


Campaign for Expanding Possibilities @ Your Library

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Valdese Public Library

HOME MISSION CAMPAIGN BENEFITS BUDGET DONATE

History

In 1923, the Morganton Public Library was first established in a room over a downtown business. One can only imagine how Will Davis felt opening the library door and checking out the very first book. In 2012, the doors of the Burke County Public Library will be opened more than 110,000 times.

Through partnerships, the Burke County Public Library develops readers, communities, and cultural awareness by providing informational, educational, and creative opportunities.

For most of its existence the Burke County Public Library was a private, non-profit corporation chartered to provide library service to the citizens of Burke County and governed by a board of trustees. In 1982, libraries in Morganton and Valdese merged to form the Burke County Public Library. The Burke County Commission established the C.B. Hildebrand Public Library as the county's newest public library in 1997. Governance changed in 2002 as the library became a department of Burke County government and relinquished its non-profit status for oversight by the Burke County Commission.


Valdese Public Library
213 St. Germain Ave. SE
Valdese, NC 28690
(828) 874-2421

Monday & Wednesday: 9:00am - 4:00pm
Tuesday & Thursday: 9:00am - 8:00pm
Friday: Noon - 4:00pm
Saturday: 9:00am - 5:00pm
Sunday: Closed

ABOUT US

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Mission



The Valdese Public Library opened in 1943 in a room at the old Post Office in downtown Valdese. At that moment, in the midst of the second World War, the community of Valdese was looking towards the future, to a time of renewed prosperity and peace much as the original Waldensian pioneers did when they settled in Burke County in 1893.

As it approaches its 70th anniversary, the mission of the Valdese Public Library to develop readers, community, and cultural awareness has never been more relevant. The ability of the library to serve a diverse population hinges not only on having an extensive collection of materials but just as importantly on providing a wide variety of programs.


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CAMPAIGN

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Campaign

In 2001, the library, with funds donated by the Rostan Family Foundation, purchased the house adjacent to the library from Catherine R. Cole. The property, deeded to Burke County and the Town of Valdese, was to "be used for the purpose of providing and maintaining a public library."

With the increase in the demand for programs, the library is now seeking to renovate the house and its grounds into a multipurpose indoor and outdoor programming and activity space. The house would be modified to consist of one large open room with a vaulted ceiling of approximately 1,000 square feet. This space would provide an area for storytimes, crafts, computer classes, book discussions, films, workshops, and other community gatherings. An outdoor programming area would be constructed at the rear of the house with a covered stage and tiered seating for 120 people. This area would be used for concerts, theatre performances, movies, storytelling, lectures, and demonstrations.




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BENEFITS

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Benefits

The programs offered by the library bring to life the limitless diversity of the stories, people, places, and ideas contained within the books on its shelves. Library programs offer opportunities for interacting with others, for sharing ideas, for learning new skills, and for exploring new interests. Library programs are free and of a very high quality. The library staff is well-trained to provide appropriate, instructive, and creative programs for those of any age. The library offers storytimes for children, poetry slams for teens, computer classes for adults, and book discussion groups for all ages.

Each year summer reading programs for children, young adults, and adults involve more than 2,000 participants in a variety of activities including author visits, crafts, storytelling, hiking, cooking, films, concerts, and rock climbing. The library's annual Taste of Culture event celebrates the many diverse cultures in Burke County and highlights music, dance, art, and food. More than just a place to find a good book, the library is a place to experience an extraordinary array of exciting possibilities.

Site Plan
for the Valdese Public Library

- A Existing Library
- B Program and Activity Center
- C Outdoor Program Area
- D Story Area
- E Future Expansion
- F Existing Parking
- G New Parking




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BUDGET

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Budget

The total cost of the project is estimated at \$450,000. As of April 2012, \$200,000 has been raised -- \$150,000 from the Rostan Family Foundation, \$25,000 from the Library Foundation of Burke County, \$20,000 from the Town of Valdese, and \$5,000 from the Friends of the Burke County Public Library. A request for \$25,000 from Burke County has been included in the library's FY 2012/2013 budget proposal.

Over the next several months, The Library Foundation and the Campaign for Expanding Possibilities @ your library leadership team will seek to raise an additional \$250,000 for this exciting project. The campaign will offer various levels of giving and donors may pledge their gift over a four year period. The campaign leadership team is composed of Dr. Ben Garrou, Annette Garrou, Jim Wilson, Sr., and Mark Rostan. These community leaders along with a team of volunteers will be working hard to ensure the success of the capital campaign.

[VIEW FULL BUDGET](#)


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Donate

The Valdese Public Library is funded largely by community members like you! We have been a resource to the community since 1944 and hope to expand to help better serve the town of Valdese. You can help by joining the Friends of the Library! Please consider joining the Friends of the Library at one of the following levels:

- Student \$ 3.00
- Individual \$ 10.00
- Family \$ 15.00
- Patron \$ 25.00
- Benefactor \$ 50.00
- Sponsor \$ 100.00
- Super Friend \$ 250.00
- Life Member \$ 1,000.00

You may drop your contribution off at the front desk of the library, or mail it to:
Burke County Public Library 204 S. King St. Morganton, NC 28655
Please include your name and mailing address. Thank you!

YOU CAN HELP!

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