



- All but one of the positions we have hired for recently have begun work, and the last employee will be starting at the top of January. Three new clerks are on board at the Coldwater Branch and have been trained so they'll be ready for our new Coldwater Branch Sunday Schedule.
- Thanks to Lisa Wood for noticing a gas leak outside the Quincy Branch on November 17, and for her quick response to get it taken care of without incident or harm to person or property.
- I made branch rounds on December 3.
- There has been quite a lot of traffic with our attorneys at Foster Swift Collins and Smith on a number of issues that have arisen lately dealing with personnel, insurance, and pest issues. We are grateful for their quick response and counsel.
- I have received the paperwork from our pest control company, Griffin, to institute quarterly spraying and human inspections for bedbugs at all branches as a preventative measure. Their recommendation is to spray for a year before having a dog inspection again, and then address any problems a dog might find. Ideally, after a year of spraying, there wouldn't be any. The total for all branches 4 times a year is \$4084, about the same cost it would have been to heat treat both floors of the Bronson Branch, had that been needed. So, if effective, it makes good financial sense as well as being a pro-active action we can take.

Submitted by John Rucker