

In Appreciation

Dear Editor,

My husband and I are privileged to live in Boone on weekends and in the summer months, and we try to take advantage of all this glorious area has to offer!

My 2-year-old grandson was visiting this week and as I have done in the past, I took him to story time at the Watauga Library. Four or five carefully selected books were wonderfully read by a cheerful and caring reader and then the children were invited to draw, glue and paint a little horse at the craft tables. This story hour is held M-F at 10:00, and is one of my grandchildren's favorite things to do when visiting Boone.

Much to my surprise, we were all invited to a special program at 11:00- it was Rodeo Day at WCPL!!! By the time the Rodeo started 30-40 children up to age 9 or 10 were ushered into the big room and given a choice of a brightly colored cowperson hat and a handmade felt vest in their favorite color! Boone's own, Lisa Baldwin, "an experienced teacher and professional musician" was there with her "Learning Through Song" program- to entertain all with books, her guitar, a repertoire of songs straight from the old west and a smile and a personality that lit up the room and everyone in it! After a drawing for free tickets to Tweetsie, all the kids helped decorate and finish construction on a stick hobby horse that they could safely ride home with their hat and vest, their hearts and heads still full of fun and song- and our love of our library! (These hobby horses had been carefully pre-constructed by the staff and it was obvious that they had spent many hours cutting and stapling together horses' heads out of paper bags, cutting paper and yarn for manes, and even cutting rhododendron branches for the stick!!!)

Do the residents of Watauga know and appreciate what a wonderful library we have in our county? If not, I encourage them to take their children and grandchildren, or just go and see for themselves- they also have wonderful programs for adults! Watauga residents should be proud! I know I am.

Sincerely,
Margaret Rose