kids. Northampton Free Library also hosted a children’s evening story-time on the 24th. Finally on Halloween, kids who visited the library in costume were entered into a raffle for a festive gift basket. All of October’s scheduled programs were well-attended.



Next month will see a mix of cozy autumn crafts and paleontological Dino-vember fun. November’s first schedule program will be the children’s STEM craft on Thursday, November 7th at 6:00 PM. Kids will learn how to make fossil casts using plaster of Paris and participate in a dig for real fossils to take home. Library staff will also be hiding grow-your-own dinosaur eggs around the library every day during the month of November. On Thursday, November 14th at 6:00 PM, Northampton Free Library will host a wine cork pumpkin craft. This program is open to adults and registration in advance is required – follow the Northampton Free Library Facebook page or ask at the front desk for more information. The library will hosted another evening story-time for kids on Thursday, November 21st at 4:30 PM. Finally, the library’s second annual hot apple cider bar will be offered all day long on Wednesday, November 27th. In addition to cider and snacks, patrons will be able to put together their own bag of cider mulling spices to take home. Tech Help Tuesdays will also continue through the month of November. If you need help with a personal device, just ask at the front desk. As always, all Northampton Free Library public programs are free.

Northampton Free Library will be closed on Tuesday, November 5th, Monday, November 11th, and Thursday and Friday November the 28th and 29th. Happy Thanksgiving!



Cape Charles Memorial Library

Sharon Silvey, Library Manager



Cape Charles Memorial Library would like to give a big thank you to the ESPL Foundation for funding the new study carrels in our computer lab! The new pieces allow patrons more personal space and privacy, as well as giving us more open space in the lab. We are appreciative of the Foundation and so happy to have some fresh updates to our building.

Staff enjoyed hosting programs this month which included weekly story time, two sessions of Dungeons & Dragons and an owl prowl. Our twice-monthly STEM Club was a hit, with attendees learning about sound. We invited a local musician who demonstrated the effects of sound with a guitar and a water xylophone which exemplified how the vibration of molecules in the air generate sound (pew!) Next month will be STEM Club: Spy School. Rookie spies will learn about secret codes and hidden messages. This program will also teach cryptography and some simple math and chemistry. Program is appropriate for ages 5 and up.

CCML hosted two author events in October. Author Bill Morris visited the library to discuss his new book, *The Lions Finally Roar: The Ford Family, The Detroit Lions, and The Road to Redemption in the NFL*. Mr. Morris, who is an energetic speaker, engaged the audience with tales of the early 1900's, stories of his father's connection to the Ford family and how they all connect to the Detroit Lions. Local author Nan Carlton also spoke this month about the trials and tribulations of being a new author. Ms. Carlton shared some of her personal experiences and provided practical advice for aspiring writers.

We ended October by hosting a Fall Mini-Festival with some of our local community partners including Virginia Institute for Marine Science (VIMS), Kiptopeke State Park, Eastern Shore Soil & Water Conservation District, American Water, National Wildlife Refuge, the Preserve Ranger from Baycreek, Friends of CCML, Eastern Shore Popcorn, Northampton YMCA, Cape Charles Police, the CC volunteer Fire Company, Shockley Farms and Quail Cove Farms.





Chincoteague Island Library

Linda Ryan, for the Board of Directors



Lions, and tigers, and Bears, Oh My! The month of October on Chincoteague revolves around all things about autumn and Halloween. Our library staff, board members, and volunteers have been busy providing a welcome place for the community...window and interior decorations, children's story times, book clubs, and community puzzles.



Tales 4 Tots Storytime: Fall leaves, monsters, a field trip to the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company, a visit from the Chincoteague Police Department, and Halloween were the activities for October. Over twenty children participated each week.



Continued on next page...



Chincoteague Island Library

Linda Ryan, for the Board of Directors



Special Events: As members of the Historic Downtown Merchants' Association, we participate in the following events: Death By Chocolate in February, Search for the Shamrock in March, Halloween Trick or Treating on Main Street in October, and the Annual Tree Lighting which takes place in December in the park adjacent to the library. Pictured below are staff and volunteers getting ready to hand out candy and books to the children on Halloween.



Maintenance: The front library windows need significant repair, and we have hired a local contractor to complete the work. Additionally, we are replacing the carpet in the front room with LVP flooring. A wall has been built between the stairs and one of the sides of the talk box. Not only does this look better but it also provides some much-needed storage. We recently installed a new security system. Cameras provide a visual display to enable staff and volunteers to view all the rooms in the library.

Fundraising: The annual newsletter/appeal, The Chincoteague Library Review, is in the mail. This is our main source of funds during the year.

Two winners were selected at the basket raffle drawing on October 14—one for the adult basket and one for the children's basket. We will hold this successful fundraiser again next year beginning on Valentine's Day weekend and running through Columbus Day Weekend.

Planning has begun for many late fall and winter programs and events including an informative health and wellness talk for adults and a holiday sing-a-long for our Tales 4 Tots children.

EASTERN SHORE PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

November 12, 2024, 1:00PM

Meeting Location: Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center
24313 Bennett St., Parksley, VA

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comments
3. Approval of Minutes of October 15, 2024
4. Old Business
5. Trustee Training w/ Library of Virginia
6. Financial Report (Pote)
7. Library Director's System Report (Pote)
8. Committee Reports
 - a. Finance Committee (Chesser)
 - b. Personnel Committee (Rose-Jensen)
 - c. Trustee Training Committee (Holland)
 - d. Facilities Committee (Poyer)
9. Branch and Friends' Reports
 - a. Cape Charles Memorial Library (included in System Report)
 - b. Chincoteague Island Library (included in System Report)
 - c. Northampton Free Library (included in System Report)
 - d. ESPL Friends' Report
10. New Business
11. ESPL Foundation (Custis)
12. Additional Comments
13. Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 10, 2024, at 5:00p.m. at Chincoteague Island Library,
4077 Main St, Chincoteague, VA 23336
14. Adjournment



EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA

Public Library System

Board of Trustees Committee Assignments

Foundation Liaison:

Dennis Custis

Finance:

Grayson Chesser (*Chair*),

Charles Kolakowski

Michael Mason

Personnel:

Carl Rose-Jensen (*Chair*)

M.K. Miles

Jazmine Collins

Facilities:

David Poyer (*Chair*)

Maureen Teague

Frank Russell

Trustee Training Committee:

Joyce Holland (*Chair*)

Janet Justis



MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library System

10.15.24 | 6 PM | Northampton Free Library
Nassawadox, VA

Meeting called to order by Chair, David Poyer

ATTENDANCE

Present:

Grayson Chesser, Dennis Custis, M.K. Miles, David Poyer, Carl Rose-Jensen, Frank Russell, Maureen Teague, Christopher Pote (*ex-officio*)

Absent:

Joyce Holland, Janet Justis, James Lilliston (*ex-officio*)

In Attendance:

Margaret Donahue-Lynch, Jamie Johnson

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by David Poyer at 5:59 p.m. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES [9.17.24]

Dennis Custis moved that the 9/17/24, meeting minutes be approved. Frank Russell seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Defibrillator Acquisition Update (D. Poyer)

David Poyer requested that Christopher Pote give an update on the System's acquisition of defibrillators:

- C. Pote provided the update that the CSB has agreed to provide Library staff with training, and the library can acquire our own defibrillators.

D. Poyer shared that the facilities inspection of the Chincoteague Island Library is coming up, but an exact date hasn't yet been set. C. Pote explained that the Manager of CIL has been out on leave and that he is working with her to schedule a date that will work best for everyone.

FINANCIAL REPORT [C. Pote]

Christopher Pote provided a snapshot of the System's finances:

- The library has received the 2nd quarter funding from Accomack County. The request has been made to Northampton, as well, and a physical check should be arriving.
- Audit: A representative from the accounting firm Dunham, Aukamp, and Rhodes was here last week doing the field work portion of the library system's annual audit.
 - Although most of the work remains, there were no red flags last week
 - C. Pote is currently gathering the last few bits of information they need. They are aware of the library system's deadline and have assured C. Pote that they will meet it assuming they are provided with all requisite materials.
- LGIP: There is not an LGIP account update this month.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S SYSTEM REPORT [C. Pote]

Building Update

- **HVAC update:** Representatives from Noland Mechanical, Pace, Accomack County, among others were in Parksley last week to discuss and inspect the HVAC system. It was reported back to Christopher Pote that the meeting was cordial, all parties are working cooperatively, and Noland spent the entire day on site working on the system.
 - It was found that some sensors were not properly connected.
 - At this time, there is no belief that the entire system needs replacement.
- **Heritage Center entrance door** has not yet been repaired.

Emergency Preparedness

- C. Pote and Jamie Johnson met with Daryn Fussell, Deputy Fire Chief of Parksley, and members of the Parksley and Accomac FDs, as well as Accomack Public Safety. In total about 15 first responders came to the Regional Library for a facility walk-through. Every inch of the building was inspected, and they were very appreciative of the opportunity to learn more about the facility and fire suppression systems.
 - In response to their request, the Regional Library purchased a Knox Box that will allow first responders to quickly and safely enter the building with master keys should no staff be present.

Staffing

- Both the Tech Services and Heritage Center positions will hopefully be filled by the next BOT meeting.

- C. Pote attended the Library of Virginia’s annual Director’s Meeting in Richmond on 9/26 & 27. C. Pote enjoyed meeting all the LVA staff and other directors. C. Pote looks forward to attending more meetings and conferences during his directorship.
- September was Library card sign up month; 71 new accounts were created in Parksley and 17 in Nassawadox.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee (G. Chesser)

Grayson Chesser shared that the committee has not met recently-no report.

Personnel Committee (C. Rose-Jensen)

Carl Rose-Jensen gave an overview of the most recent meeting. The committee covered the recent history of their work to get the new committee members up to date. They discussed creating a new staff satisfaction survey, with a plan to review handbooks and other documentation every 2 years.

The committee plans to meet quarterly.

Trustee Training Committee Report (J. Holland)

Christopher Pote shared Joyce Holland’s update. She asked that LVA join our November Board meeting. LVA is available to join us virtually at the next meeting to provide a training session for the Board members.

Facilities Committee Report (D. Poyer)

David Poyer presented the proposed expansion of the Northampton County Board of Supervisors at their last meeting. (Presentation attached).

The Board walked around the building to look at proposed locations of building additions/modifications and updates.

BRANCH AND FRIENDS REPORTS

Cape Charles Memorial Library (C.Pote)

Included in the written Library Director’s System Report.

Chincoteague Island Library (C.Pote)

Included in the written Library Director’s System Report.

Northampton Free Library (C.Pote)

Included in the written Library Director's System Report.

ESPL Friends of the Eastern Shore Public Library (M. Donahue-Lynch)

Friends President, Margaret Donahue-Lynch shared the update from the Friends. (Report attached).

NEW BUSINESS

- Frank Russell shared that he recently attended a library program that was very lowly attended. He suggested that the library add a sign at the front of the library, facing the road, where programs could be advertised.
- F. Russell told everyone that Trunk-or-Treat will be held in Parksley on 10.31.24, and food will be provided to the public.
- C. Pote shared that the ESRL in Parksley will be hosting a story-time and costume and candy parade for kids starting at 6pm on 10/24/24.

ESPL FOUNDATION [D. Custis]

Dennis Custis shared that several Foundation members have stepped down from the Library Foundation including Frank & Kitty Hall who will be moving away from the Shore. There is a good new core of members on the Foundation, but the outgoing members will be greatly missed.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

No additional comments.

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 11.12.24 at 1PM | Facility: Eastern Shore Regional Library & Heritage Center 24313 Bennett Street Parksley, VA 23421

ADJOURNMENT

Dennis Custis moved to adjourn the meeting. Frank Russell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:48pm by Chair, David Poyer.



Report to Board of Trustees Submitted by Margaret Donahue Lynch

This past month, the Friends were able to celebrate with some hands-on fun while reviewing materials purchased with the \$3000 grant awarded to the Friends by Better World Books, www.betterworldbooks.com



The Friends continue our usual activities in support of the library and staff and are looking forward to trick or treating at the library on October 24, 2024. We remember what a great time it was last year!



The Friends will continue processing unneeded donations and library materials for sale in our bookstore for an average profit of \$95/ week. This effort enables us to support many library activities, so we ask that you please:

Patronize our bookstore!

The Friends thank you for your support!

Friends of the Eastern Shore Public Library is a 501(c)(3) organization.
President: **Margaret Donahue Lynch**, Vice-President: **Kate Baird**,
Treasurer: **Carol Callander**, Secretary: **Maureen Teague**
Directors: **Pat Bloxom**, **Liz Bochicchio**, **Judy Malarkey**, **Sharyn McQuaid**, **Betsy Reich**, **Susan Vreeland**,
President Emeritus **Janet Rochester** Emeritus **Ann Scott**

DRAFT

PRESENTATION TO NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, OCT 8
2024

GOOD AFTERNOON. I'M DAVID POYER, RECENTLY ELECTED CHAIR OF THE EASTERN SHORE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM BOARD OF TRUSTEES. I LIVE IN FRANKTOWN. WITH ME TODAY ARE JOYCE HOLLAND, ALSO A TRUSTEE; AL MCMATH AND JC HOLLAND, FROM THE EASTERN SHORE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION; CHRIS POTE, DIRECTOR OF OUR REGIONAL SYSTEM. AND OTHER LIBRARY SUPPORTERS. THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO PRESENT.

PREDICTIONS OF THE DEMISE OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES, AND THEIR REPLACEMENT BY THE INTERNET, HAVE PROVEN WRONG NATIONWIDE. LOCALLY, THE SHORE SYSTEM'S TWO MAIN BRANCHES AND TWO ASSOCIATED LIBRARIES RECEIVE HEAVY USE. WE ARE A ONE STOP SHOP FOR USEFUL AND DEPENDABLE INFORMATION: HIGH SPEED WEB ACCESS, COMPUTERS, WI FI, DATABASE ACCESS FOR BUSINESSES AND JOB APPLICANTS, GENEALOGICAL DATA, AUDIOBOOKS, MAGAZINES AND BOOKS FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND, INTERLIBRARY LOANS, AND MANY OTHER SERVICES. WE ALSO PROVIDE SUMMER STORY HOURS FOR KIDS AND OTHER PUBLIC PROGRAMMING FOR ALL AGES.

IN NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, OUR PATRON LIST IS GROWING AND OUR FIVE COMPUTER STATIONS ARE FULLY UTILIZED. NEARLY THREE THOUSAND ADULT RESIDENTS IN NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HOLD A LIBRARY CARD, MAKING IT ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR SERVICES COUNTY GOVERNMENT PROVIDES.

~~THIS~~ ^{LAST} YEAR A NEW MAIN LIBRARY OPENED IN PARKSLEY. YOU ALL VOTED TO HELP FUND PART OF IT, THE HERITAGE CENTER. THAT CENTRAL FACILITY SERVICES ALL

THE BRANCHES. BUT IT IS NOW TIME TO TURN OUR ATTENTION TO IMPROVING SERVICES SPECIFICALLY TO NORTHAMPTON COUNTY RESIDENTS.

THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IS REQUESTING FUNDS IN THE NEXT COUNTY BUDGET TO PLAN FOR AN UPDATE AND EXPANSION OF THE NORTHAMPTON BRANCH.

THE CURRENT NORTHAMPTON FREE LIBRARY IN NASSAWADOX WAS INAUGURATED IN FEB 2006. IT WAS THE FIRST NEW LIBRARY ON THE SHORE IN FIFTY YEARS. I COORDINATED THE FUNDRAISING. SUPPORT CAME FROM YOUR PREDECESSORS ON THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, FROM ALL THE TOWN COUNCILS, THE DOZENS OF GRANTS WE APPLIED FOR, SCORES OF LOCAL BUSINESSES, AND HUNDREDS OF PRIVATE DONATIONS.

THE ARCHITECT'S PLANS AT THAT TIME WERE DRAWN TO PROVIDE FOR FUTURE EXPANSION. SINCE THEN, LAND HAS BEEN DONATED BY THE SHELTON ESTATE TO ALLOW FOR SUCH EXPANSION TO THE EASTWARD.

THAT LIBRARY BUILDING IS NOW TWENTY YEARS OLD AND IS BECOMING TOO SMALL FOR THE LEVEL OF USE IT IS SUSTAINING. A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PLANNING FOR PHASE II WAS APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES IN JULY. THE LIBRARY FOUNDATION HAS VOTED TO SUPPORT IT BY A CAPITAL FUNDRAISING EFFORT STARTING NEXT YEAR. A SCOPE OF WORK IS BEING DEVELOPED BASED ON INPUTS FROM NFL FRIENDS, LIBRARY PATRONS, LIBRARY STAFF, FOUNDATION MEMBERS, AND OTHERS.

THE CURRENT SCOPE OF WORK INCLUDES:

1. New metal roof to replace 20-year-old asphalt shingles
2. Two new wings, one containing student study rooms, the other with a meeting and event room for forty to seventy people
3. A covered outdoor reading area between the new wings
4. Update of 20-year-old HVAC with a more efficient system
5. Update of security cameras and monitors
6. New carpeting in THE Phase I area
7. Expanded parking.

A detailed description is in your package, as well as my rough sketch of the proposed extensions. These are preliminary and will of course change during the planning process, after consultation with the public, planning department, and other stakeholders.

We are here tonight to request a \$20,000 planning budget, to be spent by the Director of the Library, to cover:

Architectural drawings

Mechanical Engineer planning

Well & septic inspection

And a Structural engineer's stamp.

ONCE COMPLETE, THIS RENOVATION AND EXPANSION WILL PERMIT OUR LIBRARY TO SERVE THE COUNTY'S ADULTS, CHILDREN, AND BUSINESSES FOR THE NEXT TWENTY YEARS.

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION. WE'RE READY TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS!

Eastern Shore Public Library
Profit & Loss
 October 2024

	Oct 24
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
40000 · INCOME	
41000 · Government Income	
41010 · Accomack County	199,506.25
41020 · Northampton County	59,775.00
41030 · State Aid	102,031.00
	361,312.25
Total 41000 · Government Income	361,312.25
42000 · Contributions	
42010 · ESPL Friends	2,000.00
42030 · Contributions Unrestricted	573.41
42050 · Legacies & Bequests	90,633.51
42060 · Adopt-A-Book	125.00
	93,331.92
Total 42000 · Contributions	93,331.92
43000 · Reimbursements	
43030 · Cape Charles	1,181.62
	1,181.62
Total 43000 · Reimbursements	1,181.62
44000 · Fines & Fees	
44010 · Fines	132.29
44020 · Photocopying	1,461.73
44030 · Fax	2.80
44040 · Inter Library Loan	51.90
44000 · Fines & Fees - Other	-7.57
	1,641.15
Total 44000 · Fines & Fees	1,641.15
Total 40000 · INCOME	457,466.94
Total Income	457,466.94
Gross Profit	457,466.94
Expense	
60000 · EXPENSES	
61000 · Operations	
61100 · Building	
61102 · Building Maintenance, NFL	105.03
61104 · Building Maintenance - Parksley	3,736.47
	3,841.50
Total 61100 · Building	3,841.50
61200 · Utilities	
61202.1 · Electricity - NFL	389.23
61202.2 · Electricity - Parksley	1,270.32
61203 · Telephone	60.02
61203.1 · Telephone - NFL	594.54
61204 · Water/Sewer - Parksley	159.92
	2,474.03
Total 61200 · Utilities	2,474.03
61300 · Vehicle Operation	87.68

Eastern Shore Public Library
Profit & Loss
October 2024

	<u>Oct 24</u>
61500 · Computer	
61511 · Computer Hardware, State	2,045.52
61513 · Online Services	8,000.00
61514 · Internet Services, State	264.10
61516 · Computer Software, State	1,715.00
61518 · Technology	1,438.95
	<hr/>
Total 61500 · Computer	13,463.57
	<hr/>
Total 61000 · Operations	19,866.78
62000 · Equipment	
62300 · Equipment Maintenance	
62310 · Contractual Services	1,745.26
	<hr/>
Total 62300 · Equipment Maintenance	1,745.26
	<hr/>
Total 62000 · Equipment	1,745.26
63000 · Programs	
63100 · Adult	16.98
63200 · Youth	1,883.51
63300 · Outreach	24.99
	<hr/>
Total 63000 · Programs	1,925.48
64000 · Personnel	
64010 · Salaries - Director	8,810.00
64020 · Salaries - Other	29,302.94
64030 · Hourly Employees	16,893.83
64050 · Payroll Expenses	4,939.65
64070 · Retirement (VRS)	2,261.01
64080 · Insurance	
64083 · Insurance, Life (VRS)	-0.07
64084 · Insurance, Gen, Liability (VRS)	-0.03
64085 · Insurance, Medical (Anthem)	5,222.56
64086 · Insurance, Dental (Anthem)	111.44
	<hr/>
Total 64080 · Insurance	5,333.90
64090 · Liability Reserve	833.33
	<hr/>
Total 64000 · Personnel	68,374.66
65000 · Supplies	
65100 · Custodial	2,999.90
65200 · Office	1,032.86
65300 · Library	286.83
65000 · Supplies - Other	-120.98
	<hr/>
Total 65000 · Supplies	4,198.61
66000 · Materials	
66310 · System Materials	
66311 · Books, State Aid	5,745.33
66313 · Continuations, State Aid	99.98
66315 · Electronic Resources, State Aid	9,588.42

Eastern Shore Public Library
Profit & Loss
October 2024

	<u>Oct 24</u>
66317 · AV, State Aid	790.48
66318 · Other Non-Book, State Aid	10.26
66320 · Cape Charles Contract #15	<u>219.71</u>
Total 66310 · System Materials	16,454.18
66350 · Affiliates	
66351 · Books, Affiliates	<u>1,097.98</u>
Total 66350 · Affiliates	1,097.98
66900 · Restricted	<u>2,119.54</u>
Total 66000 · Materials	19,671.70
67000 · Other	
67200 · Travel & Meals	<u>1,148.75</u>
Total 67000 · Other	1,148.75
68000 · Miscellaneous	
68100 · Bank Fees	<u>326.10</u>
Total 68000 · Miscellaneous	326.10
69000 · Professional Services	
69001 · Professional Services, Financial	1,600.00
69002 · Professional, Library Services	600.00
69004 · Auditor	<u>5,775.00</u>
Total 69000 · Professional Services	<u>7,975.00</u>
Total 60000 · EXPENSES	<u>125,232.34</u>
Total Expense	<u>125,232.34</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>332,234.60</u>
Net Income	<u><u>332,234.60</u></u>

Eastern Shore Public Library
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

July through October 2024

	Jul - Oct 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
40000 · INCOME				
41000 · Government Income				
41010 · Accomack County	399,012.50	798,025.00	-399,012.50	50.0%
41011 · Accomack County On Behalf	0.00	4,300.00	-4,300.00	0.0%
41020 · Northampton County	119,550.00	239,100.00	-119,550.00	50.0%
41030 · State Aid	204,062.00	408,124.00	-204,062.00	50.0%
41040 · Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 41000 · Government Income	722,624.50	1,449,549.00	-726,924.50	49.9%
42000 · Contributions				
42010 · ESPL Friends	5,786.30	3,800.00	1,986.30	152.3%
42020 · NFL Friends	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00	0.0%
42030 · Contributions Unrestricted	1,458.46	1,000.00	458.46	145.8%
42040 · Contributions Restricted	423.23	5,500.00	-5,076.77	7.7%
42050 · Legacies & Bequests	90,633.51	100.00	90,533.51	90,633.5%
42060 · Adopt-A-Book	247.60	500.00	-252.40	49.5%
42070 · ESPL Foundation	949.99	0.00	949.99	100.0%
42000 · Contributions - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 42000 · Contributions	99,499.09	12,900.00	86,599.09	771.3%
43000 · Reimbursements				
43010 · NFL Book Endowment	6,120.00	5,000.00	1,120.00	122.4%
43020 · Island	553.84	2,000.00	-1,446.16	27.7%
43030 · Cape Charles	4,192.96	14,000.00	-9,807.04	29.9%
43040 · Book Replacement	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
43050 · NFL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
43000 · Reimbursements - Other	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
Total 43000 · Reimbursements	10,866.80	21,600.00	-10,733.20	50.3%
44000 · Fines & Fees				
44010 · Fines	593.01	0.00	593.01	100.0%
44020 · Photocopying	4,802.13	7,500.00	-2,697.87	64.0%
44030 · Fax	11.40	0.00	11.40	100.0%
44040 · Inter Library Loan	146.40	50.00	96.40	292.8%
44000 · Fines & Fees - Other	9.94	0.00	9.94	100.0%
Total 44000 · Fines & Fees	5,562.88	7,550.00	-1,987.12	73.7%
45000 · Endowments				
45010 · Edmonds (UBS)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
45020 · General (Merrill Lynch)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
45090 · Miscellaneous Endowments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 45000 · Endowments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
45500 · GASB 68 Benefit	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
46000 · Private Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
49000 · Miscellaneous Income				
49020 · Driver Education Test Proctorin	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
49000 · Miscellaneous Income - Other	0.00	100.00	-100.00	0.0%
Total 49000 · Miscellaneous Income	0.00	300.00	-300.00	0.0%
Total 40000 · INCOME	838,553.27	1,491,899.00	-653,345.73	56.2%
Total Income	838,553.27	1,491,899.00	-653,345.73	56.2%
Gross Profit	838,553.27	1,491,899.00	-653,345.73	56.2%
Expense				
60000 · EXPENSES				
61000 · Operations				
61100 · Building				
61101 · Building Maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
61102 · Building Maintenance, NFL	2,008.84	15,000.00	-12,991.16	13.4%
61104 · Building Maintenance - Parksley	9,881.97	19,200.00	-9,318.03	51.5%
61105 · Rent	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
61100 · Building - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 61100 · Building	11,890.81	34,200.00	-22,309.19	34.8%
61200 · Utilities				
61201 · Fuel Oil	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
61202 · Electricity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
61202.1 · Electricity - NFL	1,735.01	7,000.00	-5,264.99	24.8%
61202.2 · Electricity - Parksley	4,965.58	20,000.00	-15,034.42	24.8%

Eastern Shore Public Library
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

July through October 2024

	Jul - Oct 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
61203 · Telephone	1,903.66	6,000.00	-4,096.34	31.7%
61203.1 · Telephone - NFL	594.54			
61204 · Water/Sewer - Parksley	737.41	3,400.00	-2,662.59	21.7%
Total 61200 · Utilities	9,936.20	36,400.00	-26,463.80	27.3%
61300 · Vehicle Operation	472.17	5,000.00	-4,527.83	9.4%
61400 · Insurance (VRSA)				
61401 · Insurance, Building	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
61400 · Insurance (VRSA) - Other	0.00	16,000.00	-16,000.00	0.0%
Total 61400 · Insurance (VRSA)	0.00	16,000.00	-16,000.00	0.0%
61500 · Computer				
61510 · Computer Hardware	0.00	4,000.00	-4,000.00	0.0%
61511 · Computer Hardware, State	2,045.52			
61513 · Online Services	20,056.50	26,620.00	-6,563.50	75.3%
61514 · Internet Services, State	1,056.40	12,000.00	-10,943.60	8.8%
61515 · Computer Software	475.00	0.00	475.00	100.0%
61516 · Computer Software, State	2,262.65	7,818.00	-5,555.35	28.9%
61517 · Computer Maintenance	0.00	16,000.00	-16,000.00	0.0%
61518 · Technology	5,417.33	2,720.00	2,697.33	199.2%
Total 61500 · Computer	31,313.40	69,158.00	-37,844.60	45.3%
Total 61000 · Operations	53,612.58	160,758.00	-107,145.42	33.3%
62000 · Equipment				
62100 · Equipment, General	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
62200 · Equipment, State	379.99	31,000.00	-30,620.01	1.2%
62300 · Equipment Maintenance				
62310 · Contractual Services	4,773.68	12,000.00	-7,226.32	39.8%
62300 · Equipment Maintenance - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 62300 · Equipment Maintenance	4,773.68	12,000.00	-7,226.32	39.8%
62000 · Equipment - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 62000 · Equipment	5,153.67	43,000.00	-37,846.33	12.0%
63000 · Programs				
63100 · Adult	145.02	1,500.00	-1,354.98	9.7%
63200 · Youth	2,851.97	7,000.00	-4,148.03	40.7%
63300 · Outreach	468.48	0.00	468.48	100.0%
63400 · Foundation Restricted Funds	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00	0.0%
63500 · Restricted Programs - Other	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
63000 · Programs - Other	80.67	0.00	80.67	100.0%
Total 63000 · Programs	3,546.14	14,500.00	-10,953.86	24.5%
64000 · Personnel				
64010 · Salaries - Director	34,812.27	105,000.00	-70,187.73	33.2%
64020 · Salaries - Other	116,560.09	452,756.00	-336,195.91	25.7%
64030 · Hourly Employees	68,182.95	180,000.00	-111,817.05	37.9%
64050 · Payroll Expenses	19,691.64	68,085.00	-48,393.36	28.9%
64070 · Retirement (VRS)	8,959.24	65,000.00	-56,040.76	13.8%
64080 · Insurance				
64082 · Insurance, Worker's Comp.	28.00			
64083 · Insurance, Life (VRS)	-0.24	0.00	-0.24	100.0%
64084 · Insurance, Gen, Liability (VRS)	-0.11	0.00	-0.11	100.0%
64085 · Insurance, Medical (Anthem)	20,890.24	0.00	20,890.24	100.0%
64086 · Insurance, Dental (Anthem)	445.76	0.00	445.76	100.0%
64080 · Insurance - Other	0.00	91,820.00	-91,820.00	0.0%
Total 64080 · Insurance	21,363.65	91,820.00	-70,456.35	23.3%
64090 · Liability Reserve	3,333.32	10,000.00	-6,666.68	33.3%
64100 · Staff & Volunteer Appreciation	73.95	3,000.00	-2,926.05	2.5%
Total 64000 · Personnel	272,977.11	975,661.00	-702,683.89	28.0%
65000 · Supplies				
65100 · Custodial	9,378.32	26,000.00	-16,621.68	36.1%
65200 · Office	2,278.90	0.00	2,278.90	100.0%
65300 · Library	10,062.91	33,467.00	-23,404.09	30.1%
65400 · Youth Program Supplies	242.34	3,000.00	-2,757.66	8.1%
65500 · Archival Supplies	1,308.46	0.00	1,308.46	100.0%
65000 · Supplies - Other	-120.98			
Total 65000 · Supplies	23,149.95	62,467.00	-39,317.05	37.1%
66000 · Materials				

Eastern Shore Public Library
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual

July through October 2024

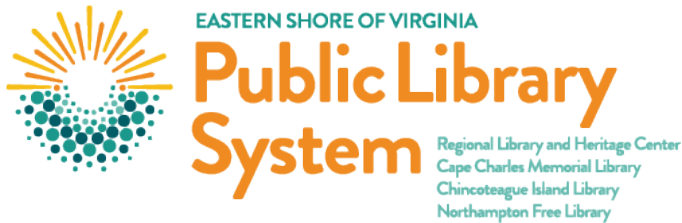
	Jul - Oct 24	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
66310 · System Materials				
66311 · Books, State Aid	21,272.33	61,437.00	-40,164.67	34.6%
66312 · Periodicals, State Aid	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
66313 · Continuations, State Aid	189.41	500.00	-310.59	37.9%
66314 · Microforms, State Aid	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
66315 · Electronic Resources, State Aid	9,588.42	25,500.00	-15,911.58	37.6%
66317 · AV, State Aid	1,438.57	7,500.00	-6,061.43	19.2%
66318 · Other Non-Book, State Aid	10.26			
66320 · Cape Charles Contract #15	914.80	2,000.00	-1,085.20	45.7%
66310 · System Materials - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 66310 · System Materials	33,413.79	97,937.00	-64,523.21	34.1%
66350 · Affiliates				
66351 · Books, Affiliates	7,921.81	17,000.00	-9,078.19	46.6%
Total 66350 · Affiliates	7,921.81	17,000.00	-9,078.19	46.6%
66900 · Restricted	4,086.21	17,000.00	-12,913.79	24.0%
Total 66000 · Materials	45,421.81	131,937.00	-86,515.19	34.4%
67000 · Other				
67100 · Postage	248.22	3,000.00	-2,751.78	8.3%
67200 · Travel & Meals	2,400.90	8,000.00	-5,599.10	30.0%
67300 · Dues	928.00	3,500.00	-2,572.00	26.5%
67000 · Other - Other	350.00			
Total 67000 · Other	3,927.12	14,500.00	-10,572.88	27.1%
68000 · Miscellaneous				
68100 · Bank Fees	1,251.45	1,000.00	251.45	125.1%
68300 · Refunds	0.00	300.00	-300.00	0.0%
68500 · Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
68600 · Continuing Education	104.62	7,800.00	-7,695.38	1.3%
68700 · Tangier	0.00	1,000.00	-1,000.00	0.0%
68000 · Miscellaneous - Other	219.41	0.00	219.41	100.0%
Total 68000 · Miscellaneous	1,575.48	10,100.00	-8,524.52	15.6%
69000 · Professional Services				
69001 · Professional Services, Financial	6,400.00	20,000.00	-13,600.00	32.0%
69002 · Professional, Library Services	2,438.59	14,800.00	-12,361.41	16.5%
69003 · Erate Consultant	2,495.75	5,720.00	-3,224.25	43.6%
69004 · Auditor	5,775.00	10,000.00	-4,225.00	57.8%
69000 · Professional Services - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 69000 · Professional Services	17,109.34	50,520.00	-33,410.66	33.9%
69005 · Depreciation Expense	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
Total 60000 · EXPENSES	426,473.20	1,463,443.00	-1,036,969.80	29.1%
Total Expense	426,473.20	1,463,443.00	-1,036,969.80	29.1%
Net Ordinary Income	412,080.07	28,456.00	383,624.07	1,448.1%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
7010 · Interest Income	961.46			
Total Other Income	961.46			
Other Expense				
61103 · Capital	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.0%
8020 · Miscellaneous	69.85	0.00	69.85	100.0%
Total Other Expense	69.85	0.00	69.85	100.0%
Net Other Income	891.61	0.00	891.61	100.0%
Net Income	412,971.68	28,456.00	384,515.68	1,451.3%

Eastern Shore Public Library
Balance Sheet
As of October 31, 2024

	<u>Oct 31, 24</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
LGIP - Investment Account #1155	71,764.93
Petty Cash	
Main	100.00
NFL	76.87
Total Petty Cash	176.87
Truist - Operating #2396	
Liability Reserve	31,924.64
Truist - Operating #2396 - Other	627,762.52
Total Truist - Operating #2396	659,687.16
Total Checking/Savings	731,628.96
Other Current Assets	
1300 · Prepaid Expenses	21,609.08
1400 · Security Deposit	1,600.00
Total Other Current Assets	23,209.08
Total Current Assets	754,838.04
Fixed Assets	
1500 · Land	5,000.00
1510 · Buildings	660,459.20
1515 · Equipment	568,040.09
1516 · Equipment Purchases	97,804.92
1520 · Vehicles	51,680.00
1550 · Accumulated Depreciation	-486,134.07
Total Fixed Assets	896,850.14
Other Assets	
1600 · Deferred Outflows	63,258.00
1700 · Right-to-use Asset	20,800.00
Total Other Assets	84,058.00
TOTAL ASSETS	1,735,746.18
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2000 · Accounts Payable	10,506.26
Total Accounts Payable	10,506.26
Credit Cards	
Atlantic Union Credit Card	-3,677.68
Total Credit Cards	-3,677.68

Eastern Shore Public Library
Balance Sheet
As of October 31, 2024

	<u>Oct 31, 24</u>
Other Current Liabilities	
2100 · Payroll Liabilities	744.42
2270 · Minnesota Life	0.05
2280 · State Unemployment Tax	-26.27
2290 · Anthem, Medical	2,311.64
2300 · Anthem, Dental	121.37
2360 · AFLAC	165.30
2380 · Compensated Absences	20,512.97
2400 · Net Pension Liability	67,309.00
2500 · Deferred Inflows	39,997.00
2700 · Lease Liability	20,800.00
	<hr/>
Total Other Current Liabilities	151,935.48
	<hr/>
Total Current Liabilities	158,764.06
	<hr/>
Total Liabilities	158,764.06
	<hr/>
Equity	
1110 · Retained Earnings	674,443.12
3000 · Opening Bal Equity	489,567.32
Net Income	412,971.68
	<hr/>
Total Equity	1,576,982.12
	<hr/>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,735,746.18
	<hr/> <hr/>



Report to the Accomack County Board of Supervisors – November 2024

The Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center in Parksley celebrated its first anniversary in September, and what an eventful year it has been. As we continue to find our groove within the community, it's important to keep an eye on the numbers and try to gauge success. I am happy to report that year-over-year comparisons for the first quarter* are affirming:

- The total number of circulating items increased 5%
- Visitation is up 27%
- Eastern Shore Room visitation is up 64%
- Wi-Fi usage is 238%
- In-house computer use is up 36%

These numbers are a testament to the hard work of the ESRL staff and the outstanding support from the governance and communities of the Eastern Shore. We strive to continue to serve the needs of our patronage and hope to keep building on these successes.

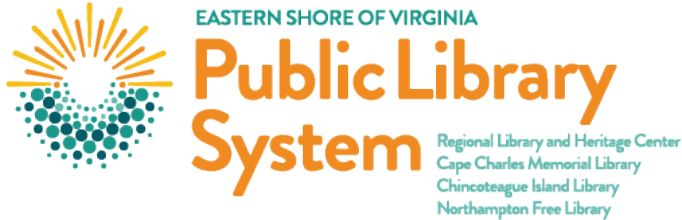
Thank you for your continued support of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library System.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Pote", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Christopher P. Pote,
System Director

*Full FY24 Q1 numbers calculated using real-time data and projections from subsequent months.



Report to the Northampton County Board of Supervisors – November 2024

As the Eastern Shore of Virginia Regional Library & Heritage Center in Parksley celebrated its first anniversary in September, I wondered how that initiative might be affecting the Northampton Free Library. Combined with a stronger focus on programming and user engagement, as well as consistent staffing, Northampton Free Library has seen growth in many of the same areas as Parksley. I am happy to report that year-over-year comparisons for the first quarter are affirming:

- The total number of circulating items increased 3%
- Visitation is up 8%
- Library card registration is up 28%
- Wi-Fi usage is down 5%, BUT
- In-house computer use is up 39%

Wi-fi usage down and computer usage up indicates to me that patrons are using the facility more (also supported by the increase in visitation), which supports the desire for an expanded facility. These numbers are a testament to the hard work of the ESPL staff and the outstanding support from the governance and communities of the Eastern Shore; a rising tide lifts all boats. We strive to continue to serve the needs of our patronage and hope to keep building on these successes.

Thank you for your continued support of the Eastern Shore of Virginia Public Library System.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Pote", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Christopher P. Pote,
System Director